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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 78 Number 12

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

JUNE 21, 2023

CORPUS CHRISTI



On Sunday, June 11, Father Medenel Angrand, sacramental minister/supervisory priest, and Deacon Brian Dwyer, pastoral life coordinator, led St. Mary's of the Fort Church in Fort Covington, in a Eucharistic procession through the streets surrounding St. Mary's Church. More than 50 people took part in the Corpus Christi procession, which took place immediately following the 11 a.m. Mass. Altars were set up in the yards of three parishioners and, at each altar, Father Medenel incensed the Blessed Sacrament, Scripture was read, and a hymn was sung. Those who were unable to join the procession prayed in the church until Father Medenel returned with the Blessed Sacrament and gave Benediction. (Left photo) Kevin McCullough, seminarian assigned to St. Mary's (Fort Covington), St. Francis of Assisi (Constable) and St. Patrick's (Chateaugay) parish communities this summer, and Jasmine Leroux carry incense, followed by Father Medenel Angrand, carrying the monstrance. (Right photo) Father Angrand incenses the Blessed Sacrament during the Corpus Christi procession.

No NCC next week

The *North Country Catholic* will begin its summer schedule next week. There will be no NCC the week of June 28. The next edition will be dated July 5.

TWIN PRIESTS HIT MILESTONES



On May 6, Father Douglas Decker celebrated his 45th anniversary as a priest. On May 7, his twin brother, Father Robert Decker, celebrated his 40th anniversary. Father Doug noted that between them that makes for 85 years of priestly service, and the Fathers' Decker continue to joyfully share God's love with others.

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

And the award goes to....

On Friday, June 9, a second-place award in its annual Catholic Press Awards.

that the North Country Catholic had earned

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

Pope Francis returns to Vatican after surgery

By Hann ah Brockhaus
Catholic News Agency

(CNA) - Pope Francis was discharged from Rome's Gemelli Hospital to a round of applause on Friday after an eight-day stay following abdominal surgery.

He greeted hospital staff and other patients as he left the

hospital in a wheelchair June 16. Outside the building, the pope was asked how he was doing by media, to whom he said, "I'm still alive!"

After Francis left in his white Fiat 500, surgeon Dr. Sergio Alfieri told reporters, "The pope is well. He's better than before," according to the Associated Press.

According to the Vatican, Pope Francis will lead the Angelus on Sunday as usual and other audiences for the upcoming days will take place.

The pope's Wednesday morning audience with the public in St. Peter's Square on June 21 has been canceled, instead, "to safeguard the Holy Father's postoperative recovery."

Before returning to the Vatican on Friday, Francis stopped to pray in front of the Salus Populi Romani Marian icon.

The historic icon is kept in a chapel in the Basilica of St. Mary Major. Pope Francis has also stopped there after previous hospitalizations and visits the icon before and after every international trip.

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Don't drop it!

It brought me back to a different time in my life.

Nearly every workday, I grab a frozen coffee drink from a local fast-food establishment. When I approached the drive-thru window to pick up my drink on Tuesday, I saw a young woman using a spoon to get the coffee from the blender to the cup, place a cap on the cup and promptly drop the spoon, trying to catch it as it tumbled to the ground.

She handed me my beverage with a smile but only after an exasperated sigh.

"You're doing great," I

said. "A dropped spoon isn't a big deal."

"I've been dropping things all day," she replied.

**Darcy L. Fargo**

That's when I thought of that period of my life.

"I get it," I said. "I was a waitress for years. I remember getting 'the drops.'"

"The drops," was something my coworkers and I talked about often when I worked as a server. It's like a

snowball effect. It starts when, as the name suggests, you drop something, usually a dish or a food item. Almost always, dropping something as a serv-

er creates more work. You have to replace the item that was dropped and/or clean up the mess. It can also be embarrassing, especially if it's a noisy drop or a drop that breaks dishes.

So that first drop makes you a bit frustrated. The result? You keep dropping things. It becomes a pattern. It becomes "the drops."

As I was thinking about "the drops" that afternoon, it occurred to me that I get "the drops" in my faith life, too. If I drop something in my faith life - I miss Mass, fall asleep before praying, skip my gratitude journal...- it's easy to keep dropping it.

It becomes a pattern. It becomes "the drops."

So, what's the cure for "the drops?"

When I was a waitress, I realized the cure was a bit dependent on the person, but it tended to involve "a reset." I'd go take a 5-minute break. I'd go work on side work (things like filling salt and pepper shakers) or find a distraction.

Now that I see this similar tendency in my faith life, I'll be looking for the resets. It'll likely include going to confession. It may include starting a new routine. It may include something God hasn't yet revealed to me.

And I hope I don't drop doing so.

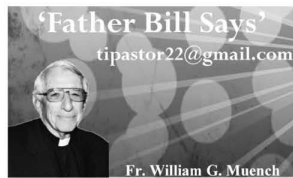
Blessed are... the Beatitudes

This week, the Gospel readings at each daily Mass will follow Jesus' Sermon on the Mount as it is recorded in the Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 5. Jesus begins this Sermon on the Mount with the Beatitudes (Matt 5:1-12).

I love the Beatitudes. I truly enjoy preaching and teaching about the Beatitudes. I did not learn The Beatitudes as a child. We spent more time on the Ten Commandments. Now, I far prefer the Beatitudes; they are so wonderfully positive in describing how we should live the Christian life. This is a powerful message of Our Lord Jesus.

I have written here about the Beatitudes often. I realize that I feel that when I need something to stir up my enthusiasm, I am certain it is time for the Beatitudes. Please join me as we spend some time with the Beatitudes.

The word Beatitude means a state of happiness or joy. Jesus taught the Beatitudes as the very



foundation for a life of authentic Christian discipleship. Jesus believed that the Beatitudes are the way to ultimate happiness. So, the Beatitudes.

"Blessed are the poor in spirit" is our realization of who we are. We are a people in need. We need our God. We must trust God to show us the way. The Holy Spirit has been sent to us to transform who we are.

"Blessed are they who mourn." Life is filled with experiences that bring sadness, experiences that break our hearts. We mourn, and that is good for us. When we mourn, we trust that our God is always ready to support us, to stand with us. God gives us the strength to react properly to such experiences of life.

"Blessed are the meek." Meekness is not about being weak. Rather, meekness is true humility. We must often realize that we need God, we depend on God rather than ourselves or the world. The Lord calls us to be gentle, even mild as we live our lives as disciples of the Lord. In this way, we demonstrate to others our faith, our Catholic faith.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness." We are challenged here as followers and disciples of Jesus that our efforts to live a good and Christian life must be as extreme as those who are so determined because they suffer from hunger and thirst.

"Blessed are the merciful." To be merciful means to show forgiveness and compassion to those in need. Jesus speaks many parables in the Gospels calling us to be merciful. Each time we recite the Lord's Prayer, we make the same commitment: "Forgive us our trespasses as

we forgive those who trespass against us."

"Blessed are the clean of heart." We are called to be so devoted to our God everyday, wanting to please him so that we may see his presence around us and recognize him while praying. We are called to accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior, allowing him to make his presence real and alive in our hearts.

"Blessed are the peacemakers." The peacemaker is quick to repent when he or she has wronged others. Peacemakers move to avoid conflict. We are called to be peacemakers as we make our world a better place, bringing gentleness and patience in our lives as we strive to imitate Jesus.

There is more in the Beatitudes. Jesus mentions a series of rewards to those who follow his Beatitudes. He mentions more to this dedication to the Beatitudes. I encourage you to discover the Beatitudes again by finding them in Matthew 5.



Knights of Columbus and their wives from the Watertown area at a previous pilgrimage to St. Anne's Shrine.

Knights host annual pilgrimage to Vermont shrine

On Sunday, July 16, Knights of Columbus from throughout the Diocese of Ogdensburg will participate in the 75th annual pilgrimage to St. Anne's Shrine in Isle LaMotte, Vermont.

Bishop Terry R. LaValley will celebrate Mass at 12:15 p.m.

Following Mass, the Peru K of C Council will serve a luncheon on the Shrine's grounds.

Dannemora K of C Council 2166 originated the pilgrimage as a council program in 1949. Interest in the day of prayer and fellowship gradually spread to neighboring councils. In 1959, the New York State Council began sponsoring the pilgrimage. During the pilgrimage's early years, knights from several communities formed a caravan of cars crossing the Rouses Point Bridge to Vermont in a line that stretched for miles.

Dedicated to St. Anne, the mother of Mary, the Shrine's religious history dates to 1666 when the French erected a fort and chapel on the site. The chapel was blessed in 1893, and a beautiful statue of St. Anne was erected. Later in 1893, nearly 2,000 people attended the Shrine's first organized pilgrimage, with several people traveling there by steamboat. Today, people still travel to the Shrine by boat.

Saint Anne's Shrine is a peaceful, spiritual, and historical attraction, which has been developed and maintained for the past 100 years by the Society of Saint Edmund. Father Brian Cummings SSE is the Shrine's Spiritual Director.

For more information, please call Pilgrimage Coordinator Gordon Burdo at 518-563-2796

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APRIL 13, 2022

Lessons from 'Leon the Lobster'

It was back in autumn when I saw the first video in the series included in the list of videos YouTube suggested for me.

The video was titled, "Keeping a Grocery Store Lobster as a Pet."

How could I pass that by?

So began the "Leon the Lobster" series.

As that first title in the series suggested, Leon is a lobster purchased from a grocery store. He now lives in a relatively large aquarium maintained by a hobby fish enthusiast. Every month or so, a video is posted highlighting some aspect or aspects of Leon's life - his feeding, how he cleans himself and his tank, how he handled a tank upgrade...

In the most recent video in the series, posted a couple weeks ago, Leon molted, shedding his old exoskeleton to accommodate his growth.

When he emerged from his old outer shell, Leon was much more vibrantly colored than he was before.

While the content creator/narrator noted the color change, something else caught his attention. Something else on Leon had changed.

Leon was now missing the marks that had been left on him by the rubber band that had been placed on his claws when he was caught and transported as part of the grocery supply chain.

The video's comment section was full of comments about Leon getting a new life and losing the scars of his past. I saw more than one that implied, "it would be nice if people could do that."

As I've moved through this latter portion of Lent and toward Holy Week and Easter, I've thought frequently about Leon the lobster and those comments.

Lobsters don't have a monopoly on shedding the scars of their pasts. Our Lord gave us that opportunity, too.

Over the last couple of weeks, I've seen numerous parishes offering opportunities to molt our sins and shame through the sacrament of reconciliation.

And that's before we even consider what we're about to celebrate this week: Christ dying on the cross for our sins and defeating death by rising to new life. His doing so gives us the promise of eternal life - life in which we will be made whole - free of the scars and wounds of our pasts - and live completely in his love and grace.

Leon the lobster can't compete with that.

From all of us at the North Country Catholic, we wish you a blessed Holy Week and Easter.

And the award goes to...

On Friday, June 9, the Catholic Media Association awarded the North Country Catholic a second-place award at its annual Catholic Media Conference in Baltimore, Maryland.

The award was in the category "Best Regular Column - Spiritual Life" for three of Editor Darcy Fargo's columns from 2022, "Lessons from 'Leon the Lobster,'" "Not a #BadCatholic" and "A flair for the dramatic."

"Columns from the editor are most often dry," the judges wrote for an entry in The Catholic Journalist, the Catholic Media Association's publication. "But in this case, they are fun, interesting and inciteful. I could read about 'Leon the Lobster' repeatedly. In fact, I did. The North Country Catholic has a gem in Darcy Fargo, especially when reading about her "Darcy Drama and #Growing Catholic."

Entries in the Best Regular Column category include three different articles. Judges focus on the overall effectiveness of the columns submitted. Both digital and print publications of all sizes compete in the category.

"I'm very honored to receive this award," said Fargo. "It's a blessing to

share my faith with the Diocese of Ogdensburg through the pages of the North Country Catholic. It's helped me grow my faith in ways I never imagined. Being recognized for that work is like a bonus gift."

The North Country Catholic has garnered many accolades and awards from the Catholic Press Association in recent years,



including an honorable mention for vocations coverage in 2016; first place for a series, "God's Mercy in God's Country" and an honorable mention for best weekly paper under 25,000 circulation in 2017; a first place award in 2020 for a story, "Finding faith in a forlorn tress," and a third place for Fargo's columns on the pandemic in 2021.

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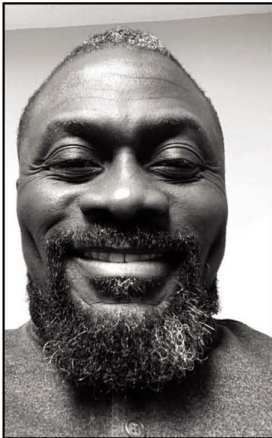
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MEET THE 2023 CAMP GUGGENHEIM STAFF



Venes Laine
Counselor

Hometown: Morrisonville
Parish:
St. Alexander's, Morrisonville

What are your hobbies/talents/interests?

I am a sportive guy who likes to play soccer and volleyball. Whenever I have any free time I do some readings and socializing with those who are around me. I like to learn new things because that opens doors to appreciate the efforts of other people. Finally my interests are being with people and teaching them the goodness of God.

Why did you want to work at Camp Guggenheim?

I can say that Guggenheim is a very good environment for people to learn and enjoy the companionship of each other. This is a good place that involves you to sharing your gifts to others. I want to work at Camp Guggenheim because I like to deal with younger people in order to teach them how to play soccer and volleyball and to be willing to teach them the word of God also and as well as to any other areas which I am needed to help out.



Hope Switzer
Counselor

Hometown: Ogdensburg
Parish:
St. Mary's Cathedral Parish

What are your hobbies/talents/interests?

My hobbies including swimming, going on walks and hikes, crocheting, and bible study. I have always loved swimming and being in nature. I've gotten more into crocheting this past year and even started my own Esty where I sell crocheted animals. I enjoy reading and exploring different parts of the bible especially with my family and friends.

Why did you want to work at Camp Guggenheim?

Growing up I looked forward to going to camp every summer and even counted down the days. Ever sense the first year I went it has had a special place in my heart and I love sharing that love for camp with new and returning campers. I'm so excited to be on staff for my second year and to get the opportunity to sharing the word of God with all the campers and staff



Keiler MacNeal
Counselor

Hometown: Amsterdam, New York
Parish:
St. Mary's Parish, Amsterdam

What are your hobbies/talents/interests?

Some of my hobbies include hiking, reading, and playing chess. I also quite enjoy juggling, and spend a lot of time coding and even more time breaking code.

Why did you want to work at Camp Guggenheim?

I had been a camper since the first year I was old enough back in 2016. I've frequently reflected on the special uniqueness camp brings, and ever since that first year I knew I wanted to someday impart this feeling on the next generation of campers. I love both learning and teaching about the faith, and I am forever blessed to be provided this opportunity to do exactly this with the 2023 Camp Guggenheim Campers!

Registration for Camp Guggenheim is still open!
Visit rcdony.org/youth/camp

Combined 85 years

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

and Air Force National Guard in Syracuse, New York.

"This added another dimension to my priesthood, I encountered wonderful young families and children," Father Doug related.

Then, he served as pastor at St. Cecilia's (Adams) from 1997-2010. Next, he was named pastor of St. Alphonsus-Holy Name of Jesus Parish (Tupper Lake) and now currently serves as pastor at Lowville, Glenfield, and Houseville.

Father Doug recounted a few adventures in his priesthood too. When he was stationed as parochial vicar at St. Patrick's in Watertown their housekeeper Hilda liked to go out for dinner and dancing with the priests on holidays.

One New Year's the priests were ready to return to the rectory, and Hilda stayed out later with her friends. At 2 a.m., the rectory doorbell rang. Father Doug went downstairs to see who could be at the door at that hour of the morning. Father Doug opened the door and it was Hilda, flanked by police. (The pastor had called them thinking it was an intruder!) It turned out that someone had taken the key from its hiding

place and Hilda couldn't get in.

Another time, in Tupper Lake, a set of triplets - Amber, Brandon, and Colby Boudreau - became altar servers.

"Servers love to play with fire and candles," Father Doug joked.

The candles got a little too close to the deacon whose alb caught on fire.

"People were slapping him on the back and trying to put the fire out while the congregation was singing 'Holy, Holy, Holy.'"

The Fathers' Decker are looking forward to serving as priests for many years to come. Their parents lived into their late 90s. Father Bob took his mother home and cared for her during the last two years of her life, saying it was "such a blessing." The twins would take her to the old farm house where they grew up on their days off.

"She was as good of a Catholic as there ever was," Father Doug recalled.

"Vocations are in God's hands," Father Doug reflected. "It's a matter of listening for direction in life, direction that is far more reliable."

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Environmental Stewardship

Write a letter

Some musing following a meeting after viewing Pope Francis' THE LETTER: Environmental Crisis Frontline Leaders are shared by a member of the Watertown Faith and Ecology Group:

- Gathering rather than meeting
- Reflecting rather than reporting
- A cadre not just a group
- Letters not notices
- Inspiring not informing
- Connecting not collecting
- Imagining more than thinking

Pope Francis began urging us in "Laudato Si" to put out the fire that is rapidly ravishing the planet given to us by God, our Creator. We must continue our pope's method of "letter writing" and see it as the vehicle for action and change. I do not mean here literal letter writing. I mean instead the choosing of intimate, personal, tactile engagement and not merely a virtual way of communicating.

We need to act from the place of faith found in Matthew 22:37. Yes, loving God with all our hearts, all our souls, and all our minds, and then loving our neighbors as we love ourselves – this is the ONLY WAY we can save our planet.

Perform an energy audit; recycle; use less water, less paper, less gas; stop buying only new; learn to unplug devices; walk more; compost more. The list of significant actions to take grows longer, but we must write our own letters to the world also.

I believe we are a cadre who share a unifying mission, but can we discern how to touch the world around us? What will be in our letters? To whom shall we send them?

My musings are my first letter. In hope and longing, we must imagine what is not yet real. We must love God and dare to follow in the footsteps of St. Francis by adopting what Pope Francis calls "an integral ecology lived out joyfully and authentically."

The Transcendental Truths keep repeating like a favorite song as I prayerfully walk through my day: Truth. Goodness. Beauty. Woven into the fabric of each soul. I can think of no more powerful connections to this essential letter writing.

With Love and Eternal Hope,

Maureen O'Connor
Faith & Ecology Group

To Report Abuse

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

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. Upcoming sessions:

June 22 – 2 p.m. – St. Agnes School, Lake Placid

June 24 – 10 a.m., Camp Guggenheim, Saranac Lake

June 26 – 10 a.m. – Department of Christian Formation, Plattsburgh

5 p.m. – St. Peter's Church, Lowville

6 p.m. – St. Mary's Church, Clayton

Bishop's Public Schedule

June 21 – 11 a.m. – Meeting with the Deans of the Diocese of Ogdensburg followed by Lunch at Bishop's Residence

June 22 – 11 a.m. – Meeting with the Heralds of Good News followed by Lunch at Bishop's Residence

7 p.m. – Mass followed by a Graduation Ceremony for the Seniors of St. Mary's School at St. Mary's Church in Ticonderoga

June 23 – 5 p.m. – Annual Knight of the Year Banquet at Martin Field Club in Ogdensburg

June 24 – 11 a.m. – Confirmation at St. Regis Mission in Hogsburg

June 25 – 3 p.m. – Lay Ministry Commissioning at St. Mary's Cathedral

June 27 – 10:30 a.m. – Diocesan Finance Council Meeting at Bishop's Residence followed by Lunch

June 28 – Noon – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral followed by a visit and picnic at Bishop's Residence with the Home Schooled Children and their Parents

June 29 – Noon – Lunch with Our Local Legislators and the Diocesan Public Policy Committee at Bishop's Residence

June 30 – 10 a.m. – Gathering of the Diocesan Prison Chaplains at Bishop's Residence followed by lunch

July 2 – 8:30 a.m. – Mass at St. Philip Neri Church in Westport

10:30 a.m. – Mass at The Catholic Community of St. Philip of Jesus and St. Joseph in Willsboro

Rest in Peace

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

June 21 – Rev. Joseph T. Moriority, O.S.A., 1905; Msgr. Joseph F. Luker, 1972

June 23 – Rev. Edward Chevalier, O.M.I., 1894; Rev. Donat Morrisette, O.M.I., 1976

June 24 – Rev. John Simard, 1943; Msgr. Timothy P. Holland, 1948; Rev. Joseph P. Ryan, 1968; Rev. W. Cyril Rapin, 2006

June 25 – Rev. J. Rodrigue Lauzon, 1944

June 26 – Rev. Charles F. Turgeon, 1888; Rev. Jean Baptiste Frigon, O.M.I., 1930; Rev. Arthur St. Cyr, O.M.I., 1957

June 27 – Rev. Auguste A. Brunet, O.M.I., 1866; Rev. Francis X. Charbonneau, 1928

June 28 – Rev. John J. Regnery, O.S.A., 1954

June 29 – Rev. Pierre Huet de la Valiniere, 1806; Rev. Adonat L. Dufresne, 1940; Rev. Gilbert J. Faucher, 1981; Deacon Francis E. LeRoux, 1996

June 30 – Rev. George F. Maroun, 2016

July 1 – Rev. Norbert Callahan, M.S.C., 1909; Rev. William A. O'Connor, 1922; Rev. P. Leon Legault, 1991

July 2 – Rev. Richard A. Gleason, O.S.A., 1939; Rev. Denis F. Finnegan, 1951; Msgr. John A. Stone, 1964; Msgr. Francis J. Connors, 1977; Rev. George A. Lemieux, 1993; Rev. John M. Crable, 2012; Deacon Francis F. Bateman, 2019; Rev. Peter M. Berg, 2022

July 3 – Rev. E. Leonard Murphy, 1954

July 4 – Rev. Joseph L. St. Jacques, 1952

NY AG sues pro-life group

By Tyler Arnold
Catholic News Agency

Pro-life activists are accusing New York Attorney General Letitia James of intimidation and suppressing free speech after the attorney general sued a pro-life group and asked the court to bar members from going within 30 feet of an abortion clinic.

The lawsuit, filed in the United States District Court of the Southern District of New York on June 8, targets the activist group Red Rose Rescue. The group's members sometimes enter abortion clinics to discourage women from obtaining an abortion and provide them with resources that could help them through their pregnancy.

James is asking the court to ban any member, including five who are named as defendants, from coming within 30 feet of any abortion clinic or reproductive health care facility in New York.

"This lawsuit is a politically motivated attack on free speech, freedom of religion, and natural law," Bernadette Patel, who is mentioned in the lawsuit but not named as a defendant, told CNA.

John Hinshaw, one of the activists named as a defendant, told CNA he believes the lawsuit is intended to intimidate pro-life activists and suppress their activities.

"New York has a pro-life movement that isn't going to be intimidated and hasn't been yet," Hinshaw said.

Bishops discuss forming 'Eucharistic missionaries,' synodality at meeting

By Laretta Brown
Catholic News Agency

During the first public session of their spring meeting in Orlando, Florida, the U.S. bishops discussed spreading the love of the Eucharist as part of their three-year Eucharistic Revival initiative, the Holy Father's emphasis on synodality, and the ways in which the two are connected as they heard updates on both efforts.

Synodality and the Eucharist

The morning opened with an address from apostolic nuncio to the United States, Archbishop Christophe Pierre, who told the bishops assembled that "the synodal path is less about a 'program' and more about a way of being Church."

Pierre said synodality is not like GPS technology with turn-by-turn directions but more like a compass where "Jesus Christ and his kingdom are the 'true north,'" and "to find the proper path, we have to immerse ourselves in the reality of our people and listen carefully to the questions and concerns of their hearts."

He also referred to "living the Eucharist as mission" as a guideline for understanding "the synodal style that Jesus has modeled for us, and which the Holy Father is calling us to adopt." He called the Eucharist "a dynamic sacrament, imbuing everything we do with the character of Christ's outgoing love for his people" because it is Christ's real presence.

Pierre said that the Eucharistic Revival "is a call to let the entirety of our lives be an expression of the Lord's presence among us: a living-out of the union that exists between our humanity, which Christ has taken to himself, and the divinity into which he leads us."

He also emphasized the need for the revival to have a missionary character. "To teach the doctrine of the real presence, to promote eucharistic adoration, and to take Our Lord in procession: These initiatives will undoubtedly bear fruit in the lives of the faithful," he said, "but the fruit will multiply only if the faithful learn that the Eucharist which they receive

is meant to make them missionaries — who take the presence of Christ, which is now in them, to people who do not yet know the Lord."

Update on Eucharistic Revival

Bishop Andrew Cozzens of the Diocese of Crookston, Minnesota, who is heading up the Eucharistic Revival effort, provided the bishops with an update on the initiative Thursday morning. He named some of the successes of its first year, including that 81% of dioceses have designated a point person for the revival, eucharistic preachers have held over 100 revival events in dioceses across the country, and almost 11,000 prayer partners have committed to praying for the revival.

Cozzens also discussed the planning of a two-month National Eucharistic Pilgrimage starting in May 2024 with four major pilgrimage routes ending at the National Eucharistic Congress on July 16, 2024, in Indianapolis, which will be the culmination of the three-year effort.

The bishop called the revival "a generational moment for us," saying the effort is "really a moment where we can call the Church from all corners of the United States together to be set on fire for mission." His image of the event, he said, was people coming in from all over the country "and then being set on fire by their experience here and then those torches going back to parishes across the country."

New USCCB president address

In his first address in his new leadership role, USCCB president Archbishop Timothy Broglio of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA, praised the Eucharistic Revival, calling it "an attempt on our part to announce the truth about the mystery of the Eucharist and the real presence of Our Lord and Savior, body, blood, soul, and divinity."

Broglio touched on other important causes for the U.S. bishops in his speech, including the encouragement of "well-intentioned lawmakers who are seeking to enact effective and humane border management as part of a framework of comprehensive immigration reforms."

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

U.S. bishops urge Congress to support affordable housing

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) is urging Congress to support affordable housing measures as high rates of inflation continue to cause increasing housing and rent costs for American families. Archbishop Borys Gudziak, who serves as the chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, sent a letter to House and Senate Appropriations Committee leadership, which outlined the USCCB's policies. The letter was also signed by Catholic Charities USA Vice President of Government Relations Anthony Granado. "Robust investments in federal housing programs equip families and communities with the resources they need to thrive," the letter reads. "...A just framework for future budgets cannot rely on disproportionate cuts in essential services to poor and other vulnerable persons. It requires shared sacrifice by all, including raising adequate revenues, eliminating unnecessary spending, and addressing the long-term costs of health insurance and retirement programs fairly." The letter cautions that housing makes up a large portion of family budgets, with about 10.7 million low-income renters spending more than half of their income on housing costs.

Franciscans return to Walter Reed after contract controversy

Franciscan priests will again serve as chaplains and ministers at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Maryland after their contract went unrenewed in favor of a private defense contractor, provoking an outcry from prominent Catholics. "Of course, it is a source of great joy that the Franciscans have returned to the medical center and care for patients and staff there," Archbishop Timothy Broglio of the Archdiocese for Military Services, USA, said in a Thursday statement. The Franciscan priests and friars of Holy Name College Friary of Silver Spring, Maryland, had served at Walter Reed for 20 years, typically providing a team of five friars six days a week to minister to patients. The U.S. Defense Health Agency now has awarded a five-year annually renewable contract to the friars to resume their service. Their longtime ministry was interrupted two months ago when the friars' contract for pastoral services expired on March 31, just before Holy Week.

UN Security Council discusses pope, imam's fraternity proposal

The U.N. Security Council convened a high-level briefing on Wednesday to discuss the role of "human fraternity" in promoting peace, inspired by the fraternity declaration co-authored by Pope Francis and a leading Sunni imam. U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres told the council on June 14 to look to the human fraternity declaration signed by the pope and the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar Al-Sharif, Ahmed Al-Tayeb, in Abu Dhabi in 2019 as "a model for compassion and human solidarity." Following the briefing on June 14, the security council unanimously adopted a resolution condemning hate speech, racism, gender discrimination, and acts of extremism that was co-authored by the United Arab Emirates and the U.K.

ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN

SUMMER FESTIVAL

Plattsburgh – Holy Cross Parish to have a summer festival.

Date: June 25

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

Place: St. Peter's Church grounds

Features: Children's games are free. Festival Food! Parish raffle plus big raffle item of a 48" John Deere Mower.

Contact: For more information call the parish office at 518-563-0730.

CLINTON NORTHERN FRANKLIN

HOUSE SITTERS

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

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

Features: Lunch and snack items on hand along with tea, coffee, soda, and bottled water. Training will be provided on the history of the House of Prayer, its mission, and the various ways to carry out this gentle ministry of hospitality for those seeking time in a home of Mary to listen to our Lord, browse in the library, or visit the "Gift Shop". Flexible schedule (and hours) are fine.

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

JEFFERSON-LEWIS

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

Lowville – St. Peter's Church to have a Strawberry Festival.

Date: June 21

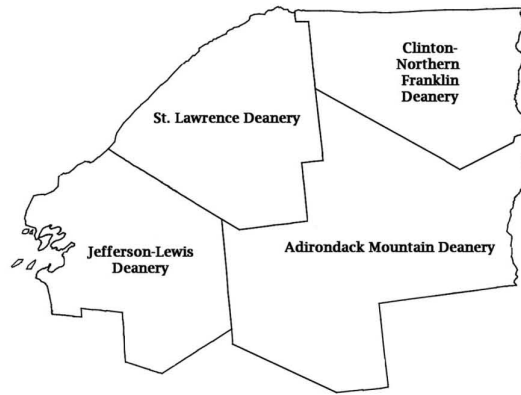
Time: 5 p.m. to 7

Place: St. Peter's Basement

Features: Strawberry Shortcake, Strawberry Sundae, French Strawberry Pie, Strawberry Rhubarb Pie, hamburgers, hot dogs, and sausages. We will have tricky trays (Silent Auction), too.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Watertown – St. Anthony's Altar



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.

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

and Rosary will hold a spaghetti dinner.

Date: June 22

Time: 4 p.m. to 7

Place: Sechi Hall

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

Features: Take-outs available.

Please bring your own containers.

MT. CARMEL FEAST

Watertown – Join us for the 105th Mt. Carmel Festival.

Date: June 23, 24 and 25

Place: St. Anthony's Church

Schedule: Music Saturday 6 p.m.

to 9 'Customer Service'; Sunday 6

p.m. to 9 'Ferguson and Rogers'.

Grounds open 5 p.m. to 10 Friday;

1 p.m. to 10 Saturday and Sunday.

Sunday-5 p.m. Procession and

9:30 p.m. giant fireworks!!

Features: Your favorite Italian food- homemade -. fried dough, Sausage torpedos, pizza and delicious Italian cookies and pastries. Rides and games for the kids.

EXPOSITION AND CHAPLET

Houseville - Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament and the Divine Mercy Chaplet will be observed.

Date: July 2

Time: after the 11 a.m. Mass

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Features: All are welcome

Contact: 315-348-6260 for more information.

ST. MARY'S GALA AND RAFFLE

Clayton – St. Mary's Church to have their annual Gala and raffle.

Date: Aug. 5

Time: 5:30 p.m. to 10

Place: Crown Arena at the Town of Clayton Recreational Park

Features: Your \$100 ticket is good for dinner for 2 and 2 drinks and enters you in all drawings.

Contact: For more information and tickets, contact St. Mary's parish office at 521 James Street,

ST. LAWRENCE

Clayton or 315-686-3398.

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

Features: Coffee and donuts after service in the parish center

Contact: Bob Brothers at 315-842-2886

CHICKEN BBQ

Canton – St. Mary's Church to have 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

FEAST OF STS. PETER & PAUL

South Colton – Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul to be held.

Date: June 28

Time: 6 p.m.

Place: St. Paul's Oratory

Features: Vigil Mass, procession to Sacred Heart Shrine, Ice cream social.

ROSARY WITH DEVOTIONS

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

Date: July 1

Time: 8 a.m.

Place: Notre Dame Church, Ogdensburg

Features: Rosary with devotions

PATRIOTIC ROSARY

Ogdensburg - The Legion of Mary will host a patriotic rosary.

Date: July 4

Time: 7:45 a.m., before daily Mass

Place: St. Mary's Cathedral

Features: This lovely prayer will include patriotic music, prayers for our country, as well as prayer for our elected officials and for the citizens of each individual state.

MONTHLY BRUNCH

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

Date: July 9 (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

DIOCESAN EVENTS

315-212-5166.

SURVIVING DIVORCE

The Family Life Office is offering the Surviving Divorce Program in

Plattsburgh.

Date: 12 weeks starting Aug. 30th

Place: St. John the XXIII Newman Center

Time: 6 p.m. to 8

Features: Surviving Divorce features twelve video presentations that cover topics such as shock and grief, anger and forgiveness, money issues, dealing with children and a former spouse, and annulment and remarriage. This program is for the newly separated and divorced and those still struggling with issues many years later. It will help them find answers to their questions, restore their hope, and begin authentic healing.

Contact: To register, go to <https://www.rcdony.org/survivingdivorce>. For more information, contact Steve Tartaglia at 315-393-2920.

HOMESCHOOLING MASS AND PICNIC

Ogdensburg – Bishop LaValley cordially invites all home schooled children and their parents to noon Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg followed by a visit and picnic at his residence.

Date: June 28

Time: Noon

Place: Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral, picnic at 624 Washington Street

Contact: Please RSVP to Renee Grizzuto, Bishop's Secretary at (315) 605-1093 or rgrizzuto@rcdony.org by June 19.

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: Arts and crafts, Project Adventure, Liturgy, rappelling,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

ON BOOKSHELVES

"THE POCKET GUIDE TO NOVENAS"

By **Francesca Pollio Fenton**
Catholic News Agency

A new book from Ascension is inspiring Catholics to experience the power of novenas with a pocket guide to dive deeper into this traditional form of prayer.

"Pocket Guide to Novenas" by Annie and John-Paul Deddens offers readers a look into where these 9-day prayers came from, how to pray them, and what to expect when praying them.

The new pocket guide includes 20 novenas, 14 of which are newly written, an introduction to each novena, sacred art, inspirational stories from Catholics who have had their prayers answered through a novena, and a schedule for when to pray these particular novenas throughout the year.

First-time authors and married couple Annie and John-Paul Deddens spoke with CNA about their personal experiences seeing the power of novenas at work in their marriage and daily lives. A novena even played a part in bringing the two together.

Annie explained that the no-

vena to St. Anne - the name given to the Virgin Mary's mother in the Catholic tradition - was the first novena she ever prayed. She heard several women say they met their fiancés after praying for St. Anne's intercession for a spouse. This moved Annie to find a novena to the saint. She began to pray it every morning at a local chapel.

"While I left that chapel every morning, I remember noticing a guy praying in one of the last pews in the back, and I thought to myself, 'I'd like to meet someone like him, who is also starting his day in prayer,'" she recalled.

"Very shortly after finishing the St. Anne Novena, I met John-Paul, and it turned out that he was the guy I had been seeing all along in the very back of the chapel while praying the novena," she added. "So we attribute St. Anne's intercession to us meeting one another."

In addition to being authors, the Deddens' are also the creators of the popular website and social media platform PrayMoreNovenas, an online ministry that helps people re-

discover the beauty of praying novenas and sends daily emails to participants so that they can stay up-to-date on their chosen novena.

John-Paul shared how the site came to fruition saying, "While we were dating, Annie asked me to pray a novena with her. I turned her down. You see, my experience with novenas wasn't great. I started several but I had never finished one!"

"I realized that I was constantly checking my email throughout the day and that if I had the prayers right there in front of me that I would probably finally finish a novena," he said. "I created the website PrayMoreNovenas.com to help others who had the same difficulty and we've since received thousands of messages from people who finally finished their first novena using Pray More Novenas!"

Now, they hope to continue to encourage Catholics around the world to spend more time in prayer through their "Pocket Guide to Novenas."

"Helping people pray novenas has been the heart of our ministry...for many years,"

Annie said. "We wrote the [the book] to further help people pray novenas and hopefully grow closer to the Lord through each prayer. We love novenas and we hope they will become a beloved devotion for others in their prayer lives."

She continued, "While novenas aren't a required devotion in the Faith, they're a simple and beautiful way to spend just a little more time in prayer each day. The daily novena prayer might take just a couple of minutes a day, and it can help us to reflect on the lives of the saints or the life of Christ or our Blessed Mother, and to ask for their intercession in our lives."

Some of the new novenas included in the book are the Novena to St. John Paul II, the Novena to St. Louis and Zelig Martin, the Novena to Christ the King, as well as several traditional novenas including the Divine Mercy Novena and the Surrender Novena.

John-Paul added that he hopes their book "will bring people closer to Christ, leading them in conversation and relationship with the Lord."

Around the diocese

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

cer. Guggenheim has its very own beach where you can swim, ride watercrafts and play watersports. Evenings at camp are packed with fun activities like bonfire time, a dance, and camp-wide games.

Contact: To sign up for camp please visit: www.rcdony.org/youth/camp or call, Jeannie Grizuto at 315-393-2290 ext. 1413. Deadline is June 21!

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 sttartaglia@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 dimen-

sions 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.

Contact: For more information and to register, go to www.rcdony.org/family-life/fg.html or contact Steve Tartaglia at 315-393-2920, sttartaglia@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

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SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

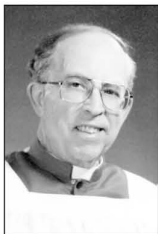
Considering evil

Today's first reading gives us an amazing insight into the anger and discouragement of the prophet Jeremiah. No one seems to be listening to him. Furthermore, the king and all his friends have denounced him, flogged him publicly and threatened him with death! Jeremiah, in turn, after accusing God of dealing with him deceitfully, decides to quit.

Struggling with his feelings, he finally admits that he can't quit because God's word is

burning like fire in his bones. He knows God will not desert him, and that his enemies will eventually be brought to justice.

From the time of Jeremiah and the other Old Testament prophets right through the days of the apostles and martyrs of the New Covenant, and, indeed right up to the present day, those who preach the Word of God have met with opposition and violence from evil people. Today, there are 200 million Christians suf-



Monsignor Paul E. Whitmore

June 25

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

READINGS

Jeremiah 20:10-13

Romans 5:12-15

Matthew 10:26-33

fering persecution in places like China, Iran, North Korea, Uganda the Ukraine, and at least 40 other countries.

Why such violent reaction to the "Good News" from those deemed by the Precious Blood of Jesus? Why do many blasphemously say that they are killing Christians as an act of worship to God? It's because of original sin!

Today's second reading from the Epistle of Paul to the Romans clearly states the doctrine of the Catholic Church concerning original sin.

In other words, Satan maliciously released the power of evil into the world through the disobedience of Adam and Eve. That evil has infected every person born (except Mary because God chose to exempt her, and Jesus, because He was divine as well as human).

This doesn't mean that those who kill Christians aren't responsible for their own actions, but only that evil exists in the form

of original sin, and that the battle between good and evil isn't over yet!

Evil is something to be feared. But Jesus, in today's Gospel, tells his followers, "Fear no one."

He teaches further, "And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul." Is there anyone we should fear? Yes, "...the one who can kill both the soul and the body in Gehenna."

God tells us not to be afraid of suffering for our faith, for those who are faithful in speaking right out loud in praise of God's truth, will share with Him the final victory!

CALLED TO SERVE

Why don't deacons wear a Roman collar?

This is the last, I pray, column about deacon garb for a year or so. It is a subject that seems to pop up regularly, mostly among dacons.

From time-to-time some deacons and maybe a lay person or two, wonder about deacon's wearing dalmatics (we covered that last week) and collars. Specifically in this diocese (Ogdensburg) it is a question of why we do not wear the Roman Collar when we go about our day-to-day activities.

Canon law, directives from the Conference of US Bishops and traditions in this diocese appear to dictate the rules for dressing. I looked in the Diocese of Ogdensburg Pastoral Handbook for some guidance, but the handbook is moot on this question.

That is not a criticism. The authors just did not think the subject of priest's and deacon's garb worth a paragraph.

How the priest should dress is covered in Canon Law.

Canon 288 specifically unbinds "permanent deacons" from those statutes "unless particular law (that means local) establishes otherwise."

The argument some of my brother deacons put forth is that deacons should be allowed to wear collars in certain places or on certain occasions as a way of identifying them as clergy.

Some of you have heard my story about the time I was visiting a fellow from my Watertown parish at a Syracuse hospital. I was

wearing a blazer over a button-down shirt, but I had a deacon lapel pin on.

As I came around a corner in the corridor, an older lady in a wheelchair called out to me, "Hey, are you a priest?"

"No," I responded. "I am a deacon."

She indignantly waved me off and uttered a derisive "Ahhhhh."

It was a moment that brought things into perspective. I was humbled.

Had I been wearing a collar, my answer would have been the same, "I am a deacon."

I suspect the response from the lady would have been the same too.

Deacons who work as

prison chaplains wear the collar to distinguish them from incarcerated people and Corrections Officers.

Some hospital chaplains, if they are deacons, can wear the collar too.

Canon Law says deacons are not bound by statutes that require them to wear certain outfits at certain times. That means they could wear collars.

The bishops of the US have left that decision to the local bishop.

Since Bishop Stanislaus Brzana restored the diaconate in this diocese in the 1970s, deacons have not worn a Roman Collar in their everyday activity (save

prison and some hospital chaplains.)

Bishop Terry R. LaValley was not speaking just to the issue of collars when he addressed three men at their ordination recently, but his comments are appropriate in this discussion about collars.

"Don't become focused on externals, in the trappings of office rather than your interior life. We need holy leaders to lead and accompany the faithful in our time of moral crisis."

I should have asked the lady in the wheelchair if I could help, rather than blush.

Deacon Kevin Mastellon ministers in Watertown.

He is the Director of Permanent Deacons for the Diocese of Ogdensburg.



Deacon Kevin Mastellon



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

Cholera in Haiti

Please join us in praying for the people of Haiti as they struggle with natural disasters, disease, and the lingering effects of the pandemic.

“Every day brings new suffering. Unfortunately, for years, when one speaks of Haiti, one thinks of a country in disaster: economic, ecological, political, demographic,” said Father Nestor Fils-Aimé, provincial superior of Canada of the Clerics of Saint Viator (CSV), told Fides. “Unfortunately, every time one talks about this country, even though it is rich in natural and human resources and with a beautiful history, crises, emergencies and violence are denounced.” The missionary referred in particular to the recent events of this week in June, when the country was hit by landslides, floods and repeated earthquakes and is currently experiencing a renewed increase in cholera cases.

“The first days of June were difficult,” the religious continued. “Heavy torrential rains caused the water to rise and caused flooding with consequent material damage and loss of life in the metropolitan region of Port-au-Prince, in the areas of Croix-des-Missions, Tabarre, etc., as well as in the south of country, in the districts of Léogâne and Grand’Anse near Jérémie. According to conservative estimates, there could be around 60 dead, 20 missing and between 35 and 40,000 flooded houses... In addition, a magnitude 5.7 (earthquake) which hit Grand’Anse on June 6 caused the death of at least four people and more than 40 are feared injured.”

“It is a great challenge for us,” emphasizes Father Fils-Aimé. “We always dream of improvement, but it is slow to come. However, we remain optimistic and continue to act with the same faith and determination to create spaces of light, of joy and hope.”

The order’s institutions are not directly affected. The missionaries run a school and look after a parish in Croix-des-Bouquets, a neighborhood near Croix-des-Missions where Father Jean-Yves Médidor (CSV) was kidnapped last March. Fortunately, there was no considerable damage in the parish of St-François d’Assise in Grand-Goâve, which the Viatorians administer, about 60 kilometers south of the capital.

Unfortunately, Haitian health officials confirmed on Friday, June 9, that an outbreak of cholera in the Caribbean nation has already killed several hundred people. According to published data, the epidemic that first hit Haiti in October 2010, killed 10,174 people and since October 2022 726 people have died. In the period from October 10 last year to June 5, 2023, there were 45,248 suspected cases, 3007 confirmed cases, 41,557 hospitalizations. The average age of the hospitalized infected is 17 years.

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

OBITUARIES

Au Sable Forks – Margaret Mae (Nolan) Bombard, 82; Mass of Christian Burial June 13, 2023 at Holy Name Church; burial in Fairview Cemetery.

Bloomingdale – Dennis Lyle Salls, 80; Graveside services June 15, 2023 at St. Paul’s Cemetery.

Brushton – Kimberly Dawn Eva McMahan, 57; Mass of Christian Burial June 17, 2023 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Carthage – Diane M. Richardson, 74; Memorial Mass June 16, 2023 at St. James Church; burial in St. James Cemetery.

Colton – John Shumway, 76; Mass of Christian Burial June 30, 2023 at St. Patrick’s Church; burial in Bayside Cemetery, Potsdam.

Malone – Dava R. (Sancomb) Thompson, 86; Mass of Christian Burial June 20, 2023 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Peru – Sara (McAllister) Ryan, 75; Mass of Christian Burial June 16, 2023 at St. Augustine’s Church; burial in St. Augustine’s Cemetery.

Plattsburgh – Capt. Christopher James Garrow, 47; Mass of Christian Burial June 16, 2023 at St. Peter’s Church; burial in St. Peter’s Cemetery.

Plattsburgh – Sherman W. Luck, 84; Mass of Christian Burial June 11, 2023 at St. John’s Church; burial in Mount Carmel Cemetery.

Plattsburgh – Susan (Miller) McFadden, 82; Mass of Christian Burial July 7, 2023 at St. John’s

Church; burial in Divine Mercy Cemetery.

Rouses Point – Rose Jeanne Marie (Patnode) Moore, 93; Mass of Christian Burial June 14, 2023 at St. Patrick’s Church; burial in St. Patrick’s Cemetery.

Saranac Lake – Joan Fye Essex Reilly, 81; Funeral Services June 15, 2023 at Fortune-Keough Funeral Home; burial in St. Bernard’s Cemetery.

Saranac Lake – Rodger L. Willett; Funeral Services June 17, 2023 at Fortune-Keough Funeral Home.

Watertown – Sonya A. (Perry) Gale, 83; Mass of Christian Burial June 15, 2023 at St. Patrick’s Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Pertl is IHC Outstanding Vocational Leader

Editor’s note: Josalyn S. Pertl, a class leader at Immaculate Heart Central, was misidentified in a photo caption in last week’s edition. We apologize for that error and offer her accolades and photo as it was intended.

Josalyn S. Pertl is this year’s Outstanding Vocational Leader for the Immaculate Heart Central Class of 2023. Josalyn is a member of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapter of the National Honor Society and has a cumulative average of 90.78.

Additionally, she has achieved an average of 90 in the Culinary Arts program at BOCES and was recently inducted into the National Technical Honor Society.



Josalyn S. Pertl

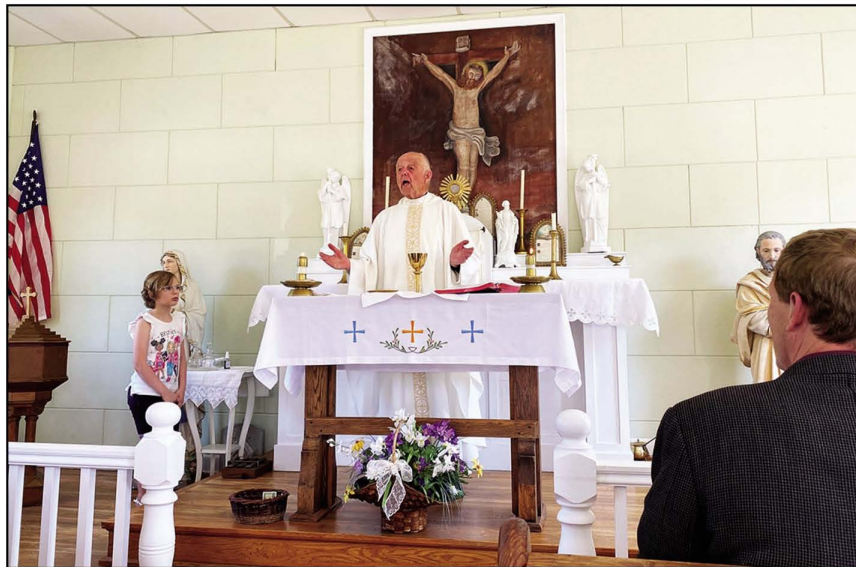
Pertl serves on student council as treasurer of her class and is very active in her parish, working with the RCIA and Vacation Bible School programs. She also participated in the March for Life in Washington DC.

Josalyn has earned a varsity letter in tennis

and academically has earned the following awards: NY State Comptroller Award, Jreck Sub Winning Attitude Award, and the Sisters of St. Josephs Award in Religion.

Pertl spends a lot of her time interning and working at her family’s restaurants, Spokes on the Square, Spokes on the River, and Spokes on the Green. She has a very strong work ethic, has a high attention to details, can successfully manage both kitchen and serving duty, and she often fully runs catering events.

Pertl has found her passion in life. She plans to attend the Culinary Institute of America for Hospitality Management.



Father Philip Allen celebrates Mass at St. Mary's Oratory in Minerva with altar server Temperance Cronk-Baker assisting.

Oratory hosts Memorial Day Mass, grave blessing

The annual Memorial Day Mass and blessing of the graves occurred at St. Mary's Oratory and cemetery in the Irishtown section of the Town of Minerva on Monday, May 29.

Father Philip Allen, pastor of St. Mary's in Indian Lake, St. Paul's in Blue Mountain Lake and St. Joseph's in Olmstedville celebrated the Mass assisted by altar server Temperance Cronk-Baker.

Kathy Halloran, whose family dates back generations in Irishtown, did the readings.

St. Joseph parishioners Betty LeMay, Diane McNally and Judy Jennings cleaned and readied the oratory, and refreshments were served following the services.

During the offertory, David McNally took up a collection from the 48 attendees with the funds collected dedicated to the upkeep of the oratory and the ceme-



Parishioners of St. Joseph's in Olmstedville gather with family and friends for the annual Memorial Day Mass at St. Mary's Oratory in the Irishtown section of Minerva.

tery surrounding it.

St. Mary's of Indian Lake parishioner Mary Leach played the pump organ leading the congregation in hymns and patriotic songs.

The cornerstone (actually the front step) was laid in Irishtown at St. Mary's in 1847 and the predominantly Irish residents of this section of Minerva completed and started using the Oratory as their Church in 1848. With a burgeoning

population, a cornerstone was laid in 1871 for a larger Catholic Church, St. Joseph's, which was completed in 1872 four miles down the road in Olmstedville. St. Mary's Oratory has been cared for ever since, having undergone numerous renovations and preservation efforts over the years; the surrounding cemetery continues to be used by parishioners of St. Joseph's.

Church with 'God is trans' exhibit to host 'Pride Mass'

(CNA) - The Catholic church in New York City that hosted a controversial art display called "God is trans" is now hosting a "Pride Mass" at a monument commemorating a June 1969 LGBT uprising.

The Church of St. Paul the Apostle announced that on June 22 it is celebrating a Mass outdoors at the Stonewall National Monument in New York City, a national park associated with the June 28, 1969, uprising at The Stonewall Inn.

The "Pride Mass" is set to take place in the month the Catholic Church designates the month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. June is also the month known as "Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Pride Month," which LGBT activists designated to commemorate the uprising at a gay bar that was the site of a violent revolt against law enforcement during a police raid.

The Mass will take place in a park where there are gay and transgender pride flags as well as sculptures of two homosexual couples titled "Gay Liberation."

The park is located in the West Village neighborhood of Greenwich Village, which is approximately four miles from the Church of St. Paul the Apostle on the Upper West Side.

One moral theologian told CNA that celebrating the Mass with a political end is inappropriate and "possibly sacrilegious." A canon lawyer has also questioned the liturgical necessity of celebrating the Mass outside of a sacred place, calling the choice of location "opportunistic for sensational reasons."

The Mass is being sponsored by "Out at St. Paul," the church's ministry "to the Gay, Lesbian, Bi, Trans and Queer community," which is made up of "mostly gay men," according to Paul Snatchko, a spokesperson for the Paulist Fathers.

On the Out at St. Paul Facebook page, a notice advertising the Mass says: "Afterwards, the group will head to a nearby bar for fellowship over drinks! All are welcome no matter how you identify or where you are in your faith journey."

CNA inquired of the Archdiocese of New York whether the church's scheduled outdoor "Pride Mass" at the monument was approved by the archdiocese.

The archdiocese has not yet responded.

The New York Post on May 7 revealed that the Church of St. Paul the Apostle was hosting an art exhibit that included a display called "God Is Trans: A Queer Spiritual Journey." A firestorm of criticism erupted online, with many calling the artwork "blasphemous."

Following concerns expressed by the Archdiocese of New York, the church shortened the name of the art display to "A Queer Spiritual Journey."

'It's not pastoral'

Father Thomas Petri, OP, a moral theologian and president of the Dominican House of Studies in Washington, D.C., told CNA on Wednesday that the Mass should not be used to make a political statement.