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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 77 Number 17

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

AUGUST 31, 2022

Leadership change at North Country Mission of Hope

Earlier this month, North Country Mission of Hope founder and executive director, Sister Debbie Blow, a Dominican Sister of Hope, announced she is retiring from that organization due largely to health issues.

Deacon Bruce Carlin, board president for Mission of Hope, will step into the executive director role. Deacon Carlin has been involved in the organization since 2008 and has taken 19 mission trips with it.

This week's *North Country Catholic* features information about Mission of Hope and its two executive directors.

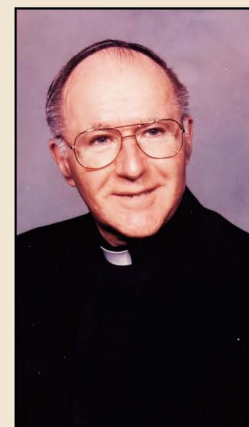
FULL STORY, PAGES 8 & 9

BACK TO SCHOOL



Augustinian Academy is now offering a Lego Club as part of its after-school enrichment offerings. Augustinian Academy and Catholic schools around the diocese are preparing for the return of students on September 6. See stories on pages 4 & 5.

REMEMBERING FATHER HART



Father Rolland A. Hart died Saturday, August 13, 2022, in Williston, Vermont, where he had been residing. He was 85. Father Hart was remembered by his friend, Father John L. "Jack" Downs as "self-effacing and sincere," and as "a humble man."

FULL STORY & OBITUARY, PAGE 3

Pope: Forgiveness is only weapon against war

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Even though it takes more strength to forgive than to wage war, forgiveness is the only feasible weapon that can be used against every conflict, Pope Francis said.

"Evil is never defeated by evil, but only with good," he said in an interview with "Il Centro," the local newspaper of the central Italian city of L'Aquila, where the pope is scheduled to visit Aug. 28. The newspaper published the full interview in its print edition Aug. 26,

and Vatican News provided excerpts the same day.

The pope invited people to embrace the power of forgiveness, especially with the ongoing war in Ukraine and all the many other "conflicts that afflict thousands of people and especially the innocent."

"It takes more strength to forgive than to wage war," he said, adding that forgiveness requires a great deal of "inner and cultural maturity."

He urged everyone to

"cultivate a culture of peace" that comes precisely from this "maturation of a forgiveness that is possible."

Otherwise, people will just stay "mired in the logic of evil that latches on to the logic of the (subjective) interests of those who take advantage of these conflicts to enrich themselves and exploit," he said.

Therefore, "forgiveness is the only possible weapon against every war."

The pope made his com-

ments ahead of his planned morning visit to L'Aquila to open a seven-centuries-old celebration of forgiveness.

The Celestine Pardon is celebrated annually Aug. 28-29 and was established by St. Celestine V in 1294.

While the 13th-century pope is known more for having abdicated just a few months after his election and establishing the few norms regarding a papal resignation, he issued a papal bull on the granting

of a plenary indulgence to everyone who visits the Santa Maria di Collemaggio basilica, goes to confession, receives Communion and prays for the intentions of the pope.

Pope Francis will celebrate Mass and open the basilica's holy door as well as make a private visit to the L'Aquila cathedral, which is still closed to the public because of damage from a 2009 earthquake. He also will meet with the families of those who died.

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I'm trying to stop the fighting

I've been fighting with it on and off for decades.

It's my hair.

Longtime readers may remember the picture that accompanied this column for quite a while after I started work here. In that photo, I had super short hair. For most of my life, I've had super short hair.

As you can see by my more current photo, my hair is longer now. When I stopped cutting my hair short and let it grow a bit, there was no controlling it. It flipped in a bunch of different directions. My hair looked like something you'd see on either a shaggy dog or an unruly toddler. I'd

straighten it, but if there was even the slightest bit of humidity in the air, it would go back to flipping in different directions. As a result, I simply got into a habit of straightening it or wearing it up.

A few months ago, I was running late one morning, and I was more than a little frazzled. My hair was soaking wet from my shower. I had to choose between drying and straightening my hair and being on time for a morning appointment. The appointment won. I dried my hair as best I could with a towel, and I headed out the door.

By the time I got to my appointment, my hair was

mostly dry. It was also mostly wavy/curly. I honestly didn't know it did that. It looked pretty wild to me. The person I was meeting, someone I've known for a couple of years, commented as soon as she saw me.

"I love the beach waves," she said. "That's a really good look on you."

Stunned by the response, I tried the look again a few days later. This time, I added a bit of product to my hair and scrunched my hair a bit to help it curl/wave more evenly, and I went to work.

At least a handful of people told me they loved the curls/waves.

"Ok," I thought to myself. "This is a look."

Now, I wear it curly/wavy more often than not.

It struck me that I spent years fighting what I was given by God and trying to straighten my unruly, wavy hair. I fought the curls – that which I was gifted by God – for so long, I didn't even realize I had them.

Then, I realized this is something I do all the time. God gives me more gifts than I can count and certainly more gifts than I deserve, but I often fight him, especially if the gift doesn't come packaged the way I envisioned it or according to my desired schedule.

I'm sometimes pretty ungrateful.

Luckily, God has an uncanny way of reminding me that His ways are far better than my ways.

At least they are if I stop fighting.



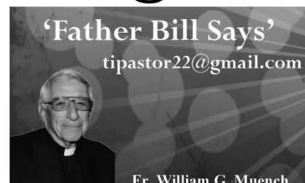
Darcy L. Fargo

Teaching and showing love

Today, I begin with my congratulations to all who worked so hard to prepare the fantastic anniversary celebration for our diocese – 150 years of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. The anniversary Mass was very special! So many bishops were here to honor us. Cardinal Dolan came to celebrate the Mass and shared memories of his visits here in our diocese. Some of our former bishops who had added so much to our history – Bishop Loverde, Bishop Barbarito, Bishop Cunningham – as well as many bishops from neighboring dioceses, including Canada, and also one of our own priests who is now bishop of Syracuse, Bishop Douglas Lucia.

Today, I would also like to add my congratulations to our bishop, Bishop LaValley. I want to thank him for his excellent homily at the anniversary Mass. He set the tone for the celebration of the history of the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

So, time to begin again. Let



Fr. William G. Muench

us pray that the Lord continues to smile on our diocese. May God continue to send many dedicated priests to bring his love and the presence of the Lord to the families of the North Country.

Let us continue to pray for more talented deacons, for dedicated Religious Sisters, and for the fire of new life and love in our people – the women and men of this diocese, a new life and spirit amid the families of the parishes of the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Recently, the Gospel reading at Mass described for us a time when someone approached Jesus asking him, "Lord, will only a few people be saved?" We might all have this question.

I believe as our Church teaches that Jesus came to us

as Lord and Savior to save us, and to transform us into the people of God. We believe that Jesus, the Son of God, was sent by the Father to restore the harmony between himself and humanity that had been disrupted by sin. We know that Jesus warned us often that pain and death would be an essential part of his mission. Jesus further expected this same readiness from his disciples: "If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself take up his cross daily and follow me."

Jesus makes his mission very clear to us: "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for his friends." Christ's suffering and death was the instrument of salvation. We needed to be saved from sin and from its damaging effects. He came to teach and show us love.

On that Sunday, I wanted to show in my homily that we as the people of God must be ready to demonstrate our readiness to lead others to

our Savior by our prayers and our lives. I like to remind people that at Mass, our first prayer is to look around at all present and to pray for them. On this Sunday, this is my family. Each person decided to come to this Mass on this day, and this unites us in a special way. And so, we must begin as a family, praying for one another.

I believe, though I really don't know, each time I celebrate Mass, there are present one or more who are there and who need my prayers for them. Someone who is suffering and needs to know that I am ready to support them in prayer. I might add that as a parish, each time we pray together as a community, as a family, we remember all of the parishioners – those present, those not present, the good and the bad, the saints and the sinners. We are all one in this parish family.

Remembering and praying for each other is a necessary part of our dedication as disciples of the Lord Jesus.

Father Hart remembered as 'humble man'

By Darcy Fargo
Editor

"He was a humble man. He was quiet and deeply spiritual."

That was how Father John L. "Jack" Downs remembered his friend, Father Rolland A. Hart.

Father Hart died August 13 in Williston, Vermont, where he had been residing in retirement. He was 85 years old.

Father Downs said he first became acquainted with Father Hart when Father Downs was assigned to Sacred Heart in Massena for his first assignment after ordination.

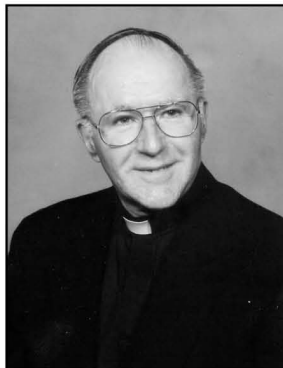
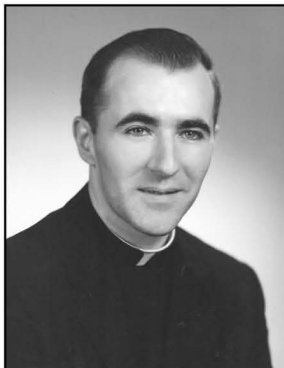
"He was a senior in high school when I came to Sacred Heart in 1955," Father Downs said. "I kept in touch with him after that."

Father Hart attended Sacred Heart School in Massena through grade 8 and graduated from Massena High School, entering Wadhams Hall Seminary after graduation. He was ordained to the priesthood on May 23, 1964.

Father Downs noted that Father Hart's family spoke French in the home.

"His mother wouldn't allow English to be spoken in the home. He had to learn to speak English," Father Downs said, noting his friend participated in an intensive English immersion program and worked hard to master the language. "And his English was flawless."

While the two priests didn't cross paths frequently for many years, they were reunited in 1990 when they both participated in a "Post Emmaus study group" that



Father Rolland A. Hart pictured in 1964 and in a more recent, undated photo.

met regularly.

"It was a group of eight of us," Father Downs said. "We'd meet and spend most of a day together. It would be two meals. We'd take turn hosting."

Through that group, Father Downs got to know Father Hart a bit better.

"He was very self-effacing and sincere," Father Downs said. "He had a depth of spirituality that was significant. He was very quiet, and you could see the humility of the man. I think that was something that drew parishioners to him."

Father Downs said he served in Redwood for a time, and Father Hart was his "third successor in Redwood." Father Downs said the community there had experienced some turmoil prior to Father Hart's arrival.

"He carried out a lot of healing there," Father Downs said. "He was also into the charismatic movement, and he established prayer groups in the parish. He was wonderful for the parish."

The two priests both retired in 2004, and Father Hart moved to Vermont shortly after. Father Downs said he would often visit Father Hart when he traveled to

Burlington transporting individuals for medical appointments.

"I'd contact him, and we'd get together for lunch," Father Downs said. "The last time I saw him at his house, it was five years ago. He was already into dementia. It was heart breaking to see him that way. Three years ago, I went to see him when he was in the (memory care) facility in Williston."

At that visit, Father Downs celebrated Mass. He was joined by the pastor serving the parish Father Hart attended in Vermont, and the Mass was attended by Father Hart's longtime friend Linda Perrin and other facility residents.

"We vested (Father) Rolland," Father Downs said. "At consecration, he extended his hand twice, but he didn't say anything. At the end, (Father Hart) said 'this is what it's all about.' The facility director couldn't believe he talked. He never said a word except that one phrase at the end of Mass."

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Father Hart on August 24. A complete obituary is included on this page.

Mass of Christian Burial celebrated for Father Hart

A Mass of Christian Burial for Father Rolland A. Hart was celebrated at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, August 24, at Sacred Heart Church in Massena. Bishop Terry R. LaValley, bishop of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, celebrated the Mass with the priests of the diocese, and Father Paul J. Kelly offered the homily.

Father Hart's remains were interred next to his parents at Sacred Heart Cemetery.

Father Hart, 85, died Saturday, August 13, 2022, in Williston, Vermont, where he resided.

Born July 9, 1937, in Massena, he was the son of Armand and Marie (Paige) Hart. His parents predeceased him.

As a youth, he attended Sacred Heart School through grade eight and later Massena Central High School. He entered Wadhams Hall Seminary in 1955, studying both there and at Christ the King Seminary in the Diocese of Buffalo. He was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Thomas Donnellan in St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg, on May 23, 1964.

After ordination, Father Hart served as parochial vicar at St. Alexander's Church in Morrisonville, St. Peter's Church in Lowville and St. Patrick's Church in Chateaugay, where he

also served as administrator, and Notre Dame Church in Malone; and as pastor of St. Rita's Church in Deferiet, St. Theresa of Avila Church in Theresa, St. Francis Xavier Church in Redwood, St. Mary's of the Fort Church in Fort Covington, St. Joseph's Church in Bombay, St. Francis Solanus Church in Harrisville, St. Raphael's Church in Heuvelton, St. Gabriel Church in Indian Lake and St. Mary's Church in Blue Mountain Lake, and St. Paul's Church in Blue Mountain Lake. He also served as diocesan director of Scouting, on the Senate of Priests for the diocese and as chaplain at Gouverneur Correctional Facility.

Father Hart retired in 2004.

Father Hart is survived by three sisters and a brother-in-law, Delores Lancto, Lucielle Dishaw, and Frances and Earl Taylor, and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by four sisters and three brothers-in-law, Norma Callahan, Irene and George Gates, Raymond Lancto and Robert Dishaw, and two sisters who died in infancy.

Arrangements are through Stephen Gregory and Sons funeral home, Shelburne, Vermont.



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Students at Augustinian Academy in Carthage had the opportunity to participate in a STEM Camp and Vacation Bible School over the summer. Pictured are STEM Camp participants.

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Augustinian grows academic, extra-curricular offerings

By Mary Ann Margrey
Augustinian Academy Principal

CARTHAGE— Another year is ready to begin, and it looks like we can plan for a normal beginning with minimal COVID guidelines. Our opening enrollment looks very good. With the loss of 75 students, most due to military transfers, we were quite concerned. However, we currently have 137 students enrolled to begin next week. We are very excited to begin anew!

We are fortunate to be able to start the school year with a full faculty, adding a few new members. As was noticed during the last two years,

there is an increased need to meet the academic and social/emotional needs of the students. To that end, our Family Support Coordinator and Military & Family Life Counselor will be scheduling sessions with the classes on a regular basis to address many of the social-emotional needs of the students. Our hope is to be proactive rather than reactive! We have also added a full-time Academic Support Coordinator to meet the academic challenges many children are facing. She will collaborate with the classroom teachers and the Title I Academic Intervention Specialist to help the students be successful in the areas of reading, writing and math.

We are so blessed to be able to continue the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation "Establishing Wholistic & Healthy After-school Activities" grant. We were able to offer a

STEM Camp in July and Vacation Bible School in August. During July and August, we were able to offer summer tutoring to students to assist with reading, writing, and math skills.

As school begins, we will continue to provide a wide variety of healthy activities in the after-school program. This will include a Little Flowers group, martial arts, running and walking clubs, Science Olympiad, quilting & knitting classes, an Art Club, a fine arts program, opportunities for sports, and much more. We are so happy to be able to offer these programs to help address the needs of the whole child.

We hope to remind the students and staff daily: "We are each a gift from God working together to love and share as Jesus did!" May our school year be filled with many faith-filled and happy experiences!



St. Agnes readies for start of year

Lake Placid – As Lake Placid's only early elementary learning center, St. Agnes School meets the academic, social, and developmental needs of young students whose parents want their children's first school experiences to be great ones.

This year, St. Agnes will enroll over 100 students in Pre-K 3 through grade three and offer a robust curriculum that includes accelerated learning opportunities in technology, literacy, math, music, foreign language, and art.

St. Agnes also offers a unique program called GAP, which is funded in large part by the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation. GAP ensures that students' growth is meaningfully assessed over the course of the year and that educational and therapeutic services are available to all students who would benefit from support.

The 2022-23 school year will begin on September 6, following St. Agnes' 9-week SPARK (STEM, Play, Art & Recreation for Kids) Camp, which enrolled 75 campers per week.

"Our campers had a great summer," says Catherine Bemis, who has served as principal for 12 years. "We are fortunate to have use of the Julian Reiss Foundation camp property about a mile from the school. It is a beautiful wilderness setting for full days of traditional camp activities, rain or shine."

Meanwhile, on its campus, St. Agnes School undertook an electrical upgrade to make its building more efficient, safe, and able to support the needs of a modern, 12-month educational facility. The school also installed an outdoor learning space, one that includes perennial and butterfly gardens, a sensory path, and an open-air classroom.

"The start of the school year is always an exciting time," Bemis explains, "both for children and for parents. To ease the summer to fall transition – and over the course of the year – there are many opportunities for parents to become part of the life of the school. We look forward to welcoming everyone very soon."

Trinity: 'Love in any language is spoken here'

Trinity Catholic School

MASSENA – This year's school theme, "Love in any language is spoken here," was born out of a couple of teachers talking in the faculty room last June. Mrs. Boyea, PE teacher, and Mrs. Montroy, music teacher, shared that they were going to coordinate their lessons and focus on different areas of the world during the school year. The students would hear music and learn dances and customs from these places. Their intention was to expose the students to different cultures, but also show that despite our differences, we're all the same in our hearts. As other teachers heard this, they wanted to include pieces of this into their classwork. Before we knew it, a school theme was born, complete with a theme song, "Love in Any Language" by Sandi Patty.

If we break down the theme and start with "love", this is referring to God's amazing love for us all, but also our love for each other, as humans. The phrase "any language" emphasizes inclusion of all our brothers and sisters in Christ on planet Earth. Lastly, "spo-

ken here" shows us that love and inclusion happen in our classrooms, in our hallways, in our dining hall, and on our playgrounds. We hope that our students will then spread God's love and their love with every interaction they have outside of our walls.

This year, we will have bulletin boards, songs, schoolwork, art projects and pictures featuring different countries, cultures and languages.

Along with a new year, new staff members often come. We're thrilled to welcome back two faith-filled teachers: Mrs. Heather Doe and Mrs. Lorelee Marsh. Mrs. Doe took a short break from teaching but missed spending her days teaching students. She'll be teaching our second classroom of fourth grade. Mrs. Marsh has returned to Trinity Catholic after having moved back to Massena from North Carolina. She has taught for the Diocese of Ogdensburg for more than 20 years in various grades. She'll put that to good use in the third grade this year.

We're also excited to welcome Mrs. Victoria (Tori) Lippassaar to PreK3 and

Miss. Brooke Beaudoin in Kindergarten. Tori was a substitute teacher for us last year, and we're so happy that she has joined us permanently this year. Brooke comes to us with previous experience in PreK, kindergarten and special education. The students will love her positivity and energy!

At the end of last year, we were able to start loosening some of the COVID restrictions that we had in place for the safety of our students and staff. While we completely understood their need, we were so thrilled when we could again welcome parents, visitors and community members back into our school! Seeing the dining hall full (though spaced out) of family and friends watching the PreK celebrations, having parents, grandparents and alumni help us with the Bike Rally and Family Picnic, and having community members come into the school to share with our students about their jobs were some of the highlights of last year. We look forward to sharing all of our events this year with our extended Trinity Catholic School family.



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Environmental Stewardship

Invitation to participation

As you may know, the year's Season of Creation is an annual Christian international celebration encouraged by our Roman Catholic Church to listen and respond together to promote God's Earth, our common home.

This year the Season of Creation begins on Thursday, September 1, with the **World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation** and ends on Tuesday, October 4, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology.

The theme this year is "Listening to the Voice of Creation."

"The psalmist says, 'The heavens declare the glory of God; the sky proclaims its builder's craft. One day to the next conveys that message; one night to the next imparts that knowledge. There is no word or sound; no voice is heard; yet their report goes forth through all the earth, their message, to the ends of the world.'" (Psalm 19: 1-5)

Creation proclaims its glory. Creation also warns. Are we listening? (Source: seasonofcreation.org)

The burning bush is the Symbol for the Season of Creation 2022. The fire that called to Moses as he tended the flock on Mount Horeb did not consume or destroy the bush.

This flame of the Spirit revealed God's presence. This holy fire affirmed that God heard the cries of all who suffered, and promised to be with us as we followed in faith to our deliverance from injustice.

In this Season of Creation, this symbol of God's Spirit calls us to listen to the voice of creation. May this symbol remind us to remain humble, contemplate our connection to holy ground, and listen for the voice of creation.

As individuals, parishes and other Catholic communities we are invited to participate through prayer, action and advocacy for caring better for God's creation. For suggestions for prayer and activities, see: **Season of Creation 2022 Catholic Climate Covenant.**

Sister Martha Emery died Aug. 18

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Sister Martha Emery, APB, on Friday, August 26, 2022, at St. Patrick's Church in Watertown. Burial followed in Glenwood Cemetery.

Sister Martha, 80, died August 18, 2022. She was a resident in the Infirmary of the Motherhouse of the

Sisters of St. Joseph for the past three years. She was blessed to receive such loving care from the Sisters and the excellent Staff.

Sister Martha, was born April 3, 1942 in Old Orchard Beach, Maine. Upon graduation from Old Orchard Beach High School in June 1960, she set out in search for the "pearl of great price." In 1969, Sister left her family and beloved Old Orchard Beach, Maine for Brownsville, New York. On November 1969 the Feast of All Saints, she entered

the Monastery of the Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood and became the first Sister to make her Perpetual Profession at the Watertown Foundation on June 16, 1973.

During her religious life, Sister Martha served in various positions including superior, assistant superior and secretary. On her 25th Anniversary of Profession, Sister wrote "I am now on my way in search of the 'pearl of great price,' knowing that God had at last called me to the place where he wanted me all along... One day the 'pearl!' will be mine, and I will be with Jesus in Eternal Life."

Sister Martha was a gifted singer, artist, gardener and enjoyed assembling intricate jigsaw puzzles. She was also devoted to the Blessed

Mother and St. Joseph.

The Sisters of the Precious Blood sincerely thank the Sisters of St. Joseph and their nursing staff for the generous, kind and compassionate care given to Sister Martha. In addition to thanking Dr. Aref Agheli and HOA Associates of CNY, they are most grateful to a dear friend who so faithfully provided transportation for her medical care in Syracuse.

Sister Martha was predeceased by her father, Frank, and mother, Mary (Swencornis) Emery. She is survived by her sister Frances and brother-in-law Gary Patterson and family in Dover, New Hampshire.

Arrangements are with D.L. Calarco Funeral Home, Inc. Online condolences may be made to www.dlcalarco.com

Bishop's Public Schedule

Sept. 1 – Noon – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

Sept. 3 – 4:30 p.m. – Installation Mass of Reverend Garry B. Giroux as Pastor of St. Mary's Church in Waddington and St. John the Baptist Church in Madrid (at St. John the Baptist Church in Madrid)

Sept. 4 – 10:30 a.m. – Installation Mass of Reverend Shane M. Lynch as Pastor of the Parish of the Visitation and St. Raymond in Norfolk, St. Andrew's Church in Norwood and St. Patrick's Church in Brasher Falls (at the Parish of the Visitation and St. Raymond in Norfolk)

Sept. 6 – 3:30 p.m. – NYS Catholic Conference of Bishops Executive Conference Call

Sept. 7 – 9:45 a.m. – Episcopal Council Meeting at Bishop's Residence

Protecting God's Children

The Diocese of Ogdensburg is scheduling sessions for Protecting God's Children for Adults. Pre-registration online is required. Participants may preregister at virtus.org. For more information or to arrange for training, contact Jeanie Grizzuto at 315-393-2920 or jgrizzuto@rcdony.org.

Rest in Peace

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

Aug. 31 – Rev. James J. Sherry, 1890; Rev. Albert R. Plante, 2000

Sept. 1 – Rev. Michael Guth, 1864; Rev. John B. Martin, O.S.A., 1955

Sept. 2 – Rev. Timothy J. Mahoney, 1938; Msgr. Claudius Sechi, 1966; Rev. Thomas G. Votraw, 2007; Rev. Floyd J. Bleaux, 2009

Sept. 3 – Rev. David W. Driscoll, O.S.A., 1963; Rev. John S. Branche, 2003

Sept. 4 – Rev. Alpee Perron, 1938; Rev. Walter J. Charbonneau, 1982; Msgr. Robert J. Giroux, 2000; Rev. Patrick Mundy, 2017

Sept. 5 – Rev. Arthur Tardiff, O.M.I., 1961; Rev. John Sullivan M.S.C., 1962; Rev. Louis C. Gardner, 2000

Sept. 6 – Rev. James Connor, 1930

To Report Abuse

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

REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY?


— PRAYER SUGGESTION —

Eternal Father,
we lift up to you these
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Sanctify them.
Heal and guide them.
Mold them into the likeness and
holiness of your Son, Jesus,
the Eternal High Priest.
May their lives be pleasing to
you. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen

(With ecclesiastical approval)

Mass
Rosary
Fasting
Day Offering
Eucharistic Adoration
Offering of Sufferings
Divine Mercy Chaplet

Or whatever the Lord
inspires you to offer Him




September
Our Lady
of Sorrows

| DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG, NY | | 2022 | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | |
| 4 REV. JOHN M. DEMO | 5 MSGR. LAWRENCE M. DEMO | 6 REV. RAYMOND DIESBOURG MSC | 7 REV. JOHN L. DOWNS | 8 OUR PASTOR | 9 MSGR. DENNIS J. DUPREY VF | 10 REV. GUY F. EDWARDS | |
| 11 REV. JOSEPH W. ELLIOTT | 12 REV. ALFRED H. FISH | 13 REV. FRANCIS J. FLYNN | 14 REV. MICHAEL GAFFNEY | 15 POPE FRANCIS | 16 BENEDICT XVI POPE EMERITUS | 17 REV. GARRY B. GIRoux | |
| 18 REV. JOSEPH W. GIROUX | 19 REV. L. WILLIAM GORDON | 20 REV. ALEX V. GUIMPOL | 21 REV. ROLLAND A. HART | 22 RETIRED PRIESTS | 23 REV. ALBERT J. HAUSER VF | 24 REV. PETER G. HELFRICH | |
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A donation to help support THE MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS will be appreciated. The Monthly Prayer Request for Priests is graciously underwritten by:  Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocations Society www.vocationsnet.net

Deacon Lawrence “Larry” Morse died August 14, 2022

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Deacon Lawrence C. “Larry” Morse on August 20, 2022, at St. James Church in Gouverneur. Burial followed in the New St. James Cemetery.

Deacon Morse, 76, passed away on Saturday, August 13, 2022 at Gouverneur Hospital.

Deacon Morse was born in Gouverneur on August 3, 1946, the son of Lawrence S. and Genevieve M. (Liscum) Morse.

He graduated from Gouverneur High School and attended Mohawk Community College.

Lawrence married Diane Lynde on September 4, 1965 at St. James Church, Gouverneur.

After completing school, Lawrence was a typesetter for the Gouverneur Tribune Press. While setting type for an ad for an opening for Sherwin Williams, he decided to apply for the opening and won the position. As a result, he was initially transferred with Sherwin Williams to Saratoga Springs and later to Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

While making a life in Berkshire County, Massachusetts, he was able to take courses in firefighter essentials allowing him a volunteer position with the Lenox Fire Department in 1969 which eventually ended in 2007 at the rank of assistant chief. He was also involved in the Local Lion's Club and the Shriner's.

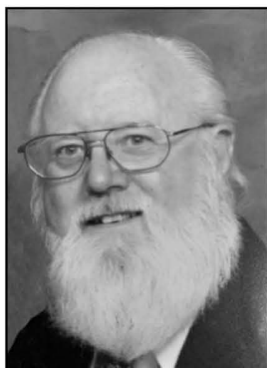
After 26 years with Sherwin Williams, he worked for Hillcrest Educational Center. In 2007, he returned to Gouverneur for retirement and became interested in theology, taking courses, and being ordained in October 2017. Deacon Morse became prison chaplain at Adirondack Correctional Facility as well as the ones in Ogdensburg and Gouverneur, resigning his position in 2022, due to illness.

Deacon Morse also volunteered to play Santa Claus during the holiday season for a variety of charitable organizations including the Food Pantry at Gouverneur Neighborhood Center and as a fireman with Richville Vol. Fire Department. He was nearing 20 gallons as a blood donor, enjoyed camping, photography, and teaching his grandson Paine how to cook inside the house and outside on the grill.

He is survived by his wife of nearly 57 years Diane, his four children, five grandchildren, four great grandchildren, three sisters, a brother, nieces and nephews.

Deacon Morse is predeceased by his parents and his grandparents Charles and Irene Liscum, George and Elekta (Planty) Morse.

In lieu of flowers, please make memorial donations to the Shriner's Hospital.



Deacon Lawrence “Larry” Morse



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Or visit the Diocese of Ogdensburg
Department of Education website at
www.rcdony.org/catholicschools

Sister Debbie retires from Mission of Hope

By Shan Moore
Contributing Writer

PLATTSBURGH — It took all of Sister Debbie Blow's strength to take that first flight to Nicaragua.

Earlier this month, she drew from that same well as she stepped down as executive director of North Country Mission of Hope, the humanitarian aide organization that was fully born on that trip.

"You can know it's the right time," Sister Debbie said, fighting back tears in her tidy home office, "but the mission is my heart, my passion."

But a recent return of breast cancer, along with other personal challenges, persuaded the Dominican Sister of Hope to retire sooner than she'd ever planned.

Sister Debbie underwent a mastectomy in July, even as she continued caring for her mentor and longtime housemate Sister Stephanie Frenette and grieved the loss of her mother, Shirley Prevo; stepmother, Joan Blow; and others close to her.

"Part of letting go is honoring the grieving process, and I need to do that," she said.

WHAT WE CAN

A faith-based, nonprofit corporation, North Country Mission of Hope works to empower the Nicaraguan poor through programs in education, health care, community and ecological sustainability.

Supported by grants, fundraisers and donations, it also steps up when needs arise locally and around the world.

"Many of our volunteers have already been involved in other organizations (so) it makes sense that we do what we can, where we can, when we can," Sister Debbie said.



PHOTO BY SHAN MOORE

Sister Debbie Blow (above) with Sister Stephanie Frenette at their home in Plattsburgh. Deep emotions have accompanied her retirement as North Country Mission of Hope executive director.

She smiled. "I love that phrase."

BEGINNINGS

Looking back, Sister Debbie marvels at the many connections that shaped her journey.

As St. Peter's School principal, she had welcomed Oscar and Yamilette Flores's three children after the family fled Nicaragua's civil war in the 1990s.

With Yamilette and longtime friend Eve McGill — and then as Seton Catholic Central School's campus minister — she worked with students on a clothing drive after Hurricane Mitch struck Nicaragua in fall 1998.

Her students raised \$3,000 for further help, and Sister Debbie delivered a challenge to the community to match that amount.

Very quickly, some

\$30,000 piled up
OVERCOMING FEAR

By early 1999, Seton that first mission trip was ready to go — but without Sister Debbie.

As a teen, she'd been denied permission to travel with other students on a mission to South America; that plane had crashed, killing all aboard. And the young girl was left with an extreme fear of flying.

Sister Stephanie offered the wisdom that persuaded Sister Debbie to face her fear.

If she didn't go, that nun recalled telling her, "when the kids get back and are talking about their experiences, you're not going to know what they're talking about because you didn't experience it."

Terror riding with her, Sis-

ter Debbie flew - again and again.

TRUST

MOH's success is directly tied to a dedication to building trust, both here and in Nicaragua, Sister Debbie said, and to being "a truly spiritual, humanitarian-based organization, welcoming of all."

That effort has created the strong base of volunteers and support locally, has brought in grants that have improved conditions at a Nicaraguan disability center, educated young girls, fed thousands of children ...

And Sister Debbie has always trusted God would provide in other ways, too.

In a Managua airport, she sat on a conveyor belt, facing down officials who threatened to confiscate medical and other supplies. She prevailed.

With the entire contents of a closed military hospital in need of transport, Sister Debbie knew, against the odds, that a National Guard aircraft would transport it. It did.

MOH grew from a Seton project to include students from other schools, from a yearly trip to two then many more.

MISSION MOMENT

MOH first assisted one school; now 7,000 children are fed at 24; it helped one orphanage, one hospital, then more and more. The group partnered with Rotary, with other organizations and churches to accomplish even more.

After years of moving operations from one donated space to another locally, MOH bought its permanent home in Peru; the George Moore Foundation funded a permanent mission headquarters in Nicaragua.

The need, however, is never ending.

Perhaps the worst situation MOH witnessed was

the Managua dump, where many scrounged out a pitiful existence.

There, Sister Debbie experienced one of countless "mission moments" that define the generosity of spirit of the Nicaraguan people and re-emphasized why MOH does what it does.

At the edge of a dangerous dropoff, she lost her footing, and a boy from the dump "literally shoved me back on the path," she remembered. "I felt like he saved my life."

He refused some money she offered as thanks.

"The kid looked at me and said (in Spanish), 'One does not pay for kindness.'"

STRENGTH

Mission volunteers, whether in Nicaragua or helping from home, have taken their experiences to heart, many entering the human-service field and serving the poor.

Nicaraguan children sponsored by MOH donors have grown up to do the same.

"The seeds were planted, and all we did was help water them."

Sister Debbie speaks of the strong women who influenced her life — the Virgin Mary; her mother; her grandmother Lillian Prevo; Sister Stephanie; Sister Pauline Plante; her spiritual director Sister Catherine Livers ...

"I have been incredibly blessed to have had their wisdom, to have their love, their knowledge and to have stood on their shoulders," she said.

That, along with her vocation, is what gave her the strength to step aside, to let the mission continue under the guidance of someone else.

"As Dominican Sisters, we are about sharing hope ... letting others run with hope and letting others feel that gift of hope."

Deacon Carlin steps up to lead Mission of Hope

By Shan Moore
Contributing Writer

PERU — Volunteering with North Country Mission of Hope opened an ever-developing relationship with Christ that James Carlin had never before envisioned.

Now, a year after that journey saw him ordained a deacon, the Plattsburgh man has accepted the position of executive director of the faith-based organization that primarily focuses on the poor of Nicaragua.

"It's part of who I am," Deacon Carlin said of his long history with Mission of Hope. "It's in my heart."

The parishioner of Holy Cross Parish, 59, is presently a fourth-term MOH Leadership Board president; he embarked on his first experience giving a hand up to the poor of Nicaragua in 2008 and, by the time political unrest suspended mission journeys to the country four years ago, he'd racked up some 19 trips there.

On that first experience in the Central American country, Deacon Carlin's focus was just "helping others," he said. Before he returned home, he'd understood he and the others from the North Country-based nonprofit were actually "working with people and helping each other."

The experience of finding God in the most seemingly forsaken of circumstances, he said, "gave me a relationship with Christ I never imagined I could have."

BELIEVES IN SERVICE

Despite the challenges that came with Daniel Ortega's return to power, Mission of Hope has continued all its programs, among them feeding and educating schoolchildren; providing medical, psychi-



Deacon James Carlin, newly named executive director of North Country Mission of Hope, talks with Sister Debbie Blow at the 16th-annual McSweeney's Mission of Hope Golf Classic. Sister Debbie ended her tenure as the humanitarian-aid organization's first and, until now, only executive director, on Aug. 16. Deacon Carlin, a longtime mission volunteer, has played an integral role with the group for many years.

atric and dental care; building home shelters; and much more. The group also responds to critical need locally and at other points around the world.

"James knows the inter-workings and the challenges," said outgoing Executive Director Sister Debbie Blow, who is delighted over the choice of her successor.

Deacon Carlin also has worked with Mauricio Flores Cuadra and Magaly Velasquez, administrator and assistant administrator, respectively, of Mission of Hope operations in Nicaragua, a crucial piece now that the North Country nonprofit corporation must do its part remotely, Sister Debbie noted.

"He's the perfect fit," she said of Deacon Carlin, "He loves the Nicaraguan people; he truly believes in service."

TRANSITION

Deacon Carlin will fully assume the post in January 2023. Meanwhile, as was decided by the Leadership Team at a recent

meeting at MOH's North Country headquarters in Peru, he will act in his capacity as board president, along with that membership, to direct operations. By the end of the year, he said, he will have sold his Plattsburgh business, Centennial Abstract Company.

The executive director position is one of two paid Mission of Hope posts; Deacon Carlin won't collect a paycheck until he fully assumes the role.

Executive Secretary Suzanne Charette holds the other paid job, but she will be leaving at year's end, Sister Debbie said.

"Suzanne is amazing," she said. "One of the hardest things to adjust to (with retirement) is not working with her every day."

'WELL-RESPECTED'

Sister Debbie, who until now was the only person to hold the executive director position since mission operations began in 1999, announced her Aug. 16 retirement earlier this summer. A return of breast cancer that re-

HOW TO HELP

- Donate \$75 to feed a child one meal a day for a year.
- Give \$140 to educate a child for one school year.
- Donate \$185 to provide a poor barrio with 100 pounds of rice and beans.
- Give \$750 to build a home shelter for a needy family.

Donate and learn more at ncmissionofhope.org.

quired a mastectomy factored largely in her decision.

That heart-wrenching choice has been made less painful by Deacon Carlin's selection.

She praised his business sense, among other abilities he will bring to the job.

"He's going to be well respected," she said.

As well, Sister Debbie and Deacon Carlin have worked together closely over the years, developing a friendship that makes for a very comfortable relationship, both agreed.

Sister Debbie will remain involved, contributing her long experience to Deacon Carlin's transition, and, in fact, has continued writing her News and Notes and Reflections that mission volunteers have long relied on through email.

Deacon Carlin requested she do so.

He wants to see those who support Mission of Hope continue their connection with Sister Debbie, he said.

"It's a really important part of the mission."

TOGETHER

Deacon Carlin, who with his wife, Beth, have three

children and three grandchildren, has served on many mission committees, including Community Development, Estate Planning and Fundraising.

"With the support of our leadership, staff, donors and volunteers, James and I have worked tirelessly together for the past 14 years and have navigated multiple challenges of serving in an underdeveloped country plagued by poverty, oppression, hunger and disease," Sister Debbie wrote in the email that announced her successor's choice.

Deacon Carlin approaches this new challenge with some trepidation.

In sports parlance, he said, a smile in his voice, "you never want to take over for a hall of famer," and Sister Debbie certainly fits that description.

In truth, however, he made clear, "it's not me taking over."

He and the Dominican Sister of Hope will be walking the same path they have long trod together, Deacon Carlin explained. "It's not 'me or her' — it's differently but together."



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

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Pax Christi USA campaign takes critical look at country's military spending

WASHINGTON (CNS) – Volunteering at her parish, St. Francis Xavier College Church in St. Louis, Beatrice Parwatikar helps people through the lengthy process of gathering documents necessary to obtain an official photo ID from the state of Missouri.

The people she meets have all kinds of needs: health care, housing, food assistance and more. The ID will help them access necessary services.

Her thoughts often turn to their struggles and the stringent requirements they must meet for getting the ID card and again for almost any sort of assistance.

Parwatikar admitted she often wonders why in a country with so much human need that hundreds of billions of dollars are routinely approved for the country's military forces and nuclear weapons arsenals. She points to the \$777 billion authorized for the military under the 2022 National Defense Authorization Act and wonders about the priorities of government policymakers.

"What happens is that when you're working in the community and seeing people in such need, what are we considering security?" Parwatikar asked during an interview with Catholic News Service. "Security is people able to have their basic needs met."

Parwatikar, a Pax Christi USA ambassador of peace, has publicly questioned such expenditures for years. She discussed them at a workshop during Pax Christi USA's 50th anniversary conference in early August.

The workshop summarized the work of the Catholic peace organization's revitalized Bread Not Stones campaign that is calling for a deep rethinking of the ever-growing Pentagon budget and seeking ways to prioritize human needs and other threats to human life, such as climate change, in federal spending bills.

The organization originally launched the campaign in 1999, but it was set aside after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Members chose the group's 50th anniversary year to resurrect it.

Parwatikar has zeroed in on the \$813 billion in proposed military spending in President Joe Biden's \$1.59 trillion 2023 budget sent to Congress. It includes \$130 billion for research and development, \$56.5 billion for air power platforms and systems, and \$40.8 billion for sea power,

including nine battle force ships.

She expressed disappointment that after Biden sent his budget to Congress, the House Armed Services Committee added \$37 billion for the Pentagon while the Senate Armed Services Committee boosted military spending by \$43 billion. Members of both committees have said the add-ons are needed because of inflation and growing threats from Russia from China.

"When you're working down at this level (in my church) and I look at somebody dreaming of nine battle (force) ships, it's hard," Parwatikar said.

The Bread Not Stones campaign is designed to "change the narrative on what it means for a country to be strong," said Jean Stokan, another of the organization's ambassadors of peace.

"In our estimation, security should not be about military security or military strength. It's just a moral issue. Our budgets are moral documents. It shows where your priorities are as a country," Stokan, justice coordinator for immigration and nonviolence for the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, told Catholic News Service.

The campaign's immediate focus extends through the November election. It seeks to begin raising awareness in parishes, schools and local communities about the amount of military spending – about 52% of discretionary federal allocations – as Congress debates the 13 appropriations bills that comprise the fiscal year 2023 budget this fall.

Congress faces a deadline of Sept. 30 to pass the measures. If not, legislators are expected to adopt continuing resolutions to keep the government running until the full budget is set.

Advocates such as Stokan and Parwatikar acknowledge that the military economy is entrenched across the country. They realize that military bases and defense contractors are located in congressional districts nationwide, leaving members of Congress loathe to cut spending if their district will be affected.

Undeterred, Stokan and Parwatikar maintain that Bread Not Stones, with its emphasis on prayer, study and action, can be a starting point for people of faith to begin to understand the importance of shifting some of the Pentagon budget to address mounting human needs.

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Activists arrested for protest appear in N.Y. court

NEW YORK (CNS) – Eleven peace activists arrested Aug. 2 on charges of disorderly conduct for blocking the door of the U.S. Mission to the United Nations appeared in New York City Municipal Court Aug. 22. The activists blocked the door in an act of civil disobedience in front of the mission in New York while diplomats from around the world gathered for a U.N. review conference on the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. The court gave the 11 arrestees "adjournment in contemplation of dismissal," or ACDs, telling them that if they are not rearrested over the next six months, the disorderly conduct charges will be dropped and the records of the charges will be cleared. There were no fines issued. The arrestees were Ruth Benn of Brooklyn, New York; John Breitbart, Felton Davis, Nancy Adelman, John Mark Rozendaal, Trudy Silver and Alice Sutter, all of Manhattan; Sally Jones of Staten Island, New York; Mike Levinson of New Rochelle, New York; Richie Marini of New Jersey; and Craig Simpson of Boston.

NCEA, faith-based groups fight efforts to broaden Title IX

WASHINGTON (CNS) – A number of Catholic and other faith-based associations and groups, including dioceses, have joined in supporting an amicus brief filed in a court case on how the Biden administration's proposal to broaden the interpretation of Title IX provisions could affect nonprofit organizations, including private schools. "Although Title IX has received the most attention for its impact on athletics, especially regarding women at the college level, it applies to a variety of K-12 educational programs and has been adapted by most other federal agencies to govern workplace policies," the National Catholic Educational Association said in an Aug. 23 statement. "If schools are recipients of federal financial assistance, the obligations of institutions that receive this assistance are addressed in several civil rights laws and employment regulations," the NCEA said. "New interpretations of these laws and regulations have raised questions and concerns about the applicability of such to Catholic schools that received equitable services, not funds," it said. The NCEA has joined the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Council of American Private Education, Association of Independent Schools, Christian Schools International, National Association of Episcopal Schools and National Council of Islamic Schools, as well as various dioceses, associations and nonprofit organizations in a letter of support for a brief filed by the National Association of Independent Schools.

Wisdom of old age is a beacon for future generations, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Elderly men and women are called to pass on their wisdom and shine a path toward a better tomorrow for future generations, Pope Francis said. As one approaches the final leg of their mortal journey, little details, such as "a caress, a smile, a gesture, an appreciated effort, an unexpected surprise, a hospitable cheerfulness, a faithful bond become more acute," and what is most essential in life "becomes definitively clear to us," the pope said Aug. 24 during his weekly general audience. "This wisdom of old age is the place of our gestation, which illuminates the lives of children, of young people, of adults, of the entire community. We, the elderly should be this for others; a light for others," he said. In his catechesis, the final in a series of talks on old age, the pope reflected on the recent feast of the Assumption, which he said served as a reminder that "the destination is heaven." For Christians, he explained, death is "a little like a second birth. If the first was a birth on earth, this second is a birth in heaven," the pope said.

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.

Facebook event page:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/55995661778301?ref=newsfeed>

100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Saranac Lake - This fall, St. Bernard's School will celebrate its 100th Anniversary!

Date: Sept. 23 to 25

Schedule: On Friday evening we will have dinner at The Hotel Saranac, Saturday will be our annual Golf Tournament, and on Sunday we will have a reception after 10am Mass and school tours.

Features: The school began as a one room schoolhouse in the fall of 1922, and we have been providing the families of Saranac Lake a quality Catholic education ever since. In all these events, there will be opportunities to look back at the school throughout the years, connect with other alums, and meet current staff, parents, and students.

Contact: Please email: principal@stbernardsschool.org, call: 518-891-2830, or use the QR code to RSVP to any of these events or for more information.

CLINTON

TURKEY DINNER

Lyon Mountain – St. Bernard's and St. Edmund's to have Turkey Dinner and 50/50 raffle to benefit their fuel fund.

Date: Sept. 11

Time: 11:30 a.m. to 4

Place: Lyon Mountain American Legion Post 1623

Cost: Adults, \$15; Children 6-12, \$7

Contact: For more information call 518-594-3907 or 518-593-2052

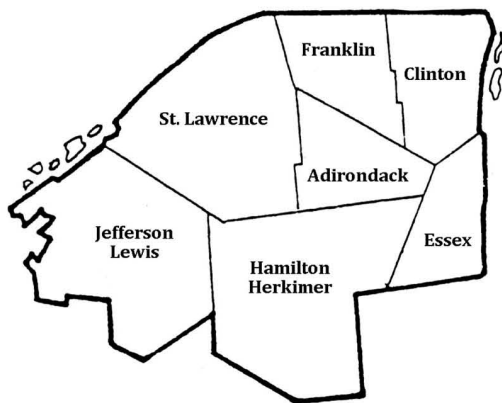
GARAGE SALE

Ellenburg Center – St. Bernard's and St. Edmund's will have a parish garage sale.

Date: Set. 17 and 18

Place: St. Edmund's Church Hall

Contact: For more information contact the parish office at 518-594-3907



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.

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. with Bishop Terry R. LaValley as Parade Marshall, Chicken BBQ at 1:30 p.m.; Grand Raffle drawing at 4 p.m.

Place: St. Augustine's Church

Features: Live music, games for children of all ages, grand raffle, silent auction, bake sale, chicken bbq, apple fritters, fried dough, sweet sausages, michigans, burgers, and more

HARVEST DINNER

Ellenburg Center – Catholic Daughters Court Little Rose #1300 will hold their Harvest Dinner and Big Ticket Raffle.

Date: Sept. 25

Time: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Raffle drawing at 4:30 p.m.)

Place: St. Edmund's Church Hall

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

HOUSE SITTERS

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

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

Features: Lunch and snack items on hand along with tea, coffee, soda, and bottled water. Training will be provided on the history of the House of Prayer, its mission, and the various ways to carry out this gentle ministry of hospi-

tality for those seeking time in a home of Mary to listen to our Lord, browse in the library, or visit the "Gift Shop." Flexible schedule (and hours) are fine.

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

ESSEX

FRUITFUL INVITATION

Ticonderoga – Do you have friends or loved ones you wish were more drawn to the life of faith? There is no more compelling case for the gospel than the beauty of a soul joyfully living out the life of grace. Learn how we can become more spiritually attractive to others.

Date: Sept. 12

Time: 6:45 p.m. to 8

Place: St. Mary's Church

Speaker: Joshua Danis, National Director of Alpha Catholic Context

Features: Join Joshua Danis, Author of "Living the Fruit of the Spirit," as we explore how we can each participate with the Holy Spirit to become more spiritually attractive to others. Full of laughter and stories, we will unpack how the fruits of the spirit can enable us to draw people toward a life-changing encounter with Christ Jesus.

Contact: For more information or to register go to: www.route74catholic.org

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 reposed in the Tabernacle, and Prayers for the Holy Father and his intentions.

JEFFERSON-LEWIS

HOLY HOUR, CHAPLET

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

Date: Sept. 4

Time: Following 11 a.m. Mass

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Contact: 315-348-6260

SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL DINNER

Evans Mills – The Indian River Knights of Columbus 7471 will be having a spaghetti and meatball dinner.

Date: Sept. 10

Time: 4 p.m. to 7

Place: St. Mary's Parish Center

Cost: Adults, \$9; Seniors, \$8; Children under 12, \$5; under 5, Free; Sauce, \$6 per quart

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: Sept. 3

Time: 8 a.m.

Place: Notre Dame Church, Ogdens-

burg

Features: Rosary with devotions

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

Date: Sept. 3

Time: 3:15 p.m.

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

MONTHLY BRUNCH

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

Date: Sept. 11 (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 tax law, required 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

ALPHA

Massena – You're invited to ALPHA.

Date: Tuesday starting Sept. 13

Time: 6 p.m. to 8

Place: St. Mary's Social Hall

Features: Free of charge and including a delicious meal. Childcare will be provided as well.

Contact: Parish Office at 315-769-2469 or web site at massenacatholics.com

DIOCESAN EVENTS

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT

Saranac Lake – After Abortion Healing weekend to be held.

Former principal, youth minister dies at age 73

Rose Ann Hickey, 73, of Saranac Lake died Saturday, Aug. 20, 2022, after a brief battle with pancreatic cancer.

She was born in 1949 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and grew up in Wilmington, Delaware. She was the youngest of the four children of John and Elizabeth (Leszczynski) Hickey.

She received her Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Delaware in 1971, and her master's in education at Plattsburgh State University in 1987.

She began her teaching career at St. Elizabeth Elementary School in Wilmington, Delaware, where she taught from 1971 to 1976. She moved to Saranac Lake in 1976 and taught at St. Bernard's School from 1976 to 1985. She served as principal of St. Agnes School in Lake Placid from 1990 to 1992 and then returned to teaching at Lake Placid Elementary School, retiring in 2014.

Rose Ann took a break from teaching to be diocesan director of youth ministry for the Roman

Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg from 1985 to 1990. She was a member of the staff of Camp Guggenheim in Saranac Lake and eventually became camp director. When Camp Guggenheim celebrated its 50th anniversary this summer, Rose Ann was in attendance and enjoyed reconnecting with former staff members, campers and their families. In her youth ministry work, Rose Ann made a great impact on the young people who crossed her path. She was a sounding board for many of them, helped nurture them during their teen years and helped them understand and grow in faith. She would hear from many of those youths to this day and always enjoyed catching up on the latest news in their lives and families. There was a lot of reminiscing about their times at Camp Guggenheim, as members of the Diocesan Youth Council and St. Bernard's Youth Group, and their many trips to youth conventions, both in New York and at other locations across the U.S. She

was a chaperone for youth attending the 1993 World Youth Day in Denver, Colorado, where Pope John Paul II visited the U.S.

Her parish activities at St. Bernard's Church included being a member of the folk group, member of Parish Council, youth minister and eucharistic minister, and she taught confirmation classes. She was currently serving as regent of Catholic Daughters of America Court St. Bernard. She was also a past president of the Beta Mu Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. She was one of the original board members of the Getaway Youth Center in Saranac Lake.

As a cancer survivor, Rose Ann would attend the Creative Healing Connections retreats at Great Camp Sagamore in Raquette Lake. She cherished those times and formed wonderful friendships with the staff and the other women attending the retreats. She was at one time a board member for Creative Healing Connections.

The girl from the city was thrilled to live in the Adirondacks, learning to canoe, kayak, downhill and cross country ski and snowshoe. She was a volunteer for the 1980 Winter Olympics, Ironman Lake Placid and other local events. She participated in several local fundraising trivia contests, most often as a member of the Literacy Bombers team alongside her friends and fellow teachers.

Rose Ann loved to travel and managed to visit all 50 states as well as many of the national parks and several other countries.

Rose Ann was thrilled to be chosen as the queen of the Saranac Lake Winter Carnival in 2019, a role she thoroughly enjoyed along with her King "Bunk" Griffin.

She was predeceased by her parents and her three siblings: sisters Sr. Veronica (Patricia Hickey, a Felician nun) and Bernadette Anderson, and her brother John Hickey and his son John Hickey.

She is survived by her nephew Matthew Anderson, his wife Jillian and their son August of Tro-

phy Club, Texas. She is also survived by grand-nephews Stone Hickey and Daniel Matys and their mother Michelle Odell, of Utica. She is also survived by her cousins in the Hickey, Noonan and Conrad families. She is also survived by her best friend and traveling companion, Gen McLaughlin.

She had many close friends whom she enjoyed spending time with.

Donations in Rose Ann's honor may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or Camp Guggenheim in care of the funeral home. The Fortune-Keough Funeral Home of Saranac Lake is in charge of arrangements.

Calling hours are set to take place from 4 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 30 at the Fortune-Keough Funeral Home, 20 Church St., Saranac Lake. A Mass of Christian Burial is set to take place at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 31 at St. Bernard's Church in Saranac Lake, with Rev. John Yonkovig officiating. Burial will follow in St. Bernard's Cemetery in Saranac Lake.

Around the diocese

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

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. Open to women and men.

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

SSJ LAY ASSOCIATE PROGRAM

The Sisters of St. Joseph will host meetings for those who are interested in learning about their Lay Associate Program.

Schedule: Sept. 11, SSJ Motherhouse, 1425 Washington Street; Sept. 17 at St. Patrick's Church, Colton; Sept. 18 at the Newman Center, Plattsburgh

Features: Associates meet once a month to learn about the spirituality and history of the Sisters, pray together, and discuss ways to deepen one's spiritual life. This group is open to men and women.

Contact: If you are interested and wish to attend the initial meeting, please call the (315) 782-3460 and leave your name with the receptionist, or contact contact Sister Kathleen DeBoalt skmdeb@yahoo.com (Watertown area) or Sister Bethany Fitzgerald srbethsj@gmail.com

(Colton and Plattsburgh areas)

MARRIED AND RELIGIOUS JUBILEE 2022

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

Date: Sept. 11

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Cathedral

Features: Bishop LaValley will be presiding. We want to acknowledge your commitment and celebrate with you. There will be a gathering with refreshments after the Mass.

Contact: Married couples that wish to receive a certificate signed by Bishop LaValley and have their names

appear in the program should register no later than Sept. 2nd at rcdony.org/family-life/jubileereg. For more information please contact Steve Tartaglia at 315-393-2920 or startaglia@rcdony.org.

LOVING AUTHENTICALLY

All are invited to attend this free seminar designed to deepen our understanding of how Church doctrine on sexual morality connects with our happiness.

Schedule: Five different times and locations to attend. Sept. 10, 2022 at St. Anthony's Watertown; Nov. 19, 2022 at St. Mary's Massena; Feb. 12, 2023 at Newman Center, Plattsburgh; April 22,

2023 at St. Bernard's Saranac Lake; May 20, 2023 at St. Mary's Ticonderoga.

Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Features: Program will be a showing of "Unprotected: A Pope, the Pill, and the Perils of Sexual Chaos." With Q & A led by Natural Family Planning Directors Angelo and Suzanne Pietropaoli and Catholic Theologian, Maura Hearden Fehlner, Ph.D.

Contact: to register go www.rcdony.org/lovingauthentically. For more information contact Stephen Tartaglia at 315-393-2920 or startaglia@rcdony.org

October funeral Mass planned for MaryAnn Cogan

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated for MaryAnn V. Cogan on Saturday, October 8, 2022, at 11:00 am, at St. Johns Church, Plattsburgh. Burial will follow in St. Peter's Cemetery.

There will be no public calling hours.

MaryAnn, a resident of Plattsburgh, passed away Tuesday, August 23, 2022, at the UVM Health Network-CVPH with her family by her side. She was 83.

She was born December 9, 1938, to Louis and Betty (Brostek) Voracio in Syracuse. Her parents predeceased her.

Maryann attended SUNY Plattsburgh, where she earned her degree in nursing. She worked in numerous facilities throughout New York before she redirected her focus to raising her four children. She also spent many hours serving St. Peter's Church and their Interfaith program.

MaryAnn devoted her life to her family and friends, with home cooked meals, including their favorite birthday feast,

knitting, and crocheting personalized blankets and cards and letters for special occasions. As an avid sports fan, she spent her time watching the Red Sox and Tiger Woods every chance she could. Her other love was her dog, Bella, who watched over her and comforted her during the last few years.

She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Deacon John "Jack" Cogan; two sons, Daniel Cogan and wife Kathy, Dennis Cogan and wife Beverly; and a daughter, Denise LaPierre and husband Phillip; grandchildren, Morgan Esposito and husband Ryan, Dominique Heidelberg and husband Bruce, Jesse Cogan, Katelyn Hoover, and Xavier King.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her beloved son, Jason Cogan.

Arrangements are entrusted to the Brown Funeral Home and online condolences may be offered at brownfuneral-homeinc.com.

Author helps four female doctors of church lead retreat

"Set the World on Fire: A 4-Week Personal Retreat with the Female Doctors of the Church" by Vinita Hampton Wright. Ave Maria Press (Notre Dame, Indiana, 2022). 181 pp., \$18.95.

Because we have limited options for in-person retreats these days, Vinita Wright offers the reader a much-needed opportunity to listen to and reflect with, the four female doctors of the church. She does so in a clear and articulate way, without being either too basic or too specialized, beginning with a fine explanation of what a saint is:

"Although each person in the family of God is considered a saint with a small s, some people live in such a way that their imitation of Christ's love

has great impact on others. ... This holiness goes beyond the piety of saying prayers and maintaining other spiritual practices. ... Such a saint relates to others in a truly Christlike way: with humility, wisdom, passion and a certain spiritual confidence that allows them to act on what they sense God is asking them to do. Saints are brave but not haughty, resilient but not hardened. Saints often suffer greatly, physically and otherwise."

As Wright takes us by the hand to introduce us to these amazing women she highlights a particular quality of each that may be especially helpful for the reader, from St. Therese of Lisieux, who shows us how to love God through a little way,

to St. Teresa of Avila, who encourages us to own our unique life with God, to St. Catherine of Siena, who sets an example of spiritual power in God's loving service, and St. Hildegard of Bingen, who models engaging life with great passion and creativity.

For each woman, Wright chooses excellent passages from their own writings.

Wright often sums up and applies these wise women's insights to our lives.

The only way this inspiring look at these four women could have been improved would have been by using a clearer contrast ink to black, because at times the needed emphasis nearly disappears in the orange ink used for special sections.

Celebrate your favorite priest in the

**NCC PRIEST APPRECIATION
ISSUE**

Join the *North Country Catholic* in honoring the special priests in your life. The NCC will be honoring our priests in the Sept. 28 issue of the paper.

Priesthood Sunday will be Sept. 25

We invite you to send a message to your pastor, spiritual advisor or priestly friend.

\$20 - a 1 column X 2 inch ad with a short message (e.g., Father Smith, we appreciate your service, from the Jones Family)

\$40 - a 2 column x 2 inch ad featuring your message, a photo or graphic design

\$135 - Quarter page ad

\$250 - Half page ad

\$475 - Full page ad

If you have a specific budget that is not listed we can design an ad based on that.

If you would like your ad in color please add \$25 (The *North Country Catholic* provides design services)

**Must be received in the NCC Office by
Sept. 19, 2022**

Questions? Email cward@rcdony.org or call 315-608-7556

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SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

The cost of being Jesus' follower

There was a time centuries ago when one man could embrace most knowledge that was known. Such a person was called a "universal man." Today, such a feat is impossible, not even for a robot with artificial intelligence! Furthermore, it is even more impossible for us to have universal wisdom to guide us in the meaning and use of facts.



Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore

In the reading from the

Book of Wisdom this week, we see how limited our human minds are compared to our Creator's divine wisdom. We will never know the why of God's actions in our lives. We have to trust that his wisdom is for our good.

Today's Gospel sounds shocking when Jesus tells us to hate our parents and family if we are to be good followers. The word "hate" in Jesus' time did not mean

September 4

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

READINGS

Wisdom 9:13-18b

Philemon 9-10, 12-17

Luke 14:25-33

what we mean when we use that word. In Jesus' time, it meant "to love less." So the Gospel is telling us that we must not place love of family or of material goods above love and obedience to Jesus. He should be the top priority in our lives.

Next, he warns us to

plan well how we can meet the costly demands of being his follower. He mentions that no person of common sense would ever build a tower without first sitting down and checking to see if he can afford it, and if he has materials enough to finish it before he begins! Frankly, most of us do not have enough love, enough courage, and enough grace to be His disciple all the way to the end of our lives. But God never asks the impossible. And we do have enough supplies today to be good disciples. If we

love at little bit more each day, then we'll make it to the end. Remember that beautiful prayer, *Lord, for tomorrow and its needs, I do not pray... keep me, guide me, love me, Lord, just for today.*

On the road to being perfect disciples, we just have to take one day at a time. That's all that's needed for God to reward us with a life of unending joy.

As we observe Labor Day tomorrow, we know that summer is over, and all our fall activities begin. May God's wisdom guide us in the days ahead.

CALLED TO SERVE

Crickets and trains and jets and God

There were a few sounds I could make out in the silence. The chirp of crickets was obvious. The night was still and warm. That always seems to bring the crickets out in force.

I thought I heard a jet engine. We were on the border south of Ottawa so that makes sense.

Across the St. Lawrence, on the Canadian side, there was a train whistle. Probably a freight train, I thought.

The sounds did not come all at once. They were spaced over the time I sat or knelt with other deacons during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

This is a cliché, but I really understood it for the first time. The silence was deafening.

There was the occasional sound made by a man repositioning himself in the pew. But I was struck by the lack of coughing, wheezing, sniffing or nose blowing. Sounds I have come to expect while preaching.

This was different. Each

of us, on retreat for a couple of days at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg, was in our own space with the Lord.

We heard Father Mark Reilly, our retreat master, tells us in the first conference that we were not inspired by the Holy Spirit to be at Wadhams Hall in those few days to listen to him. "You are here to listen to God," Father Mark said.

That's what was going on in the chapel that night. Each deacon was alone with God. Staring at Jesus present in the monstrance. I remember looking around once and noticing that my brother deacons all seemed to be in a trance. They were individually gazing at the monstrance but were really somewhere else, alone in their thoughts and, perhaps, chatting with God.

It is like that in the parish too when we have exposition. But there are only a

few folks scattered around the church so you kind of expect it will be quiet.

I remember Sister's "shh-hhh" from behind us when we elementary boys and girls were fidgeting and giggling before Mass. Try as she might, Sister never was able to quiet us down completely.

Kathy and I were privileged to travel to Rome a few years ago. We were shepherded into the Sistene Chapel to gaze in wonder at Michaelangelo's murals while a public address announcer periodically tried to get the hundreds of pilgrims to quiet down in this sacred place. "Silenzio, silenzio" the pre-recorded admonition would bellow. That silence lasted about 15 seconds each time then back to the din created by folks oohing and ahing.

This was different.

Father Mark told the retreatants, "Our lives are in harmony with Christ's

own." We are meant to be part of the narrative of the life of Jesus, the narrative that is God's plan for the world.

That was the sound of silence in the chapel that

night. It was God speaking.

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



Deacon
Kevin Mastellon

APPLEFEST CARD



St. Augustine's Church, Peru, NY
2022 APPLEFEST GRAND RAFFLE

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2nd Prize - \$500

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

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

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

Well wishes for students, schools

This has been a long and trying few years for all of us, and our school systems have been particularly hard hit. Teachers and administrators have had restructure and rethink how they were going to continue teaching our children in a safe yet effective manner.

While things haven't always worked out as planned, plans have had to change last minute, and new unforeseen challenges have arisen in the midst of every other hardship, they have risen to the challenge. They have done their best to keep our children both safe and educated.

This year, our school communities look forward to returning to academic and social environments that seem a bit more like they did prior to the pandemic. We look forward to the opportunities that will provide, and we look forward to growing in ways that none of us could imagine.

The Lord works in mysterious ways, and the Mission Office would like to wish all teachers and students returning to school in the coming weeks a healthy and fulfilling school year.

We are especially thankful to the faculty and staff of our Catholic schools for their continued commitment to spread knowledge and the faith to the youth of our diocese.

For more information on the Mission Office' Missionary Childhood Association (MCA) "children helping children" appeal, please visit rcdony.org/mission-office.html.



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

OBITUARIES

Brushton – Roger H. Lamay, 76; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 30, 2022 at St. Mary's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Carthage – Marco Franchini, 92; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 26, 2022 at St. James Church

Carthage – Robert Ambrose Gormley, 83; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 27, 2022 at St. James Church; burial in Fairview Cemetery.

Harrisville – Juanita M. (Whitney) LaParr, 75; Memorial Mass Aug. 20, 2022 at St. Francis Solanus Church.

Heuvelton – Margaret "Peggy" Chambers, 84; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 26, 2022 at St. Raphael's Church; burial in Hillcrest Cemetery.

Hogansburg – Josephine "Katsientsintha" Lazone, 87; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 16, 2022 at St. Regis Church.

Long Lake – John Rayome, 87; Mass of Christian Burial June 30, 2022 at St. Henry's Church; burial in Long Lake Cemetery.

Lowville – James E. Heidt, 85; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 30, 2022 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Brookside Cemetery.

Lyon Mountain – Raymond J. Varin Sr., 85; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 19, 2022 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Malone – John Robert Coughlin 87;

Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 27, 2022 at Notre Dame Church.

Malone – Walter Frederick Gonyea, 86; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 26, 2022 at Notre Dame Church.

Massena – Roger Beauchamp, 90; Private Services to be held.

Massena – Lorraine J. (Bissonnette) Fish, 96; Mass of Christian Burial at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Calvary cemetery.

Massena – Thomas H. George, 60; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 16, 2022 at St. Mary's Church.

Massena – Betsy G. (Besio) Neault, 97; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 26, 2022 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena – Loretta C. (Wella) Opalka, 99; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 19, 2022 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena – Marjorie (Lantry) Perry, 102; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 29, 2022 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Bryan P. Skelly, 53; Funeral Services Aug. 17, 2022 at the Fox & Murray Funeral Home; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Peru – Clark G. "Duke" Duquette, 84; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 16, 2022 at St. Augustine's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Plattsburgh – Carol Rennell Mitchell, 75; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 19, 2022 at Our Lady of Victory Church.

Plattsburgh – Helen M. Santori, 93; Funeral Services Aug. 26, 2022 at the Brown Funeral Home; burial in Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

Port Henry – Thomas Cembalski, 89; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 22, 2022 at St. Patrick's Church.

Rouses Point – Josette A. (Beauvais) LeBlanc, 94; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 26, 2022 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Sackets Harbor – Betty L. (Greene) Caputo, 96; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 24, 2022 at St. Andrews Church; burial in Lakeside Cemetery.

Saranac Lake – Sheila M. O'Reilly, 57; Graveside services Aug. 31, 2022 at St. Bernard's Cemetery.

Star Lake – Robert J. Streeter, 64; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 26, 2022 at St. Hubert's Church; burial in St. Hubert's Cemetery.

Tupper Lake – Robert "Budd" Russell, 90; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 22, 2022 at St. Alphonsus Church; burial in St. Alphonsus Cemetery.

Watertown – Angelo A. Guarino, Jr., 67; Mass of Christian Burial to be held at a later date; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

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BISHOP'S FUND: TOGETHER IN FAITH

Youth Ministry: 'Pathways to accompaniment'

By Tom Semeraro
Youth Ministry Director

It is a blessing to be back to in-person ministry in our great Diocese of Ogdensburg. With the COVID pandemic becoming more manageable we can now focus on accompanying our young people on their life journey.

While they were talking and discussing, Jesus Himself approached and began traveling with them. — Luke 24:15

The story of the Road to Emmaus is a foundational scripture in youth ministry. Life is a journey, and at times, we need help on that journey. In the Road to Emmaus, Jesus walks with the two disciples, listening patiently, waiting until the right moment for the revelation of the truth of who He is.

Youth ministers also act in this way, walking with and listening to young people until the right moment arises to assist them in not only their spiritual lives but also in their day-to-day lives.

Along the same lines, youth ministers and volunteers need assistance and support on the journey.

The Diocesan Office of Youth Ministry is made available through the generous support of the Bishops Fund Appeal. Your contribution to the Bishop's Fund Appeal provides opportunities

for our diocesan youth to grow in relationship with Jesus Christ.

The Bishop's Fund Appeal also provides the programs and tools youth ministers need to accompany our youth.

Through sustained support of Summer Camp Guggenheim, young people are offered a precious opportunity to come together and express themselves as Catholic Christians in a safe, fun and supportive environment while at the same time fostering new relationships with peers and growing their relationship with Jesus Christ. Summer camp also provides many camp activities, swimming, hiking, and much fun for all who attend.

The diocesan Youth Rally is an annual opportunity to celebrate the goodness of our Catholic Youth.

It's a day filled with speakers, music, fun activities, and fellowship. It is a time when our young people witness the "bigger church" that exists throughout the diocese. It helps them to strengthen their Catholic identity through continued relationship building.

The Bishop's Fund Appeal enables us to continue building relationships with our young people through, Leadership Retreats, Spiritual Retreats, Youth Day,

and the Diocesan Youth Council program. In the upcoming year, we will continue to expand these offerings throughout the diocese to meet the needs of our young people who desperately need opportunities to engage Jesus Christ.

In support of Youth

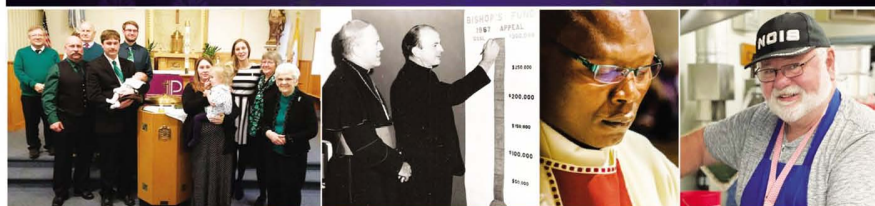
Ministry at the Parish level, the Bishop's Fund Appeal also provides support for continuing education, training, and certification to Parish Youth Ministers, through the Department of Youth Ministry.

Through the generous support of these and fu-

ture programs, the Department of Youth continues to "walk with our young people" in faith as they grow in relationship with Jesus Christ.

Thank you for your generous contributions to the Bishop's Fund Appeal and for aiding our Youth Ministry efforts.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC Diocese of Ogdensburg



150 YEARS:

Together
IN
Faith

Bishop's Fund Appeal 2022



For more information and to view the
2022 BISHOP'S FUND video, please visit www.rcdony.org/bfa

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