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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 78 Number 5

# NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

MAY 10, 2023

## Preparing 'our summer home' for the season

Summer is almost here, and with it comes another great season at Camp Guggenheim for youth, families, parishes and organizations.

It takes a lot of work to get the Guggenheim Center ready for the camp season. To accomplish that work, the annual Guggenheim Clean-Up Days are scheduled to run from noon on May 19 to 2 p.m. on May 21.

A variety of tasks will be completed. Come for the weekend or come for a few hours.

FULL STORY, PAGE 5

## KNOWING PLACES & GOING PLACES



On April 19, the students of St. Mary's School in Ticonderoga participated in a school-wide Geography Bee. There were three competing groups, separated by grade levels. Winners included James DeFranco, Nicholas Giordano, Tony Francis, Lauren Taylor, Rowan Pressley, Bradley Phinney, Daniel Jebb and Julio Alfon (not pictured). Students won cash prizes, t-shirts, medals, globe stress balls and certificates. The Geography Bee was sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council #333.

## CALLED TO MINISTRY?



The Diocese of Ogdensburg's Formation for Ministry program offers adults the chance to grow in faith and use their gifts to help serve ministries – like the commissioned lay ministers involved in Parish and Family Outreach pictured above – in their parishes. The 2023-25 Formation for Ministry program is now accepting registrations. The two-year program includes online coursework and in-person retreats and workshops.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

## Pope ahead of Youth Day: 'See you in Lisbon'

By Hannah Brockhaus  
Catholic News Agency

Pope Francis has sent a video message to the teens and young adults preparing to attend World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal, in August.

"I'll see you in Lisbon," he said, according to an English translation of the message, delivered in Spanish. The message was published on the Vatican's YouTube page on May 4, just under three months before the Aug. 1-6 international gathering.

"Dear young people, you are getting ready for World Youth Day," Pope Francis said. "There

are three months to go. I can imagine the things you must have on your mind... how you're going to: make it happen, request your work or study permit, get what you need for your trip, so many concerns, but always looking towards that horizon, that dream."

"To participate in WYD is something beautiful," he said. "Prepare yourselves with that enthusiasm. Put hope in that. Have hope... because one grows a lot at an event like WYD."

World Youth Day was established by Pope John Paul II in 1985. The weeklong gathering usually attracts hundreds of thousands of young people.

Pope Francis said the Portuguese capital would host the global Catholic gathering of young people at the closing Mass of the last international World Youth Day in Panama City in January 2019.

The event is typically held on a different continent every three years, with the presence of the pope. In 2020, the Vatican announced that World Youth Day would be postponed by one year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Lisbon, a city of 505,000 people, is about 75 miles from Fatima, one of the most visited Marian pilgrimage sites in the world. A report on "European Young Adults and Religion," published

in 2018, found that Portugal has one of the highest levels of weekly Mass attendance among young people in Europe.

In his video, Pope Francis shared "a secret" to preparing well for World Youth Day.

"To prepare well, it's good to look towards your roots," he said, encouraging young people to spend time with the elderly before the gathering.

"Many of you have grandparents. Visit your grandparents and ask them: 'In your time did World Youth Day exist?' — Surely not. 'And what do you think I must do?' Talk a little with your grandparents. They'll give you wisdom."

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# When worlds collide

"It feels like different worlds are colliding."

I remember saying that sentence to my husband the day we were married. It had nothing to do with our wedding/marriage, though. It was something that happened after.

Our wedding reception was held at a banquet facility attached hotel. All the hotel rooms were booked

**Darcy L.  
Fargo**

for the wedding party and out-of-town guests, friends from our high school/college years.

After the reception, the fun didn't stop. In the hotel, card games started. Music was playing. All our friends - my friends from high school, my friends from college and my husband's friends - were together, laughing and having a good time.

"It feels like different worlds are colliding."

It gave me joy to see everyone getting along, but it felt strange. In my mind, I had my life neatly divided into chapters - childhood, high school, college, early career. In that moment, the characters from those chapters scrambled together. It was good, but it was weird.

I think of that often when I think about evangelization. I tend to view my life in segments. I have

my faith life, my family life, my social life, my professional life... Evangelism feels like bringing one life into another, one world into another, and it feels strange and weird, maybe a bit uncomfortable.

But when I get past the weird feelings and trust the Holy Spirit to give me the words, actions and love I need, bringing Jesus to the people in my world has been good, and it has brought me great joy.

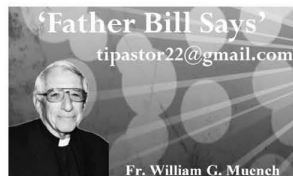
So let the worlds collide.

## Gratitude for our deacons

Today, I would like to tell you about a friend of mine, one of my favorite people. His name is Elliott Shaw. Elliott was a permanent deacon of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. He served as a deacon at St. Mary's Parish, Ticonderoga. Elliott was the deacon at St. Mary's when I was pastor there.

Ticonderoga was home for Deacon Elliott. He and his wife, Peg, made their home there and raised their children there. Elliott worked at the paper plant. He also gave time coaching youth baseball in the village. He was involved in many community activities. Elliott was dedicated to his Catholic faith, and he was deeply involved in the life of his parish. So, when the opportunity arose, he entered the program preparing men to become permanent deacons in the Catholic Church. He was ordained a deacon and served many years as the deacon for St. Mary's Parish.

I know well that Elliott was an excellent deacon. He was a constant help for me as the parish's pastor. Elliott knew everyone in the parish; Ticonderoga and St. Mary's were his



home base. He knew all about the village and all that had happened there. He knew all our parish families and often helped me determine the needs of the parish.

Many times, as Elliott and I would prepare to celebrate a funeral Mass for a parishioner, he would tell me something about this person. I remember that I often used one of his stories about this person as a part of my funeral message. I depended on Elliott often, especially when I was away from the parish for some reason. He was always ready to stand with a family when they needed support in a crisis.

Elliott is now deceased. I'm thinking about him today because on the Fifth Sunday of Easter, the first reading at the Mass, taken from the Acts of the Apostles, describes the choosing of the first deacons in the early Church. Seven deacons were chosen to assist the apostles in

their ministry to the early Christian Community. We are even told the names of those first deacons: Stephen, Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timor, Parmenes and Nicholas.

Acts of the Apostles continues to tell us Stephen's story. Stephen taught very publicly about Jesus and his message. This disturbed the Jewish leaders. Stephen was arrested and then stoned to death. Stephen is remembered as the first martyr of our Catholic Church. Today, St. Stephen stands as a powerful example for today's permanent deacons.

I remember well when the Second Vatican Council called for the reinstatement of the permanent diaconate. For many centuries, the Catholic Church eliminated the permanent diaconate from the clergy of our Church. In those days, the diaconate was for transitional deacons - those deacons preparing to become priests. We still have transitional deacons, however, the Council has now called for permanent deacons to serve in the parishes of our Church.

Now I want to take the opportunity to tell you

how impressed I am with the many permanent deacons we have serving in the parishes throughout our diocese. These deacons assist at the parish liturgies, but they also are important leaders of parish activities. Our deacons have been trained well as preachers of the Word of God. They are called upon often to present homilies at Mass.

The ordination of permanent deacons has been a most important development in our Catholic Church. These deacons come from many different careers in business, in teaching, in all sorts of areas of work. They come to the diaconate with so many wonderful gifts. And finally, they are prepared by a great program by the Church.

Let me tell you one other important value that many permanent deacons have: they are married. I believe this brings to their ministry as deacons another gift that adds understanding to their ministry. I want to offer my gratitude to our many dedicated deacons who have accepted so much to become part of the life of our parishes.

# Called to ministry? Formation starting soon

By Jessica Hargrave  
Contributing Writer

We are all called to ministry by our baptism. Whether we are baptized as infants or as adults, we are always in the process of formation. The Church helps us to understand our call to ministry in many ways. The Diocese of Ogdensburg's Formation for Ministry program offers adults the chance to grow in their faith and use their gifts to help serve ministry in their parishes. The 2023-25 cycle is now taking registrations.

Through a partnership with Boston College, the diocese offers the two-year program online except for in-person workshops and retreats twice a year. The courses explore the core foundations of the Catholic Faith including the Eucharist, the history of the Church, and Catholic social teaching, which opens meaningful discussion amongst program candidates and the instructor.

The current two-year cycle wraps up with 19 candidates being commissioned as lay ministers on Sunday, June 25. Jayme St. Croix is one of those candidates hoping to bring his gifts to youth ministry at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church in Watertown. He believes an internal push and influences from his past called him to the program.

"I grew up and was gracefully influenced by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart and the Sisters of St. Joseph," he said. "As we all know, their numbers are decreasing, and someone needs to step up and

help our Church as they have for so many decades."

St. Croix remembers his time as a child in youth groups at Sacred Heart, where he and his peers took part in community service projects and youth Masses while also having fun on group trips and at organized dances. Once commissioned, he hopes to establish more activities in the parish for kids to both enjoy and grow in faith. St. Croix, who currently teaches Sunday school, says the program can also give candidates more confidence when talking about their Catholic faith.

"I have really enjoyed this opportunity to not only share my faith but to encourage my students to do the same," he said. "I would encourage anyone to take advantage of the Formation for Ministry Program as our future needs more leaders and this is a perfect place to start."

A growing trend in recent years has been more married couples going through Formation for Ministry together. Kitty Samuels of Massena had considered the program for some time, so when she saw the bulletin announcement in the summer of 2021, she knew this was the time. But her husband James was still on the fence despite their pastor encouraging them to go through it together. It was a trip to Colorado that had James thinking more about Formation for Ministry. He asked Kitty to check if it was too late for him to sign up.

"I wanted to know

more about the faith and the potential roles I could play in the Church," he said.

Now nearly two years later, James and Kitty agree that going on this journey together has deepened their respect and admiration for one another. They are hoping to bring more joy and prayer to the Outreach Ministry they already are a part of within St. Peter's Parish.

"Formation for Ministry has confirmed in me that I need to walk by faith in all I do for others and let God's love shine through me," said Kitty.

Ideally, a commissioned lay minister has developed the spiritual life and skills necessary to become more involved in parish life by the end of the program. Formation for Ministry Director Cathy Russell explains that with pastors stretched so thin these days, lay ministers have an opportunity to do and be more in their parish.

"For example, a minister might take communion to shut-ins," she said. "Instead of just a quick visit, a commissioned lay minister has learned how to talk to shut-ins, how to perhaps follow up with a family member, and pray with the person. This is one way the lay minister takes a little of the work off the pastor's shoulders."

Before enrolling, Russell suggests talking with your pastor for guidance on possible ministry opportunities. If your pastor agrees your gifts are needed contact Russell at [crussell@rcdony.org](mailto:crussell@rcdony.org) or call (315) 393-2920.

## 'Hope to grow in understanding and effectiveness'

By Jessica Hargrave  
Contributing Writer



Arthur Ward

Applications are already coming in for the 2023-2025 Formation for Ministry program. Arthur Ward, a parishioner with St. Philip Neri Church in Westport, will be a new lay ministry candidate when the program starts this September.

Ward said he is eager for this chance to walk closer with Jesus on his spiritual journey, while also stepping up to fill a need for more parishioner participation at St. Philip Neri.

"I hope to grow in understanding and effectiveness; understanding for myself to better navigate God's path as it is being set before me, and the effectiveness to guide others to discern God's grace and guidance in their own lives," he said.

Ward added the program will not only expand on his ministry in the parish, but also professionally. He is

currently an Alcoholism and Substance Counselor working with the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision. He hopes participating in the Formation for Ministry program will provide the tools he'll need to one day move into a spiritual advisor role as a chaplain.

"Communicating hope within a prison to incarcerated individuals and fellow employees is how I see my work," he said. "When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want to be a helping hand."

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# Trinity honors volunteers



Joanne Kellogg & Amy LaPointe were named Trinity Catholic School Volunteers of the Year.

April is National Volunteer Month, and Trinity Catholic School in Massena celebrated the volunteers on Tuesday, April 18.

During a Morning Prayer Service, the school community recognized those who fill in where extra hands are needed, including as room parents, cafeteria workers, advancement helpers, PE experts, craft makers, PTC committee members and more!

The Volunteers of the Year were also announced and are Joanne Kellogg and Amy LaPointe!

Mrs. Kellogg has been involved with Trinity for more than 35 years! She's a proud grandparent of a first grader and is seen around the school several times a week.

Miss LaPointe is also seen around the school often, whether helping the students in the dining hall, or helping in PreK4.

The theme of the celebration was centered around the ocean, and more specifically a starfish.

This comes from a story by Loren Eiseley about a boy throwing starfish that had washed up on a beach back into the ocean. The boy is confronted by an adult who tells him he's wasting his time because he can't save them all.

The boy's response is that he can make a difference to the ones he saved.

Trinity's volunteers make a difference, and the school community thanks them for their service.



Calvary Cemetery, part of St. Andrew's Church in Norwood, received a \$6,000 grant from the Rock Charitable Fund.

## Parish cemetery gets \$6,000 grant

St. Andrew's Calvary Cemetery in Norwood has been awarded a grant of \$6,000 from the Rock Charitable Fund, a component of the Northern New York Community Foundation.

The grant will pay for a designated support for the stone foundations from the late 1800s and early 1900s in Calvary Cemetery.

Father Shane Lynch, pastor of St. Andrew's Church, noted that the parish is grateful to the Rock Charitable Fund and the Northern New York Community Foundation for their support for this project.

The Rock Charitable Fund was established through a bequest from St. Lawrence County resident and retired Lieutenant Colonel of the United States Army Marjorie J. Rock, who passed away in February 2017 at the age of 96.

The fund's charitable purpose has three focus areas: for the maintenance and preservation of churches and cemeteries in St. Lawrence County; for the preservation and maintenance of places of legitimate historical significance in the county; and to benefit and/or assist veterans of the United States military who reside in St. Lawrence County.

Grant funding is awarded annually to qualified nonprofit organizations whose missions and efforts align with the fund's objectives.

Since 1929, the Northern New York Community Foundation has invested in improving and enriching the quality of life for all in communities across Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties.

Through partnerships with businesses and organizations, charitable foundations, and generous families and individual donors, the Community Foundation awards grants and scholarships from an endowment and collection of funds that benefit the region. Its commitment to donors helps individuals achieve their charitable objectives now and for generations to come by preserving and honoring legacies of community philanthropy while inspiring others.

For more information about the Rock Charitable Fund or Northern New York Community Foundation, visit [nnycf.org](http://nnycf.org).

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Volunteers clean windows during Guggenheim Clean-Up in 2019.

## Guggenheim Clean-up planned for May 19-21

It is time to think of warm sunshine, cool lakes and the scent of evergreens. It's also time to prepare the Guggenheim Center for the summer!

The schedule is filled with Summer Camp, Family Camp, retreats, meetings and parish events!

It takes a lot of work to prepare "our home on the water" for a busy summer. Lots of work is needed in the Dorm, Dining Hall, In and Rec Building. To complete that work, the annual Guggenheim Clean-up Days will be held from noon on May 19 to 2 p.m. on May 21.

Some of the tasks to be completed are:

- General cleaning of rooms, windows and furniture including washing, mopping, dusting and vacuuming
- Kitchen clean-up
- Power washing building exteriors
- Care for canoes, kayaks and related equipment
- Painting

Can you pitch in for a day? An afternoon? An hour? The more help, the more we can accomplish.

There's no need to bring any cleaning supplies other than gloves and protective gear you may like. Materials and supplies will be provided. Those under 18 are welcome if accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Lunch will be served both days. Snacks and drinks will be available

as well.

To help with planning, please register at [rcondony.org/GuggyCleanUp](http://rcondony.org/GuggyCleanUp).

For more information, contact Deacon James Crowley at [jcrowley@rcondony.org](mailto:jcrowley@rcondony.org) or Mary Jo Rocker at [mrocker@rcondony.org](mailto:mrocker@rcondony.org) or call 315-393-2920.

### 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@rcondony.org](mailto:ccarrara@rcondony.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).

### Rest in Peace

**May 10** – Deacon Edward L. Mazuchowski, 2019

**May 11** – Deacon Richard D. Hart, 2007

**May 13** – Rev. Ladislaus J. Stasz, 1971; Rev. Edward E. Papp, 2016

**May 14** – Deacon Vincent E. Irvin Jr., 2003

**May 15** – Rev. William Ros-siter, 1908; Msgr. James R. McClure, 1960; Deacon William G. Schmidt, 2016

**May 16** – Rev. Moses Legault, 1908; Rev. John M. McIntyre, 1944; Msgr. Peter R. Riani, 2019

### Protecting God's Children

**The Diocese of Ogdensburg** has scheduled sessions for Protecting God's Children for Adults. Pre-registration is required. Preregister at [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org). Upcoming sessions: **May 16** – 5:30 p.m. – St. James School, Gouverneur

### Bishop's Public Schedule

**May 10** – Deacon Assembly at the Edgewood Resort in Alexandria Bay

1 p.m. – Council of Deacons Meeting at the Edgewood Resort in Alexandria Bay

**May 11** – Noon – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral followed by lunch with the Sisters of Mary Mother of the Church at Bishop's Residence

**May 12** – Noon – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

**May 13** – 4 p.m. – Confirmation at the Church of the Assumption in Redford with St. Joseph's Church in Dannemora

**May 14** – 8 a.m. – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

**May 16** – Noon – Bishop's Heritage Circle and Memorare Legacy Society Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral followed by a Luncheon at Bishop's Residence

7 p.m. – Confirmation at the Blessed Sacrament Parish (at St. Patrick's Church) in Watertown with The Church of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in Watertown, St. Mary's Church in Evans Mills, St. Paul's Church in Black River, The Roman Catholic Community of Brownville and Dexter in Brownville and St. Andrew's Church in Sackets Harbor

**May 17** – 10:30 a.m. – Priests Personnel Board Meeting at Bishop's Residence

7 p.m. – Confirmation at the Catholic Community of St. Peter and St. Mary and St. Hedwig (at St. Peter's Church) in Lowville with St. Stephen's Church in Croghan, St. Francis Solanus Church in Harrisville, St. Mary's Church in Constableville and St. Mary's Nativity Church in West Leyden

### Environmental Stewardship

#### Can you see it?

One of the antiphons during the Easter Season tells us: "The world is charged with the grandeur of God, alleluia!" Amidst all the pain and suffering we hear and may be experiencing, the Easter Season calls us to see the grandeur of God unfolding around us and among us.

In the book of Judith, we read: "I sing my God a fresh new song... Let all creation bend to you; you spoke and they took shape. You breathed; they came alive." (Judith 16: 13-14) How we begin the day may set the tone for it. How might it be different if before we turn on the news, we begin our day like Judith, looking within us and around us to God's love breathing life into us and all of creation? If we witness the wonder of the paschal mystery of life, death and new life, the miracle of the paschal mystery will abound. We witness this in our bodies as the cells of our skin renew each day. We witness it in the earth as the flowers and trees burst forth in buds and beautiful blossoms soon to die so seeds and fruit may come forth. We witness the paschal mystery unfolding in the lives of the early disciples. Amidst great suffering and persecution, they focused on the new life of Christ. Some of their beliefs had to die in order for the new ways of Jesus' teaching to take root.

What about us? Can we see the paschal mystery of life, death and new life present in this moment? When we can discover the grandeur of God in this Easter Season, we may find the energy and grace of the Spirit to change what is causing the pain and suffering today and experience new life. Whether it is in planting a garden or a tree, eating healthier or assisting a 'neighbor' near or far, new life will emerge. (355)

# FACES OF FAITH



PHOTO BY MARY AIKEN

(Left) Retired priest Father Paul Kelly, who resides in Keene, celebrates Mass six days a week at the chapel-in-the-round at Elderwood of Uihlein at Lake Placid. Elderwood is a long term care and skilled nursing subacute care and rehabilitation facility. Elderwood also has St. Margaret's Covent, a Sisters of Mercy convent on site. The Sisters of Mercy have devoted themselves to the sick and poor and were the original sponsors of the Uihlein Mercy Center. Four sisters still reside at Elderwood. (Above) Sister M. Camillus O'Keefe, Mercy Care founding vice-president, and Sister M. Audrey Hallahan attend Mass in the chapel.

PHOTO BY TONI KRUPKA

On Good Friday April 7, Deacon Michael Howley, who ministers in Cadyville, Morrisonville and Peru, led 22 people in praying of the Stations of the Cross at Plattsburgh Planned Parenthood for Respect Life, especially the Unborn Child.



Bishop Terry R. LaValley and Father Christopher C. Carrara visited seminarians at Saint Vincent's Seminary in Latrobe, Pennsylvania, on April 12. The visit included a formation meeting with the rector and his counsel, and meetings with the seminarians. The bishop always makes time to take our diocesan seminarians out to dinner. Pictured are, from left, Father Boniface Hicks, OSB, director of Spiritual Formation; Msgr. Edward Mazich, OSB, rector; Kevin P. McCullough, seminarian from the diocese; Bishop Terry R. LaValley, bishop of Ogdensburg; Tyler M. Fitzgerald, seminarian for the diocese; Rev. Christopher C. Carrara, Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocations director; and Rev. John-Mary Tompkins, OSB, vice rector and director of Human Formation.

# Vermont to offer assisted suicide to non-residents

By Joe Bukuras  
Catholic News Agency

Republican Gov. Phil Scott of Vermont signed a bill Tuesday allowing non-residents to avail themselves of the state's assisted suicide law.

Vermont legalized assisted suicide in 2013, but with this new law became the first state in the nation to change its legislation to allow the life-ending procedure to those living out of state, according to the Associated Press.

Oregon stopped enforcing its residency requirement for assisted suicide in 2022 but has not enshrined that provision in law.

Earlier this year Vermont reached a settlement with a Connecticut woman who had sued the state over its residency requirement for assisted suicide.

According to the Vermont Department of Health, assisted suicide is available for those "suffering from an incurable and irreversible disease" that will end the patient's life within six months.

After a doctor determines death is imminent, a patient must make an oral and written request for the lethal dosage. There must be two people over the age of 18 who sign the written request as witnesses to affirm that "the patient appeared to understand the nature of the document and to be free from duress or undue influence at the time the request was signed," the law says.

Participation in assisted suicide by any physician, nurse, or pharma-

cist must be "completely voluntary," according to the state's Department of Health.

Burlington Bishop Christopher Coyne told CNA in a statement Wednesday that palliative care is the best way to help those who are suffering.

"While the Catholic Church believes in the sanctity of all life from conception to natural death, we also understand the necessity to alleviate the pain of those dealing with terminal illness. Palliative care provides relief from a variety of symptoms for people living with serious illnesses while addressing the spiritual and emotional concerns of individuals and their loved ones. This holistic care focuses on the whole person - mind, body, and spirit. Assisted suicide does not," he said.

"In a society in which we are dealing with an epidemic of loneliness, we need to be with those who are often alone in their suffering. It is important to acknowledge the pain of the person who is suffering from a

terminal illness. We must support them, care for them, and accompany them along their journey from life in this world into the next," Coyne said.

"In 2013, Bishop Matano, my predecessor, called the passage of this bill 'A tragic moment in the rich history of our state.' I echo his sentiment with this new legislation which removes a residency requirement and expands access to assisted suicide," he said.

Ten states and Washington, D.C., have legalized assisted suicide, and 12 states are considering legislation.

In 2015, the state Legislature signed a bill mandating the Department of Health to make a biennial report of assisted suicide statistics.

Twenty-nine people sought assisted suicide from July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2021, according to the Vermont Department of Health's 2022 report. The report said not all 29 filled the prescription though. The department uses an electronic data system to collect information about prescriptions.

## PILGRIMAGE to the SHRINES of FRANCE

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# CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

## Pope Francis greets Russian Orthodox metropolitan

Pope Francis greeted the chairman for external church relations of the Russian Orthodox Church after his weekly public audience on Wednesday. The brief encounter in St. Peter's Square with Metropolitan Anthony comes amid heightened scrutiny of diplomatic signals involving the Holy See's desire to broker a peaceful settlement to the ongoing fighting in Ukraine. In his press conference Sunday on his flight back to Rome from Budapest, Pope Francis told reporters that the Holy See is involved in a secret peace mission to end the conflict. Both Ukrainian and Russian officials were quick to deny that negotiations were taking place, but a close papal aide confirmed the pope's statement in an interview with an Italian news outlet published Wednesday. In the livestream video of the May 3 general audience, Metropolitan Anthony, 38, could be seen approaching the pope and shaking his hand. Francis kissed the bishop's pectoral cross. The two spoke for just under one minute and exchanged small gifts.

## Archbishop condemns rule allowing abortion at VA centers

After the U.S. Senate approved a Department of Veterans Affairs rule that provides for abortions at the department's medical centers, the archbishop of military services issued a scathing letter condemning the Senate and the Biden administration. The Senate voted 51-48 to affirm the new rule, which ensures VA medical centers provide abortion when the life or health of the mother is deemed to be at risk or in cases of rape or incest, regardless of state restrictions. The VA will also offer abortion counseling at medical centers. The rule does not have any conscience protections for doctors or other health care workers who object to providing abortions. In a pastoral letter, Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio, who also serves as president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, said he was "deeply saddened" by the Senate's action. Broglio also condemned a Department of Defense policy that provides taxpayer funding for employees, spouses, and dependents to cover travel costs associated with procuring an abortion in another state if they are stationed in a state with abortion restrictions.

## Archdiocese asks Vatican to investigate possible miracle

The Archdiocese of Hartford is appealing to the Vatican for guidance on how to proceed with its investigation of a possible eucharistic miracle at St. Thomas Catholic Church in Thomaston, Connecticut. The referral is the first public update by the archdiocese since it was first reported in late March that Jesus, truly present in the holy Eucharist, appeared to multiply himself in the ciborium, typically a gold chalice that holds the eucharistic body of Christ. "Reports such as the alleged miracle in Thomaston require referral to the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith in Rome. The archdiocese has proceeded accordingly and will await a response in due time," David Elliott, a spokesman for the archdiocese, told CNA Thursday. It's unclear how long the dicastery could take to respond to the archdiocese's request, Elliott told CNA.

## ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN

**FRIENDSHIP VOLUNTEER TRAINING**  
Lake Placid - Mercy Care for the Adirondacks is recruiting new volunteers and has scheduled a Friendship Volunteer Training Program.

**Date:** May 24

**Time:** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Features:** New Volunteers will join Mercy Care's more than 100 Friendship Volunteers from Lake Placid, Saranac Lake, and Tupper Lake and surrounding areas who are helping their elder neighbors stay connected to their communities and helping to make their lives a little easier and happier. Volunteers of all faiths are encouraged and invited to participate. There is no cost for the training but registration is required. Complementary lunch will be provided.

**Contact:** To register for the training, please visit Mercy Care's website at [www.adkmercy.org](http://www.adkmercy.org) or contact Lexi Bevilacqua, Mercy Care's Program Director at [abevilacqua@adkmercy.org](mailto:abevilacqua@adkmercy.org) or call Lexi for more information at 518-523-5446.

## CLINTON NORTHERN FRANKLIN

**MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST**

Brushton - St. Mary's Church will sponsor a Mother's Day Breakfast.

**Date:** May 14

**Time:** 7:30 a.m. to 11

**Place:** St. Mary's Parish Center

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

**Menu:** Scrambled /fried eggs, home fries, corned beef hash, sausage, bacon, pancakes, French toast, toast, OJ, tomato juice, coffee, tea.

**Contact:** Take-outs available, call 518 529 6580.

## JEFFERSON-LEWIS

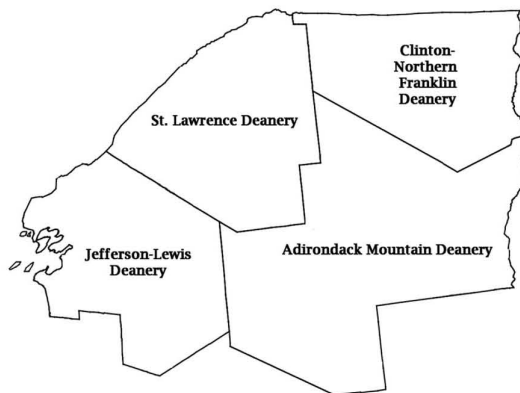
**SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL DINNER**

Evans Mills - The Indian River Council 7471 Knights of Columbus will be having a spaghetti & meatball dinner.

**Date:** May 13

**Time:** 4 p.m. to 7

**Place:** St. Mary's Parish Center



**Cost:** Adults, \$9; Seniors, \$8; **Menu:** Scrambled Eggs, Pan-

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

e-mail [news@northcountrycatholic.org](mailto:news@northcountrycatholic.org).

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

Children 12 and under, \$5; under 5, Free; Quart of sauce, \$6

**Contact:** For more information call 315-629-4678

**ROSARY RALLY**

Carthage - St. James Minor Church to have the 20th Annual Rosary Rally.

**Date:** May 12-13

**Schedule:** Rosary Rally begins at 5:30 p.m. on May 12 opening with Mass. The Rosary will be prayed continuously in front of the Blessed Sacrament until 1 a.m.

**Features:** Dave Heywood leads hymns throughout the evening with vocals and violin. Refreshments are provided. The parish community and event organizers welcome all those who are able to join in prayer both physically and in spirit.

**Contact:** Any questions can be directed at 315-783-2230.

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

Carthage - Knights of Columbus to sponsor a pancake breakfast to be held in support of Augustinian Academy.

**Date:** May 14 (Mother's Day)

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

**Place:** St. James Community Room

**Cost:** Adults, \$9; Seniors, \$8; Children 10 and under, \$4; Family of 4 or more, \$27

chokes, French Toast, Ham, Sausage, Baked Goods, Juice, and Coffee

**Contact:** For more information call, 315-493-3224

## ST. LAWRENCE

**BINGO**

Canton - Bingo to be held.

**Date:** Mondays

**Time:** Card sales start at 5:30 p.m., Games start at 7 p.m.

**Place:** Sarto Club

**INDOOR SALE**

Gouverneur - St. James School will hold a huge indoor sale.

**Date:** May 13

**Time:** 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Features:** Toys, books, dolls, yarn, jewelry, puzzles, games, craft items, artwork, household items, knick knacks, frames, CDS, DVDS, movies, linens, glassware, some furniture, new clothing, and much, much more. Please remember to bring your reusable shopping bags.

**MONTHLY BRUNCH**

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

**Date:** May 14 (Second Sunday of each month)

**Time:** 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**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 Gonther 315-212-5166.

## DIOCESAN EVENTS

**FORMATION FOR MINISTRY ENROLLMENT 2023-2025**

Is God calling you to a more active role in your parish? The Formation for Ministry program will have an informational session about enrollment for the 2023-2025 program.

**Date:** May 13

**Time:** 6 p.m.

**Place:** Virtual

**Features:** The Formation for Ministry Program prepares men and women to serve in their local parish. This program is a two-year program. Classes are online through Boston College. Candidates also meet a few times a year as a group for workshops.

**Contact:** More information is also available on our diocesan website at: <https://www.rcdony.org/formation/candidate.html>. Or contact Cathy Russell at: [crussell@rcdony.org](mailto:crussell@rcdony.org) - (315) 393-2920.

**THE LETTER**

Join us for a viewing and discussion of The Letter: A Message for our Earth. The Letter is a documentary about how spiritual values call us to take action on the ecological crisis.

**Schedule:** May 20: Brushton St. Mary's Parish Center

**Time:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Features:** The Letter follows six invited leaders from around the world who were invited to the Vatican by Pope Francis to speak about the effects of climate on their communities. We will screen the 80-minute movie in three segments interspersed with discussion. Simple lunch and refreshments included.

**GUGGENHEIM CLEAN-UP DAYS**

Saranac Lake - Come lend a helping hand to prepare the Guggenheim Center. Dates: May 19 at Noon until 2 p.m. on May 21 (come for a few hours

or the whole weekend)

**Features:** Projects include: Washing the kitchen and preparing it for use; Cleaning the grill; Pressure washing building exteriors; Pressure washing kayaks and other watercraft; Deep cleaning the oven; Washing windows; Cleaning interior walls, floors and furniture; Moving equipment to the beach; Cleaning trails; And a myriad of other tasks! Youth are welcome, but must be accompanied by parents.

**Contact:** Register at <https://www.rcdony.org/GuggyCleanUp>; For more information, call 315-393-2920 or email [rcjowley@rcdony.org](mailto:rcjowley@rcdony.org) or [mrocker@rcdony.org](mailto:mrocker@rcdony.org).

**LOVING AUTHENTICALLY**

All are invited to attend this free seminar, Loving Authentically: Sex, Happiness and Catholic Teaching designed to deepen our understanding of how Church doctrine on sexual morality connects with our happiness.

**Date:** May 20, 2023 at St. Mary's Ticonderoga 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 Harden Fehner, Ph.D. Lunch will be provided.

**Contact:** to register go [www.rcdony.org/family-life/la.html](http://www.rcdony.org/family-life/la.html) For more information contact Stephen Tartaglia at 315-393-2920 or [startaglia@rcdony.org](mailto:startaglia@rcdony.org)

**ORDINATION TO THE ORDER OF THE PRIESTHOOD AND DEACON:**

Through the laying on of hands and the invocation of the Holy Spirit, the Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley, Bishop of Ogdensburg will Ordain to the Order of Priesthood Deacon Lukas Hermann Gruber and to the Order of Deacon Mr. Carter Gabriel Pierce and Mr. Douglas Alexander Schirmer.

**Date:** May 27

**Time:** 11 a.m.



MAY 10, 2023

# Around the diocese

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

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

**Features:** A Reception will immediately follow the Liturgy downstairs in the Brzana Hall. The Ordination Mass may be viewed at [www.rcdony.org/ordination](http://www.rcdony.org/ordination). The Ordination Mass program will be available at the same link shortly before the Liturgy.

## RACHEL'S VINEYARD

Saranac Lake - Rachel's Vineyard After Abortion Healing Retreat to be held.

**Date:** May 26 to 28, Memorial Day Weekend

**Place:** Guggenheim Lodge

**Features:** If you or friend are hurting after abortion loss, please consider attending a Rachel's Vineyard healing retreat. You aren't alone, help is available.

**Contact:** Registration is online at [www.rcdony.org/pro-life](http://www.rcdony.org/pro-life) or by contacting the Respect life office at [cminer@rcdony.org](mailto:cminer@rcdony.org). A list of retreat locations outside of our diocese is available at: [www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org).

## GUGGENHEIM SUMMER CAMP

2023 registration is open. New this year is a mini session for youth 11-13 years old along with the annual sleepaway camp weeks for ages 11 to 18. Dates: The season starts July 5th and ends Aug. 11th.

**Cost:** Mini session is \$200 and the weeklong sessions is \$425 per camper. Meals and accommodations are included in the registration fee.

**Features:** There are so many fun things to do at camp! Like arts and crafts, Project Adventure, Liturgy, rappelling, hiking, basketball, or soccer. Guggenheim has its very own beach where you can swim,

tool around on our watercrafts and play watersports. Evenings at camp are packed with fun activities like bonfire time, a dance, outdoor movies, and camp-wide games. Summer Camp Guggenheim is a fun place where you can make great friends, escape the craziness of the world, and just chill with cool people like you.

**Contact:** To sign up for camp please visit: [www.rcdony.org/youth/camp](http://www.rcdony.org/youth/camp) or call, Jeannie Grizuto at 315-393-2290 ext. 1413

## LIFE GIVING WOUNDS RETREAT

Ogdensburg – Retreat for adults whose parents separated or divorced and also for those who grew up in single-parent families.

**Date:** Aug. 11-13**Place:** Wadhams Hall

**Cost:** \$200 for a shared room or \$250 for a single room.

**Features:** Financial assistance is available...do not let cost prevent you from experiencing the healing you deserve.

**Contact:** For more information or to register for the retreat, please contact Steve Tartaglia at [startaglia@rcdony.org](mailto:startaglia@rcdony.org) or 315-393-2920.

## FAMILY GUGGENHEIM

Saranac Lake – Family Guggenheim registration is open.

**Schedule:** Aug. 17-20; Aug. 24-27; Oct. 6-8

**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, laughing and praying together. Celebrate Christ's presence in your lives!

**Contact:** For more information and to register, go to [www.rcdony.org/family-life/fg.html](http://www.rcdony.org/family-life/fg.html) or contact Steve Tartaglia at 315-393-2920, [startaglia@rcdony.org](mailto:startaglia@rcdony.org).

## WOMENS HEALING RETREAT

Ogdensburg – Our Lady of the Rosary Healing Retreat for Women to be held.

**Date:** Oct. 5-8**Place:** Wadhams Hall

**Cost:** \$275 per person, \$100 Deposit

**Features:** Retreat for women 18 years or older. Registrations begin July 1, 2023

**Contact:** For more information call Kathleen Nichols 518-651-6895. Donations accepted to be payable to OLRHR and sent to Wadhams Hall.

## Job Openings

St. Bernard's School, Saranac Lake has openings for a Classroom Teacher & School Counselor

**Classroom Teacher** - is seeking an enthusiastic teacher to join our team for the upcoming school year, starting in fall 2023. The ideal candidate will have a passion for teaching and a strong desire to inspire young minds while instilling Catholic values in our students.

**Counselor (Part-Time)** - is seeking an enthusiastic mental health professional to join our team. The ideal candidate will have a passion for helping students and families and a strong desire to inspire young minds while instilling Catholic values in our students.

For full job descriptions including responsibilities, requirements, and application information, please visit: [www.stbernardsschool.org/contact/employment-opportunities/](http://www.stbernardsschool.org/contact/employment-opportunities/)



## NOW AVAILABLE FOR STREAMING New episode of Capitol Congress

In the latest episode of Capitol Compass, the podcast of the New York State Catholic Conference, hear from special guest Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Espallat of the Archdiocese of New York.

The conversation includes his reaction to being named the youngest bishop in the country and his approach to his ministries with young people and the Hispanic Catholic Charismatic Renewal movement.

Listen wherever you get your podcasts or on the State Catholic Conference website at <https://www.ny-scatholic.org/capitol-compass-podcast/>.

WEEKEND RETREAT

# Healing

AFTER ABORTION

Rachel's Vineyard

MAY  
26-28, 2023

Guggenheim  
Lodge, Saranac  
Lake, New York

[www.rcdony.org/pro-life](http://www.rcdony.org/pro-life) to register or contact  
The Respect Life Office [cminer@rcdony.org](mailto:cminer@rcdony.org)



## SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

# The gifts of the Holy Spirit

We're getting closer to Pentecost. Already, bishops are visiting parishes to confer the sacrament of confirmation. At this ceremony, one of the readings is almost always from the Acts of the Apostles. The reading describes the apostles at prayer suddenly feeling great power coming on them in the form of fiery tongues. From weak and uncertain men, they become courageous and bold followers of Christ.

In today's Gospel, Je-

sus prepares his apostles for this great moment. He tells them that when He leaves them, the Holy Spirit will teach them everything they need to know and will remind them of everything He himself taught them. Jesus knew all the time He had spent preaching and healing would be in vain without the transforming power of the Holy Spirit. Even as he tried to prepare them for His death the next day, He knew that only the Holy

Spirit could give them the courage they would need to baptize and preach the Good News to all the world. In the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, we learn of the events that led up to the First Ecumenical Council of the Church in Jerusalem. It was there that a courageous decision was made to wel-

May 14

Sixth Sunday of Easter

READINGS

Acts 8:5-8,14-17

1Peter 3:15-18

John 14:15-21

Spirit could give them the courage they would need to baptize and preach the Good News to all the world.

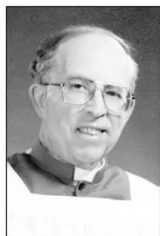
In the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, we learn of the events that led up to the First Ecumenical Council of the Church in Jerusalem. It was there that a courageous decision was made to wel-

come non-Jews into the Church without requiring that they be circumcised or made to follow the law of Moses. Only the power of the Holy Spirit present at that council could have guided that decision.

This is a good week for us to ask ourselves how we make use of the gifts of the Holy Spirit which we received at our confirmation. Our holy father, Pope Francis, urges us to close imitation of the life of Jesus. He urges us to be protectors of the poor and needy, and to preach by our actions. What might have happened if the apostles

had decided to keep the whole treasure of God's Word to themselves? The newly born Church would have withered and disappeared within a few years.

Jesus did not prepare his followers for an easy life. That's not why He died on the Cross, or why He rose from the dead. As He loved us to the death, so He expects us to pay the price for the glory of eternal life. This is surely a critically important time for us to look for opportunities to defend and promote what Jesus teaches without apology or compromise.



Monsignor Paul E. Whitmore

## CALLED TO SERVE

# We worship in Word and Sacrament

Preachers at Catholic Mass are trained to help folks understand the scripture readings. We who preach hope to illuminate the scripture heard at Mass, so those readings and the various scripture-based prayers are relevant.

There are various techniques used by the homilist to grab and win the listener's attention.

Some tell stories, some tell a joke or two, there might be a glimpse of the preacher's past or an encounter he had once upon a time.

All the aforementioned should tie-in somehow with the readings. They don't always, but maybe the preacher just heard a joke he thought he should share.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church defines homily in its glossary as "Preaching by an ordained minister to explain the Scriptures proclaimed in the liturgy and to exhort the people to accept them as the Word of God."

There is a presumption in that definition that the folks in the pew

heard, listened to and absorbed the scripture read by the lector and the Gospel proclaimed by the deacon, or if there is no deacon, a priest.

There's a lot of faith built into that presumption. That's why I think a lot of energy should be expended in preparing readers of scripture.

It is my privilege to teach homiletics to men preparing for the diaconate. I tell permanent deacon aspirants in their first year of public speaking and homiletics training that the lectors in their parish should be their friends and students. Their success as a preacher, I argue, depends on the lector's ability to read the Word of God clearly, distinctly and coherently.

If the lector does not understand the scripture being shared, the hearer will not receive the scripture passage as God intended and the



Deacon Kevin Mastellon

preacher ends up trying to deliver a message that is doomed from the start.

Most lectors in our churches are scheduled to read. Since they know when it "their turn," lectors should be required to read the scrip-

ture they will proclaim at least once or twice in the days before the Mass.

If pronunciation of a person or place is a problem, the lector should swallow her or his pride and ask a priest or deacon for the proper pronunciation.

All lectors should be familiar with the readings of the Mass they

will attend even if they are not scheduled.

Reading at Mass is a privilege, but it has some responsibilities too. The lector needs to understand that his/her ministry will help the priest or deacon preacher and ultimately help everyone in attendance.

It also cuts down on the mistakes. Like reading the wrong text, or mispronouncing those difficult Old Testament names and some in the New Testament. My favorite is "A reading from Paul's letter to the Colostomies."

We all snickered but the poor lector didn't even know she said what she did. Kind of ruined the reading though.

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

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

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith  
Sister Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ, Director

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

# Prayers for peace in Colombia

May 3 in Colombia and other Spanish speaking countries (such as Spain, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Argentina and Venezuela), the Feast of the Holy Cross (La Fiesta de las Cruces or Cruz de Mayo) is celebrated. In Colombia, this liturgical feast has been associated with the National Day of Prayer for reconciliation and peace in the country since 2018.

During Pope Francis' visit to the Latin American country in 2017, which had the theme "Let's take the first step," he emphasized the importance of contributing to peace, taking spiritual aspects into account to promote forgiveness and reconciliation despite the wounds of decades of conflict with all its social, cultural, economic and political consequences.

In his video message for the visit, Pope Francis explained: "Taking the first step encourages us to go out to meet the other, to reach out our hand and to exchange a sign of peace. Peace is what Colombia is looking for and has long been working to achieve. A stable, lasting peace, so that we can see and treat each other as brothers and sisters, not as enemies...."

The archbishop of Bogotá and president of the Bishops' Conference of Colombia, Luis José Rueda Aparicio, proposed three concrete ways of celebrating this day: "First, place the cross in a visible place in your home, as if to say that your home, your family, is a place and school of true reconciliation in Jesus Christ Second: Make gestures of reconciliation to the people in your work and study environment... Third: On May 3rd, let us pray that Colombia will find ways of reconciliation and that all humanity encounters Jesus Christ, who reconciles us to the Father and makes us instruments of reconciliation, peace and new life."

"[Peace] is necessary," the bishops emphasize, "because a war-weary society demands it. It is the responsibility of everyone, since it is a collective work which requires acknowledging the mistakes of the past and making concrete commitments in the present. The Church in Colombia resolutely and courageously renews her option for reconciliation and peace, trusting in the power of the Spirit, the values of the Gospel and the goodness of the Colombian people." - Article from FIDES missionary news service of the Pontifical Mission Societies.

## OBITUARIES

**Clayton** – Clara J. (Fitzer) Reff, 89; Mass of Christian Burial May 3, 2023 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Fort Covington** – Ruby M. (Henderson) Castell, 92; Mass of Christian Burial May 2, 2023 at St. Mary's Church.

**Henderson** – Joanne M. (Weins) Keyes, 85; Mass of Christian Burial May 5, 2023 at Queen of Heaven Church.

**Hogansburg** – Laurie Ann (Bero) Conners, 62; Mass of Christian Burial May 3, 2023 at St. Regis Church.

**Keeseville** – Gladys (Tellier) Bombard, 98; Mass of Christian Burial May 9, 2023 at St. John's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Lake Placid** – Rekalh "Kay" E. Egeland, 106; Graveside services May 5, 2023 at North Elba Cemetery.

**Lowville** – John Patrick Christman, 50; Mass of Christian Burial May 6, 2023 at Isenecker Funeral Home, Inc.; burial in St. Peter and Paul Cemetery, New Boston.

**Lyons Falls** – Christine Deal Ossont; Graveside Services May 5, 2023 at Wildwood Cemetery.

**Malone** – Gary E. Tavernier, 83; Services to be held at a later date.

**Massena** – Richard James Peets, 85; Mass of Christian Burial July 24, 2023 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Mooers Forks** – Lucille J. (Rabideau) Mournet, 91; Mass of Christian Burial May 8, 2023 at St. Ann's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Mooers.

**Mooers Forks** – Gertrude Trudy (Monette) Poulin, 89; Mass of Christian Burial May 8, 2023 at St. Ann's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Mooers.

**Morristown** – Kimberly A. TenEyck-Crosby, 34; Funeral Services May 1, 2023.

**Ogdensburg** – Nancy Lee (Bouchard) Frisina, 87; Graveside Services May 10, 2023 at Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Peru** – Susan D. Allen, 82; Mass of Christian Burial May 1, 2023 at St. Augustine's Church; burial in

parish cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** – Mildred C. (LaFountain) Costin, 95; Mass of Christian Burial May 2, 2023 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Sts. Peter and Paul Cemetery, Moriah.

**Potsdam** – Shirley I. (Fuller) Andrews, 88; Funeral Services May 2, 2023 at Garner Funeral Service; burial in Fairfield Cemetery, Brasher Falls.

**Schroon Lake** – Jean S. Williford; Mass of Christian Burial May 13, 2023 at Our Lady of Lourdes; burial in Severance Cemetery.

**Ticonderoga** – Ann M. (Carpenter) Bennett, 65; Mass of Christian Burial May 5, 2023 at Wilcox & Regan Funeral Home; burial in May Memorial Cemetery of Hague.

**Watertown** – Paul F. Fitzgerald, Jr., 72; Mass of Christian Burial May 3, 2023 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart; burial in Sanford Corners Cemetery, Comstock.

**Watertown** – Michael L. Katon, 81; Mass of Christian Burial May 2, 2023 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.



Enjoy the renewal of spring with a subscription to the *North Country Catholic*, the newspaper for the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

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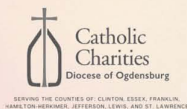
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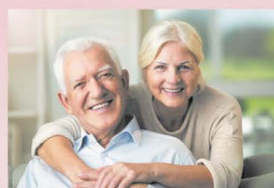
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## 2023 Mother's Day Appeal

PLEASE HELP US REACH OUR GOAL: \$ 175,000

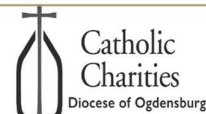


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May 2023

Dear Supporters of Catholic Charities,

With Mother's Day around the corner, we cannot express enough gratitude for the incredible support you have shown us throughout the past year. Your generosity has made it possible for us to continue our efforts to serve our community during these difficult times. This special day is an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the fierce and protective nature of mothers everywhere. Just as mothers protect and care for their children, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Ogdensburg, works tirelessly to protect and care for those in need.

For many years, Catholic Charities has provided a safety net for those who are struggling and ensure that they have the resources they need to thrive. However, our current times of post-pandemic and job loss, have brought about new challenges and hardships for many families in our community. We have seen a significant increase in the number of people who are turning to us for assistance, and our resources are being exhausted rapidly. This is where your support can make a real difference.

Your donation to Catholic Charities, Diocese of Ogdensburg, will enable us to reach more vulnerable families and individuals who are struggling to make ends meet. Our programs provide vital services such as food and shelter for the homeless, assistance with healthcare and education, and support for seniors and individuals with disabilities. By donating, you are helping us continue our work and ensure that those in need, receive the care and support they deserve.

In honor of Mother's Day and the spirit of fierce determination, consider making a gift to Catholic Charities and allows us to continue making the world a better place. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of members of our community that need it most.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

With Gratitude,

Deacon Patrick J. Donahue, LMSW, D. Min  
Executive Director

*Wishing a very Happy Mother's Day to all the amazing mothers and mother figures in our community. Your love, guidance, and sacrifice are appreciated more than words can express. Thank you for everything that you do!*

Dear Friends in Christ:

It is so fitting that our annual Catholic Charities Appeal takes place on Mother's Day weekend. A mother's boundless love and care for her children is expressed in a lifetime of self-giving. Every year at this time, we depend on such generous hearts as this local Church reaches out to care for the hurting through Catholic Charities.



Led by Deacon Patrick Donahue and his staff, Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Ogdensburg continues to provide many programs and services to individuals and families in our North Country. This outreach of advocacy and direct service brings a ray of hope to the many who feel overwhelmed, neglected and/or abandoned in our troubled world.

For generations, our Catholic Charities ministries have been supported with prayer and financial assistance from this annual Appeal, enabling us, as disciples in mission, to live the Gospel mandate to love our neighbor. This year's Appeal will take place in all our parishes on the weekend of May 13-14, 2023.

Your generous contributions help us serve the needy through our food pantries, housing for the homeless, migrant outreach, parenting education, counseling and financial assistance, among other supportive efforts.

Thank you for your giving heart and continuing the work of Christ on earth through Catholic Charities. To all our moms—Happy Mother's Day!

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley  
Bishop of Ogdensburg

**THIS MOTHER'S DAY, LET US HONOR THE MATERNAL FIGURES IN OUR LIVES BY EXTENDING OUR SUPPORT TO THOSE WHO NEED IT THE MOST. WE THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR DONATION AND FOR JOINING US IN OUR MISSION TO SERVE OTHERS WITH COMPASSION AND LOVE.**

Scan the code above to make your donation today or mail in the form below with donation to: Catholic Charities Diocese of Ogdensburg,  
214 Caroline Street, Ogdensburg, NY 13669

ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number \_\_\_\_\_

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT