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# NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

FEB. 12, 2014

## Pope: don't skip Mass

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - It's so important to go to Mass every Sunday because that's where people receive Christ who saves, forgives and unites everyone to his father, church and each other, Pope Francis said.

It's also "important that

children are well prepared for first Communion because ... after baptism and confirmation it is the first step toward belonging strongly, really strongly, to Jesus Christ," he said Feb. 5 at his weekly general audience.

The pope continued a se-

ries of talks on the sacraments of Christian initiation, focusing on the Eucharist as the source and summit of the life of the church.

"In fact, every authentic journey of faith, communion and witness springs from this sacrament of love," he

said. The pope began his audience talk by greeting the estimated 13,000 people huddled under umbrellas and raincoats as heavy rain beat down on St. Peter's Square. "Dear brothers and sisters, Good morning, but not good day, huh?"

## Bishop writes on pastoral ministry

In this Week's NCC, Bishop LaValley begins a three part series on the past, present and future roles of pastoral ministers in the diocese.

He starts by explaining pastoral ministry: "In the simplest of terms, pastoral ministry is *what needs to happen in a parish so that all the people may flourish in their faith.* Additionally, "pastoral ministry" refers to those *who help to make this 'flourishing' happen.*"

In the past 40 years, the needs of ministry have not changed, but those providing ministry have, he writes.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

## Funeral for Sr. K. Sholette

Grey Nun served her native Ogdensburg as administrator of St. Joseph's

Home, nurse at Hepburn Hospital  
FULL STORY, PAGE 3

## GOVERNEUR GETS 'RACK-ED'



During Catholic Schools week St. James School in Gouverneur "RACKED" the community! RACK stands for Random Acts of Catholic schools Kindness. Classes filled small bags with treats, quarters, lottery tickets, hand warmers, gift certificates, and small surprises and left them for the community. They taped some to ATM machines, left on people's desks, brought them to stores and crossing guards. Here .St. James teacher Lisa Stowell fills bags with her students.

**GIVING SHELTER:** Brook Haven, place for pregnant women in need... p. 4

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING

It's happening in this area



William Hall, a federal police officer working at Fort Drum, presented "Human Trafficking in the North Country" Feb. 2 at the St. Joseph's Motherhouse. The conference, organized by the Sisters of St. Joseph Peace and Social Justice Committee, drew more than 100 people. A prayer service to end human trafficking preceded Hall's presentation.

FULL STORY, PAGE 5

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## EDITOR'S NOTES

## It's Catholic Press Month!

The NCC's editorial assistant, Christine, and I might be the only ones aware of this exciting fact: we're in the middle of Catholic press Press Month!

This is the time of year when the church in the United States and Canada recognizes the importance of Catholic media and members of the Catholic media reflect in a special way on their service to the church.

Earlier this month, one of our colleagues in the Catholic press, Francis X. Rocca, the Vatican reporter for Catholic News Service, shared some of his thoughts about our business.

He noted that, while Catholic media faces the same challenges of the secular press, with "technologically driven changes in how readers and viewers receive and share information," Catholic Press Month 2014 should be an occasion for new hope.

"The last year has witnessed developments within the church that offer Catholic journalism major opportunities

for greater influence, among the faithful and the public at large." Rocca said.

"On Feb. 11, 2013, Pope Benedict XVI announced that

he would become the first pope in nearly 600 years to resign. Those who were at the Vatican press office that morning remember how quickly it filled with seemingly all the accredited journalists in Rome, many of whom rarely covered papal events....

"Pope Francis' colossal popularity has been a boon for news outlets of every kind. Practically whatever he does excites curiosity that translates almost instantly into higher television ratings or more online page views, Rocco said.

We hope that Pope Francis' popularity - and Bishop LaValley's, too - will translate into more interest in the *North Country Catholic* during the coming year.

Rocco notes that Catholic newspapers have particular roles to play as Pope Francis garners headlines in the secular press nearly every day.

"For the benefit of its Catholic readers and viewers, it can provide an explicit corrective to oversimplifications, misunderstandings and outright distortions in secular coverage of the church," he said.

With help from Catholic News Service, we try to do that every week. And, we try our best to share all the good news of our local church too.

The NCC's subscription campaign won't begin until March, but it's not too early to remind our friends about some of the reasons that subscriptions should continue.

Mary Lou  
Kilian

## A PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

## Home, sweet (and cold &amp; snowy) home

The weather report for tomorrow, as reported by the weather man on the radio - cold temperatures, six to eight inches of snow, difficult travel conditions.

We've heard it all before - we'll be able to deal with this.

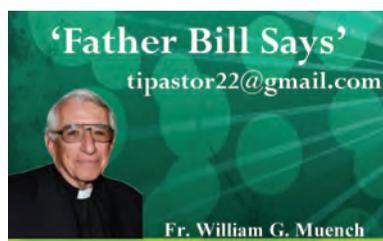
When I was visiting Florida in January, my friends there noticed and mentioned often to me the frigid temperatures back home in the Adirondacks. Often, I was asked, why do you continue to live up there?

One fellow even asked, "Why does anyone live up there?"

As I thought about it, I knew what the answer is, "This is my home." It has been my home, ever since I became a priest. I have been stationed in several places all over the North Country in my diocese, the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

This diocese is my home. I have always felt at home here; this is more than a place where I hang my hat. This is where I am most comfortable, this is where my friends live, where I am always certain to get a good meal.

Recently, I heard a radio interview of some well-known



musician who was asked where his home was.

He explained that his immediate answer would be where he was now living but, he admitted that he did think of the place where he was born and raised as still home.

Where would you think of as your home?

Personally, I must admit that while the North Country is home to me, I do think of Syracuse as home, too. That is where I was born and raised. I still have family there. I am certain that those early years did have quite an effect on me. So Central New York is still home, also.

Home - Jesus chose to make a home with us on this earth. He did not come here just for a visit. He could have chosen other ways to bring his message to us. Yet, he was born

into a family - he was part of a home. He spent his childhood and adolescence in that home as part of a family.

During his public life, he was close to many families and visited many homes. He was a source of support and help to many families.

Jesus made Nazareth and Capernaum his home until he moved on to Jerusalem. Jesus was at home here in this world - our world. This was his home. He lived a full and com-

plete life among us before he gave his life for us - dying for us.

Jesus consecrated this world of ours by making his home with us. This means that you and I who have made our home in this world are united in a most wonderful way with Jesus. So we learn so much from Jesus about making a home a home.

In his life among us, Jesus taught and challenged us to make this home of ours.

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FOLLOW ME

# The many faces of pastoral ministry – ‘the past’

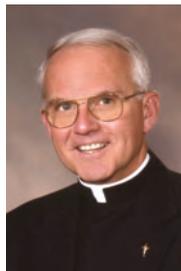
Over the past generation or two, “Pastoral Ministry” has become a phrase frequently used in the Church. So, what is pastoral ministry?

In the simplest of terms, pastoral ministry is *what needs to happen in a parish so that all the people may flourish in their faith.*

Additionally, “pastoral ministry” refers to those *who help to make this ‘flourishing’ happen.*

Our most frequent association with the parish is at Sunday Mass. When parents are blessed with a new baby, they arrange for the Sacrament of Baptism. Children prepare for their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. We send

our children to the Catholic school or the parish program for faith formation/religious



Bishop  
Terry R.  
LaValley

education/catechetical instruction. As children mature into a more adult level of faith, they prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

When they fall in love and seek a blessed life commitment, they celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony. In sickness, the Anointing of the Sick brings comfort and healing.

We celebrate these sacramental moments throughout our lives, but pastoral ministry extends even beyond these important liturgical celebrations. Outreach to the needy, counseling the bereaved, visiting the sick,

reaching out to individuals with spiritual needs, and adult faith formation are some dimensions of pastoral ministry that extend to the larger parish community. The spiritual and corporal works of mercy are an integral part of the faith life of a parish.

In addition to the “visible” ministry occurring in a parish, there is so much taking place in the background. Perhaps, the term “nuts and bolts” best describes this reality: the bookkeeping, dealing with contractors for building and repair projects, making sure that the snow is plowed, the grass mowed, the cemetery maintained, the property cleaned, etc. All of the “et cetera” could fill many pages.

But all these activities, both spiritual and temporal, require people. Every

parish has a staff, paid and volunteer, with the pastor as the spiritual leader. In years gone by, depending on the parish, the majority of the staff consisted of priests, consecrated religious, some paid lay staff, and many volunteers.

The pastor and the curates or assistant pastors (synonymous terms) tended to most of the ministerial responsibilities. Some parishes had sisters who were in charge of the catechetical program. They would coordinate and train the teachers and often make home visits to prepare children for the sacraments. They would help parents in preparing their children for the sacraments.

Some parishes had Catholic schools. In the schools, the religious sisters and brothers provided both

the religious and secular education for the children. Some schools had lay teachers in addition to the religious, but the lay teachers were a minority.

The religious brothers and sisters who staffed catechetical programs and the Catholic schools were often also tasked with other parish responsibilities. They formed an integral part of the parish and willingly mingled with parishioners. Likewise, they were tuned into the needs of the parish and freely helped the pastor respond to those needs.

In the past forty years, the needs of ministry have not changed, but those providing ministry have. In this next issue of the *North Country Catholic*, we will explore the face of ministry today.

## Grey Nun served Diocese of Ogdensburg for 34 years

# Funeral held Friday for Sister Kathleen Sholette

**YARDLEY, PENN.** – A Mass of Christian Burial for Grey Nun Sister Kathleen Sholette, formerly Sister Ann Kathleen, 83, was held Friday at the Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart Motherhouse chapel.

She died at St. Joseph Manor, Meadowbrook, Penn., Feb. 4, in the 61st year of religious life. Burial was in Resurrection Cemetery.

For 34 years, including one year prior to entering the Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart, Sister Kathleen served in the Diocese of Ogdensburg as registered nurse, nursing home administrator, and patient advocate.

She was a head nurse and OR supervisor at then A. Barton Hepburn Hospital from 1956-64 and returned years later to Claxton Hepburn Medical Center as patient advocate from 1998-2005.

After serving as assistant dean in the D’Youville College School of Nursing, Buf-

falo, from 1966-70, Kathleen returned to Ogdensburg as the administrator at St. Joseph’s Home, a position she held for 18 years.

During these years as administrator, she was elected to the Board of Directors of Hepburn Hospital, serving from 1984-88. Additional former board memberships include the New York Association of Homes and Services for the Aging and the United Way of St. Lawrence and Franklin Counties. She also served on the D’Youville College Board of Trustees for ten years, the

Sister Board



Sr. Kathleen  
Sholette, GNSH

of Managers at St. Joseph’s Home, and St. Joseph Home Foundation.

She was a member of the Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart Leadership Team for five years, followed by nine years as Secretary General. Called again to serve the Congregation in 2005 she served for three years as an assistant coordinator at

the Motherhouse in Yardley.

Sister Kathleen received her BSN from D’Youville College and her MSN from Case Western Reserve in Cleveland, Ohio. Memberships in-

cluded the American College of Nursing Home Administrators, the American Nurses Association, and National League for Nursing. She was a member of Zonta and Sigma Theta Tau.

Born in Ogdensburg to Nelson and Katherine Nagel Sholette, she is survived by her brother, Nelson Sholette and his wife, Judy, who reside in Ogdensburg.

Donations in her memory may be made to the Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart,

1750 Quarry Road, Yardley, PA 19067.

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*Funds from diocesan Respect Life collection in action:*

# A shelter for pregnant women in need

By Colleen Miner  
Staff writer

**CARTHAGE** -A little known treasure in the Diocese of Ogdensburg is Brook Haven House, the only Christian Maternity home in the North Country.

The Victorian style home, located in Carthage, has been offering shelter for young women in need for the past ten years.

According to Board President Ruth Chapin, when a crisis pregnancy HOPE hotline was established in the area, it became evident that there was a need for a residence. Chapin is working on the complete history for a new website ([www.brookhavenhouse.org](http://www.brookhavenhouse.org)) which should be up and running soon.

Besides private rooms, shared bathroom facilities and family style meals, the home also offers transportation to doctor's appointments and religious services, GED opportunity/tutoring, on-site visits by public health nurses, instruction in natural childbirth and financial plan-



The Brook Haven House in Carthage offers shelter for pregnant women in need of a place to stay. It is the only Christian maternity home in the North Country.

ning, help with homemaking, parenting and other life-skills.

Pregnant women may stay for up to a year following the delivery of her baby. The home even helps with transi-

tioning to independent living.

This past year, four women lived at Brook Haven House. "Three of the girls had their babies and moved on to live independently," Chapin said. "One of the girls is still pregnant (baby boy due in March) and remains at Brook Haven House."

The girls' accomplishments include starting GED, completing parenting, budg-

eting, infant care and time management classes and cooking meals. Two found jobs. One obtained her learner's permit and another her driver's license.

Chapin said "Results are always varied and dependent on length of stay and attitude."

House mother Jean Sherwood lives on-site to assist the young women. "My husband, Thom and I have been

ministering here at Brook Haven for six years," she said. "It doesn't seem possible that we have been here that long. It still feels new and exciting to have the opportunity to work with women and children in need of a safe loving home.

"Looking back over the years, I pray for and keep in touch with many of the moms we have been able to minister to," Sherwood said. "It's always hard to see the women and little ones move, but when it is a positive step in their future, we rejoice in the time we had in helping them along the way."

Brook Haven House was presented with the 2013 Non-Profit Award from the Carthage Chamber of Commerce. The maternity home was also a recipient of a grant from the Diocese of Ogdensburg's 2013 Respect Life Collection.

For more information, to make a donation or order the current fundraiser - Cooking with a Love for Life hardcover book with 200 recipes (\$10) call 315-493-1735 or send an email to [brookhavenhouse1@gmail.com](mailto:brookhavenhouse1@gmail.com).

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(Applications for grants from the diocesan Respect Life Collection may be found on the diocesan respect life ministry page, <http://rc-dony.org/pro-life.html>.)



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## JOB OPENING

Trinity Catholic School, Massena, is seeking an energetic, compassionate, and flexible person to join our family as a full-time Cafeteria Manager, beginning April 1.

The job will include scheduling and supervising food preparation and serving of the cafeteria, as well as planning menus, ordering necessary supplies and food, and organizing and maintaining inventory. The manager will ensure that all federal, state and local health codes for food service operations are followed and that the cafeteria stays within their budget. Computer skills a must, with knowledge of Quickbooks and Excel preferred. Accounting and secretarial skills beneficial. On the job training provided. Health insurance is available.

Send letter of interest and resume by February 28 to Kathy Behrens, 188 Main Street, Massena, NY 13662.

### Prayer to Blessed Virgin

Oh most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful wine splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the sea, help me and show me, herein you are my Mother. Oh, Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth. I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh, Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3x). Holy Mother, I place this prayer in your hands(3X).

MD



PHOTOS BY KEVIN MASTELLON  
William Hall, a federal police officer working at Fort Drum, presented "Human Trafficking in the North Country" Feb. 2 at the St. Joseph's Motherhouse.



St. Joseph Sister Jennifer Votaw, a member of the Sisters of St. Joseph's social justice committee, is shown as she leads the prayer that opened the human trafficking conference. More than 100 people attended.



Students from Immaculate Heart Central School, Sarah McIntosh, Emily Rivera, Alexandra Moots and Sarah Monnat, assisted the Sister of St. Joseph by volunteering at the registration desk for the conference.

# Human trafficking brought home

By Deacon Kevin Mastellon  
Staff writer

**WATERTOWN**- A 16 year old runaway gets in a taxi looking for a ride to the bus stop, or a train station. The taxi driver recognizes the type. The girl is anxious, nervous, confused. She has no luggage. He begins to befriend her and offers to introduce her to people who can provide shelter, clothing and food. They will treat her as an adult, he says. It is all music to her.

The girl falls for the bait and in no time is trapped, beholden to strangers for her existence. They introduce her to drugs; she becomes addicted. These friends begin to demand the girl repay them with sexual favors and then prostitution. All the while they hold her captive in spirit and body. They threaten her very life. She becomes an object for her captors to be used and abused.

It sounds like a plot for a Law and Order: Special Victims Unit episode but not to William Hall. Hall says this

scenario, or ones like it, occur in the North Country all too regularly.

Hall is a cop. A Federal Police Officer working at Fort Drum, to be precise, and an instructor at the SUNY Canton Police Academy.

Human trafficking is the second most prevalent crime committed in the world, trailing only drug trafficking. Hall suggests greater awareness of the issue has led to more reporting of cases to authorities. More reporting, he suggests, improves the odds for enforcement of laws prohibiting trafficking.

However more needs to be done to convince Americans the cases of trafficking are not limited to "other coun-

tries" or only "big cities," he says. "They are in every neighborhood."

Hall spoke to more than 100 people at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse Feb. 2. The program, entitled Human Trafficking in the North Country, was sponsored by the SSJ Community's Social Justice Committee chaired by St. Joseph Sister Bethany Fitzgerald. A prayer service to end human trafficking preceded the presentation by Hall.

The Sisters of St. Joseph in the United States have joined with other religious communities to raise consciousness about the presence and prevalence of human traf-

ficking.

Officer Hall detailed cases of exploitation that have occurred in and near the North Country. The abuse, he said, can be sexually oriented and/or labor oriented. He specifically cited the abuse of children and illegal aliens in various labor settings.

Among them he cited examples of documented exploitation among workers in carnivals, farm and manufacturing business in the North Country.

Human trafficking he said is distinct from human smuggling. In the latter case individuals are smuggled into this country for a price and then set out on their

own. Trafficking may involve smuggling or not. It is holding an individual by physical or psychological means for personal gain.

Hall recommended the participants remain vigilant for signs of human exploitation and trafficking; report suspected cases to the proper authorities and encouraged awareness of the statutes currently in force in regard to sexual abuse and worker exploitation.

(Those who suspect a child, or an adult is a victim of human trafficking should call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at 1.888.3737.888.)

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# Parish to focus on Vatican document in Lenten course

EVANS MILLS - Learning and prayer will be combined in a Lenten look at Vatican II at St. Mary's Parish Center.

*Lumen Gentium* will be the focus of presentations by Father Tom Kornmeyer, pastor, and Deacon Patrick Donahue. They will take place on four successive Wednesdays beginning March 12.

A one-hour talk on some aspect of the document will open each session at 6:30 p.m. followed by 30 minutes of questions and discussion. Class meetings will conclude with Benediction.

The series will kick off with a historical introduction to the Second Vatican Council. Beginning in 1962, the Council encompassed four sessions, closing in December 1965. Its 50th anniversary has been marked worldwide and was the occasion of a two-day seminar last November sponsored by the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Attendees at the Evans Mills series will be encouraged to read and think about *Lumen Gentium*, Father Kornmeyer said. He said the

course will consider the document's impact on the ordinary Catholic.

## Evans Mills program will consider the impact of *Lumen Gentium* on the ordinary Catholic

Pivotal among the 16 documents issued by the Council, *Lumen Gentium* takes its name from the first two words of the Latin text, "Light of All Nations."

The official title is translated "The Dogmatic Constitution on the Church."

An early commentator, Father Dulles (later Cardinal) Avery Dulles, said that because of its central importance and wealth of doctrine, it "probably deserves to be called the most imposing achievement of Vatican II." In the view of many observers, time has proved him correct.

The document "does not actually define any new dogmas. It sets forth . . . the Church's present understanding of her own nature,"

wrote Father Dulles in 1966. This "understanding" included a new perspective on the roles of bishops, priests, deacons and the laity.

To the casual reader, the document heralds a striking change in institutional attitude from Church-as-enforcer to Church-as-shepherd. In the words of a modern commentator, Edward G. Hahnenberg, *Lumen Gentium* replaced a "fortress mentality" with an approach emphasizing the Church's "spiritual and communal dimensions."

"Vatican II: The Essential Texts" will be free to attendees. Besides *Lumen Gentium*, this collection published in 2012 contains other major documents that may be considered in future four-week sessions: *Dei Verbum*, *Gaudium et Spes* and *Sacrosanctum Concilium*.

As with previous courses offered at Evans Mills, both parishioners and Catholics from outside the parish are welcome to attend.

All are asked to register by March 9 at 629-4678.

## Bishop's Schedule

**Feb. 13** – 9:30 a.m., Diocesan Envisioning Team Meeting with the Catholic Leadership Institute at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg

**Feb. 16** – 8 a.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

**Feb. 17** – 9 a.m., Pontifical College Josephinum Board of Trustees Meeting in Columbus, Ohio

## Rest in Peace

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

**Feb. 12** – Rev. Richard O'Donnell, 1949

**Feb. 13** – Rev. Richard J. Maloney, O.M.I., 1893; Deacon Edward F. McAuliffe, 1986; Rev. Harry E. Giroux, 2012

**Feb. 14** – Rev. John McDonald, 1879; Msgr. Gerald F. Kellogg, 1979; Rev. Charles Joseph Richard, 2007

**Feb. 15** – Msgr. James H. Driscoll, 1928

**Feb. 16** – Rev. André Marie Garin, O.M.I., 1895; Rev. Joseph Alexander Fournier, O.M.I., 1904

**Feb. 17** – Rev. Joseph Alfred Hervieux, 1940; Rev. Francis B. Ruddy, 1976

**Feb. 18** – Rev. Charles Guillot, M.S.C., 1985

## Correction

**There was an error** in the identification of a photo from the anniversary celebration at St. Rita's in Deferiet., published in the Feb. 5 issue of the NCC. The Woman pictured With Bishop LaValley Was Janet Zando

## Environmental Stewardship

"In his 1990 message for the World Day of Peace titled "The Ecological Crisis: A common Responsibility," Pope John Paul II urged Christians to realize that concern for Creation is "an essential part of their faith" . . . not something optional, but a core aspect of what it means to be a follower of Christ." \*Taken from The Future Church by Vatican reporter, John Allen, Jr

"Putting energy into Stewardship" The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's mission protecting human life and health may be a good match for your stewardship concerns. EPA's ENERGY STAR for congregations provides free information, technical support, and public recognition for congregations that take significant action against energy waste. ENERGY STAR estimates that if America's 370,000 congregations cut energy use just 20% it would save nearly \$630 million for missions and other priorities, while providing more than 3.6 billion "new" kWh electricity without additional cost or pollution. These energy savings would prevent more than 2.6 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions- the equivalent of eliminating emissions from 480,000 cars, or planting 60,000 trees. For more information on these programs, see [www.energystar.gov/congregations](http://www.energystar.gov/congregations) as well as home energy efficiency at [www.energy.gov/homeimprovements](http://www.energy.gov/homeimprovements)." Quote from "Stewardship of the Earth: Stewardship of Your Funds/ Energystar.gov.

You may also contact your country Cornell Cooperative Extension with any questions regarding energy conservation and efficiency.

## To Report Abuse

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact **Victims Assistance Coordinator**, Terrienne Yanulavich, Adult & Youth Counseling Services of Northern New York, PO Box 2446, Plattsburgh, NY, 12901; e-mail: [ayc-snn@yahoo.com](mailto:ayc-snn@yahoo.com); Phone: 518-569-0612; Fax: 518-425-0401 or Father James Seymour, the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy at 315-393-2920, ext. 1340

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# Caring for people with mental illness

## *New York State bishops release pastoral statement*

The Catholic Bishops of New York State have released a pastoral statement urging compassion and acceptance for people suffering from mental illness.

At the same time, the New York State Catholic Conference released a statement with specific policy recommendations related to people with mental illness.

The bishops' statement, titled, 'For I am Lonely and Afflicted': Toward a Just Response to the Needs of Mentally Ill Persons, cites the example of Jesus in the Gospels in demonstrating how society should respond to such individuals, saying, "we must reject the twin temptations of stereotype and fear, which can cause us to see mentally ill people as something other than children of God, made in His image and likeness, deserving of our love and respect."

The bishops note that fewer than five percent of violent acts are committed by people with mental illness, adding that, "persons with mental illness are more often victims than perpetrators of violent acts, and they also are more likely to be victims of sexual abuse."

Finally the bishops call on

Catholics to be welcoming of people with mental illness.

"Let us be clear, it is our duty and the duty of every pastor, every chaplain, every religious education director and Catholic school principal, and all others in positions of Church leadership at every level to welcome with openness and affection those men, women and children who are afflicted with any form of mental illness and to integrate them into the life of the Church to the fullest extent possible," they wrote.

The Catholic Conference's policy proposals include a

language change in the NY SAFE Act regarding the point at which mental health professionals must report concerns related to potentially violent behavior of their clients, adequate funding for community-based mental

health services, and enhanced services in the criminal justice system for mentally ill individuals.

The Conference applauds Gov. Cuomo's willingness to keep an open mind and make modifications to the state Of-

fice of Mental Health's plan to consolidate 24 inpatient facilities into 15 regional Centers of Excellence.

The full statement and the Catholic Conference's policy recommendations are available at [www.nyscatholic.org](http://www.nyscatholic.org).



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CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN THE NORTH COUNTRY

# PLACES OF FAITH



PHOTO BY JESSE SOVIE  
The Junior Legion of Mary of Ogdensburg consists of children between the ages of 7-18 who want to deepen their prayer life. They meet once a week, usually at St. Marguerite D'Youville Academy on Monday at 3 p.m. for one hour. This meeting makes its members better Catholics through a balanced program of prayers and service in union with the Holy Spirit as He works through Mary. Pictured, from left are Emily Gardner, Noah Mallette, Lil Dailey (president), Meaghan Gardner and Andrew Sovie.



St. Agnes, Lake Placid Primary School students and teachers went on a shopping project to buy food for their local food pantry. In addition to the money they collected to spend, they were surprised when less than an hour before departure to the store, a generous benefactor called and told them he wanted them to spend an additional \$1100 on food for the pantry while they were there. They filled seven shopping carts! Pictured, from left, are Ayden Bazicalupo, Ava DeLong, Luisa Dowd, Valentine Dowd, Sophie Spanburgh, Abigail VanDornand and Conor LeRoy.



Dr. Sharon Meltzer, a professor at SUNY Plattsburgh and member of the North Country Taskforce fighting human trafficking, spoke to the student body at Seton Catholic Central in Plattsburgh Friday. Dr. Meltzer educated staff and students on what trafficking is, how victims are recruited and warning signs that someone might be a victim. The month of February at Seton has been designated Human Trafficking awareness month. Teachers have been encouraged to discuss this horrible practice in classes and highlight the Catholic church's recent activities to do all it can to raise awareness and help victims.



The girls from St. James School in Gouverneur were the winners in the North Country Catholic Schools Classic Tournament against teams from Augustinian Academy, Carthage; Trinity Catholic, Massena; and St. Mary's, Canton. Members of the (undefeated) team are front, from left, Hope Simmons, Hope Leader (holding plaque), Corrine LaPierre, Olivia Rastley, Taylor Hance, Miranda Fuller and Emma Friot; second row, Kristy Walrath, Gracie Manning, Riley Storrin, Jaycee Cronk and Alexis Hays; back, Mariah Fuller, Shakoria Jackson, Haley Simmons, Erin Ifield, coach and principal Clara Cummings, and coach Melissa Terpstra.

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Cardinal John P. Foley  
Head of the Vatican's social communications council, 1984 to 2007

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Cardinal O'Brien tells seminarians to 'hold on to your seats'

## Cardinal says pope wants to 'stir things up'

By George P. Matysek Jr.  
Catholic News Service

BALTIMORE (CNS) - U.S. Cardinal Edwin F. O'Brien doesn't know what will come out of the Synod on the Family set for October, but the former archbishop of Baltimore believes it will be significant.

"Hold onto your seats," Cardinal O'Brien told a gathering of seminarians and faculty at St. Mary's Seminary and University in Baltimore.

"I think Pope Francis wants to stir things up and allow people to raise questions," he said. "I don't think we're going to see a change in doctrine, but we will see a change in tone, and we might see some disciplinary modifications."

Those modifications might include adjustments in annulment procedures, Cardi-

nal O'Brien said.

"I think most bishops are very concerned that they have more say in annulments in a responsible way," he said Jan. 27.

Cardinal O'Brien's comments were part of a wide-ranging address that touched on the retirement of Pope Benedict XVI, the election of Pope Francis and a look at how Pope Francis has governed the church in his first year.

Cardinal O'Brien, grand master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, was present in the room when Pope Benedict announced he was stepping down in 2013. The cardinal was also part of the conclave that elected the new pope.

As head of the Buenos Aires Archdiocese, the future Pope Francis dealt as an outsider with the curia that

helps govern the church, Cardinal O'Brien said, an experience that helped shape how he would interact with the curia when Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio became pope.

"He's seen its strengths and its weaknesses," Cardinal O'Brien said, noting that the pope's establishment of an eight-member council of cardinals from around the world shows that the pope believes he needs advisers both within and outside the curia.

The principal job of the council of cardinals, Cardinal O'Brien said, is to "completely rewrite the central administration of the Catholic Church."

The cardinal said the curia will somehow have to relate to the new council of cardinals.

"I think a year from now, we'll hardly know what the structure was, there will be

so many different things that will have taken place," Cardinal O'Brien said. "Maybe the heads of some conferences of bishops will be involved. I don't know. But we will know by the end of February because the group of eight will meet again and come up with formal recommendations."

Cardinal O'Brien highlighted several themes of Pope Francis' young papacy, among them the importance of expanding the pope's circle of advisers, subsidiarity, solidarity with the poor, evangelizing at the periphery of the culture and acting as a missionary church.

The cardinal cited the pope's interview with an Italian atheist magazine editor and the pope's strong focus on mercy as examples of his willingness to reach out to others.

The pope has opened up discussions with those who

feel alienated from the church, Cardinal O'Brien said.

The pope is modeling an example of being prepared to go anywhere and share the faith with anyone, Cardinal O'Brien said.

Inspired by the pope's focus on the poor, Cardinal O'Brien said he has become more conscious of how many times the Old and New Testaments make references to the poor.

It reminds him to question himself and think about what the readings mean in light of what the pope is asking people to do in reaching the poor.

Noting that Pope Francis often compares the church to a mother, the cardinal said a mother never deserts her children.

"She's always available to listen and always to extend mercy," he said.

## 'Unjust' criticism won't force Vatican to drop treaty

By Cindy Wooden  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - The Vatican said it would continue to adhere to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and give an attentive response to the U.N. committee monitoring adherence to the treaty, despite what it views as unfair criticism and suggestions from the committee that would violate church teaching.

The Vatican will follow the procedures foreseen by the treaty "with openness to crit-

icisms that are justified, but it will do so with courage and determination, without timidity," said Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, the Vatican spokesman.

Father Lombardi issued a statement Feb. 7, two days after the U.N. Committee on the Rights of the Child insisted the Vatican was not doing enough to prevent clerical sexual abuse of children and even suggested that, for the good of children, the Catholic Church change its teaching on abortion, contraception, homosexuality.

Committee members went

"beyond their competence and interfered in the doctrinal and moral positions of the Catholic Church," the spokesman said, adding that the committee's suggestions reveal an "ideological vision of sexuality."

"Certainly, while the Holy See was the object of an initiative and media attention that, in our view, was unjustly pernicious, it must be recognized that the committee itself has attracted serious and well-founded criticisms" for its Feb. 5 report, Father Lombardi said. Many Catholic commentators encouraged the Vatican to withdraw its adherence to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

In 1990, the Vatican became one of the first countries to ratify the children's rights treaty because of the church's historic commitment to the good of children, Father Lombardi said. Not recognizing all the church has done for centuries

through its schools, hospitals and charitable agencies is to ignore reality.

While the Vatican "will continue its commitment" to fulfilling the requirements of the treaty, he said, it cannot pretend that the committee's observations did not present "serious limits."

The committee "did not adequately take into account the responses -- both written and oral -- given by representatives of the Holy See" before and during a Jan. 16 hearing in Geneva, he said.

The recommendations, he said, demonstrated a lack of understanding about how the Holy See is different from other states that signed the convention.

The Vatican, Father Lombardi said, has repeatedly explained in detail to the committee and to other U.N. agencies that it has direct legal jurisdiction over those who live and work in the small territory of Vatican City State. While it has canonical

and spiritual jurisdiction over Catholics around the world, priests and bishops are subject to the laws of their own nations.

"Is this impossible to understand or do they not want to understand it," he asked. "In both cases, one has a right to be surprised."

Father Lombardi said the tone of the criticism and the mention of specific cases, including the treatment of young Irish women in the so-called Magdalen laundries and of young men by the Legionaries of Christ, seems to indicate the committee "gave much greater attention to well-known organizations" representing victims than to the testimony of Vatican representatives. "These organizations typically do not want to recognize how much the Holy See and the church have done in recent years to recognize errors, renew norms and develop measures for formation and prevention," Father Lombardi said.

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# CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

## A church without religious sisters is 'unthinkable,' pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- A church without religious sisters would be "unthinkable," Pope Francis said, honoring the contributions consecrated men and women make to the church and society. "Every consecrated person is a gift to the people of God on pilgrimage," he said Feb. 2, reciting the Angelus with visitors in St. Peter's Square. The pope had just finished celebrating Mass for the feast of the Presentation of the Lord, which the church marks as the World Day for Consecrated Life. "There is such a great need for their presence, which reinforces and renews the commitment to spreading the Gospel, Christian education, charity for the neediest, contemplative prayer, the human and spiritual formation of the young and families, and the commitment to justice and peace in the human family," the pope said. Straying from his prepared text, Pope Francis told people gathered in the square: "Think what would happen if there weren't any sisters, if there weren't any sisters in the hospitals, no sisters in the missions, no sisters in the schools. Think what the church would be like without sisters -- no, that's unthinkable." Consecrated life is a gift that moves the church forward, he said. "These women who consecrate their lives to carrying forward the message of Jesus -- they're great," he added.

## Canada, Brazil likely to have new saints before year's end, Jesuit says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Three key figures in the establishment of the Catholic Church in Canada and in Brazil are likely to be declared saints before the end of the year, said a Jesuit who is helping prepare the material needed for their canonizations. The three speeding their way toward sainthood are: Blessed Jose Anchieta, known as the Apostle of Brazil; Blessed Marie de l'Incarnation, known as the Mother of the Canadian Church; and Blessed Francois de Laval, the first bishop of Quebec. The three were beatified together in 1980, along with now-Sts. Kateri Tekakwitha and Pedro de San Jose Betancur. Jesuit Father Marc Lindeijer, vice postulator of sainthood causes for his order, said Pope Francis waived some of the procedures in the Brazilian and Canadian causes in response to requests from the bishops' conferences of those countries.

## Catholics take stand against 'scourge' of human trafficking

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- Human trafficking is "an extremely lucrative enterprise. The risks are quite low," said Limnyuy Konglim, education and outreach coordinator for the anti-trafficking program of the U.S. bishops' Migration and Refugee Services. One reason for the low risk, according to Pope Francis, is that "many people have blood on their hands because of their silent complicity." The pope also has called human trafficking "a scourge." About 12.3 million people are trafficked each year into forced labor or sexual exploitation, Konglim said, including an estimated 14,500 to 50,000 who are trafficked annually into the United States. In a Feb. 3 human trafficking presentation during the Catholic Social Ministry Gathering in Washington, Konglim said new immigrants are vulnerable to exploitation because of debt they incur by paying smugglers who try to take them across borders; their lack of immigration status; the needs of family back home; language barriers; fear of law enforcement; and in some cases the insular nature of their ethnic community. Jill Marie Gerschütz Bell, a senior legislative specialist for Catholic Relief Services, the bishops' international aid and development agency, said that within a five-year period CRS had implemented 140 anti-trafficking initiatives in 35 countries, focusing on the three Ps: protection, prevention and prosecution.

## VATICAN LETTER

# People power: Popular devotion is key factor in sainthood process

By Cindy Wooden  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- The sainthood process is long and technically complicated, and ultimately requires the approval of the pope, but the whole procedure is driven by Catholics in the pews and, especially, those on their knees.

The Congregation for Saints' Causes and the official promoters of causes -- known as postulators -- do the paperwork, but if there is no evidence of widespread devotion to a candidate, no visits to the person's grave, no reports of favors and even miracles received through the potential saint's intercession, the cause just sits there. Even for centuries.

Jesuit Father Marc Lindeijer, assistant postulator of sainthood causes for his order, says he has no problem waiting. On the contrary, as far as the Dutch priest is concerned, the more time passes, the more certain the church can be of the lasting importance of a candidate's witness.

"I think the process has to be long and complicated," he said. The solemn declaration that a specific person is in heaven with God and is worthy of global Catholic devotion "has to be treated with care."

"It's not as if the Vatican is asking for a canonization, it's the people," he said. Nothing happens without grass-roots pressure at the start. That helps explain why members of religious orders occupy most of the places on the church's calendar of saints, and why lay saints are so few.

"One could say a religious order is a mightier lobby for a cause," encouraging its members and the people they serve to pray to the habited holy one and report back any favors received, Father Lindeijer said.

## Massive popular devotion is even more important than verified miracles in deciding whether or not to canonize someone

Generally for canonization, the church requires a demonstration that the popular devotion to a candidate has extended over a long period of time. Canonization, Father Lindeijer said, "is not a stamp of approval" for how someone lived his or her life, but is a way for the church to hold that person up as an example for today's Catholics and the Catholics of tomorrow.

For example, the Diocese of Macerata, Italy, recently concluded the preliminary phase of the cause of its native son Jesuit Father Matteo Ricci, the 16th-century missionary to China. The cause also has received strong support from Chinese bishops, Father Lindeijer said.

However, he worries that outside of Macerata and China, Father Ricci is admired for his scholarship and culturally sensitive approach to missionary work, but not necessarily venerated as holy. To promote his cause successfully, Father Lindeijer will need to answer the question: "Are people praying to Matteo Ricci?"

"Massive popular devotion" is even more important than verified miracles in deciding whether or not

to canonize someone, Father Lindeijer said. When "the cult is clear and many people receive many graces praying to them," the pope can waive the requirement of a miracle attributed to the candidate's intercession.

For instance, Pope Francis will canonize Blessed John XXIII April 27 even though there is no papal decree recognizing a specific miracle; he is expected to do the same later this year with Blessed Jose Anchieta, a late 16th-century missionary to Brazil, and Blessed Marie de l'Incarnation and Francois de Laval, who were missionaries in Canada in the 1600s.

Father Lindeijer said he considers setting aside the miracle requirement a less serious exception than shortening the waiting period after a candidate's death.

The 1917 Code of Canon Law stipulated that a sainthood cause could not open until 50 years after the candidate's death. Pope John Paul shortened the period to five years, but set even that aside for Mother Teresa of Kolkata. A month after Pope John Paul's death, Pope Benedict XVI announced he had set aside the waiting period for his predecessor's cause.

"I've never believed in 'santo subito,'" Father Lindeijer said, referring to the calls for Pope John Paul's canonization immediately after his death.

"Fame comes and goes, and fame of sanctity, as Pope Benedict rightly said, is something that should be growing," he said. "When that phenomenon can be proven, it shows that the Holy Spirit is at work."

## SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

# The medicine we need to make good choices

When I was a small boy growing up in Watertown, my mother once gave me two choices for traveling up to Canton to visit my favorite Uncle John. "Now, Paul," she said, "Would you like to take the dirty old train or the nice clean bus?"

To this day, I remember my reply: "Oh, Mommy, let's take the dirty old train." And we did!

Our readings this week discuss the wisdom in our choices.

The writer of Sirach (formerly Ecclesiasticus), puts two choices before his audience—fire or water, life or death, just as Moses had done to the Israelites who were about to enter the Promised Land.

Fire is a symbol for the

Spirit which breathes life and Wisdom, while water suggests death by drowning in sin and foolishness.

God never forces us, but gives us hints about the preferred choice!

St. Paul, in the second reading, urges the new Christians to seek the Wisdom that comes from God's Spirit, a divine wisdom, a mysterious wisdom planned from eternity.

This wisdom urges us to embrace Christ's crucifixion, death, and resurrection. Faith in this mystery will reveal to us the meaning of following Christ to life and victory.

In the Gospel, which continues the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus amazes his listeners by declaring that He has come, not to destroy the

law of Moses, but to fulfill it. Then he proceeds to go beyond the law to its radical conclusion.

He concentrates on two sins forbidden especially by the Law—murder and adultery.

He emphasizes in practical terms the sins that lie behind the commandments. If we are to avoid murder, then we must root out the sin of anger which leads to murder.

If we are to avoid adultery, we must root out the sin of lust which leads to adultery. If we want to be righteous, then we must take very strenuous efforts to go beyond the law --even anger against one's brother or sister is cause for severe judgment, if you want to offer your gifts at the altar, "leave your gifts at the altar, and go first to be reconciled to your brother... then come and offer your gifts."



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READINGS

Sirach 15:15-20

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Matthew 5:17-37

He tells his followers that when one even looks at a woman with lustful eyes, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Jesus then departs from the literal, deliberately exaggerating his advice: "If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one of your members, than to have your whole body thrown into Gehenna (hell)."

He says the same about sinning with your hand. Obviously, Jesus does not want us to physically carry

out his advice! But we certainly get the point!

The passage is a long one, forbidding divorce unless there are grounds for the invalidity of the marriage. He warns against false oaths, urging us to use simple language. "Let your 'yes' mean 'yes', and your 'no' mean 'no'!"

As St. Paul tells us today, Jesus' wisdom is not the wisdom of this age, but a divine wisdom, meant for those who are mature.

How well we know how toxic is contemporary advice often given to our young people by the media, greedy business leaders, immoral educators, and even by some parents.

Our readings this Sunday give us strong medicine to counteract the poison of this age.

It may not make us popular, but living the Gospel to the full never was!

## FOR THE JOURNEY

## Using words on the side of love, not hate

By Effie Caldarola  
Catholic News Service

Shakespeare asked the famous question, "What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet." And yet, when we say the word "rose," certain images and even odors come to mind that aren't envisioned when we pronounce a word such as "latrine."

Words are precious commodities, and it seems to me we have to be very careful with them.

The word "Nazi" is a good example.

If our 10th-grader refers to her homeroom teacher as a "Nazi," she's subtracted from that word's truly obscene historical meaning.

In the interests of free speech, people may use the word "Nazi" as they wish.

But that doesn't mean they should.

When they start labeling politicians with whom they disagree as "Nazis," then truly, language has been devalued and meaning obscured.

I've been thinking about this because lately we've heard the word "thug" thrown about, perhaps with ill intent. On its face, it's a nice, graphic word. Say the word "thug" out loud and the very sound of it conveys a heavy, menacing tone.

But apparently, it's becoming a racial code word, and that's not good.

Take for example, a recent example in Omaha, Neb., where the police officers' association posted a video they found of a young black child in diapers repeating bad language and racial epithets as adults in the background egg him on.

The police titled it "the thug cycle" and claimed they got it off the Facebook page of a local "thug."

**I'm appalled by how easily, and rapidly, speech degenerates into hate speech and racial innuendo.**

The video, and its use of the word "thug," made national news. Omaha is a good city with a good heart, and someone there looked into the situation and took steps to remove the child from the home and placed him in a healthier environment.

The troubling question remained: What did the cops mean by the word "thug"?

Richard Sherman would probably guess they were using it as a racial slur, a way of describing black peo-

ple by creating a new, racially charged word to replace one we no longer allow.

Sherman is the Seattle Seahawks player who ranted about an opposing player right after his team won the NFC championship game to advance to the Super Bowl.

After his ill-advised outburst, Sherman later described it as "immature." The reaction online was visceral, and quickly became quite racist.

Along those lines, he was frequently called a "thug."

I'm not criticizing those who took issue with Sherman's rant. I'm appalled by how easily, and rapidly, speech degenerates into hate speech and racial innuendo.

His unfortunate in-the-moment behavior does not define Sherman, who was a high school salutatorian, a

Stanford graduate, and is by all accounts a well-spoken and community-oriented guy. But we didn't know that immediately. And immediacy defines the Internet, doesn't it?

During an interview after the incident, Sherman said thug "seems like it's the accepted way of calling somebody the N-word nowadays."

Recently, Pope Francis spoke on communications, and his words could be directed to all of us who use the Internet to express our opinions. He said, "The digital world can be an environment rich in humanity."

It can be, but to make it so, we must evaluate what we read and hear with thoughtfulness and empathy. And when we respond, we must value and weigh our words carefully on the scale of love.

AT THE MOVIES

# THE MONUMENTS MEN

By John Mulderig  
Catholic News Service

Western civilization owes an incalculable debt to the real-life figures behind the fact-based World War II drama "The Monuments Men" (Columbia). Yet, despite honorable intentions and a cast of heavy hitters, this cinematic salute to their memory falls well short of the monumental.

The film's title comes from the nickname of the Army's Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives program. Formed in 1943, this collection of art historians and similar experts was charged with -- among other tasks -- tracing and rescuing the vast store of cultural treasures purloined by the Nazis during their more than four-year-long occupation of most of Europe.

The sleuthing required to achieve this goal was recounted in Robert M. Edsel's eponymous 2009 book, written with Bret Witter and subtitled "Allied Heroes, Nazi Thieves and the Greatest Treasure Hunt in History." In bringing Edsel's narrative to the screen, George Clooney takes on multiple roles: co-writer (with Grant Heslov), director and star.

In that last capacity, he plays affable Harvard professor Frank Stokes. After convincing President Roosevelt of the need for a unit along the lines of the Monuments Men, World War I veteran Stokes re-enters the service and sets out to assemble his team.

The ensemble lineup thus provided for includes Matt Damon as medievalist James Granger, Bill Murray as architect Richard Campbell and John Goodman as sculptor Walter Garfield. America's allies are represented by Donald Jeffries (Hugh Bonneville), a British scholar under a cloud of



CNS PHOTO/SONY

John Goodman, Matt Damon, George Clooney, Bob Balaban and Bill Murray star in a scene from the movie "The Monuments Men."

scandal, and Marseilles-based Jewish art dealer Jean-Claude Clermont (Jean Dujardin).

As these over-the-hill soldiers adjust to life in uniform, and to the perils of the Western Front, their attention focuses on Paris museum curator Claire Simone (Cate Blanchett), who witnessed the Teutonic looting firsthand.

James is dispatched to the City of Light to quiz Claire, who has been imprisoned as a collaborator (earlier scenes have vindicated her innocence for the audience). But he finds Claire uncooperative, based on her conviction that the American forces will simply seize the recovered works for themselves and ship them state-side.

The script's comic byplay is amusing enough. Richard

and another of the group's number, mousey, bespectacled Preston Savitz (Bob Balaban), tease each other relentlessly. And scenes of basic training find Walter walking casually across an obstacle course, blithely unaware that the shots being fired over the heads of the prone soldiers around him are not blanks.

Yet a firm foundation is never laid for the picture's more solemn moments, most of which concern the band's shared fraternal spirit and pride in its mission. These are too casually flagged by way of dialogue,

so that the underlying sentiments register as prefabricated.

Besides the story's primary message about the enduring value of art in all its forms, the background of



Nazi persecution implicitly drives home the importance of treating all human beings with equal dignity. And a potentially adulterous encounter that comes too late in the action to be described without a spoiler ends in a way viewers of conscience will welcome.

With wartime bloodletting kept to a minimum and vulgar language probably far less in evidence than it was among the ranks in reality, only a surprising number of violations of the Lord's name pose any serious obstacle to recommendation for a wider audience. With its positive themes in mind, accordingly, at least some parents may consider "The Monuments Men" acceptable for mature teens.

The film contains some combat violence with brief gore, about a half-dozen uses of profanity and a few crude and crass terms. The Catholic News Service classification is A-III -- adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 -- parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

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## ADIRONDACK

## WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

**Saranac Lake** – A Special Mass will be held for the World Day of the Sick on the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes.

**Date:** Feb. 11

**Time:** 7 p.m.

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

**Features:** Mass and anointing of the sick. All are welcome to attend - anyone suffering from an illness, or anyone having reached the age of 70, is welcome to receive the Sacrament of the Sick.

## CATHOLIC MEN'S GROUP

**Saranac Lake** – A Catholic Men's Group meets on the first Saturdays of the month for a time of fellowship, prayer, and discussion.

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

**Place:** St. Bernard's Chapel

**Features:** Mass followed by coffee and refreshment, some discussion and prayer.

**Contact:** Fr. Mark Reilly (518-8891-4616)

## CLINTON

## REGIONAL YOUTH NIGHT

**Plattsburgh** – A second Diocesan Regional Youth Night will feature Mass and Mardi Gras masquerade. (The first Was in Gouverneur in December)

**Date:** March 1

**Time:** 4 p.m. to 8

**Place:** St. Peter's Church and Seton Academy

**Features:** Food and fellowship. You can decorate a mask to wear, make wrist rosaries or play basketball. There will be a brief presentation on Our Lady of Guadeloupe. R.S.V.P.'s are helpful for planning but not mandatory. To R.S.V.P. please return permission form to the youth office, otherwise have it with you when you arrive.

## PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**Treadwell Mills** – St. Alexander & St. Joseph's Church will hold a Pancake Breakfast.

**Date:** March 2

**Time:** 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

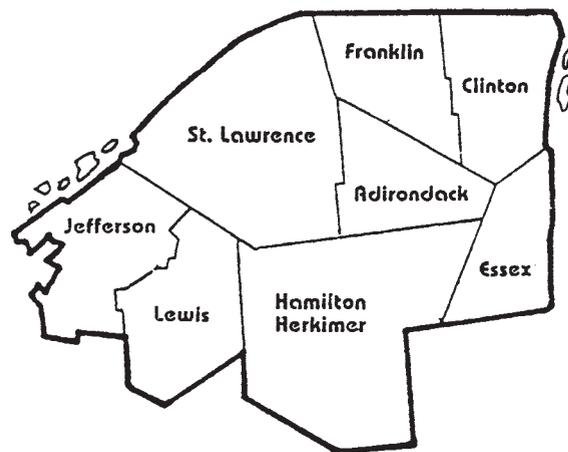
**Place:** St. Joseph's Church Parish Hall  
Cost: Adults, \$6; Children 12 and under, \$3; under 5, Free

**Features:** All you can eat pancake, real maple syrup, sausage, scrambled eggs, home fries, coffee, orange juice or milk.

## QUILTING CLASSES

**Ellenburg Center** - The Lost Sheep Quilt Shop is holding classes

**Charm Quilt Class:** Feb. 22, 9:30 a.m. 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; fax, 1-866-314-7296;  
e-mail news@northcountrycatholic.org.

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

3:30; Debbie Baldwin, Instructor; Cost: \$15 - does not include material; Call 518-594-3253 or email to register

**Through the Year Wall Hanging:** March 15, 22, and 29; Rita Breen, Instructor; Cost: \$40 for all 3 classes. Call or email to reserve a spot by March 1. Class size is limited to 7.

**Sew Together:** any Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 3. This is a quilting group designed to share ideas, help fellow quilters, teach beginners. Bring a bag lunch if you come for the day.

**Contact:** The Lost Sheep Quilt Shop, Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer, 7270 Star Road, Ellenburg Center, 518-594-3253, olaprayerhouse@gmail.com

## HEALING MINISTRY

**Morrisonville** - The Catholic Community of St. Alexander's and St. Joseph's announces the addition of Living Waters Healing Ministry to the Parish.

**Date:** First Thursday each month

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

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

**Features:** Healing Mass, Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and an opportunity to receive individual prayer.

## EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

**Plattsburgh** – Eucharistic Adoration is held throughout the year every Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

**Place:** St. John's "Holy Family" Adoration Chapel, downstairs

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

**Contact:** call 518-561-5083 or email Sjohnsadoration@aol.com

## FRANKLIN

## PARISH BREAKFAST

**Brushton** – St. Mary's Church is sponsoring a breakfast.

**Date:** Feb. 16

**Time:** 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Place:** Parish Center

**Cost:** Adults, \$8; Seniors, \$7; children 6-12, \$4; under 5, Free; Families of 4 or more (mother, father, and school aged children), \$25

## DINNER THEATER

**Brushton** – The North Franklin Theater Group and St. Mary's Church present its Annual Dinner Theater.

**Date:** March 1

**Time:** 6 p.m. (plan to arrive around 5:30)

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

**Cost:** \$28 per person prepaid (must be received by Feb. 20, no refunds after this date)

**Menu:** Cream of Broccoli Soup, Roast Turkey or Roast Pork; Stuffing, mashed potatoes, carrots, garden salad, rolls, dessert and beverage.

**Contact:** Eileen Miller at 518-529-7713 to make reservations.

## JEFFERSON

## LENTEN LOOK A VATICAN II

**Evans Mills** – St. Mary's Parish will hold a Lenten Look at Vatican II

**Date:** 4 successive Wednesdays beginning March 12

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

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

**Program:** *Lumen Gentium* will be the focus of presentations by Father Tom Co-

rmeyer, pastor, and Deacon Pat Donahue. A one-hour talk on some aspect of the document will open each session followed by 30 minutes of questions and discussion, then Benediction.

**Registration:** Parishioners and Catholics from outside the parish are welcome to attend. All are asked to register by March 9 at 629-4678.

## SPAGHETTI &amp; MEATBALL DINNER

**Evans Mills** – The Indian River Council 7471 Knights of Columbus will have a Spaghetti and Meatball dinner.

**Date:** Feb. 15

**Time:** 4 p.m.

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

**Cost:** Adults, \$7; Senior Citizens, \$5; Children under 12, \$5; under 5, Free

## SPAGHETTI SUPPER

**Watertown** – St. Anthony's Altar Rosary Church will be having Spaghetti Supper.

**Date:** Feb. 27

**Time:** 4:30 p.m. to 7

**Place:** Msgr. Sechi Hall

**Cost:** Adults, \$8; children \$4.50; under 3, free; sauce, \$5 per quart meatballs are \$.75

**Features:** Take-out orders begin at 4 p.m. Please bring your own containers

## EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

**Watertown** - Holy Family Church is holding holy hours of Eucharistic Adoration for Vocations

**Schedule:** Monday through Friday following the 9 a.m. Mass at Holy Family Church (9:30 - 10:30 a.m.),

## LIFERIGHT MEETING

**Watertown** - Liferight of Watertown meets third Wednesday of the Month.

**Time:** 4 p.m.

**Place:** 312 Sherman St.

**Features:** The office has materials on infanticide, assisted suicide, euthanasia and chastity.

**Contact:** Phone 315-788-8480; website: www.liferight.org.

## LEWIS

## K OF C BRUNCH

**Lyons Falls** – The South Lewis Knights of Columbus will be having an all you can eat pancake brunch.

**Date:** Feb. 16

**Time:** 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**Place:** St. John's Church Hall

**Cost:** Adults, \$6; Children 5-12, \$3; under 2, free

## EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

**Lowville** – Eucharistic Adoration to be

held.

**Date:** Feb. 13

**Time:** 3 p.m. to 6

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

**Features:** To Thank God for & To Honor the Most Blessed Sacrament, all are invited to worship The Exposition, The Divine Mercy Chaplet, Silent Adoration, The Luminous Mysteries of the Holy Rosary, and The Benediction.

## ST. LAWRENCE

## LENTEN STUDY: "CONVERSION

**Ogdensburg** – The Evangelization Committee of St. Mary's Cathedral is holding a Lenten study series for Ogdensburg area parishes.

**Date:** Wednesdays, Feb. 19-April 9

**Time:** 6:30 p.m. to 8

**Place:** Bishop Brzana Hall

**Program:** In this DVD series, presented by Bill O'Brien, Father Robert Barron shares six stories of conversion from the Gospels. The common theme in each story is the turning of all one's attention and energy toward an ever deeper, personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

**Price:** Workbooks are available for \$12 at the door.

## 5K WALK/RUN

**Massena** - The 2nd Annual Glory in our Hearts 5K Walk/Run to Remember will bring together walkers and runners, for a heart healthy fundraiser to support the 2014 outreach activities of the Glory in our Hearts Foundation.

**Date:** May 3

**Time:** 9 a.m.

**Place:** Robert Moses State Park Picnic Area at Barnhart Island

**Features:** Stroller and child friendly 5K event. Visit the Glory in our Hearts 5K website at <http://www.gloryinourhearts.org/5k.html> for race information

## DINNER AND SHOW

**Ogdensburg** - Notre Dame Altar & Rosary is sponsoring a bus trip to the Syracuse Oncenter.

**Date:** June 4

**Cost:** \$120 per person (includes show ticket, bus fare, and dinner at Spaghetti Warehouse restaurant.)

**Features:** Performance of Million Dollar Quartet. at 7:30 p.m.. Inspired by the electrifying true story of the famed recording session that brought together rock 'n' roll icons Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Carl Perkins for the first and only time.

**Contact:** Call Cherie @393-5050 or 393-7158 or Joyce @528-1819.

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE



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

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

Sr. Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ, Director

622 Washington St., Ogdensburg, NY 13669

(315) 393-2920; fax 1-866-314-7296

mbrett@rcdony.org

# Facts of world Mission interest

The Pontifical Mission Societies are charged with bringing Catholics to an understanding of their responsibility for the Church's mission to all nations. Active in some 120 countries throughout the world, The Missions work to animate the faithful to a universal missionary spirit, and to gather support for the efforts of the Church in some 1,150 mission dioceses in Asia, Africa, the Pacific Islands and remote regions of Latin America.

The four Pontifical Mission Societies are:

- The Missionary Childhood Association directs its efforts to elementary school children, while the Society for the Propagation of the Faith seeks prayer and support for pastoral and evangelizing programs and needs of mission dioceses from high school and college students, and adults.

- The Propagation of the Faith provides assistance to the Church in Africa, Asia, the islands of the Pacific and remote regions of Latin America, including aid for the education and support of seminarians, Religious novices and lay catechists; for the work of Religious Communities in education, health care and social services, and for communication and transportation needs.

- The Society of St. Peter Apostle is concerned with gathering help for seminarians and Religious novices in the Missions.

- The Missionary Union of Priests and Religious is a spiritual apostolate, working on formation in the missionary spirit among those called to animate all the faithful in this essential work.

National offices exist in more than 120 countries around the world including the United States. Central administrative offices are located in Rome, Italy, under the direction of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples. The national office of the Pontifical Mission Societies in the United States is located in New York City. The national director is Oblate Father Andrew Small. In addition, every diocese in the United States has a diocesan director who is appointed by the local ordinary (bishop) of that diocese.

Offerings from Catholics in the United are combined with offerings to the Propagation of the Faith from Catholics worldwide. Mission dioceses receive regular annual assistance from the funds collected. This grant of help is provided according to a diocese's size. In addition, these mission dioceses submit requests to the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples for assistance for, among other needs, catechetical programs, seminaries, the work of Religious Communities, communication and transportation needs, and the building of chapels and churches. These needs are then matched with the funds gathered in each year.

Thank you for all your contributions to the Pontifical Mission Aid Societies!

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

[www.dioogdensburg.org/missionoffice](http://www.dioogdensburg.org/missionoffice)

## OBITUARIES

### Jeanne Marie Amyot

**HAMMOND** – A Mass of Christian Burial for Jeanne Marie Amyot, 98, mother of Father Andrew Amyot of Norfolk, was held Feb. 10 at St. Peter's Church.

She died Feb. 5 at Samaritan Keep Home, Watertown, where she had been a patient since 2003.

Burial was in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Rossie,

Born on Feb. 12, 1915 in Sarsfield, Ontario, Canada, Mrs. Amyot was the daughter of the late Napoleon and Emma Cardinal Faubert.

She married George J. Amyot on Dec. 26, 1933 at St. John's Catholic Church in Osgoode, Ontario, Canada. Mr. Amyot took his new bride to reside in Rossie, NY where they operated a farm, moving twice more to the South Hammond area.

Mr. and Mrs. Amyot were communicants of St. Peter's Catholic Church

In addition to Father Amyot, she is survived by three other sons, Edgar and his wife Mary of Hammond, and twins, Mark and Martin, both of Albany; two daughters, Margaret Charlebois of Liverpool, NY and Diane Connell and her husband Louis of Brownville, NY; seven grandchildren; seven great grandchildren; one brother, Andre Faubert of Greely, Ontario; many nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her husband George of 67 years on Dec. 3, 2001; eight brothers, Paul, Renee,

Marc, Clifford, Gabriel, Stephen and John; two sisters, Irene Marion and Teresa Ladoceur.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Peter's Catholic Church, Hammond, NY or to the American Cancer Society, 6725 Lyons Street, PO Box 7, East Syracuse, NY 13057.

Condolences can be made online at [www.frederickbros-funeralhome.com](http://www.frederickbros-funeralhome.com)

**Altona** – Cynthia M. Gero, 53; Funeral Services Feb. 5, 2014 at Holy Angels Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Brushton** – Cleon J. Russell, 88; Funeral Services Feb. 6, 2014 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Champlain** – Helene A. Guay, 97; Funeral Services Feb. 7, 2014 at St. Mary's Church.

**Ft. Covington** – Ralph E. "Sonny" Rubadeau, 80; Funeral Services Feb. 7, 2014 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Malone** – Robert E. Walsh, 85; Funeral Services Feb. 4, 2014 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

**Massena** – Leo R. Debien Sr., 83; Funeral Services Feb. 5, 2014 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Massena** – June (Quenelle) McCarthy, 94; Funeral Services Feb. 4, 2014 at Sacred Heart Church.

**North Bangor** – Albert J. "Mike" Maguire, 82; Funeral Services Feb. 5, 2014 at St. Augustine's Church; burial in St. Joseph's

Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** – Claude X. Bayard, 77; Funeral Services in the Spring at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** – Jane Buckley Chapman, 96; Funeral Services Feb. 8, 2014 at the Newman Center.

**Plattsburgh** – Rodney J. Forgette, 67; Funeral Services Feb. 3, 2014 at St. Peter's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Port Henry** – Joseph Charles LaPeter, 68; Funeral Services Feb. 11, 2014 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

**Rouses Point** – Donald Robar, 74; Funeral Services Feb. 5, 2014 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Rouses Point** – William Thomas "Tom" Rowe, 50; Funeral Services Feb. 3, 2014 at St. Patrick's Church.

**Star Lake** – Carl L. "Larry" Provost, Jr., 58; Funeral Services Feb. 5, 2014 at St. Hubert's Church.

**Watertown** – Louise A. (DeVito) Cowan, 84; Funeral Services Feb. 4, 2014 at the Reed & Benoit Funeral Home; burial in North Watertown Cemetery.

**Watertown** – Edward J. Finnerty, 53; Funeral Services Feb. 3, 2014 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

**Watertown** – Roderick J. Fleury, 88; Funeral Services Feb. 6, 2014 at the Reed & Benoit Funeral Home; burial in Lakeside Cemetery, Sackets Harbor.



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# Blessed are the losers, pope says

By Cindy Wooden  
Catholic News Service

**VATICAN CITY (CNS)** - The "poor in spirit," the pure and the merciful, whom Jesus described as "blessed," are the same people the world considers to be "losers," Pope Francis told Catholic young people.

## At least by worldly standards

But Jesus offers his followers the true path to happiness, and faith in him "will allow you to expose and reject the 'low-cost' offers and approaches all around you," the pope said in his message for World Youth Day 2014.

The message, released Feb. 6 at the Vatican, focused on the beatitude: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Pope Francis has chosen the beatitudes from the fifth chapter of the Gospel of St. Matthew as the themes for World Youth Day 2014-2016. This year and next, World Youth Day will be celebrated on a local level -- on Palm Sunday at the Vatican -- and in 2016 it will be an international gathering in Krakow, Poland.

The pope told young people that in April, he will canonize Blessed John Paul II, who began the international



CNS PHOTO/JOE RIMKUS JR.

**Pope John Paul II greets young people at Denver's Mile High Stadium during World Youth Day in 1993. In a message to Catholic young people for World Youth Day 2014, Pope Francis said that Blessed John Paul II, who began the international celebrations will be "the great patron of World Youth Days.**

celebrations and will be "the great patron of the World Youth Days."

"To be blessed means to be happy," the pope said. "In an age when we are constantly being enticed by vain and empty illusions of happiness, we risk settling for less and 'thinking small' when it comes to the meaning of life.

"Think big instead," he told young people. "Open your hearts."

"Young people who choose Christ are strong: They are fed by his word and they do not need to 'stuff themselves'" with money, possessions and fleeting pleasure, the pope said.

"Have the courage to swim

against the tide. Have the courage to be truly happy," he said.

Explaining how true happiness includes being "poor in spirit," the pope said he knew it seemed strange to link happiness and poverty.

But, he said, in the Bible being poor isn't just about having few material posses-

sions. "It suggests lowliness, a sense of one's limitations and existential poverty. The 'anawim' (God's poor) trust in the Lord, and they know they can count on him."

The pope said his namesake, St. Francis of Assisi, "understood perfectly the secret of the beatitude" and demonstrated that by living "in imitation of Christ in his poverty and in love for the poor."

To be poor in spirit, the pope told young people, they must learn to be free or detached from material things, living simply, being concerned about the essentials, but "learning to do without all those unneeded extras."

Poverty in spirit also requires "a conversion in the way we see the poor," which means meeting them, listening to them, caring for them and offering them both material and spiritual assistance, he said.

Living according to the beatitude also means recognizing that the poor "have much to offer us and to teach us," particularly that "people's value is not measured by their possessions or how much money they have in the bank." Looking to Mary, particularly in the Magnificat, the pope told young people, "the joy of the Gospel arises from a heart which, in its poverty, rejoices and marvels at the works of God."

## Around the diocese

### ST. LAWRENCE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

#### BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

**Massena** — Sacred Heart/St. Lawrence holds a Bereavement Support Group last Tuesday of each month.

**Time:** 2 p.m.

**Place:** Sacred Heart Convent

**Features:** A gathering of those who have had a recent loss of a loved one.

**Contact:** 315-769-3137

#### NOVENA FOR MILITARY

**Ogdensburg** - Notre Dame Church is

holding a Weekly novena for the safety of U.S. military personnel at a new time.

**Date:** Tuesday afternoons

**Time:** 1:30 p.m.

#### LATIN MASS

**Potsdam** — A Tridentine (Latin) Mass is celebrated each Sunday with Msgr.

Robert H. Aucoin as the celebrant

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

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

#### COMMUNITY FREE LUNCH

**Ogdensburg** — The Knights of Columbus Council 258 is starting its community

free lunch program again.

**Date:** Every Wednesday

**Time:** Noon

**Features:** Free hot lunch

#### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

**Massena** — St. Mary's & St. Joseph's hold Benediction and Adoration every Friday morning.

**Time:** 9 a.m. to 10

**Place:** St. Mary's Family Room

#### HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

**Ogdensburg** - St. Mary's is holding a monthly Holy Hour for Vocations.

**Date:** Thursday before the First Friday

**Time:** 7 p.m. concluding with Benediction at 8 p.m.

**Place:** Deacon Winter Chapel

### DIOCESAN EVENTS

#### WOMEN OF GRACE RETREAT

**Ogdensburg** — Women of Grace Retreat to be held again for a spirit filled weekend retreat.

**Date:** June 27-29

**Place:** Wadhams Hall

**Speaker:** Johnette Benkovic, founder and president of Living His Life Abundantly

**Features:** The weekend will be filled with the celebration of the Eucharist, Adoration, prayer, talks, music, and sacred sisterhood. The theme of the retreat is To Jesus Through Mary... "For Such A Time As This..." (Esther 4:14). Throughout this weekend, Johnette will unfold the truths of authentic femininity leaving a lasting imprint on the minds, hearts, and souls of those in attendance.

**Contact:** To learn more about attending this weekend or Women of Grace, contact Mary Dillenback at marydillenback@twcny.rr.com or call 771-1377.