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NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

SEPT. 3, 2014

On being a true Christian

VATICAN CITY (CNS)-- Envy, jealousy and meanness are human instincts, but they are not Christian, since the division they cause among believers is the work of the devil, Pope Francis said.

"Instead, God wants us to grow in the ability to come together, forgive each other

and love each other in order to be ever more like him," he said at his weekly general audience Aug. 27.

The Creed describes the Catholic Church as being "one and holy," the pope said, yet its members are sinners, who "experience, every day, their own fragility and

wretchedness. That's why this faith we profess impels us toward conversion, to have the courage to live in unity and holiness every day," he said.

"If we are not united, if we are not holy, it's because we are not being faithful to Jesus," who is the source of

all unity and holiness, the pope said. Divisions are manifested not only in schisms or major rifts among Christians; they also frequently occur on the local level, as "parochial sins," in Catholic parishes, schools, communities and organizations, Pope Francis said.

BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES

Marriage, sex and the church



PHOTO BY KRISTINA DEAN
Angelo Pietropaoli of Malone and Deacon Henry Leader of Gouverneur manned the registration desk at the Building Strong Families workshop held July 26 in Norfolk. The program was sponsored by the diocesan departments of Family Life, Evangelization and Faith Formation. Mr. Pietropaoli serves in the Family Life Office as director of Natural Family Planning with his wife Suzanne; Deacon Leader serves in marriage preparation with his wife Dayna. The day long program featured noted writer and speaker Dr. Angelo Frank who gave talks on sexuality, marriage and contraception.

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

End of life workshop on Saturday

Ogdensburg-- Father Tad Pacholczyk will present a workshop "Death, Dying and Decisions at the End of Life" Sept. 6 from 9 a.m. to 5 at Wadhams Hall

The event, sponsored by the diocesan Respect Life Office, will include a morning and afternoon presentation by Father Pacholczyk as well as a question and answer panel with Kathleen Gallagher, director of Pro-Life Activities for the New York State Catholic Conference.

A \$20 registration fee includes lunch, workshop materials.

Walk-ins are welcome

Mark your calendars

September will feature the annual Marriage Jubilee on Sept. 21 and

Harvest Mass on Sept. 28

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

A SUMMER LESSON OF FAITH



PHOTO BY VALERIE DALTON

The Catholic Community of Burke and Chateaugay Youth Group celebrated the end of the summer and their second year as a youth group with Noah's Ark in the Park Aug. 24. The children, including Alison Dumont of Chateaugay, shown above, read the story of Noah's Ark, played two-of-a-kind hide and go seek with the animals on the ark and enjoyed snacks and crafts.

WOMEN OF GRACE Living through the Mysteries of the Rosary... pages 8-9

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Telephone:

(315) 608-7556

E-mail:

news@northcountrycatholic.org

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EDITOR'S NOTE

A day of double celebration

On Sept. 4, 1954, my parents celebrated my mother's birthday in the best way they could imagine – by getting married.

Sixty years later – with plenty of better/worse and sickness/health behind them – the double celebration day is upon us again.

How blessed we are that four generations will be represented at this week's family party including the newest addition, beautiful little Fiona, just a couple weeks old.

Sixty years of marriage doesn't come without a bit of pain and agony, of course, espe-

cially if eight children, 21 grandchildren and five greats, are part of the equation.

But if you asked mom and dad how their marriage remained so strong, every one of us in the second and third generations would know their response.

They give all the credit to God.

If you expressed amazement at some hardship my mother has survived, she'd

scoff and remind you how long Jesus suffered on the cross for us.

If you gushed a bit about a fabulous vacation, she'd ask where you went to church on

Sunday.

What a legacy for those of us moving through 30-plus years of marriage and our children who are quickly adding new members to the family.

In a couple of weeks, Bishop LaValley will join with married couples across the diocese for the annual Marriage Jubilee. The Sept. 21 event is planned to honor couples celebrating significant anniversaries, like my parents, but every married couple in the diocese has been invited.

Our brand new director of the Family Life Office, Stephen Tartaglia, explains the reasoning. "The Family Life Office sees this event as a wonderful opportunity for those couples who are newly married to

come together and celebrate with couples who have truly lived the sacrament of matrimony," he said.

On our wedding days none of us knows what "living the sacrament of matrimony" will actually mean for us.

If my mother and father could have seen their future, there may have been a bit of hesitation when Father Frank White asked them their intentions back in 1954 ...but I doubt it.

When you know that God is with you - as they did and they do - there's no need to be afraid.

That's an excellent lesson we can all learn from the 50, 60 and 70 year married jubilarians in our midst!

Mary Lou
Kilian

A PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Beatitudes: the Lord's path to happiness

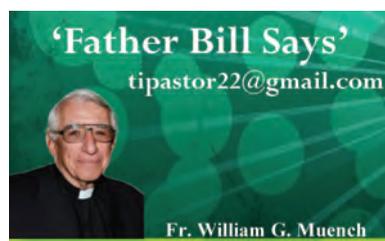
In a recent papal audience, Pope Francis gave the people there homework – indeed, it is homework for all of us. He suggested that we all would be better Christians if we learned, even memorized, the Beatitudes.

I suspect you remember the Beatitudes, statements of Jesus that are found in the Sermon on the Mount as recorded in St. Matthew's Gospel 5:3-12. So, I would like to follow Pope Francis' lead and write a bit on the Beatitudes as we work together to memorize them.

I know exactly why in my generation few of us memorized the Beatitudes; some of us never even studied the Beatitudes. The Beatitudes were in the back section of the Catechism – the Ten Commandments were near the front.

Each year, beginning in first grade, we began at the beginning of the book but never got to the last chapters like the section on the Beatitudes.

Then, in the second grade, we started at the beginning of the Catechism all over again and again never got to the Beatitudes. And such it continued each year.



So, now will be good time for us to get to the Beatitudes.

The United States Catechism for Adults helps us to understand the Beatitudes. The word, beatitude, refers to a state of deep happiness or joy. Jesus taught the Beatitudes as the foundation for a life of authentic Christian discipleship and the attainment of ultimate happiness. They give the spirit of love to the Ten Commandments.

So, I think I will use a few weeks to consider with you the Beatitudes and reflect on how these Beatitudes are the Lord's path to happiness for us. So, let's begin.

The first of the Beatitudes is "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven." Take a moment and read it over a few times as you begin to memorize it.

Poverty means need. A financially poor person needs more things – material things – money.

Someone "poor in spirit" realizes that they are in need.

Someone "poor in spirit" realizes that they need a new and stronger faith to discover happiness in life.

Someone "poor in spirit" realizes that they need divine support and strength of will to make their life meaningful and happy.

Where do we find this? Only in the Kingdom of Heaven.

The Kingdom of heaven – the Kingdom of God – is a dedication in faith of all those who are united in spirit with our Savior, Jesus Christ, knowing that they need a stronger faith. The Kingdom of Heaven is not about how much someone knows or how holy they are. The Kingdom of Heaven is about a strong dedication to the Lord, a trust and confidence in the Lord, a desire to strengthen faith in God.

We become part of the Kingdom of Heaven when we realize in poverty that we need the Lord – we need the Lord's help and concern – and have the

dedication to fill that need.

The Kingdom of Heaven begins with prayer. As a Christian, I pray because I believe in God's great love for me.

Prayer helps me to become a person – a loved person – living in the spirit of my God.

Prayer guides me to know who God is and who I am. God is love – God's love for us is demonstrated in Christ's life, death and resurrection. God's gift to me is the gift of faith, a faith in this God, who loves me so much. Recognizing God's gift to me, I will always recognize God's love and support and concern for me.

The Kingdom of Heaven becomes part of my life as a Christian each time I celebrate the Eucharist. The Blessed Eucharist unites me to my Lord and Savior in a very special and unique way. In this way, I have the power or Our Lord to make a difference in life. In this way, I will discover all I can accomplish and the happiness and satisfaction of a good Christian life.

Looking ahead: The second of the Beatitudes is "Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted."

Marriage Jubilee set for Sept. 21

OGDENSBURG – Bishop Terry R. LaValley will preside at the 2014 Marriage Jubilee to be held Sept. 21 at 2:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Cathedral

All married couples and their families are invited to gather and celebrate marriage with the bishop. Couples celebrating significant wedding anniversaries will be recognized.

Stephen Tartaglia, diocesan director of family life ministry, said, "The Family Life Office sees this event as a wonderful opportunity for those couples who are newly married to come together and celebrate with couples who have truly lived the sacrament of matrimony. We welcome all married couples to come together with their families for this event."

Couples celebrating jubilees who wish to receive a certificate must register through the parish before Sept. 9.

This event is co-sponsored by the Family Life Office and the St. Lawrence Society of permanent deacons in the diocese.

Further information is available from the diocesan Office of Family Life at 315-393-2920 ext 1420.

AT THE PLATTSBURGH PREGNANCY CENTER



The Plattsburgh Pregnancy Center is now open. The center offers free confidential services including pregnancy testing, counseling and referrals. Shown during the first week at the center are, from left, Linda York, center supporter; and Kathleen (Kitty) St. Denis, Carol Hoover, and Linda Griffin, center counselors. Those wishing to volunteer or donate, should contact Kitty St. Denis, office manager, at kstdenis@charter.net or 518-563-2943. An open house at the center has been planned for Sept. 10.

Harvest Mass to be held Sept. 28

MOOERS FORKS- Bishop Terry R. LaValley will celebrate the annual Diocesan Harvest Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Ann's Church Sept. 28 at 2 p.m.

Farmers and their families are encouraged to take part.

The Harvest Mass of Thanksgiving has been held each fall in the Diocese of Ogdensburg since November 2001, following a pastoral priority of Bishop Gerald M. Barbarito.

The location varies year to year so that over the course of time, the Mass can be offered in many different parts of the North Country.

During the past three years, the Harvest Mass has been celebrated in Gouverneur, Brushton and Lowville.

Local and area farmers will be invited to take liturgical roles in the upcoming liturgy in Mooers Forks.

A reception will follow at the parish hall.



Love **CHERISH** *Honor*

Marriage Jubilee

Diocesan Celebration of Marriage

"A time to gather and celebrate marriage with Bishop Terry LaValley"

September 21, 2014 at 2:30 pm

St. Mary's Cathedral

Ogdensburg



ALL COUPLES AND THEIR FAMILIES ARE WELCOME.

Couples celebrating jubilees and wishing to receive a certificate need to register for this event through the parish before September 9th

This event is co-sponsored by the St. Lawrence Society and the Family Life Office.

St. Mary's Church, Canton, NY – NEW SCHEDULE
Beginning the weekend of September 6 & 7th

Masses

Saturday – 5 pm Vigil Mass

Sunday – 9 am, 11:15 am, **& 5 pm**

Sacrament of Penance (Confession)

Tuesday – 6:30 to 7:30 pm

Saturday – 3:45 to 4:45 pm

Eucharistic Adoration (In Chapel)

Mon., Wed., Thur., Fri –

6 am to 5 pm

Tues. – 6am to 9 pm

Holy Hour for Vocations – Thur. - 4 to 5 pm



Dr. Angela Frank leads day-long program in Norfolk

Workshop explores building strong families

By Kristina Dean
Staff writer

NORFOLK-- In the "Building Strong Families: Marriage, Sex, and the Church" workshop, held July 26, author and speaker Dr. Angela Frank's talks centered on the message of knowing the reality of the church's teachings and trusting in God and His plan.

Approximately 45 people attended the workshop sponsored by the diocesan offices of Family Life, Evangelization, and Faith Formation at the Church of the Visitation Parish Center.

During the full-day event, Dr. Frank gave three talks on the church teachings on sexuality, marriage, and contraception.

Dr. Frank tied in society's focus on contraception with a fear of the future, or lack of trust in God.

People allow God into all other areas of their lives, but when it comes to money and sex, those are the "last bastions," she said.

They fear what their futures may look like without contraception, she said.

War in our souls

Dr. Frank said struggles over trusting God with money and our sex lives boils down to the "real war in our souls."

"How much do we trust that God's plan will make us

happy," she asked.

God wishes for us to be happy, she said, and we need to know the reality about sex and reproduction.

Sex is meant for emotionally bonding and for reproduction, even when we wish otherwise, she said. If we choose to fight this reality, we set ourselves up for frustration and unhappiness. But if we are open to these realities, we can live healthy and intelligent sex lives.

Our reality is given to us, not created by us, Dr. Frank said. During the sexual revolution, sex became about recreation, and the "no strings attached" sexual movement which separated sex from love. People associated freedom with having more choices.

"In this consumerist view, people equated lots of options with freedom. But it's a lot deeper than Pepsi versus Coke," she said. "The sexual revolution centered around the promise of freedom, but true freedom is the giving of ourselves."

Role of technology

Technology plays a large role in this perception of an incorrect reality, she said.

Using Facebook and texting as examples, Dr. Frank explained that we use technology to control our relationships, creating this second life on-line that has nothing to do with real life.



PHOTOS BY KRISTINA DEAN

Bishop LaValley joined the participants at the "Building Strong Families: Marriage, Sex, and the Church" workshop, held July 26 in Norfolk. Above, he greets Mary Skillan, campus ministry director in Plattsburgh, and SUNY Plattsburgh students.

"People are not connecting at their real selves," she said. "They may not know who their real self is. This can move easily to sex, which leads to pornography," she said.

This becomes more important than real life relationships, leading to the "phenomenon of hooking up", she said, with the widespread belief that love can be separated from sex with no emotional connection. People feel they are entitled to sex without pregnancy.

"We have a society saturated with contraception," she said. "Our culture is what we get when we think female fertility is the problem.."

Impact on teenagers

Dr. Frank said this especially impacts teenagers who are having sex. They believe that they won't get pregnant, that it won't happen to them.

Three out of ten teenage girls who are having sex will get pregnant by the age of 20, she said.

And there are links between contraception and abortion.

"When contraception is provided, they engage in more risk taking behavior," she said. "It creates a mindset of 'I have a right to sex without pregnancy.'" So, when they become pregnant, they are totally unprepared, and they back up contraception by seeking abortion. The abortion is needed to clean up the mess of an unplanned pregnancy," Dr. Frank said.

The purpose of sex

We need to pay attention to the real reality, not what we want sex to be, and not try to make it something it's not, she said. "The purpose of sex is for bonding and reproduction, she said. Its by-product is pleasure. God made it pleasurable to ensure the human race continues."

Our reproductive systems are biological like an animals, but we are spiritual creatures, which means we have the power to know and to love, Dr. Frank said.

"God gives us guidelines to be happy. If we follow them, everything goes better. We can ask ourselves, 'how can I work with it?' or we can fight

against it and produce a culture of people who are at war with our bodies," Dr. Frank said.

Happiness is deeper than pleasure, it results from giving of yourself, she said. We are meant for a giving of ourselves, and we can't be happy if we fight against that. It's a choice of self-gift versus self-gratification.

"We only find ourselves in giving ourselves away," she said.

About the speaker

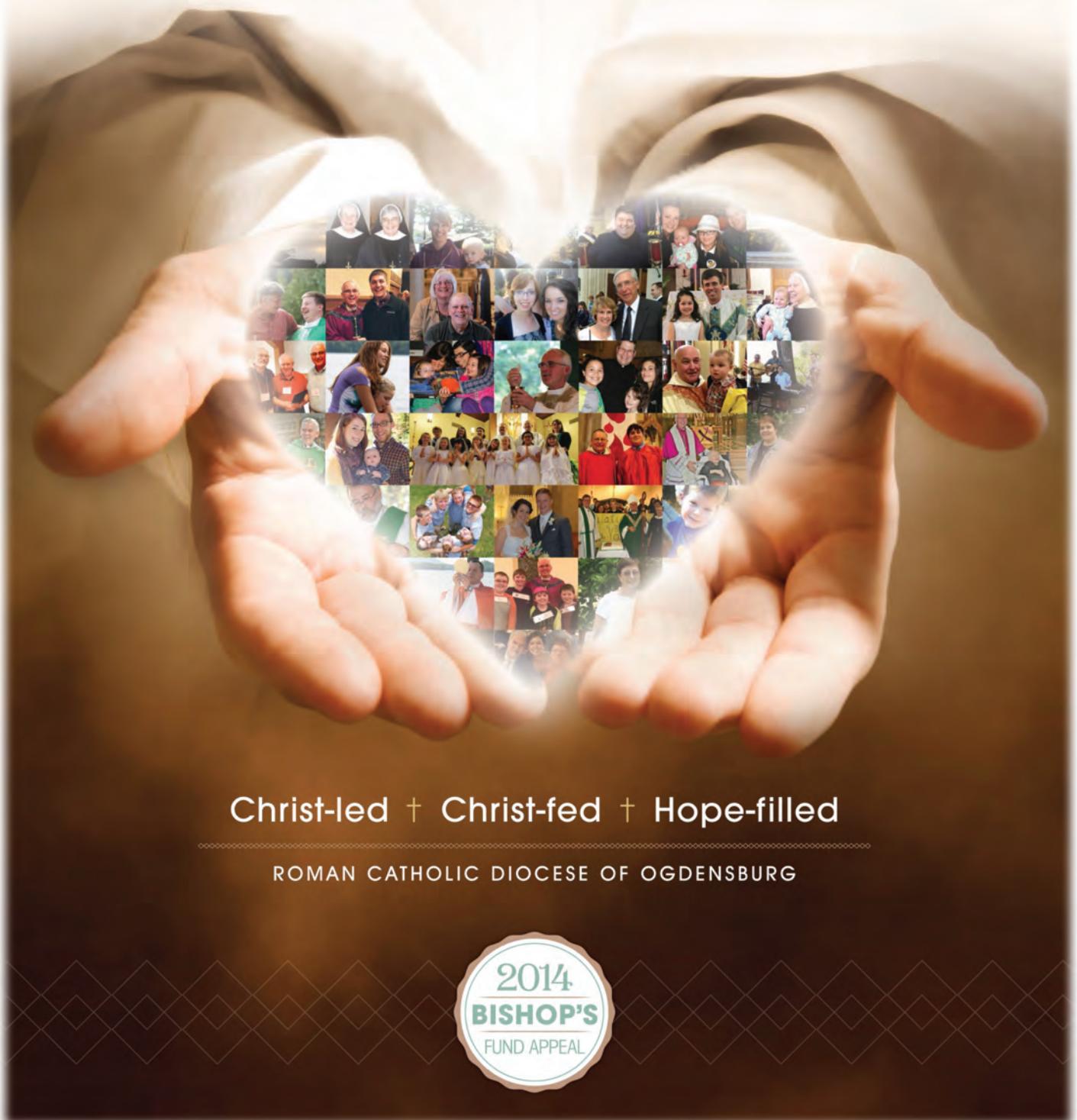
Dr. Frank earned a BA in Theology at the University of Dallas, and MA in Philosophy from the Catholic University of America, and a PhD in Theology from Boston College. Since 2007, she has been a professor at St. John's Seminary in Brighton, Mass, which she is currently Director of the Master of Theological Studies for the New Evangelization.

She is the author of *Contraception and Catholicism: What the Church Teaches and Why*, and *Margaret Sanger's Eugenic Legacy: The Control of Female Fertility*.



Dr. Angela Frank Who presented the program is shown Father Stephen Rocker, pastor in Gouverneur.

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Funeral held for Br. Daniel Lauber, CFC, Massena native

NEW ROCHELLE, NY – A Mass of Christian Burial for Brother Daniel A. Lauber, 60, a native of Massena, was held July 26 at Holy Family Church.

He died July 20 at St. Dominic's Hospital, Jackson, Mississippi, and was buried at the Christian Brothers cemetery in West Park, NY.

Brother Lauber was born Jan 9, 1954 in Massena, the son of Allan G. and M. Jean Deshaies Lauber.

After attending St. Mary's Elementary School and graduating in June of 1972 from Holy Family High School in Massena he entered the Congregation of Christian Brothers on Sept. 5, 1972 taking his first vows on Aug. 12, 1974 and final vows on Au-

gust 21, 1980.

He received bachelor and masters degrees in biology from Iona College, New Rochelle, and went on to receive a masters in counseling-psychology from Manhattan College in New York City.

Brother Lauber's ministry of 42 years took him to many positions including Edmund Rice Hall, New Rochelle; Bishop Hendricken High School, Warwick, Rhode Island; All Hallows High School, Bronx; Catholic Memorial High School, West Roxbury, Massachusetts; Blessed Sacrament-St. Gabriel High School, New Rochelle, and most recently to St. Joseph Catholic School, Madison, Mississippi, where he served as a guidance counselor and the Christian Brothers Community in Madison.

Brother Lauber is survived by three sisters: Nancy (Robert) Fregoe and Donna

Lauber of Massena, and Debra (Wayne) Levac of Cornwall, Ontario; two nephews Dylan and Drew Levac an aunt Yvette (Vern) Peets and an uncle Jack Deshaies along with several cousins. His parents and grandparents predeceased him.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Joseph Catholic School Endowment Fund, PO Box 2027, Madison, MS 39110.

Protecting God's Children

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has scheduled sessions for Protecting God's Children for Adults.

Pre-registration online is required in order to participate. Participants may preregister at www.virtus.org by selecting the registration button and following the directions.

All employees and volunteers who participate in church sponsored activities with minor are required to participate in this training.

Further information is available from Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, 315-393-2920, ext. 1440.

Sept. 4 - 8 p.m., Wakefield Recital Hall/SUNY Potsdam

Sept. 6 - 10 a.m., Seton Academy, Plattsburgh

Sept. 10 - 6 p.m., Seton Academy, Plattsburgh

Sept. 11 - 6 p.m., St. Mary's School, Canton

Sept. 17 - 6 p.m., Trinity Catholic School Massena

Sept. 17 - 6 p.m., St. Bernard's School, Saranac Lake

Sept. 18 - 5:30 p.m., St. Mary's School, Ticonderoga



CAR RAFFLE

Our Annual Car Raffle is underway. Tickets will be sold after the Saturday and Sunday Masses. They are also available at the rectory Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The drawing will be held after the 10 a.m. Mass on Sunday October 12, 2014 and the winner may choose the car or \$15,000 in cash.

The price for the ticket is \$20 or six (6) tickets for \$100 with all proceeds going to St. Agnes School.

The car this year is a 2015 Subaru Outback fully equipped from Jerry Strack of Central Garage here in Lake Placid.

If you wish to buy tickets by mail, please fill out the page & enclose your check made out to **St. Agnes Church**

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Telephone _____

Number of Tickets _____ Amount of check \$ _____

\$20 EACH or 6 for \$100

You do not have to be present to win.

NCC

Bishop's Schedule

Sept. 3 - 9:30 a.m., Diocesan Department Heads Meeting at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg

Sept. 4 - 10:30 a.m., Investment Advisory Committee Meeting at the Brzana Conference Center in Ogdensburg

Sept. 5 - 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral followed by visit and lunch with home schooled children and parents at the Bishop's Residence

Sept. 6 - 9 a.m., End of Life Issues Conference at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg

Sept. 8 - 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Mary's Church in Canton

Sept. 9 - 9:45 a.m., Episcopal Council Meeting at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg

Rest in Peace

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

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

Sept. 4 - Rev. Walter J. Charbonneau, 1982; Msgr. Robert H. Giroux, 2000

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

Sept. 6 - Rev. James Connor, 1930

Sept. 7 - Rev. Manuel Belleville, 1964

Sept. 8 - Rev. William H. Coffey, 2000

Sept. 9 - Rev. Michael Olivetti, 1863; Rev. Thomas P. Fitzgerald, 1914; Rev. Antonio Audet, 1957

Environmental Stewardship

Environmental Be-Attitudes Continued...

As we read the Gospels we become aware of how Jesus was in touch with the air, sea, water, and earth. He recognized their goodness and power. In fact, if you took a highlighter and marked the passages where Jesus is outdoors, there would be very little of the text unmarked. Listed below are a few more be-attitudes gleaned from Creation to teach us:

"Blessed are the flowers of the fields; their beauty bears witness to God's prodigal ministry.

Blessed are the ubiquitous sparrows; their carefree attitude to life gives us a lesson to trust in providence.

Blessed is the wind, coming from where we do not know, to set sails in motion, to breathe life into dying embers; it reminds us of the mysterious workings of the Spirit of God.

Blessed is the rain which falls without favor on all fields; in it we see a reflection of God's indiscriminate love for all God's children.

Blessed are the leaves, which know when to let go, and do so in a blaze of color; they show us how to die."

(Taken from "Windows on the Gospel" by Flor McCarthy)

To Report Abuse

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact **Victims Assistance Coordinator**, Terrianne Yanulavich, Adult & Youth Counseling Services of Northern New York, PO Box 2446, Plattsburgh, NY, 12901; e-mail: terriannyanulavich@yahoo.com Phone: 518-483-3261; or Father James Seymour, the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy at 315-393-2920, ext. 1340

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Sr. Lucille Beaulieu looks back on 67 years of ministry

NORTH BANGOR-The parishioners of St. Augustine's Parish in North Bangor honored Servite Sister Lucille Beaulieu at a retirement party Aug. 3. Sister Lucille, a native of Massena, had served as pastoral associate at St. Augustine's. She wrote a short autobiography that was printed in the parish bulletin for the occasion.

It follows:

I will try to give a little 'resume' of my life. I was born second oldest of 11 children of Odilon & Emilienne Beaulieu - five brothers and five sisters. One brother and four sisters are still alive. The baby Agnes is 58 years old and my younger sibling is 82.

I left by train from Massena with three other girls; one left one week later but Sister Louise Genest and Sister Rita Mary Morrisette are now retired.

My father told everyone not to worry because he said I would be back in two weeks.

I started teaching in Iowa, then Colorado, on to Detroit, Michigan, Omaha, Al-bion and Scottsbluff, Nebraska and in Massena.

I spent a year as a Servite foreign exchange Sister in France working in a private school, some Church work, work with the handicapped in a big center, back to Ne-



Servite Sister Lucille Beaulieu is shown with her siblings during an Aug. 3 retirement party at St. Augustine's in North Bangor. From left are Shirley Beaulieu, Marc Beaulieu, Sr. Lucille, Victor Fregoe, Dora Fregoe, Anite Beattie and Larry Beattie.

braska, finally Lowville and then here.

I believe that says briefly what I did for 67 years - teaching, religious formation, parish work, hospital, nursing home and the homebound.

Now I'm finally formally retiring. This will be the hardest thing for me to do at my going-away party - to say good-bye to my friends

here at St. Augustine's and at St. Mary's (Brushton).

I will never forget you but you have to know that I will hold you close to my heart and in my prayers each day. I will truly miss you and especially your high fives from the children and handshakes and beautiful smiles from all. God bless each and everyone with special graces and blessings.

October is
Respect Life Month
 We are inviting you to consider
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to appear in our October 1st issue of the

The Diocese of Ogdensburg

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Women of Grace



Johnnette Benkovic, right, founder of the Women of Grace ministry, led a Woman of Grace retreat June 27-29 at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg. She is shown above with Kathy Mathieson Hillary, director of Outreach Mission for the Women of Grace; and Bishop LaValley. Kristina Dean, one of the participants of the retreat shares reflections on the experience in this article.



Among the 85 retreatants were Marti Armstrong, Poughkeepsie; Valerie Pachla, Schroon Lake; and Linda Pierson, Brownville.

Living through the Mysteries of the Rosary: Jesus through Mary

By Kristina Dean
Staff writer

Last year during a vacation in South Carolina, I lost my then seven-year-old son Alex, just for an hour, on North Myrtle Beach.

We heard warnings that five people had died that week due to strong undertow and dangerous waves. The life guards were very active that day, only allowing people to go into the surf up to their waists. So when Alex disappeared, I thought he'd drowned.

It was agony, and I still carry the scars on my heart from that day. Eventually he was found two miles down, where he'd been walking, searching for his mom. He'd become disoriented coming out of the ocean and couldn't locate me.

That hour haunts me in the quiet hours of the night when I can't sleep. If I close my eyes, I can feel it - the deep, immediate plunge into terror, and the absolute desperation, barely holding on so I didn't shatter.

Immediately afterward, I remember wondering how

our Blessed Mother Mary was able to keep from coming apart when her son was missing for three days. I could barely take 60 minutes.

We are called to be like Mary, and to live our lives through all the mysteries. This was one of the themes discussed during the Women of Grace retreat

At some point in her life every mother experiences this fear, perhaps for just a moment when she loses track of him in the grocery store or tragically, perhaps longer. In doing so, mothers come close to the Blessed Mother through this mystery of the Rosary.

We are called to be like Mary, and to live our lives through all the mysteries. This was one of the themes discussed during the Women of Grace retreat recently held at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg.

Approximately 85 women attended the three-day retreat, listening to Johnette

Benkovic, founder of the Women of Grace ministry and television host of the Women of Grace program on EWTN, as well as Bishop Terry LaValley and Father Mark R. Reilly, chaplain for the retreat.

I especially recalled my experience with Alex when Father Reilly began his Saturday Mass homily by mentioning the panic Joseph and Mary must have felt during those three days when they searched for the young Jesus.

Every mother contains within her this anxiety, born of love for their child. In this way as mothers, our love echoes the closeness and love of the Blessed Mother and her Son.

This is one of the thoughts I carried away with me from the retreat, this closeness of mother and child, and of how my life as a mother and Woman of Grace ties into it.

For many years, I lost my identity and much of my faith. I could not ascertain my role as a female within the Catholic Church.

Before God's grace brought me back to the

church, I in my ignorance, did not know what the role of women was, so I struggled to fit in and to find a place for myself. Look to Mary for an example, I was told. This made me angry. I thought, erroneously, that I was being compared to Mary, our Blessed Mother. I wondered how I could ever compare with her; how could any woman be like her? It was unfair, I thought, to hold her up as an example, when as a wife and mother, I could never aspire to be as sinless or as pure. Why even try when I could never be perfect?

I had it all wrong.

When we allow the Holy Spirit to work within us, when we allow ourselves to follow the three main precepts of the Women of Grace ministry, which are trust, receptivity and surrender, we become more like Mary, and in doing so we find our role in our faith and in the church as women.

It is an important role. Besides loving and praying, we must allow ourselves to be permeated with the Holy Spirit, and to bear Jesus within our hearts to others.

We must live through the mysteries.

It reminds me of sewing a garment; this is ironic considering I don't sew. But I've watched my grandmother make enough clothes to remember seeing her laying a paper pattern over cloth and cutting, using it later to sew something beautiful.

If we lay the pattern of the Rosary against our lives, using it to cut a rough pattern, what we have left perhaps, if we are blessed, is like a rough-hewn image of the Blessed Mother. We are not born sinless, we are not always filled with the Holy Spirit, we are not always pure of heart and filled with love. But by applying the mysteries of the Rosary to our lives like a pattern, perhaps we can be closer to her, and through this, be closer to her Son.

I thought about the Joyful Mysteries, especially.

If we trust and surrender and say "yes" to the workings of the Holy Spirit in our lives, then we are like Mary when she gives her complete and utter fiat to the Lord.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Women

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

If we love our neighbor, we are like Mary when she visits St. Elizabeth.

When we bear Jesus in our hearts to the lives of others, we are like Mary when she carries Him in her womb to our world.

By following this pattern, we can grow in closeness to our Blessed Mother, who then brings us to her Son. Wherever Mary is, her Son is there as well. They cannot be separated.

During his homily, Father Reilly discussed the Blessed Mother's closeness to her Son using Bell's Theorem. I understood that previously, it was thought most things are influenced by other things around them. Father demonstrated this by blowing at a candle. His breath caused the candle flame to flicker, and we could see one thing caused the other. This cause and effect happens no faster than the speed of light. But in Bell's Theorem, if you take two intimately united items, separate them, then stimulate the atoms of one, the other instantly reacts as well, faster than the speed of light no matter the distance between them.

Father Reilly tied this idea to fetal microchimerism, where a baby's cells in utero pass through the placenta to the mother, and stay with her even after the baby is born. The mother continues to carry these cells with her for the rest of her life. And the same happens to the baby. Some of the mother's cells cross over into the baby and remain in the child for the rest of his/her life.

Every child born contains some of the mother's cells, and every mother contains a part of every child ever conceived within her. A mother keeps her children close to her heart always, emotionally, spiritually, and according to microchimerism, physically. If every mother and child are this intimately connected, think of the ramifications.

This blew my mind. I thought about all the times that I'd wake up instantly, seconds before my newborn began to cry. There were many times I just knew something was wrong with one of my children. A mother's intuition. The closeness between a mother and child. Pieces of all my children exists inside me, and I in them. They are always with me. And this is also true for our Blessed Mother and her Son.

Imagine her suffering, seeing her Son dying on the cross. A piece of her, physically, was with him, and as He watched his mother suffer a piece of Him was with her. This creates a depth to this mystery that I previously hadn't thought existed.

Again, my mind goes back to when my son, Alex, as a four-year-old had open heart surgery. Sitting there by his bedside, I suffered right along with him. How I longed to take his place! Mothers and their children are so intimately connected. And through this connection, through a mother's heart, I was experiencing in a very small way, some of that mystery.

During those horrible moments when Alex was lost to



Kristina Dean, author of these reflections, served as leader of song throughout the Weekend.



Joyce Larkins, Clayton; Lora Stopper, Clayton; Patti Wood, Clayton; Meg Ringer, Alexandria Bay; and Fran Lynch, Clayton Were among the Women of Grace Who took part in the retreat.

me on that beach, I experienced something that is hard to talk about, let alone explain. I felt as if I were standing on the edge of a precipice, teetering over it. I felt close to losing myself.

But then something wonderful happened. In the midst of all that agony, fear and anxiety, I felt something. Physically, I was standing near the edge of an immense ocean, so large and huge. Spiritually, I felt in my inner heart that in a similar fashion I was near something else that was immense and huge, something inexplicably and indefinably strong and powerful.

It was there for me upon which to draw strength. It was God's reassurance that I could find him when things became bad. It was a huge reassurance, and to be honest, the only thing that kept me functioning in that place. It was through living a piece of that particular mystery that this was revealed to me.

Our Lord is always with us. Even in despairing, fearful moments. Through Mary, He remains with us, closely united. Everything in our lives is there to bring us closer to Christ, to make us into who He means for us to be.

As a women and mothers, by praying the Rosary, meditating on the mysteries, living through them, by trusting and being open to the workings of the Holy Spirit, and by surrendering to His will, we step closer to Mary and her Son and we ready ourselves for what is to come.

"The more we honor the Blessed Virgin, the more we honor Jesus Christ, because we honor Mary only that we may the more perfectly honor Jesus, since we go to her only as he way by which we are to find the end we are seeking, which is Jesus."
St. Louis De Montfort



Johnette Benkovic spends time With Amy Schirmer, Ogdensburg Christina Carlson and Joseph, Lake Placid; Meghan Dillenback and Kolbe, Fishers Landing.

WASHINGTON LETTER

Debating the just-war theory

By Mark Pattison
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- In the days that followed Pope Francis' Aug. 18 remarks on U.S. airstrikes earlier in the month against Islamic State, the buzz was about whether the pope had actually given his consent to them.

In light of the current threat from the Islamic State and past Iraqi wars

The more sobering post-buzz reality is how one stops what, in the pontiff's words, is an "unjust aggressor."

Does the United States go in, alone or as part of a broader coalition of nations? Or, to use the language of just-war theory, is the United Nations the "competent authority" to judge these particulars?

Pope Francis appeared to endorse the U.N. during his in-flight news conference returning to the Vatican from South Korea.

"A single nation cannot judge how to stop this, how to stop an unjust aggressor. After the Second World War, there arose the idea of the United Nations. That is where we should discuss: 'Is there an unjust aggressor? It seems there is. How do we stop him?'" he said.

"The U.N. charter permits military intervention in response to armed attack at the invitation of a legitimate government or with the approval of the U.N. Security Council," said Gerard F. Powers, professor of the practice of Catholic peacebuilding at the Kroc



CNS PHOTO/BERND WUESTNECK, EPA

Military supplies for the fight against the terror group Islamic State are prepared in a German armed forces warehouse in Waren, Germany, Aug. 27. Catholic experts are debating the just-war theory in light of the threat from the Islamic State and past Iraqi wars.

Institute for International Peace Studies at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana.

"In this case, you can make the case that the unilateral intervention is, from a legal point of view, legitimate, because it's at the request of a legitimate government, in this case, the Iraqi government," he added.

"We should try to build as big a coalition as possible, and the U.N. is a venue to do that," said Jim Nicholson, who was U.S. ambassador to the Vatican during the first term of President George W. Bush. "President Bush tried to do that before going into Iraq (in 2003). He got very close," but was ultimately unsuccessful, he added.

Speaking about the Islamic State situation, Nicholson said the United Nations was "a legitimate place" to try to build a coalition.

"It's interesting to analyze whether that becomes sort of the collective prudential judgment to fulfill that justification. Does (the U.N.) then become the body that's responsible for the common good? I think you could probably argue that, yeah, it

could be legitimized that way, that they could collectively begin to take steps. I think the United States would certainly welcome that."

Nicholson said trying to convince the Vatican of the U.S. justification to invade Iraq in 2003 was "the biggest diplomatic challenge I had in the four years I had as ambassador. In January of 2003 at his annual address to the diplomatic corps, (St. John Paul II) looked right at me and said, 'No to war,' and he went on to say that war is a failure of mankind -- the last resort -- and that war should never be prosecuted when there are any other alternatives remaining." And despite bringing in Catholic philosopher Michael Novak and papal biographer George Weigel to bolster his case, Nicholson never succeeded in changing the pope's mind.

Robert George, McCormick professor of jurisprudence at Princeton University and the former chairman of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, advocates military action against Is-

lamic State. He recently launched an online petition, already with more than 12,000 signatures, calling for Islamic State's military destruction in order to protect religious minorities in the region.

George said a "better model" than 2003 is "(President) George H.W. Bush in the first Iraq war (in 1991). Most of the world united to evict Saddam Hussein from Kuwait.

"He (Bush) got a lot of criticism for not deposing Saddam at the time. The principle was that you can't permit one nation to invade another nation with impunity in order to acquire territory. Bush held back from deposing him," George added. "When you create a coalition like that, you stick to what the coalition's goals are. And you don't go beyond what the nations agreed to."

Neither George nor Nicholson discount the nature of the threat.

"Force is justified when it's necessary to protect innocent people against atrocities. Christians, Yezidis, Shia Muslims, even some Sunni Muslim communities

in Iraq are being subjected to genocides," George said. "There is no other way to prevent these genocides -- burying people alive, cutting off people's head, raping women, torturing people. Negotiations are impossible. There are no borders to push them back to. I know of no one who thinks we have a hope of protecting them" absent military action.

"I raised the questions again in this moral justification of today's weaponry and today's communication and the mindset that this caliphate has," Nicholson said. "Do you have to wait until you yourself become a victim, or do you take action to protect your people and assist others? I think it's the subject of just enormous importance. And it needs to be dealt with posthaste."

Notre Dame's Powers said any confrontation with Islamic State fighters would not be just another engagement in Iraq.

"It's important to first understand that we've been deeply involved in the conflicts in Iraq one way or another for decades," dating back to the 1980s when Iraq invaded Iran twice, he said.

"This particular intervention is just a continuing of the Iraqi intervening of 2003, which created the conditions for massive involvement in Iraq -- which created the conditions that led to the formation of the current problem. And we've been engaged in one form or another -- deeply engaged -- since we overthrown the regime."

Powers said then-Secretary of State Colin Powell's invoking the apocryphal Pottery Barn rule in 2002 -- "you broke it, you bought it" -- is "not quite the aphorism" that applies to Iraq. Instead, he added, "we broke it and we need to help fix it."

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CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Groups lash out at new opt-out rules for HHS mandate

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- Pro-life groups that have battled with the federal government since the first rules were issued on contraceptive coverage in 2012 derided the government's latest rules allowing religious institutions -- and potentially some for-profit companies -- to opt out of the contraceptive mandate in the Affordable Care Act. "Once again HHS (the federal Department of Health and Human Services) continues to violate the conscience rights of Americans while claiming just the opposite," said an Aug. 22 statement from Charmaine Yoest, president and CEO of Americans United for Life. "Our own organization is a good example of the challenge posed: Americans United for Life is a public interest law firm that opposes life-ending drugs and devices required under the HHS mandate," Yoest said. "Nevertheless, because we are not a faith-based group, we may be forced to purchase life-ending drugs and devices following the radical pro-abortion political agenda of this administration." An Aug. 22 fact sheet from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services outlined the interim final regulations, issued after two Supreme Court actions: a June 30 ruling that under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, closely held companies may be exempted from the contraceptive coverage requirement as a religious right, and a July 3 temporary stay granted to Christian-run Wheaton College in Illinois from complying with the HHS mandate.

Cardinal George joins cancer drug clinical trial

CHICAGO (CNS) -- Chicago Cardinal Francis E. George is participating in a clinical research trial for a new cancer drug, the Archdiocese of Chicago announced Aug. 22. Cardinal George was first diagnosed with bladder cancer in 2006 and had a recurrence of cancer announced in 2012. The clinical trial at the University of Chicago involves a drug, currently known as MPDL3280A, that is designed to activate cells of the immune system, enabling them to attack cancer cells, the archdiocese said in a statement released to media. "This approach differs from that of traditional chemotherapy, which uses drugs designed to be toxic to cancer cells," the statement said. "A preliminary trial of this new drug has shown promising results for patients who have the same type of cancer as Cardinal George." The University of Chicago reported that in the first round of the clinical trial, 43 percent of patients with advanced bladder cancer "showed evidence of a 'durable effect.'" While undergoing the trial, the cardinal will maintain his regular schedule, the archdiocese said. After his 2006 bladder cancer diagnosis, Cardinal George had surgery at Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood to remove his bladder, his prostate gland and parts of his ureters. Five years passed without a recurrence of the cancer, but in August 2012, doctors found cancerous cells in one of his kidneys and in a nodule that was removed from his liver.

Catholic schools determine how to take part in ALS fundraising effort

By Carol Zimmermann
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- The ALS Ice Bucket Challenge, a major fundraising effort that began this summer to raise money to research a cure for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or Lou Gehrig's disease, has left many people scratching their heads.

The challenge involves dumping a bucket of ice water on someone's head and nominating others to go through the same process within 24 hours or make a donation to the charity of one's choice to support further research to treat and cure ALS.

The challenge went viral on social media. As of Aug. 26, the ALS Association had received \$88.5 million in donations from July 29-Aug. 26 compared to \$2.6 million during the same time period a year ago.

Friends have challenged friends on Facebook and celebrities have joined the fundraising fray. Now with schools starting their new year, Catholic schools across the country have also considered the challenge. But there has been some hesitation, particularly after reports that the ALS Association, which is researching for a cure for the disease, uses embryonic stem cells in some of its research.

Some dioceses have issued statements urging schools that participate to send donations to other research or-

ganizations, such as the John Paul II Medical Research Institute in Iowa City, Iowa, which does not use embryonic stem cells in its research.

The Catholic Church opposes any research involving the destruction of human embryos to create stem cells. Adult stem cells, so called because they are derived from living human beings, also have promising scientific value but do not require destruction of an embryo. The reprogrammed stem cells can sometimes be used to replace damaged cells.

Carrie Munk, a spokeswoman for the ALS Association, told Catholic News Service in an Aug. 26 email that the organization primarily funds adult stem cell research and is at the end of funding one single embryonic study, which is funded by one specific donor.

She said that if someone "is uncomfortable with any type of research we do, they can restrict their gift" stipulating that it not be used in the embryonic stem study or any stem cell research.

In a statement about its research funding, the association said it "primarily funds adult stem cell research. Currently, the association is funding one study using embryonic stem cells, and the stem cell line was established many years ago under ethical guidelines set by the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke."

An Aug. 20 statement from the Archdiocese of St. Louis points out: "There is nothing

immoral about raising awareness for diseases and ethical research towards curing diseases; there is no reason Catholics can't participate" in the ice bucket challenge." The key, however, is to ensure that donations from participation are being utilized to support morally licit research."

The statement also explains the church's stance against embryonic stem cell research, saying it is "always morally objectionable because a human person must be destroyed to harvest his or her stem cells."

The archdiocesan statement quotes the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, which said: "The use of embryonic stem cells or differentiated cells derived from them -- even when these are provided by other researchers through destruction of embryos or when such cells are commercially available -- presents serious problems from the standpoint of cooperation in evil and scandal."

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SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

We are indeed our brothers' keepers

"Am I my brother's keeper?" was the lame excuse Cain gave to God ages ago when asked where his brother Abel was.

At many different times, God tells that we are responsible for each other's well-being. Each person on this earth can have an effect for the good or evil of our society, and He will call us to an accounting at the end of our lives.

In today's first reading, God says to Ezekiel, "You, son of man, I have appointed watchman for the house of Israel". Then, by order of God, Ezekiel is to draw a picture for his fellow countrymen showing what a watchman is like and what he is expected to do.

He draws a picture for them of Israel at war. A

watchman is chosen to be on the lookout for the enemy forces. When he spots them, he is to sound a trumpet to warn them. If they heed his warning and take shelter, then they will be saved, but if they ignore the trumpet alert and perish, it will not be held against the watchman. He incurs no guilt, because he has

done his duty. He has given them due warning. Now, it is the duty of each individual citizen to act accordingly; if he fails to do so, he bears the responsibility for whatever harm comes.

In an earlier chapter of Ezekiel, we find the same words, but with a shocking twist; God is seen as warning the people that He Himself may come at an unexpected hour to call

them to judgment! We are indeed our brother's keeper--we are watchmen for the Lord's coming!

In the Gospel reading from Matthew, we have the same message. Each one of us has a duty to warn our brother and sister of the consequences when they sin. First, take them aside privately so as not to embarrass them. If they don't do anything about it, then take one or two witnesses with you when you warn them. If all else fails, call the Church together (i.e., ask the pastor to help you out!). These are the rules for fraternal correction. When are we "off the hook" from this procedure? Spiritual writers say we're excused if we know the person will get extremely angry, or when we're certain that it won't work!

St. Paul, in the second reading, backs up this teaching when he says,

SEPT. 7

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

READINGS

Ezekiel 33:7-9

Romans 13:8-10

Matthew 18:15-20

"Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another, for one who loves another has fulfilled the Law." All ten commandments are fulfilled when we love God and our neighbor as we love ourselves.

We mustn't let ourselves off too lightly. The process of forgiveness and the work of reconciliation is likely one of the most difficult aspects of Christian life for many followers of Jesus.

The well-worn maxim "forgive and forget" can apply to many grievances. Indeed, psychologically it may be easier to settle on forgiveness in one's heart and let

go of the past, than to wrestle with the complicated process of reconciliation.

Forgiveness can allow us to put the past behind us, to achieve a certain measure of peace even if relationships are not restored. Then, reconciliation is more difficult, because it struggles with the demands of justice.

Reconciliation requires an encounter between offender and offended and a movement on the part of both toward a restored equilibrium.

It is no wonder that in his Second Letter to the Corinthians, St. Paul calls this task the ministry of reconciliation, for it is truly that kind of work - and it's hard work.

We pray this weekend for all world leaders who send ambassadors to other nations to engage in that work. And we pray that each one of us can engage in that ministry when it's needed at home.



Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore

[MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS]

Renegade scientists and the future of research

Producing human embryos in the laboratory for research purposes makes most people uneasy. Even those who tolerate the creation of embryos in test tubes so that infertile couples might have children will often have reservations about the creation of embryos to serve as experimental research material or to destroy them for their cellular parts.

Twenty years ago, when a deeply divided government panel recommended allowing such research experiments on human embryos for the first time, even Bill Clinton summarily rejected the idea.

Two years later, Representative Nancy Pelosi concurred in the Congressional Record: "We should not be involved in the creation of

embryos for research. I completely agree with my colleagues on that score."

The proposal to engender human embryos by cloning has similarly drawn strong opposition from Americans for many years.

Yet society's views are shifting. Clinton, Pelosi and many others have reversed their views in recent years.

Scientists and politicians now seem ready to draw ethical lines — and then erase them — as expediency demands.

Last month, with little fanfare, the journal *Nature* published a paper from a major research laboratory describing a study that would have been largely unthinkable when the embryo research debates first began in the early 1990's.

Dr. Shoukhrat Mitalipov

and his colleagues at Oregon Health and Science University described the creation of multiple human embryos in the laboratory for research purposes. Two of the embryos were produced by in vitro fertilization (IVF), and four more were generated by nuclear transfer or cloning, the same technique used to produce Dolly the sheep.

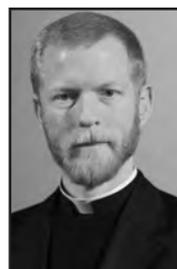
All six of the human embryos were engendered for the purpose of "disaggregating" them for their embryonic stem cells to enable further study and detailed comparisons of their genetic and epigenetic patterns. If those human

embryos derived by IVF or by cloning had not been destroyed but instead implanted into their mothers, pregnancies could reasonably have been expected to ensue.

Human embryos, our own progeny, surely deserve better than being reduced to a kind of raw material, a commodity to be used for research and commercial purposes.

Embryos, of course, are strikingly unfamiliar to us. They lack hands and feet and voices. Even their brains have not yet developed. They look nothing like what we expect when we imagine a human being.

But they are as human as



Father Tadeusz
Pacholczyk Ph.D.

you and I; they're simply younger, smaller and more vulnerable.

Embryos may not register with us on first glance; we may need to make a concerted effort to avoid disconnecting them from what we once were ourselves, given that each of us is precisely an embryo who has grown up.

Human embryos ought to be accorded the same respect that every human being deserves, as a matter of basic human rights. Human dignity demands nothing less. Respect for our own progeny, then, will have the obvious consequence that human embryos should not be generated in the laboratory for premeditated destruction, nor for cellular canni-

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AT THE MOVIES

WHEN THE GAME STANDS TALL

By John Mulderig
Catholic News Service

There's little to object to and much to honor in director Thomas Carter's idealistic fact-based sports drama, "When the Game Stands Tall" (TriStar).

Catholic viewers in particular will appreciate his recounting of events surrounding the record-breaking winning streak racked up by the football team of De La Salle High School in Concord, California, between 1992 and 2003. All the more so, since his film promotes humility, teamwork, good sportsmanship and, in passing, premarital chastity. While good intentions and positive values carry the ball pretty far down the field, however, on this play, they don't quite make it into the end zone. Score the result more likable than gripping.

The movie begins as the

squad's run of success is approaching a phenomenal 151 games. Dedicated coach Bob Ladouceur (Jim Caviezel) is naturally anxious to extend this string of victories. But, with faith as his primary motivation, his principal goal remains what it has always been: not gridiron triumph for its own sake but the molding of his players into upright young men.

Bob's main collaborator in this character-building enterprise is his like-minded assistant coach, Terry Eidson (Michael Chiklis). Among the students benefiting from their influence are running back Chris Ryan (Alexander Ludwig), wide receiver Cam Colvin (Ser'Darius Blain) and Cam's best friend since childhood, linebacker Terrance "T.K." Kelly (Stephan James).

As a new season begins, and De La Salle's rising seniors struggle to lead their teammates on to further

conquests, Bob's single-minded commitment to his charges leads to tension with his wife Bev (Laura Dern) and son Danny (Matthew Daddario).

Bev would like Bob to give more serious consideration to the lucrative job offers that keep coming his way from various colleges, while Danny is feeling neglected, despite his dual role as offspring and player.

A discreetly handled incident of street violence and a fleeting discussion concerning the degree of intimacy between defensive end Beaser (Joe Massingill) and his fetching girlfriend -- via which we learn that they are mutually committed to sexual restraint -- are about the only elements barring endorsement for moviegoers of all ages.

Teens and their elders, however, will welcome the religious undertones in Scott Marshall Smith's vulgarity-free script - which



CNS PHOTO/SONY

Michael Chiklis, Alexander Ludwig, center, and Jim Caviezel star in a scene from the movie "When the Game Stands Tall."

treats prayer and churchgoing as normative.

As earnest and amiable as its protagonist, "When the Game Stands Tall" offers modest but genuine entertainment along with valuable, Scripture-based life lessons. In today's media market, that's reason enough for parents to cheer.

The film contains brief bloodless violence, a few references to sexuality. The Catholic News Service classification is A-II -- adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG -- parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

Renegade

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

balization by scientists.

Dr. Mitalipov's laboratory, of course, is not the first to carry out human embryo-destructive research.

But if he and his 25 co-authors on the paper are able routinely to create human life merely to extinguish it for research ends -- and are able to chronicle their exploits in professional journals without engendering so much as an ethical hiccup from the scientific community -- perhaps it really is time to ask whether our corporate practice of science is returning to its pre-Nuremberg days, when weak and vulnerable human subjects did not need to be accorded

unconditional protections, particularly if expedient and important research agendas happened to be at stake.

On the other hand, one might argue that the biomedical sciences have not yet lost their ethical footing, concluding instead that a few renegade and influential scientists have managed to hold sway over a silent majority of other researchers who actually harbor substantive ethical objections to human embryo research.

In that case, we can hope that papers like the one published last week may trigger the research community to begin drawing some long overdue ethical lines, and to reign in some of their

own rogue investigators.

We can hope for a new measure of courage in taking the important step of joining science to ethics, and working to protect the youngest and most voiceless members of the human family from research exploitation.

Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard.

He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, MA, and serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.ncb-center.org

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ADIRONDACK

AUTUMN RETREAT

Saranac Lake – An autumn 24 hour retreat for adults to be held.

Date: Sept. 19 – 20

Time: 6 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Place: Guggenheim Lodge

Cost: \$75 (Limit to 10 participants)

Theme: Discovering the Wisdom of the Lord tucked in the season of autumn
Presenters: Paul Gibaldi, wilderness guide & nature photographer, and Sister Bethany Fitzgerald, SSJ, retreat director and adult faith educator.

Features: Retreat will include presentations, nature hike in Lake Placid area, with time for reflection, group prayer, Father Paul Kelly will offer Mass on Sat. afternoon.

Contact: Sr. Bethany Fitzgerald, SSJ at srbethssj@gmail.com. or 315-212-6592.

CLINTON

LOST SHEEP QUILT SHOP

Ellenburg Center – The Lost Sheep Quilt Shop at Our Lady of Adirondacks House of Prayer is open

Sew Together: any Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 3. This is a quilting group designed to share ideas, teach beginners. Bring projects to sew.

Place: Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer (The shop is open Tues. – Sat, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Evenings and other times by appointment.)

Contact: 518-594-3253 Website: th-lostsheepquiltshop.weebly.com;

EUCCHARISTIC 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

BLESSED SACRAMENT ADORATION

Keeseville – There is Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every Sunday.

Time: 1 p.m. to 4

Place: Immaculate Conception Church

HEALING MINISTRY

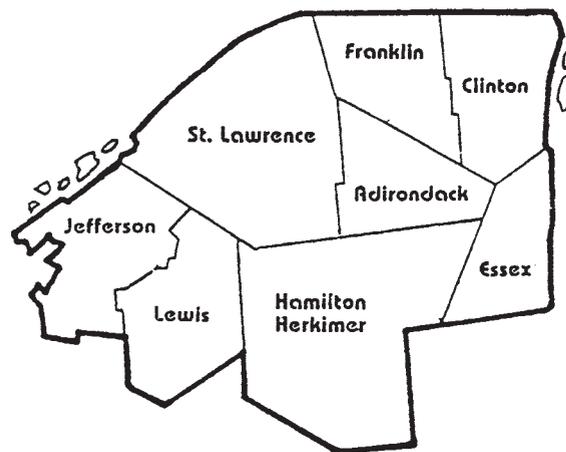
Morrisonville – The Catholic Community of St. Alexander's and St. Joseph's holds Living Waters Healing Ministry

Date: First Thursday each month

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: St. Alexander's Church

Features: Mass, Anointing of the Sick, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, individual prayer.



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.

FRANKLIN

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

Burke – The Catholic Community of Burke and Chateaugay will have a Spaghetti Supper.

Date: Sept. 13

Time: 4 p.m. to 7

Place: St. George's Church

Cost: Adults, \$7.50; Children \$4; under 5, free

Features: Spaghetti with meat sauce, tossed salad, rolls and dessert and beverage. 50/50 Raffle and Chinese Auction.

HOLY HARVEST FESTIVAL

Malone – St. Andre Bessette Parish will have their 6th annual Holy Harvest Festival.

Date: Sept. 14

Time: Noon to 3 p.m.

Place: Holy Family School

Features: Harvest dinner, raffle, harvest table, free children's activities and music by the Old Timer's Band. Dinner tickets will be sold at the event. Adults, \$10; Seniors, \$8; Children 6-12, \$6; and Children under 5 are free.

LATIN MASS

Constable – A Tridentine (Latin) Mass is celebrated each Friday at 5:30 p.m. with Fr. Howard Venette as the celebrant. Mass will also be celebrated every first Saturday at 9 a.m.

Place: St. Francis of Assisi Church

JEFFERSON

BEREAVEMENT MEETING

Watertown – There will be a bereavement meeting.

Date: Sept. 22

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: Hearthside Hospitality Center at the Sisters of St. Joseph

Speaker: Mr. Derek Mattarn, Bereavement Coordinator/Councilor at Hospice of Jefferson County. His topic will be "Coping Skills for Dealing with Grief".

END OF LIFE DECISIONS

Watertown – The Faith Community Nurses of Holy Family Parish are presenting "Are You Ready?"; a program on end of life decisions.

Date: Sept. 7

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

Place: Holy Family Church

Presenter: Rev. Toby Schilling, Director of Pastoral Care at Samaritan Medical Center. Ryan Tyler, M.D. and Rev. Leo Wiley will be present for questions.

Features: Information on Advance Directives and Health Care Proxy will be discussed.

HOLY HOUR

Adams/Henderson – Parish holy hour s to be held.

Schedule: Queen of Heaven; Sept 3, 6:30pm - St. Cecilia; Sept 25, 5:30pm – Queen of Heaven

Features: Praying for vocations and the needs of our Church.

LIFERIGHT MEETING

Watertown – Liferright of Watertown, a pro-life educational organization, meets the first Wednesday of the Month.

Time: 1 p.m.

Place: 312 Sherman St.

Features: The office has a wide variety of videos, books and educational materials which may be borrowed. Topics include infanticide, assisted suicide, euthanasia and chastity.

Contact: Phone 315-788-8480

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

Watertown – Holy Hour for vocations to be held.

Date: Mon.-Fri.

Time: 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Place: Holy Family Church

Features: Eucharistic Adoration & personal prayer

Contact: 315-782-2468

LEWIS

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS

Houseville – Divine Mercy Devotions for the month of September to be held.

Date: Sept. 7

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Features: Vespers (Evening Prayer), Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, The Divine Mercy Chaplet, and Benediction. All are welcome. Refreshments will follow in the church hall.

Contact: 315-348-6260.

RUMMAGE SALE

Lowville – St. Peter's Rosary-Altar Society will be having a rummage sale.

Date: Sept 4, 3 p.m. to 6:30 pm. And Sept. 5, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with bag sale starting at noon and a buffet lunch starting at 11:30 a.m., \$5

Place: St. Peter's Church

ST. HEDWIG'S POLISH FEST

Houseville – Save the date for St. Hedwig's Annual Polish Fest.

Date: Oct. 19

Time: Noon after the celebration of the 11a.m. Mass.

Features: Events include: the Serving of a tasty Polish Platter, Theme Basket Raffles, Bake Sale, Ice Cream Sundaes and a 50/50 Raffle. Donations of Theme Baskets, Pies and Monetary Donations to defray the cost of the food appreciated. The event is a fundraiser for church repairs and restoration.

Contact: Joann 348-8735, Mary 348-8836 or Mary Ann 348-6260.

ST. LAWRENCE

GRIEF WORK MINISTRY

Massena – Maria Farrell of Omaha, Neb., director of the Servants of Mary Grief-Work ministry, will present a day of training on issues dealing with grief and

loss.

Date: Sept. 10

Time: 9 a.m. to 2:30

Place: Sacred Heart Convent

Program: Sponsored by Sacred Heart/St. Lawrence Parishes Grief Support Group, topics will include grief in the workplace, grief and the holidays and special anniversaries, the effects of grief, different types of grief, rituals to remember the deceased, loss through divorce, etc. The second half of the day will consist of a strategy session to help faith communities and other organizations develop a new program, or expand an existing consolation ministry.

Contact: To Register, contact: Gloria Horan at 764-1161 or e-mail at jhoran2@twcny.rr.com or Elsie Scruggs at 769-3137 or e-mail at cscrugg613@gmail.com. Registration deadline is Sept. 1. Lunch provided.

CHICKEN BAR-B-QUE

Gouverneur – St. James School will hold their annual chicken bar-b-que.

Date: Sept. 7

Time: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Cost: Adults, \$9; children under 12, \$5; under 5, free

JOINING THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Ogdensburg – St. Mary's Cathedral is beginning the RCIA process for 2014-2015. RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is the Church's process to prepare adults for admission into full communion in the Roman Catholic Church. It is designed for non-baptized persons and those who were baptized into another faith tradition and would like to seek full communion with the Roman Catholic Church. The program is also appropriate for those Who were baptized as a Catholic, but have not received the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist, and/or Confirmation.

Contact: St. Mary's Cathedral at 393-3930 to give name, address, and phone number.

LATIN MASS

Potsdam – A Tridentine (Latin) Mass is celebrated each Sunday

Time: 12:30 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Church

Celebrant: Msgr. Robert H. Aucoin

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Massena – St. Mary's & St. Joseph's hold Benediction and Adoration every Friday

Time: 9 a.m. to 10

Place: St. Mary's Family Room



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

We offers thanks, prayers to you all

The Pontifical Mission Societies Inc., of the Diocese of Ogdensburg would like to extend our gratitude for your sacrifices in our annual summer appeals and collections.

The Pontifical Mission Societies (or better known to some of you as the Society for the Propagation of the Faith) has had a busy calendar of Mission activity this summer requiring many to put forth their prayers and sacrifices.

The Missionary Projects of the Diocese of Ogdensburg collection which was held in late July in the Western Deaneries is starting to show a good response from the Deaneries of St. Lawrence, Jefferson and Lewis.

As Bishop Terry LaValley stated in an open letter read in your parish in July, missionary zeal has always been a sign of the vitality of the Catholic Church.

The energizing spirit of missionaries, by sharing Christ's love and service, brings faith-filled hope to people living in the developing countries.

The annual collection for the Missionary Projects of the Diocese of Ogdensburg offers the opportunity to further our own passion in supporting the ministry of our missionaries.

The Annual Missionary Cooperation (COOP) plan is also still underway but wrapping up in the Eastern Deaneries in our Diocese this summer and once again the generosity and thoughtfulness of our people never lets us down.

The COOP program every other year puts your parish in a face to face setting with a real-life missionary.

The COOP program annually involves roughly 15-20 societies who come to our Diocese in hopes of spreading the word of their need and their cause to those of us who are more fortunate.

This year our Diocese was blessed to host for the first time a Missionary priest from the Diocese of Djibouti in Somalia, Africa.

Lastly, the St. Peter Apostle Appeal is an appeal to raise awareness and much needed funds to further develop vocations in the developing lands.

This appeal provides assistance for the almost 400 seminarians and hundreds of house of formation for religious Sisters and Brothers in countries throughout Asia, Africa and the Pacific Islands, as well as parts of Europe and Latin America.

Each year the need is greater as the number of seminarians, those in religious life, and construction of new seminaries and convents also grows.

We are so grateful for your gifts to promote missionary endeavors in our young parishes among the poor of the world.

May God bless you and your families for your generous response to this year's appeals and collections.

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

OBITUARIES

Au Sable Forks – Sadie M. Pulsifer, 72; Funeral Services Aug. 30, 2014 at the Thwaites-Zaumetzer Funeral Home; burial in Holy Name Cemetery.

Canton – Mernie Robinson, 56; Funeral Services Aug. 29, 2014 at St. Mary's Church.

Dannemora – Barbara Gilroy Bailey, 88; Funeral Services Aug. 26, 2014 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Elizabethtown – Joseph G. "Joe" McClure, 87; Funeral Services Aug. 25, 2014 at St. Elizabeth's Church.

Lake Placid – Nancy L. (berger) Morelli, 51; Funeral Services Aug. 29, 2014 at the M.B. Clark Funeral Home.

Malone – Dorothy Mae (Coryea) Dumas, 90; Funeral Services Aug. 23, 2014 at St. John Bosco Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Massena – Aline M. (Aime) Greco, 83; Funeral Services Aug. 29, 2014 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena – Margaret M. Warner, 94; Funeral Services Aug. 29, 2014 at Church of the Sacred Heart; burial in Calvary Cemetery, Norwood.

Morrisonville – Barbara Jesse (McManus) Harrigan, 89; Funeral Services Aug. 28, 2014 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in Whispering Maples Memorial Garden.

Ogdensburg – Audrey Doris (Sovie) Bouchard, 98; Funeral Services Aug. 25, 2014 at Foxwood Memorial Park.

Plattsburgh – Constance M. (Trudeau) Stone, 78; Funeral Services Aug. 30, 2014 at St. Peter's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Port Henry – Dorothy B. (Ashe) Rasmussen, 87; Funeral Services Aug. 23,

2014 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in Union Cemetery.

Port Leyden – Mitchell M. Mashaw, 20; Funeral Services Aug. 30, 2014 at St. Martin's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Treadwells Mill – Wayne F. LaRock, 44; Funeral Services Aug. 25, 2014 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.



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BACK IN TIME



St. Peter's Church in Lowville went back in time - to the Old Testament - with its Vacation Bible School this summer. VBS was held Aug. 11-15 for children in grades K-6. The theme was Wilderness Escape - Where God Guides & Provides. It was the story of Moses, the first Passover, the parting of the Red Sea, manna from heaven, the 10 commandments and more. The roles of Moses and Malachi were played by Rob and John Uttendorfsky, a father and son, who made the Bible stories come alive for the children. Pictured are, front, Cole and Brett Pleskach; and back Maggie Martin, Christian Formation Coordinator, St. Peter's who directed the VBS, and Joanne Gorczyca.

A DAY OF LOVE



Love was in the air at St. James and St. Ann's Parishes in Lake Pleasant and Wells recently when almost 50 couples renewed their marriage vows at the weekend Masses. Taking their "reserved" seating in the front of church, each couple's name was announced along with the number of years of marriage they shared. Father Sony Pulickal, pastor, gave the couples a matrimonial reading to exchange with each other. It began, "From this moment on, so long as we both shall be alive, You will be for me more than a friend or a lover; You will be my spouse. Now you are, and always you will be for me, that unique person in whom I find my own call to grow in Love, most perfectly embodied and most intimately present." Afterwards, the couples were given pins blessed by Father Pulickal to exchange as the choir sang "O Perfect Love", accompanied by Marilyn Kaulfuss on organ. In the photo above, the couples were called up to the front of the church and each groom was given a red rose to present to his bride. At St. Ann's, as Father Pulickal announced "You May Kiss the Bride," a special presentation of Paul Stooky's "Wedding Song" was played on guitar and sung by Michelle Derwin and Pam Broiles.

Around

ST. LAWRENCE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14
SPAGHETTI AND MEATBALL DINNER
Ogdensburg - "The Place" will be sponsoring a spaghetti and meatball dinner to help support the Harvest Walk.
Date: Sept. 8
Time: 4 p.m. to 7
Cost: \$8 plus the cost your beverage (free homemade dessert)
Features: Throughout the years, "The Place" has assisted us in raising funds to help support local food pantries, and outreach programs of St. Lawrence County. The Harvest Walk/Run is now 11 years old and has raised more than \$110,000 with 100% being used to meet the critical needs of members of our community. Take-out and delivery available by calling 393-3080

HARVEST WALK/RUN

Ogdensburg - Annual Harvest Walk/Run to be held.
Date: Oct. 5
Time: Registration 12 p.m.; Walk begins 1 p.m.
Place: Dobisky Center
Features: Sponsor sheets available at

Catholic Charities, 716 Caroline St, or the Neighborhood Center/City Hall
Contact: 315-393-2255

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
Contact: 315-769-3137

CABBAGE ROLL SALE

Norwood - The Norwood Knights of Columbus Council 2309 will be having a cabbage roll sale (take-out only).
Date: Sept. 20
Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Place: St. Andrew's Church Hall
Cost: \$3 each
Contact: Pre-sale orders 353-2796 (Jim Murray) or 353-8821 (Mark Tebo) or 353 9917 (Phil Regan)

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

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.

DIOCESAN EVENTS

MARRIAGE JUBILEE

Ogdensburg - Diocesan Celebration of Marriage, "A time to gather and celebrate marriage with Bishop Terry R. LaValley".
Date: Sept. 21
Time: 2:30 p.m. to 3:30
Place: St. Mary's Cathedral
Features: All couples and their families are welcome.

HARVEST MASS

Mooers Forks - Bishop Terry R. LaValley invites you to join him for our annual Harvest Mass of Thanksgiving.
Date: Sept. 28
Time: 2 p.m.
Place: St. Ann's Church
Features: Dedicated to North Country

farmers, their families and their co-workers.

END OF LIFE WORKSHOP

Ogdensburg - Father Tad Pacholczyk will present a workshop "Death, Dying and Decisions at the End of Life"
Date: Sept. 6
Time: from 9 a.m. to 5
Place: Wadhams Hall
Features: The event, sponsored by the diocesan Respect Life Office, will include a morning and afternoon presentation by Father Pacholczyk as well as a question and answer panel with Kathleen Gallagher, director of Pro-Life Activities for the New York State Catholic Conference; Bishop LaValley will celebrate the closing Mass. The \$20 registration fee includes lunch, workshop materials.
Contact: Registration forms are available from pastors, at the diocesan website's pastoral documentation or respect life pages: www.rcdony.org/pro-life.

CARITAS DINNER

Lake Placid - Save the date to honor Catholic Charities Caritas Award Honoree (Posthumously) Mrs. Penny Martin and President's Award Catholic Daughters of

America, Ogdensburg Diocese.

Date: Oct. 26
Time: Cash Bar 3:30 p.m., Dinner 4 p.m.
Place: Crowne Plaza
Contact: 315-393-2255

JOURNEY TO EASTERN EUROPE

Father Amyot will be leading a pilgrimage visiting the land of St. John Paul II.
Date: November 3-14
Cost: Only \$3129 from Montreal (Air/land price is \$2449 plus \$680 government taxes/airline fuel surcharges)
Visiting: Warsaw, Krakow, Budapest, Vienna, Prague
Features: First Class/Select Hotels, most meals with comprehensive sightseeing
Contact: Fr. Andrew Amyot at (315) 384-2064 or mail: P.O. Box 637, Norfolk, NY 13667 e-mail: fraamyot2@twcny.rr.com.

10 DAY ADVENT PILGRIMAGE

Father Donald Robinson, will be hosting a pilgrimage to the Holy Land.
Date: Dec. 1-10, 2014
Cost: \$2997
Features: Haifa, Tiberias, Nazareth, Bethlehem, Jerusalem.
Contact: 782-1190 for brochure