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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 78 Number 7

# NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

MAY 24, 2023

## FROM AFRICA TO OGDENSBURG



Two Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Church, Ghana, recently met with diocesan Moderator of the Curia Father Kevin O'Brien and diocesan Episcopal Delegate for Religious Sister Bernadette Marie, SSJ, to become familiar with the Diocese. Bishop Terry R. LaValley invited the sisters to a luncheon at his residence. Pictured are (front row, from left) Sister Margaret Ankamah, SMMC, Bishop LaValley, Sister Lucy Hometownu, SMMC, major superior; (back row) Sister Bernadette, Father O'Brien; and Sister Mary Eamon Lyng, SSJ, Vocation Coordinator.

## Meet the 2023 Camp Guggenheim staff

It's almost time for the 2023 Camp Guggenheim season, and this year's camp staff is excited to welcome campers on July 5, the first day of camp.

The 2023 camp season will feature a new camp director, Samantha Poulin, and both new and familiar camp staff.

In this edition, the *North Country Catholic* begins its annual tradition of introducing this year's Camp Guggenheim staff. Additional staffers will be featured in future editions.

FULL STORY, PAGE 5

## TO BE ORDAINED TO THE PRIESTHOOD



Deacon Lukas Gruber, shown here being ordained to the diaconate by Bishop Terry R. LaValley, is scheduled to be ordained to the priesthood at 11 a.m. on May 27 at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

# Pope Francis: Share the Gospel with zeal

By Courtney Mares  
Catholic News Agency

(CNA) - In a world in which there are "so many people who need Jesus," St. Francis Xavier is an exemplary model of how to live and share the Gospel with zeal, Pope Francis said Wednesday.

The pope dedicated his entire general audience on May 17 to sharing the story of the daring 16th-century saint who risked his life to travel to what was then considered the "unknown ends of the world."

Pope Francis said that St. Francis Xavier is considered "the greatest missionary of modern

times."

One of the first Jesuit priests, Xavier brought the message of Christ to India, the distant islands of the Indonesian archipelago, and Japan.

"The love of Christ was the strength that drove him to the furthest frontiers, with constant toil and danger, overcoming setbacks, disappointments, and discouragement; indeed, giving him consolation and joy in following and serving him to the end," Pope Francis said.

"May St. Francis Xavier, who did great things in such poverty and with such courage, give us some of this zeal, this zeal to live the Gospel and proclaim the

Gospel," he added.

"To the many young people today who have some restlessness and do not know what to do with that restlessness, I say, look to Francis Xavier, look at the horizon of the world, look at so many people in need, look at so many people who are suffering, so many people who need Jesus."

Pope Francis noted that Xavier's dream was to evangelize China, but he died while on the way to realize his dream.

"In Japan, Xavier, the great dreamer, understood that the decisive country for the mission in Asia was another one: China. With its culture, its history, its

size, it exercised de facto dominance over that part of the world," he said.

"Even today, China is really a cultural hub with a great history, a beautiful history," the pope added.

However, Xavier died "in total abandonment" on the small island of Shangchuan off the coast of mainland China near Macao on Dec. 3, 1552, as "only a Chinese man stood beside him to watch over him."

At the time of his death at only age 46, the missionary priest's hair was already white and "his strength was consumed, given unsparingly to the service of the Gospel," Francis said.

NORTH  
COUNTRY  
CATHOLICPO Box 326  
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USPS 0039-3400**Bishop Terry**  
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Publish  
45 issues  
per year:Weekly except  
skipping every  
other week be-  
ginning July through August  
and skipping one week in  
December by theDiocese of Ogdensburg,  
622 Washington Street,  
Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669.**Editorial Office:**622 Washington Street,  
Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669.**Telephone:**

(315) 608-7556

**E-mail:**news@northcountry  
catholic.org**Entered at the****Post Office:**  
Ogdensburg, NY  
13669 and additional mailing  
offices as  
Periodical Postage.**Subscription:****For one year:**  
In-Diocese Rate: \$27  
Outside of Diocese Rate: \$30Matters for publication  
should be addressed to  
PO Box 326  
Ogdensburg, NY 13669  
and should be received by  
Wednesday prior to  
publication. Paper is  
printed each Friday;  
dateline is Wednesday.  
Member, Catholic  
Press Association.**POSTMASTER:**Send address changes to  
North Country Catholic,  
PO Box 326  
Ogdensburg, NY  
13669-0326

# 'I'm glad it stuck'

"Do you remember your confirmation?"

While confirmation has been on my mind a lot lately, as my son, Jacob, was confirmed a couple weeks ago, I hadn't thought of mine much until that question was posed to me by one of this newspaper's columnists, Msgr. Whitmore.

I remember big details of that day - the bishop, my sponsor,

my confirmation saint - but can't really remember much of the Mass.

The only other time I even considered my confirmation in recent memory was at the diocese's 150th Anniversary Mass. At that Mass, I had an opportunity to chat with Bishop Paul S. Loverde, the bishop who confirmed back in the 1990s.

After exchanging introductions and

pleasantries, I told Bishop Loverde he had confirmed me. Without skipping a beat, he responded, "I'm glad it stuck."

I laughed out loud.

I'm glad it stuck, too. Oftentimes, we don't feel different after receiving a sacrament, or at least I don't. That's certainly true of my confirmation. I remember thinking after, "that was no big deal. Nothing happened."

Looking back, that's almost laughable. The Holy Spirit is and has been

active in my life. I have countless example of it, especially in the last seven years or so, as I've looked for them more. The gifts of the Spirit - wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord - have been gifts in my life.

I may not remember my confirmation, but it certainly stuck, and I pray the gifts of the sacrament stay with and are recognized by those receiving it this year as they move through their lives.

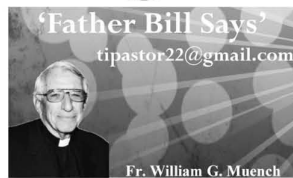
**Darcy L. Fargo**

## Reflecting on my priesthood

I am writing this on the anniversary of my ordination as a priest of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. It is a special day for me, and, yes, it does seem like yesterday. As I look back today, I am truly grateful for the many blessings that God has given me over the years of my priesthood. God has been very good to me.

I remember everything that happened on that ordination day. I had just finished eight years of seminary study, and now I would be entering into the life of a parish priest. I also thank God for the great assignments that have filled my time in the Lord's priesthood. They were all special.

I was ordained a priest by Bishop James J. Navagh. During my time as a priest of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, there have been seven other bishops. In many ways our present bishop, Bishop Terry LaValley, is very special, because he is one of us, a priest of our diocese. Here I should men-



tion that another of my own brother priests from our own diocese has become a bishop, the bishop of Syracuse, Bishop Douglas Lucia. This recognizes our Diocese of Ogdensburg in a special way. I do want to tell you that each bishop I ministered with was an excellent, powerful leader. In addition, I found each of them to be a friend as well as my bishop. I am always happy that I was a priest of the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

I was not born or raised up here in the North Country. However, I have grown to love this diocese during my priesthood. This is a blessed area. It is a wonderful, beautiful place. I have such great memories of the lakes and mountains - as well as of the St. Law-

rence River.

One of the first things I discovered after my ordination as a priest was the close community of the priests of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. I found here a family in this diocese with the bishop and the other priests. We got together often. I was to find support and friendship among them. I knew I could find a welcoming place when needed at any rectory or church in the diocese. This diocese became home.

As a priest, I have been continually educated about being a priest. My teachers have been the people and the families of the various parishes where I served as pastor. I have been so blessed; these parishioners and families have been a true gift from the Lord.

One more thing: you may wonder what has been the best part of being a priest all this time. I am certain that you probably know the answer. The best part of the priesthood for me is the

gift of being allowed to celebrate the Holy Mass. I have been allowed to bring our Lord and Savior in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist to God's people in so many parishes. I remember so well that very first time I celebrated Mass. I am certain I am as nervous now as I was back then.

I suspect that you may remember my favorite Mass. I have written about it often.

My classmate as priest and also an expert hiker, Father Phil Allen, took me for an experience in the woods, hiking along the Appalachian Trail in New England. On one of those days - a very gorgeous day - we came to a section that looked out into a wide expanse of the woods.

Father Phil said, "let's do Mass," so we found a good place along the trail. He had brought all we needed for Mass, and we prayed the Mass together and shared the Lord's peace and love - the Blessed Eucharist.

# 'Spending time with Jesus' before ordination

By Darcy Fargo  
Editor

## THREE TO BE ORDAINED ON MAY 27

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 at 11 a.m. on May 27 in St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg.

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 Mass program will be available at the same link shortly before the liturgy.

As he prepares to be ordained to the priesthood on May 27, Deacon Lukas Gruber said he's experiencing "a mix of emotions."

"There's the feeling of moving on to a new stage of my life, being done with seminary studies and being assigned to a parish full time," he said. "I'm looking forward to it, but there are those feelings of nervousness that naturally arise when entering a new phase of life. My primary emotion is definitely one of excitement, though. It's a mix of emotions, but not all are equal."

Deacon Gruber said his "practical preparation" has included practicing celebrating Mass, but also his preparation for ordination has been mostly spiritual.

"I've been spending time in adoration, spending more time with scriptures and with the rosary," he said. "It's really spending time with Jesus. That's the best way anyone can prepare for entering into a new stage of their vocation, regardless of what that vocation is."

Deacon Gruber said he's looking forward to applying what he's learned through his seminary studies and formation and sharing it with the people of God.

"There's a certain joy in taking what you've prepare for and seeing it working in a meaningful and concrete way with and for the people of God," he said. "Of course, the learning never ends, and that's true no matter what vocation we're called to."

Specifically, though, he's looking forward to celebrating the sacraments.

"I'm looking forward to celebrating Mass," Deacon Gruber said. "And I'm looking forward to hearing confessions. That's always a special encounter with the Lord, experiencing his love and mercy, and encountering him in the Eucharist."

Deacon Gruber said he feels his pastoral year in the largest parish in the Diocese of Columbus has aided in preparing him for pastoral work.

"I learned a lot of things," he said. "The parish had 3,500 families and a school with 900 kids. The 10 a.m. Mass attendance was around 1,000 people. I often joked with the pastor there that it was like being assigned to the entirety of the Diocese of Ogdensburg in one parish. I learned a lot from the pastor there, Father Wilson. He's a wonderful pastor and a real mentor. I learned a lot from his example and that of the other priests and deacons there, especially about the things that naturally come up in the life of a parish - attending meetings, discussing budget preparations, and being able to drive one of the retired priests to be with some-

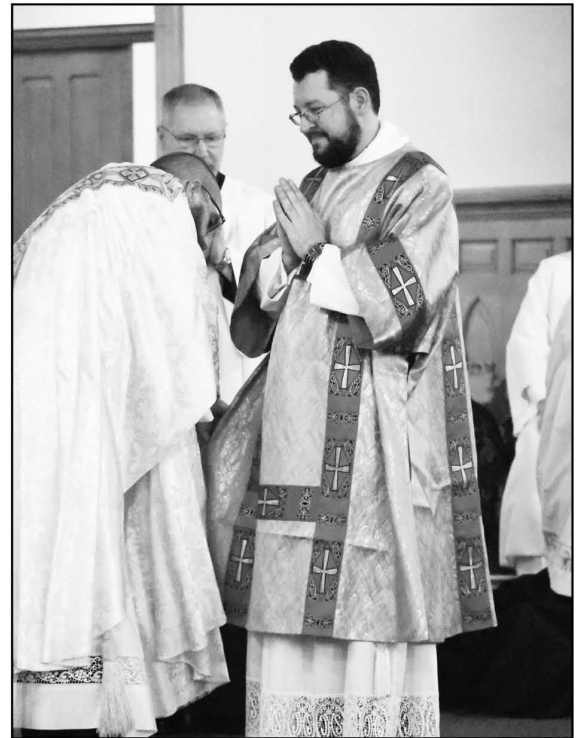
one who needed anointing. It was good to see those experiences."

Deacon Gruber said he has a lot to learn about that business portion of parish administration.

"There are a lot of things that are learned through experience, and one of those is definitely the business side of things," he said. "One thing I'm going to try and keep in mind is that while learning those things is important, it's important to keep in mind the big picture and keep everything integrated. The business side shouldn't be the primary concern. Temporal matters don't rise above spiritual. I'm hoping to be able to find a balance. These are some of the areas where I need to learn and grow so that one day, God willing, I might be an effective pastor for and with the people of God."

After ordination, Deacon Gruber plans to celebrate his first Mass using a chalice purchased as a gift by his parents and wearing vestments gifted to him by St. Mary's Parish in Potsdam.

"My parents were very generous in offering to pay for my chalice," he said. "I'm very grateful for that. The Parish of St. Mary's in Potsdam offered to pay for a



Deacon Lukas Gruber

chasuble and first Mass vestments. I'm not sure I would've discovered my vocation within the Diocese of Ogdensburg if not for the people of St. Mary's in Potsdam. I'm very grateful to them for their generous gift."

The imagery on the chalice focuses on the Eucharist.

"One thing playing that was in the back of my mind was that this ordination comes within the context of the National Eucharistic Revival," Deacon Gruber said. "For example, on the front of the holy cards are the window from (St. Mary's) cathedral depicting the Last Supper. It's that connection to the Eucharist and priesthood. For my first chalice, I chose a chalice that has images related to Holy Eucharist and also has text of the Lau-

da Sion Salvatorem, the sequence Corpus Christi by St. Thomas Aquinas."

Deacon Gruber concluded by noting how excited he is to begin his ministry with God and the people of the North Country.

"Columbus was a great place to be for six years," said Deacon Gruber, who studied at the Pontifical College Josephinum in that city. "But I've really missed being in this diocese. In so many ways, this has become home for me. On a superficial level, Columbus tends to be a lot flatter. I look forward to being in the mountains and being with the people in the North Country, people I've met and know so well. I'm looking forward to rekindling old friendships and being up here full time."

# NY Eucharistic Congress speakers announced

Fifteen confirmed speakers have been announced for the New York Eucharistic Congress planned for October 20 to 22 at Our Lady of Martyrs Shrine in Auriesville.

To register for the congress, go to <https://nyseucharisticcongress.org/registration>.

Also, please complete the diocesan Eucharistic Congress survey (information in the inset box) to express interest in attending the Congress.

#### EVENT SPEAKERS:

- Cardinal Timothy Dolan – Saturday Mass Principal Celebrant and Homilist

- Father Dave Dwyer, C.S.P. – Speaker, “Understanding What We Are Doing: Toward a More Active and Prayerful Participation in the Mass”

#### LET US KNOW YOU WANT TO GO!

Interested in attending the New York State Eucharistic Congress, October 20 to 22, 2023, in Auriesville or the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis, Indiana, July 17 to 21, 2024? Please complete the diocesan survey found at <https://www.rcdony.org/events/eucharist-revival.html>.

- Bishop Joseph Es-paillat II – Speaker

- Father Richard Frag-omeni, Ph.D. – Speaker

- Tim Glemkowski – Speaker

- Patrick Kelly – Speaker

- Dr. Peter Kreeft – Speaker

- Father Roger Landry – Emcee

- Sister Mary Grace Langrell, SV – Speaker

- Lisa Lickona – Speaker, “Learning from the Love of Women Saints for the Eucharist”

- Mother Clare Matthi-ass, CFR – Speaker

- Katy Prejean Mc-Grady – Speaker, “Fos-tering Eucharistic Love Within the Family”

- Father Malachy Nap-ier, CFR – Speaker

- Mari Pablo – Speaker

- Bishop Edward Scarfenberger – Sunday Mass Principal Celebrant and Homilist

#### EVENT MUSICIANS:

- Franciscan Friars of the Renewal

- Sisters of Life

For more information about the New York Eucharistic Congress, visit <https://nyseucharisticcongress.org/>

## World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests is June 16

By the Diocese of Ogdensburg  
Office of Vocations

World Day for the Sanctification of Priests takes place every year on the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. This day is celebrated on Friday, June 16.

On this special feast, let us pray for your parish priest and for all the priests of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. May our prayer be for their continual growth in holiness, their sanctification that configures them to the Person of Jesus Christ.

Every day our priests pray for us and for our intentions as they pre- side over Mass, hear confessions, baptize, or bury our loved ones. Our

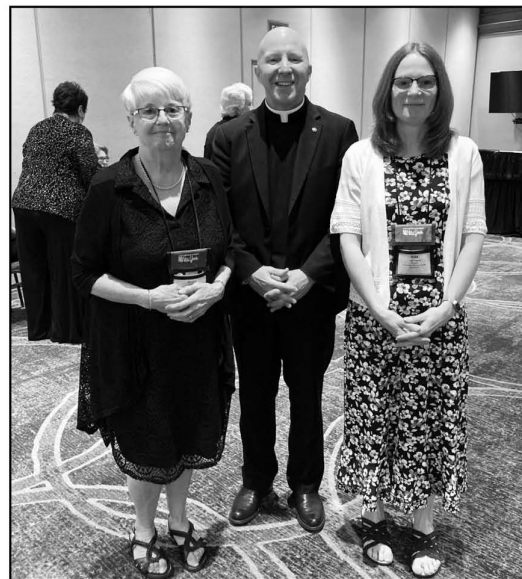
priests need our prayers.

Take time to tell them that you are praying for them and thank them for their dedication. You never know what your parish priest or pastor is going through, sacrificing out of love for his parishioners.

*Sacred Heart of Jesus, protect our priest (priest's name) in the midst of his work at our parish, (parish name). Comfort him in his afflictions. Give him health of body, assistance in his temporal needs, and your blessing on all that he does.*

*We ask the Holy Spirit to come down and light his heart anew for the priesthood and help him to grow in holiness. Amen.*

## DAUGHTERS DONATE FOR LIFE



At the 2022 National Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA) Convention, Court Mother Admirable #592 submitted a resolution to the National CDA Board in support of Pro-life efforts from conception to natural death via the projects and charities courts support. As a result, Human Life International was chosen as a National Charity to be supported by our state courts. Present and speaker at the recent NYS CDA convention held in Saratoga was CDA National Chaplain Father Shenan Boquet, president of Human Life International. Pictured are (from left) Anna Lucia, regent #592, Father Boquet, and Rita Finizio, vice regent #592. A donation of \$1200 was presented to Father Boquet for his works.

## FIRST COMMUNION



Three children from St. Elizabeth's Church, Elizabethtown received First Holy Communion on May 13. Pictured with Father Justin Thomas, pastor, are (from left) Daniel DiBartolomeo, Abigail DiBartolomeo & Keenan Duso

# MEET THE 2023 CAMP GUGGENHEIM STAFF



**Samantha Poulin – 2023 Camp Director**

**What are your hobbies/talents/interests?**

I love nature photography, baking and going on adventures with my family.

**Why did you want to work at Camp Guggenheim?**

I am humbled and honored to be the Camp Director this year! Camp has always been a “home away from home” for me and was a cornerstone in my faith formation as a youth attending as a camper and as a young adult serving on staff. I know how just one positive experience at Camp can make all the difference, and I wanted to be able to share similar opportunities with as many young people as possible. If it were not for my experiences at Guggenheim, I wouldn’t be where I am today. I am looking forward to a fantastic summer at our “home on the water”!

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change



**Matteo Reilly  
Counselor**

**Age:** 19

**Hometown:** Thousand Oaks, California

**Parish:** St. Paschal Baylon, Thousand Oaks, California

**What are your hobbies/talents/interests?**

I love wrestling, football and going to the beach with my friends

**Why did you want to work at Camp Guggenheim?**

Camp Guggenheim was such a positive influence for me, and I wanted to share the joy that it brought me with others.



**Naomi Presler  
Counselor**

**Age:** 18

**Hometown:** Milton, Delaware

**Parish:** St. Edmund’s Catholic Church

**What are your hobbies/talents/interests?**

I love wrestling, football and going to the beach with my friends. I am a huge fan of Harry Potter and Moana. My talents include Irish dancing, being able to cross both of my eyes and uncrossing one. My hobbies include volleyball and having a good time!

**Why did you want to work at Camp Guggenheim?**

I want to work as a counselor at Camp Guggenheim because I was a camper here for a long time and I consider it a second home. To come back and help create a home for others is a passion of mine. I also want to be a counselor because Guggenheim is the best!



**Sarah Samperi  
Counselor**

**Age:** 20

**Hometown:** Saranac Lake

**Parish:** St. Bernard of Montjoux

**What are your hobbies/talents/interests?**

Hiking, exploring, playing outside, painting, learning guitar, thrifting, spending time with friends and family, and talking/learning about the faith.

**Why did you want to work at Camp Guggenheim?**

Camp was the first place I encountered other young people on fire for the Catholic faith. The friendships I made there in my years as a camper were my strength throughout the years and encouraged me to continue to pursue a personal relationship with Christ. The youth are the future of the diocese, and I know firsthand how important a role Camp Guggenheim plays in fostering their faith. It gives me great joy to play a role in giving the experience that was so influential in my life back to the campers, in hopes that it will do the same for them. I love getting to know each camper and seeing them come out of their shells as each week progresses. I’ve never worked somewhere more fulfilling, faithful, and fun, and I can’t wait for my second summer!



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*Additional 2023 Camp Guggenheim staff will be featured in future editions of the North Country Catholic*

## CONGRATULATIONS

ON YOUR RETIREMENT  
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OF DEDICATED SERVICE  
TO CATHOLIC EDUCATION



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PRESIDING**

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CARTHAGE, NY 13619

*And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets,  
some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, for the  
equipment of the saints, for the work of ministry, for building  
up the body of Christ Ephesians 4: 11-13*

### Bishop's Public Schedule

**May 21-24** – Presbyterian Assembly at the High Peaks Resort in Lake Placid  
Council of Priest Meeting at the High Peaks Resort in Lake Placid - Time TBD  
**May 25** – 4 p.m. – Visit St. Joseph's Outreach Center in Treadwells Mills  
**May 26** – Noon – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral  
5 p.m. – Dinner with Deacon Lukas Gruber and his Family at Bishop's Residence  
**May 27** – 11 a.m. – Ordination to the Priesthood of Deacon Lukas H. Gruber and Ordination to the Diaconate of Mr. Carter G. Pierce and Mr. Dougals A. Schirmer at St. Mary's Cathedral  
**May 28** – 8 a.m. – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral  
3 p.m. – Confirmation at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg with Saints Philip and James Church in Lisbon  
**May 29** – 11 a.m. – Memorial Day Celebration at the VFW Post 125 in Plattsburgh  
**May 30** – Noon – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral  
**May 31** – 9:45 a.m. – Episcopal Council Meeting at Bishop's Residence followed by lunch  
6:30 p.m. – Confirmation at St. Peter's Parish (at Sacred Heart Church) in Massena

### Rest in Peace

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

**May 24** – Rev. Francois X. Therien, O.M.I., 1902; Rev. Antoine A. Amyot, 1927; Rev. Julien Racette, O.M.I., 1937; Rev. Joseph O. Levesque, 1938; Msgr. George L. Murray, 1942  
**May 25** – Rev. J. Hector Mignerone, 1958  
**May 26** – Rev. Thomas J. Kelleher, 1889; Rev. Steven H. Gratto, 2012  
**May 27** – Rev. J. Rosario Jalbert, O.M.I., 1938; Msgr. Wilfred Allen Nugent, 1991; Rev. Andrew R. Mulvaney, 2013  
**May 29** – Rev. Hervé Racette, O.M.I., 1948  
**May 30** – Rev. J. Heliodore Valois, 1952

### 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:

**June 1** – 6:30 p.m. – St. Mary's School, Ticonderoga  
**June 9** – 1:30 p.m. – Diocesan offices, Ogdensburg

### To Report Abuse

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

### Environmental Stewardship

#### Got mail?

Several years ago there was a movie, *You've Got Mail*. Well, five people from around the world can answer 'yes;' they DID get 'mail' from Pope Francis. Why did these people receive a personal letter from Pope Francis to make a journey to meet with him in Rome?

Each person was chosen to represent a voice from around the world and share how they are experiencing the rapid change in climate patterns in their area: the voice of the poor from Senegal, Africa, the voice of the Indigenous from the Amazon, the voice of the youth from India, the voice of Nature from Hawaii.

Some say the climate is changing like it has been for millions of years, so there isn't anything we can do about it. Yet Pope Francis sees the need to hear from the findings of scientists around the world. The vast number of leading scientists attribute the present unprecedented changes in the climate to human activities causing the rising of temperatures in the oceans and air.

After hearing the stories of these frontline leaders about the suffering these changes are causing, the Holy Father responded, "It is like a choir, we have to sing together. We don't dismiss anyone. Everyone in their own country, town, in their culture, has to find a way to solve this. All together, all together."

This week celebrates Laudato Si' Week 2023 (May 21-28). The theme this year is: HOPE FOR THE EARTH. HOPE FOR HUMANITY. Some suggestions for celebrating are: (1) watch Pope Francis *THE LETTER: A Message for the Earth* on YouTube; (2) spend some time in a favorite place in nature that you find is sacred; (3) noticed if any of your favorite places in nature are being threatened, harmed or destroyed by "development" or climate change? Spend quiet time with the Lord.

## Report gives voice to Canada's Indigenous Christians

By Terry O'Neill  
Catholic News Agency

A report published by the Ottawa-based Cardus Institute has given voice to Indigenous Canadians frustrated by secular society's unawareness of - or unwillingness to accept - the fact that almost half of them are Christian.

"I find that insulting to Indigenous people's intelligence and freedom," Catholic priest Father Cristino Bouvette said of the prejudice he regularly encounters.

Bouvette, who has mixed Cree-Métis and Italian heritage and now serves as vicar for vocations and Young Adults in the Diocese of Calgary, was one of 12 individuals interviewed by Cardus for the report "Indigenous Voices of Faith."

Prejudice against Indigenous Christians has become so strong, even inside some Indigenous communities, "that Indigenous Christians in this country right now are living in the time of new martyrdom," Bouvette said.

Although that martyrdom may not cost them their lives, "they are ostracized and humiliated sometimes within their own communities if they openly express their Christian or Catholic faith."

Statistics Canada reported last year that the 2021 census found that 850,000, or 47%, of Canada's 1.8-million Indigenous people identify as Christian and that more than a quarter of the total report they are Catholic. Only 73,000, or 4%, of Indigenous people said they adhere to traditional Indigenous spiritual beliefs.

Ukrainian Catholic Deacon Andrew Bennett, program director for Cardus Faith Communities, conducted the interviews for the think tank last fall. He published his report in March.

The purpose of the report, he writes, "is to affirm and to shed light on the religious freedom of Indigenous peoples to hold the beliefs and engage in the practices that they choose and to contextualize their faith within their own cultures."

Too often, however, "the public narrative implies, or boldly declares, that there's a fundamental incompatibility between Indigenous Canadians and Christianity or other faiths," Bennett said. "[M]any Indigenous Canadians strongly disagree with those narratives."

Father Bouvette is clearly one of those.

"We did not have Christian faith imposed upon us because of [my Indigenous grandmother's] time in the residential school or her father's time in the trade school that he was sent to," Bouvette said. "No, it was because our family freely chose to receive the saving message of Jesus Christ and lived it and had continued to pass it down."

Bouvette said his "grandmother was not tricked into becoming something that she didn't want to be, and then tricked into staying that way for 99 years and 11 months of her life. She was a Christian from the day of her birth, and she remained a Christian until the day of her death. And so that was not by the consequence of some imposition."

Nevertheless, Canadians continue to labor under a prejudice holding the opposite view. "I do believe that probably the majority of Canadians at this time, out of some mistaken notion of guilt for whatever their cultural or ethnic background is, think they are somehow responsible for Indigenous people having had something thrust upon them that they didn't want," Bouvette said.

"But I would say, give us a little more credit than that and assume that if there is an Indigenous person who continues to persevere in the Christian faith it is because they want to, because they understand why they have chosen to in the first place, and they remain committed to it. We should be respectful of that."

The executive director of the Catholic Civil Rights League, Christian Elia, agrees and says society should grant Indigenous Catholics the respect and personal agency that is due all Canadians.

"Firstly, I am not an Indigenous person, so I cannot speak for our Indigenous brothers and sisters, but neither can non-Indigenous secularists who choose to ignore that Indigenous people in Canada continue to self-identify as Christian, the majority of these Catholic," Elia said in an interview with The B.C. Catholic.

He said his organization has heard from many Indigenous Catholics who are "growing weary of the ongoing assumption that somehow they have been coerced into the faith, that it is inconceivable that they wish to be Catholic. This condescending attitude must stop."

# CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

### Diocese of Oakland files for bankruptcy protection

The Diocese of Oakland, California, has filed for bankruptcy protection, Bishop Michael Barber announced May 8. Less than a month ago, Bishop Barber indicated the diocese was strongly considering bankruptcy due to hundreds of expected child sexual abuse lawsuits. In 2019, the state of California passed legislation that granted a three-year exemption to the statute of limitations on child sexual abuse lawsuits. The legal window began Jan. 1, 2020, and ended Jan. 2, 2023. In a letter to the people of his diocese, Barber said there are more than 330 child sexual abuse claims, with the majority alleging assaults occurring between 1960 and 1989. The diocese's website said that three of the accusations claim the abuse occurred within the last two decades.

### Pope issues new constitution for Vatican City State

Pope Francis on May 13 issued a new constitution of the Vatican City State that further emphasizes the power of the pope over the sovereign state. The new constitution, called "the Fundamental Law of Vatican City State," is the third in history and replaces a law promulgated by St. John Paul II in 2000. The first constitution was issued in 1929 following the signing of the Lateran Pacts, which founded the city state of the Vatican and guaranteed its sovereignty. The new law will go into effect June 7. In an interview with Vatican News published Saturday, Vincenzo Buonomo, a jurist and rector of the Pontifical Lateran University, noted that the new law now uses the words "power" and "powers" to refer only to the pope, while other bodies of the state exercise "legislative, executive, and judicial functions." Pope Francis said he issued the new fundamental law "to meet the needs of our day." The law, he added, which is "the foundation and reference of all other legislation and regulations in the State, confirms the singular peculiarity and autonomy of the Vatican legal system."

## PILGRIMAGE BIBLICAL TURKEY

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## VIRTUAL EVENTS

## BROWN BAG SERIES

The Office of New Evangelization will be running a new Brownbag Chat Series.

**Date:** June 14

**Time:** Noon to 1 p.m.

**Place:** Via Zoon

**Features:** This series will be a book discussion on Apostolic Exhortation *The Joy of the Gospel* by Pope Francis. The document is available online or in book form from the Office of the New Evangelization. The reading schedule (approx. 20 pages per week) will be sent to participants.

**Contact:** To register, go to <https://www.rcdony.org/brownbag>. For more information, contact Marika at [mdonders@rcdony.org](mailto:mdonders@rcdony.org).

## FRIENDSHIP GROUPS

Take part in a Friendship Group that will provide dynamic reading and personalized formation to grow in holiness with others online.

**Date:** Thursdays starting June 15

**Time:** 7 p.m.

**Place:** Zoom

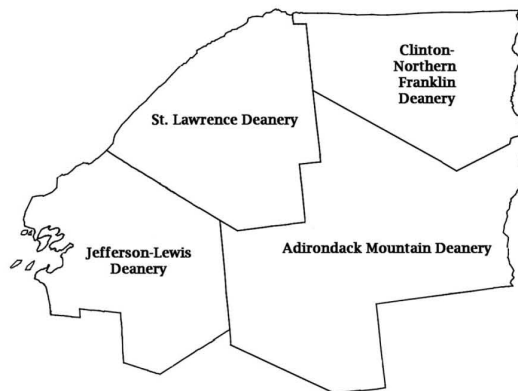
**Features:** The first book we will read is *Overcoming Spiritual Discouragement* by popular author Father Timothy Gallagher, OMV. Book summary: With warmth, understanding, and pastoral skill, Father offers a hopeful invitation to all who struggle to overcome the greatest obstacle in the spiritual life – discouragement. Oblate priest Father Bill Brown will join us for the first meeting, share about the liberating spirituality behind this book, lead a discussion and answer participants' questions. Learn how to enter into the peace and joy that our Lord promises.

**Contact:** Sign up at <https://mailchi.mp/sophiainstitute/friendship-groups>. For more information, contact Mary Beth Bracy at [mbracy@sophiainstitute.com](mailto:mbracy@sophiainstitute.com)

## ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN

## BLACK FLY 5K RUN

Saranac Lake – St. Bernard's to



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.

have their third annual Black Fly 5K run, walk, roll or stroll.

**Date:** June 3

**Time:** 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Place:** Dewey Mt. Rec. Center

**Cost:** Adults, \$25; Student, \$20 (includes t-shirt if registered by May 27). \$10 discount for families of 4 or more.

**Features:** get some exercise in a wooded setting, then grab some grub from ADK Street Eats and a brew from Hex and Hops and enjoy the after-race fun!

**Contact:** Call 518-891-2830 for more information or register on Run Sign Up website: <https://runsignup.com/Race/NY/SaranacLake/StBsBlackFly5K>

## CLINTON NORTHERN FRANKLIN

## CAR SHOW

Mooers – St. Ann's Church to have their 5th Annual Festival of Cars.

**Date:** June 4

**Time:** 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Place:** St. Ann's Grounds

**Features:** Craft Fair, Theme Baskets, Food and Entertainment. Top 40 picks and special awards at 3 p.m. There will be Hot Wheel races for kids and adults (Entry fee, \$5 kids; \$10 Adults, includes car).

**Contact:** For more information or to pre-register your vehicle call 518-236-5632. Vehicle Pre-Register is \$15 or \$20 the day of the show between 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Craft Table space, \$20.

## MERCY CARE EDUCATIONAL FORUM

Paul Smiths - Mercy Care for the Adirondacks will hold its annual Educational Forum co-hosted by Paul Smith's College.

**Date:** June 7

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

**Cost:** \$25, includes networking lunch

**Features:** The 2023 Forum will focus on the urgent topics of Ageism and development of the Master Plan for Aging in New York. Speakers will be Ann Monroe, Greg Olsen and Adam Herbst.

**Contact:** To register for the Forum, please visit Mercy Care's website at [www.adkmercy.org](http://www.adkmercy.org) or contact Karen Rodriguez, Mercy Care Project Manager at [krdriguez@adkmercy.org](mailto:krdriguez@adkmercy.org) or call her at 518-523-5685.

## JEFFERSON-LEWIS

## SPAGHETTI DINNER

Watertown – St. Anthony's Altar and Rosary to have a spaghetti dinner.

**Date:** May 25

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

**Place:** Msgr. Sechi Hall

**Cost:** Adults, \$10; Children, \$7

**Features:** Take-outs available, please bring your own containers.

## HOLY HOUR AND DIVINE MERCY

Houseville - A Holy Hour of

Adoration with the Divine Mercy Chaplet will be observed the first Sunday of the month.

**Date:** June 4

**Time:** Following 11 a.m. Mass

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

**Contact:** 315-348-6260

## HEALING MASS

Clayton – St. Mary's to have their annual Healing Mass and Antoine Tetrault Memorial Service.

**Date:** June 10

**Time:** 11 a.m.

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

**Features:** The Celebrants will be Father Arthur LaBaff and Father Corneille Boyeye. During Mass the Anointing of the Sick is offered. Immediately following Mass will be prayer teams to pray for individual needs. A social time with refreshments will follow.

**Contact:** For more information, contact St. Mary's parish office at 315-686-3398 or [claytonsec@rcdony.org](mailto:claytonsec@rcdony.org) or visit the [www.stmary-sclayton.org](http://www.stmary-sclayton.org).

## ST. LAWRENCE

## ROSARY WITH DEVOTIONS

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

**Date:** June 3

**Time:** 8 a.m.

**Place:** Notre Dame Church, Ogdensburg

**Features:** Rosary with devotions

## FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY

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

**Date:** June 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.

## MEN'S PRAYER GROUP

Massena – First Saturday of the month, men's prayer group to meet for Mass and Adoration.

**Date:** June 3

**Time:** 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

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

**Features:** Coffee and donuts

after service in the parish center  
**Contact:** Bob Brothers at 315-842-2886

## MONTHLY BRUNCH

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

**Date:** June 11 (Second Sunday of each month)

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

**Place:** Father 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.

## CONCERT AT THE CATHEDRAL

Ogdensburg - Please join us for a concert of original music by Ryan C. McNally, to include Mass in D Minor which incorporates piano, organ, orchestra and choir.

**Date:** June 11

**Time:** 4 p.m.

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

**Features:** An Ogdensburg native, Mr. McNally is an arranger and performer, with over 60 compositions to his name. We hope you're able to join us and bring a friend! There is no charge and all are welcome!

**Contact:** For more information, contact our Music Director, Christine Bookman at [ogdensburgmusic@rcdony.org](mailto:ogdensburgmusic@rcdony.org).

## USA FLAG RAFFLE

The Bishop McEntegart 4th Degree Assembly 707 are holding a patriotic raffle of a USA Flag.

**Cost:** 1 ticket \$5 OR 3 tickets for \$10.

**Features:** 1 grand prize - Flag Pole Set (installed); 2nd prize, US Capital Flown Flag; 3rd to 5th prize, 5 Foot Porch Flag Set. Drawing June 14.

**Contact:** Any Sir Knight of the Canton Assembly or call 315-244-4455

## CHICKEN BBQ

Canton – St. Mary's Church to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



# 'The Way' to release on streaming platforms

By Tina Dennelly  
Catholic News Agency

After a one-day-only rerelease of "The Way" on Tuesday, May 16, there will be additional opportunities to view the film.

The movie will be streamed again on various platforms this summer, the 2011 film's director, Emilio Estevez, told Hearst newspapers. No further details were available.

The film stars Estevez's father, Martin Sheen, as an eye doctor who while playing golf one day at his country club gets a phone call that his estranged son has died while walking the Camino de Santiago - the "Way of St. James." He drops everything to travel to France to pick up the body - but then finds

himself finishing the 500-mile journey his son started, meeting some interesting characters along the way and ending up a changed man.

The Camino is a 1,000-year-old pilgrimage route that starts in France and extends through Spain, ending at the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in Galicia. According to tradition, the remains of the apostle St. James are buried there.

So why rerelease a movie 12 years after it first came out?

Actor, producer, director, and screenwriter Estevez - whose credits include "The Breakfast Club," "St. Elmo's Fire," "The Mighty Ducks," and "Bobby" - called "The Way" his "legacy project."

"I have never created a mo-

tion picture that has had more of an impact on so many people around the world," he said. "Coming out of the pandemic, 'The Way' is more timely now than when we originally embarked on this journey 12 years ago."

"We were a scrappy lot," Estevez recalled in a recent interview with Metro Philadelphia. "[It] started out as this very independent production - I mean, we were funding the pre-production on our credit cards and my mom was using her mileage to bring actors over from Los Angeles to Madrid."

"We rang the bell on a true grassroots level, and then the movie came out and it did okay," said Estevez, who

also wrote the screenplay and played the role of Sheen's character's son.

In a May 11 interview on "The World Over with Raymond Arroyo," Estevez said he and his father even traveled by bus to promote the original release of the film.

"We drove across the country, and it was Martin and I doing two screenings a night, doing Q & As afterwards, one secular, one non," Estevez told Arroyo.

Estevez noted the film gained a bit of a cult following, with some people buying dozens of copies to give to family and friends. "It was kind of a surprise little Indie movie," he said in the Metro Philadelphia interview.

## Around the diocese

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8  
a drive thru Chicken BBQ.

**Date:** June 18

**Time:** 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Place:** Drive thru with picnic seating available on the lawn.

**Cost:** \$15 Full meal, \$12 half chicken only

**Menu:** ½ Chicken, Coleslaw, Salt Potatoes, Baked Beans, Dinner Roll.

**Contact:** For more information call 315-386-2543

### DIOCESAN EVENTS

#### 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.

**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.

**Features:** Arts and crafts, Project Adventure, Liturgy, rappelling, hiking, basketball, or soccer. Guggenheim has its very own beach where you can swim, use watercrafts and play watersports. Evenings at camp are packed with activities like bonfire time, a dance, outdoor movies, and camp games.

**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. Deadline is June 21!

#### THE MIRACLE OF THE MASS RETREAT

Saranac Lake - LEAD overnight retreat to be held on the Significance of the Eucharist in our Lives.

**Schedule:** June 9, 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 - Praise and Worship with Madonna Champagne and Nate Pultorak of Plattsburgh, campfire and s'mores; June 10, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. - Panel on the Eucharist: Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, SSI; Msgr. Dennis Duprey, Anita Soltero and Cathy Russell.

**Cost:** \$30, meals included

**Place:** Camp Guggenheim

**Contact:** Register at [www.rcdony.org/lead2dayevent](http://www.rcdony.org/lead2dayevent)

#### 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 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

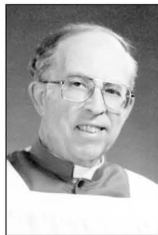
**Contact:** For more information call Kathleen Nichols 518-651-6895. Donations accepted to be payable to OLRHR and sent to Wadhams hall.



## SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

# 'The unstoppable Holy Spirit'

Tornadoes this year are not popular. They have caused far too much damage and death in our country. However, there is one tornado-like event that never fails to capture our attention, for it changed the history of the world forever in about 33 A.D. In wind and thunder and fire, in the city of Jerusalem, the Holy Spirit of God entered into the twelve Apostles, and the Catholic Church was born. From that day forward, the same Holy Spirit has entered the hearts of millions more. On the day of Pentecost, the apostles baptized in water and the Spirit about three thousand Jews, and after the Spirit had entered the house of Cornelius, they baptized Jew and Gentile. The power of the Spirit was with these totally changed men, and neither threats nor imprisonments, beatings or stoning, could prevent them from preaching with great persuasion and power.



Monsignor Paul E. Whitmore

May 28

## Feast of Pentecost

### READINGS

Acts 2:1-11

1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13

John 20:19-23

They went to whatever country or city the Spirit led them, even to Rome and beyond.

It is no wonder that the unstoppable Holy Spirit soon brought the news that Jesus, son of God and son of Mary, both divine and human, had really entered the world at the command of God the Father. This same Jesus had not only risen from the dead but

had ascended back to the Father. This same Jesus now lived in all who would believe and have all been given the gifts of the Spirit to continue the building of the Church on earth.

Why hasn't the Spirit of God, working through us, brought the whole world to belief? Because of human weakness. Because of complacency sometimes in the face of human success. We know all about that in today's world, where the sins of leaders, both bishops and priests, have slowed the work of evangelizing. The lessening of moral discipline in society has

poisoned and confused the young who are often cynical about the importance of faith. Fewer and fewer listen to and heed the authoritative teaching of the Church.

On this Pentecost, we are urgently called to re-focus our belief in the presence and daily inspirations of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit alone can give us that hope in His Power to repair what is broken, to enflame hearts who turn to Him in prayer and listening. Centuries have passed since this one "good tornado" in Palestine, but the wind and flame are as strong as ever.

## CALLED TO SERVE

# Bishop, priest, deacon; the third order

When I was in formation for the diaconate, I volunteered at the House of the Good Samaritan Hospital (now Samaritan Medical Center) in Watertown. I was learning the ropes about hospital visitations from Brother John, a Missionary of the Sacred Heart.

Quite often on my trips to the hospital, I would visit the chapel and offer some prayers

for the patients. Then I would go to the Bible that was on a stand in the chapel and flip the page to chapter six of the Acts of the Apostle. Then I would leave.

Acts 6 is the paragraph in the Bible that recounts the decision by the Apostles to appoint assistants, subsequently called deacons, to help the Apostles in their ministry.

The next chapter in Acts talks about Stephen, one of the original deacons, and how he became the first martyr of the new church.

I reset the Bible each time hoping people would read the chapters and become curious about our order.

The bishops of the Second Vatican Council restored the Order of Deacon. On June 18,

1967, Pope Paul VI issued the apostolic letter *Sacrum Diaconatus Ordinem*, a document that re-established the permanent diaconate for the Latin Church, and the order has grown steadily since.

My intention today is not to take you on a historical journey about the diaconate but to ask you to pray for us and to pray that other men will consider our order as a way to serve Christ and his Church.

We often pray at Mass and other times for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. We should. They are important vocations in the Church.

Deacon is an important choice too. Men, most of them married with families, are looking for a way to grow in

knowledge of the faith, to grow spiritually, and to help others within the Catholic Church.

Pope Paul in his letter of 1967 said "young men" interested in the diaconate need to show a willingness to serve the Christian community.

Please add "diaconate" to your prayers for vocations. It is a simple add. "We pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life." I'll bet you can even add that addition if you are the leader of prayer. And if you are interested in the Order, contact your pastor or a deacon in your parish.

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



Deacon Kevin Mastellon

## Welcome Spring!

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

MAY 24, 2023

## OBITUARIES

**Cape Vincent** – LuAnn Docteur, 58; Mass of Christian Burial May 26, 2023 at St. Vincent of Paul Church; burial in St. Vincent of Paul Cemetery.

**Clayton** – Darryl R. Hyde, 79; Mass of Christian Burial May 24, 2023 at St. Mary's Church.

**Copenhagen** – Elizabeth Carroll Woodward, 81; Mass of Christian Burial May 23, 2023 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Houseville** – Marian L. (Taman) Smykla, 99; Graveside Services May 17, 2023 at Lowville Rural Cemetery.

**Indian Lake** – Susan H. (Carroll) Farrell, 82; Mass of Christian burial May 16, 2023 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Cedar River Cemetery.

**Lake Placid** – Katherine Elizabeth (Kreidler) Oropallo, 40; Mass of Christian Burial May 19, 2023 at St. Agnes Church.

**Lake Placid** – Frances Joseph Varga, MD, 67; Mass of Christian Burial May 27, 2023 at St. Agnes Church; burial in St. Agnes Cemetery.

**Massena** – John G. "Jack" Feeney, 95; Mass of Christian Burial May 22, 2023 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Pine Grove Cemetery.

**Moors Forks** – Leonard E. Manor, 93; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 4, 2023 at St. Ann's Church.

**Norfolk** – Rita Ann (Davey) West-King, 90; Mass of Christian Burial May 20, 2023 at Church of the Visitation; burial in Riverside Cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** – Maureen (Latour) Cluette, 66; Mass of Christian Burial May 16, 2023 at St. Peter's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Potsdam** – Michael P. Hanna, 41; Graveside Services May 20, 2023 at Chapel Hill Cemetery.

**Potsdam** – Lawrence G. Varney, 83; Mass of Christian Burial May 19, 2023 at St. Mary's Church; burial in West Stockholm Cemetery.

**Rouses Point** – Margaret Ellen (LaForest) Rivers, 81; Mass of Christian Burial May 16, 2023 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

**St. Regis Falls** – Janet M. (Cummings) Ploof, 86; Mass of Christian Burial May 19, 2023 at St. Anne's Church; burial in St. Anne's Cemetery.

**Ticonderoga** – James Sandford Major,

76; Mass of Christian Burial May 20, 2023 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Valley View Cemetery.

**Watertown** – Josephine F. (Malatino) Foti, 95; May 19, 2023 at St. Anthony's Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

**Watertown** – Genevieve E. "Jenny" (Hudson) Groves, 85; Mass of Christian Burial May 19, 2023 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church; burial in Elmwood Cemetery, Adams.

**Watertown** – Frederick M. Sovie, 85; Funeral Services May 17, 2023 at Cummings Funeral Service, Inc.; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

**West Chazy** – Sue Anne Bedard, 85; Mass of Christian Burial May 19, 2023 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

## Continuing to remember mothers

A reflection on the great value of mothers in society is proposed in the editorial of the latest issue of the weekly "Desde la fe" of the Archdiocese of Mexico. "Two thousand years ago, a woman said yes to God, to become the mother of God himself and with Him the mother of humanity" highlights the text. "Mary of Nazareth, undoubtedly the most influential woman in history, was a mother, with all the uncertainties that could arise at the time, to live firsthand the uncertainties of any mother in the world, and also to live the courage that only God can instill in a woman who is a mother."

For this reason, the weekly invites us to remember and recognize all mothers, those who have many children and those who only have one, since "mother's love cannot be measured, it simply grows and strengthens." There are mothers who have



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

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith  
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to raise their children alone, due to life circumstances; there are those who have to become migrants together with their children, leaving the place where they were born and going to unknown lands in search of a better future; there are those who cannot see their children because of the distance; others have to work a large part of the day, "because they have decided to sacrifice that family time for a better

future for their family, and for society itself." Sometimes they have to entrust the care of their children to the other parent, or they have to turn to their grandmothers, who thus continue the work of mothers, with so much love for their grandchildren.

In this panorama, there are mothers who have lost their children, unemployed mothers, or those "who have to carry out sometimes degrading jobs in order

to obtain daily sustenance," mothers who have suffered the death of a child, "a pain that remains forever." "There are mothers who have lost their child in the womb, voluntarily or involuntarily, and there are mothers that society could consider successful in a professional sense, but who have to face the daily sacrifice of not being present in everything they would like to be with their children."


There are an endless number of professions, from the factory to commerce, from transportation to public safety,

from medicine to teaching, "in which mothers are involved, not only for family benefit, but to enrich society with their feminine and motherly vision." We must value and respect them all, "because their work as mothers means that human society does not disappear from the face of the earth." Entrusting them to Mary Most Holy, the editorial concludes with an appeal. "Let us never forget the great social and human work that a mother does."

*Article from FIDES missionary news service of the Pontifical Mission Societies.*

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# STRENGTHENING the CHURCH AT HOME

Home mission dioceses across the country face similar challenges: small Catholic populations, great distances between parishes, and economic hardships that make it difficult for parishes to meet the pastoral needs of their communities. In northern Alabama's Diocese of Birmingham, for instance, one parish is the only Catholic church in its county. Another parish affected by high unemployment and underemployment lacks resources to pay for youth ministry and parish

activities. Despite these economic challenges, the diocese is committed to forming disciples in the parishes and providing quality education to poor and minority students.

Support from Catholic Home Missions makes the day-to-day ministries of these parishes possible through grants to the diocese for parish operations, training of parish catechetical leaders, youth ministry support, and one-on-one attention to help struggling Catholic school pupils

succeed in their education.

When you support the Catholic Home Missions Appeal, your contribution helps dioceses like Birmingham keep their parishes open and available to meet the pastoral needs of their communities.

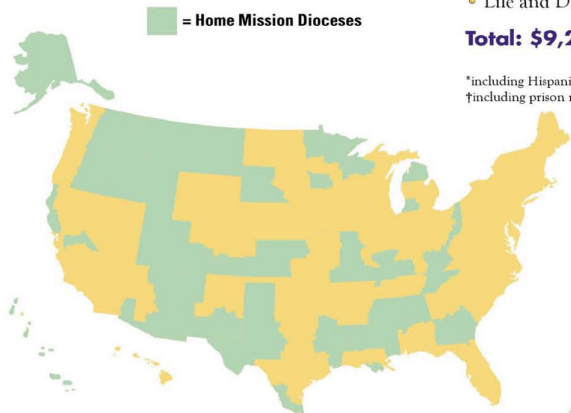
For more information about the Catholic home missions, visit [www.usccb.org/home-missions](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions).

SPECIAL COLLECTION TO BE HELD THE WEEKEND OF MAY 27 & 28, 2023

### What Is a Home Mission Diocese?

Home mission dioceses are those Catholic dioceses in the United States, its territories, and former territories that cannot provide basic pastoral services without outside help. Basic pastoral services include Mass, the sacraments, religious education, and ministry training for priests, deacons, religious sisters, and laypeople. Nearly 40% of dioceses in the United States and its territories are considered home missions.

### WHERE DOES YOUR SUPPORT GO?



#### Totals by Program Area

• Diocesan and Parish Assistance	\$3,410,000
• Faith Formation	\$2,505,000
• Priestly and Religious Vocations	\$2,017,500
• Cultural Ministries*	\$715,000
• Strengthening Marriage and Family Life	\$485,000
• Life and Dignity of the Human Person†	\$150,000

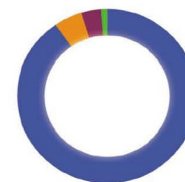
**Total: \$9,282,500**

\*including Hispanic and other ethnic and cultural ministries  
†including prison ministries and ministries for persons with disabilities



• Grants and Donations	\$8,084,200
• Program Costs	\$432,593
• Promotions and Fundraising Expenses	\$336,841
• Administrative Expenses	\$81,035

**Total Expenses: \$8,934,669**



CHMA FINANCIALS 2021



### CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL

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