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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 81 Number 22

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

SEPTEMBER 23, 2026

NEW PASTOR INSTALLED



PHOTO BY DAVID MCNALLY

Bishop Terry R. LaValley installs Father Jude Nnadibuagha as pastor of St. Mary's in Indian Lake, St. Paul's in Blue Mountain Lake and St. Joseph's in Olmstedville on Aug. 23 at St. Mary's Church in Indian Lake. Read the full story on page 5.

'YOU CAME TO VISIT ME'



Mike R. Neaton and Gary M. Balaban Jr. serve as jail ministers at the St. Lawrence County Jail in Canton. Deacon Donald Wilder serves in a similar role in Jefferson County.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

Pope Leo: Diversity is a resource not danger

By Victoria Cardiel
EWTN News

VATICAN CITY — Pope Leo XIV said Sept. 16 that the diversity of the world's peoples "must not be considered as a danger or a threat, but rather as a resource for enrichment and growth." He also criticized confrontational attitudes that, at times, "degenerate into violence."

"Conflict, which at times degenerates into violence, is the result of the power of sin and the way it conditions mindsets and actions at every level, causing destruction and death," he said during the general audience in St. Peter's Square.

He underscored the need to "be ever more open to the logic of reciprocity, sharing, and care, as is also the case amongst the various members of the human body."

The pontiff thus continued his catechetical series dedicated to *Gaudium et Spes*, the pastoral constitution on the Church and its role in the modern world, approved by the Second Vatican Council on Dec. 7, 1965.

According to Pope Leo, the message of the document, which considers "the growing interdependence of men" as "one of the salient features of the modern world," is especially urgent today.

Although the development of

communications technology, social media, and artificial intelligence is opening up new possibilities and helping to break down "barriers and distances," the pope observed that human relationships "are tending to become less and less personal, more virtual."

From this perspective, he also warned of the risk of "becoming accustomed to delegating to algorithms decisions that are the sole preserve of the human conscience."

"Ensuring that social relationships have real substance and personal depth is, in this regard, the contribution that the Christian community seeks to offer," he told the hundreds of

faithful gathered in St. Peter's Square to hear his teaching.

The pope also recalled that the pastoral constitution *Gaudium et Spes* offers a concise definition of the common good, understood as "the sum of those conditions of social life which allow social groups and their individual members relatively thorough and ready access to their own fulfillment."

At the same time, he noted that the document recognizes the interdependence of peoples and states that "every social group must take account of the needs and legitimate aspirations of other groups, and even of the general welfare of the entire human family."

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Hidden in plain sight

It was almost embarrassing how long it took us to find her.

I was playing hide-and-seek with my cousins and my twin sister at my cousins' house in Maryland. We were old enough to be past the stage when kids hide in obvious spots, but we were young enough to be playing hide-and-seek.

As my aunt and uncle and a neighbor sat at the kitchen table chatting, we were running and hiding all over the house. I was "it," the per-

son tasked with finding everyone else.

I remember finding two of the other players - my two cousins - relatively quickly. I couldn't find my sister. After what felt like forever, my cousins joined me in searching. Even with three of us searching, we couldn't find Deanna, my sister.

My aunt and uncle and the neighbor started laughing.

Their laughter made us look their way. What did we see? Deanna. She was seated at the kitchen

table holding a newspaper in front of her. She had been there the whole time. I remember my uncle cackling, "hidden in plain sight," he said.

I thought of Deanna being hidden in plain sight recently as I prayed after one of those days when I was overwhelmed by my to-do list, plans imploding, unexpected problems... life, really.

"God, where are you?" I thought, exasperated in the midst of the chaos. "Why aren't you here helping me?"

I was looking for what I thought I needed - reassurance, certainty, positive outcomes, some

warm and fuzzy sign of God's love.

Praying and reflecting about that day, God reminded me that even when I don't see Him or understand His purpose for something in my life, He is there and His plan is unfolding.

If He wasn't there, I'd cease to exist. We all would.

I spend so much time looking for God's hand in my life, while He keeps reminding me that my life is all in His hand.

I guess my mind sometimes leaves Him hidden in plain sight, and it takes me an embarrassingly long time to see it.

**Darcy L.
Fargo**

Considering the cross

I am writing today on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross of Jesus. Jesus died on a cross, so the cross is sacred for us, Catholics. A cross makes us immediately think of Jesus - a cross helps us recall the crucifixion of Jesus. We believe that the Lord Jesus, the Son of God, came among us to show us the way - to guide us and to die for us on a cross. Jesus came in love and peace. However, some opposed him and decided to crucify him. Jesus died on a cross. Jesus won our salvation, giving his life for us. So, ever since, we place crosses on and around our Churches. I like to believe that when a person passes a Catholic Church and sees the cross, they will realize that here are people with faith in God and live according to his love and peace. The cross will always be important to us, Catholics.

Consider this - the first prayer you and I learned



as children was the Sign of the Cross. So, as we turn to the Lord for prayer, we make the Sign of the Cross - this sacred gesture in the form of a cross. This gesture has become second nature to us, Catholics. It a prayer. Bishops and priests make the Sign of the Cross when blessing someone or something. When a priest absolves a person in the Sacrament of Penance, he absolves with the Sign of the Cross over the penitent.

This Feast Day of the Exaltation of the Cross of Jesus reminds us that we also celebrate the cross on Good Friday during Holy Week as we move toward Easter. Remembering the death of Jesus on the cross during the Good Friday Service, a large cross

is brought to the sanctuary of the church. Then the congregation comes forward to venerate the cross. Each of us stands before the cross expressing our gratitude in prayer for all that Jesus did for us and continues to do for us, especially for the forgiveness of sin. It is a time to dedicate ourselves as disciples of the Lord, living our lives well and bringing the love of Jesus to our world. We believe Jesus truly died for us.

There are so many ways that the cross of Jesus enters our spiritual life. Each time we meditate on the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary, we remember that Jesus carried his cross to Calvary. As we pray, we stand at the foot of the cross as Jesus dies for us. This reminds us to stand with Mary, the Mother of Jesus, who is also there at Calvary. St. John is there representing all of us. "Woman, here is your son." Jesus calls upon Mary to become mother

to all of his disciples and followers. Each time we gather around the altar of the Lord at Mass, we are truly standing at the foot of Christ's cross. As we pray together, we believe the Lord is present with us, continuing to love and lead us.

This is also a great time to walk around the Stations of the Cross. This time of prayer visiting the 14 Stations of the Cross is an opportunity for us to offer a prayer of gratitude to our Lord who died for us. Jesus promises to walk with us just as he walked the "Via Dolorosa" to Calvary. There are so many crosses that we face in our life - the problems, difficulties, temptations, sins. Jesus knows how to carry a Cross and is ready to support us and walk with us through our crosses.

Jesus humbly suffered for us and then came to his resurrection in glory. He also is ready to lead us to new life.

'I was in prison and you came to visit me'

Ministers bring Jesus to Jefferson, St. Lawrence county jails

By Keith Benman
Contributing Writer

Mike R. Neaton clearly remembers the day one young man with a particularly dark demeanor walked into his Tuesday afternoon chapel service at the St. Lawrence County Jail in Canton. The young inmate, awaiting trial, even had one of those pointy goatees like the devil is often portrayed with in art and film.

And he told Neaton right off, "What I worship is Satan."

Neaton told him that was interesting, but it seemed if he was coming to chapel service for the first time, so he must be on a road where he knew he had to change his ways. The young man thought about that. He thought about it a lot in the weeks that followed.

He became a regular at chapel services and, after a while, Neaton could see the young inmate was becoming filled with the Holy Spirit. He was convicted at his trial, but when he was shipped off to state prison, the young man went with a Bible in his hands.

"He was determined to do good things, even in prison," Neaton said.

Neaton, retired from the New York State Police, says there are few things in life as rewarding as seeing someone turn their heart over to Jesus in jail and determined to change their ways.

Deacon Donald J. Wilder, a member of Blessed Sacrament Par-

ish in Watertown, conducts chapel services at the Jefferson County Jail. He served 20 years in the U.S. Marine Corps, drove a truck for a living and followed a couple other occupations. But Deacon Wilder says prison ministry, 10 years as a paid chaplain in the state prisons and now volunteering at the Jefferson County jail, is the most rewarding of all the jobs he's done.

"They realize they have to make a change in their life and have to turn to something larger than themselves and they turn to Christ," Deacon Wilder said.

Chapel services usually consist of prayer, a scripture reading, maybe a homily and then open discussion when time allows.

Of course, it's only some inmates that give their hearts over to Christ. And Deacon Wilder said he realizes having their acceptance of Christ stick is the hardest part, especially once they are no longer incarcerated.

"I promote the need to find a church when they get out," he said.

Gary M. Balaban Jr. has been assisting Neaton in his ministry at the St. Lawrence County jail for more than a year. Unlike Neaton and Wilder, Balaban doesn't have a background in prisons or criminal justice.

He says he was answering a call, both one spiritual and one personal from his pastor. His pastor knew Neaton was looking for someone to assist him and

thought Balaban would be a good fit.

He eventually signed up and says he's glad he did. Even on days when he might be feeling down, he comes out of the jail chapel sessions feeling energized and full of the spirit, he said.

Neaton says he was called while reflecting on his Faith during Cursillo gatherings. In particular it was Christ's words, "I was in prison and you came to visit me."

No one would accuse any of the jail ministers of having an unrealistic view of inmates or prison life. Neaton was a state trooper for 32 years, much of it spent investigating serious crimes. Balaban has family members who spent time in jail. Deacon Wilder has worked as a jail corrections officer and in the state prisons as a chaplain. All are unequivocal about the need for - and the rewards of - ministry in the county jails.

County jail ministers know they only have a limited time to work with inmates. People are remanded to county jail for sentences of less than one year. Others are kept there while awaiting trial, sometimes for serious felonies. Those inmates are sent off to state prison if and when they're convicted and sentenced.

"Someday, they are going to be back in the community," Neaton said. "So, I feel I've served more than one purpose. They'll be kinder and love Christ more, and maybe not harm others once they're out."

Neaton said Bishop Terry R. LaValley and Diocesan Chancellor

Deacon James D. Crowley, who is also state prison ministry coordinator, were enthusiastic about him taking up jail ministry.

Right now, the St. Lawrence County Jail and the Jefferson County jail appear to be the only ones with Catholic chapel services on a regular basis, Crowley said. But the diocese would welcome anyone else with the motivation and attitude it takes to go into the other five county jails within the diocese.

He cites the same Gospel passage as Neaton in making the case for the program.

"It's not something we're making up," Deacon Crowley said. "It's in scripture."

The jail ministers would like to see all county jails in the diocese served by Catholic ministers.

"I hope people will read about what we're doing and realize: 'Gee, there's something I can do to help out there,'" Deacon Wilder said.

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ONE CHURCH, ONE MISSION

Forming deacons

By Deacon Lee Trudeau
Director of Deacon Formation

The Permanent Deacon Formation Program has been active in the Diocese of Ogdensburg since the 1970s. It started out with aspirants and candidates taking classes and staying full weekends at Mater Dei College. Now we have what's called a hybrid program, a program in which the men take classes both at Wadhams Hall once a month and have online classes through the STEP Program of Notre Dame University.

Most participants in Permanent Deacon Formation have also gone through the Formation for Ministry Program of our diocese.

This year, we will have aspirants and Candidates coming from such diverse locations as Ticonderoga, Lake Placid, Watertown, Malone, Westport, Brownville, Clayton, and Plattsburgh.

Needless to say, none of these programs are free. They would not be possible without the generous donations to the Bishop's Fund from people like you throughout the diocese. Our men, their wives and their families make a substantial sacrifice of time, talent and financial resources to take part in our formation program, and your support of the Bishop's Fund serves as an essential partnership with their effort.

A Permanent Deacon can never take the place of a parish priest, but a deacon can help a priest in many vital ways.

Being a pastor in an active parish can be a heavy responsibility, and the support offered by our Permanent Deacons is needed now more than ever.

Many thanks to those who support the Permanent Deacon Formation Program through their donation to the Bishop's Fund. God bless you.



Happy Anniversary Fr. Patrick Ratigan!

In 1983 you were ordained a priest
and I served at your first Mass.

In 2025 I was ordained a deacon and you vested me.

Grateful and Blessed,
Jimmy



(Left) Vivian Smith & Melissa Howard and (right) Kate Gardner and Slade Wright

Meet Catholic Charities staff

The following is the next installment in an ongoing series highlighting the staff and services/programs of Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

AmeriCorps, the federal agency for volunteering and national service, provides opportunities for Americans to serve their country domestically, addressing the nation's most pressing challenges to improve lives and communities, and strengthen civic engagement.

The Catholic Charities AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Program of Franklin, Hamilton, Clinton and Essex Counties engages adults age 55 and older in meaningful volunteer service that addresses critical community needs while promoting healthy and active aging. AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Volunteers use their skills, experience, and compassion to strengthen local organizations, support vulnerable populations, and improve quality of life throughout the rural communities of northern New York.

RSVP partners with food pantries, health-care organizations, community agencies, senior programs, nonprofit organizations and schools to provide services that help meet local needs in Franklin, Hamilton, Clin-

ton and Essex Counties.

Through flexible volunteer opportunities, older adults are able to remain active, socially connected, and civically engaged while making a lasting impact in their communities.

RSVP volunteers serve:

- Assisting food pantries and meal programs with food distribution and nutrition support.

- Providing transportation assistance and companionship to older adults and individuals with disabilities.

- Supporting veterans and military families through outreach, food distribution, and medical transportation to local V.A. clinics.

- Helping reduce social isolation through friendly visiting and telephone reassurance programs.

- Tutoring and mentoring children in local schools.

Benefits available to AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP volunteers include:

- Supplemental accident and liability insurance while volunteering.

- Mileage reimbursement or transportation support for eligible assignments.

- Orientation, training, and ongoing support.

- Recognition events and volunteer appreciation activities.

- Opportunities for leadership development,

skill sharing, and continued community engagement

Participation in AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP provides important personal and health benefits for older adults, including increased social connection, improved emotional well-being, reduced isolation, and a strengthened sense of purpose through meaningful community service.

AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Franklin & Hamilton Counties can be reached at 518-359-7688. Program Director Vivian Smith can be reached at vsmith@catholiccharities.org, and Volunteer Coordinator Melissa Howard can be reached at mhoward@catholiccharities.org.

AmeriCorps Seniors Clinton & Essex Counties Program Director Kate Gardner can be reached at kgardner@catholiccharities.org, 518-566-0944, and Volunteer Coordinator Slade Wright can be reached at swright@catholiccharities.org, 518-300-0272

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New pastor installed

By David McNally

For the North Country Catholic

Father Jude Nnadibuagha was formally installed as pastor of the parishes of St. Mary's in Indian Lake, St. Paul's in Blue Mountain Lake and St. Joseph's in Olmstedville by Bishop Terry R. LaValley, Bishop of Ogdensburg, during the regularly scheduled 9 a.m. Mass Sunday at St. Mary's Church in Indian Lake on August 23.

Bishop LaValley celebrated the Mass, delivered the homily and conducted the installation. He was joined by Father Philip T. Allen, former pastor of all three parishes; Father Michelet Boncoeur, parochial vicar of Blessed Sacrament Parish in Watertown; Father J. Michael Gaffney, a priest in residence at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Watertown; and Deacon Mark J. Soloski, who serves the three parish communities. Altar server Shane Fahey, who is also the local barber in Indian Lake, assisted. Knights of Columbus David Harrington and Chris Gallagher led the entrance procession into the church and the recessional procession at the conclusion of the Mass.

Approximately 75 people attended, representing all three parish communities.

Following the Mass, parishioners gathered for food, refreshments and fellowship.

The installation concluded with Father Jude thanking those in attendance, Bishop LaValley and his fellow clergy for the honor of being formally installed as pastor. He also expressed his gratitude to the priests, deacons and parish communities



A group of parishioners from St. Joseph's in Olmstedville traveled to Indian Lake for the installation of Father Jude Nnadibuagha on Aug. 23. Pictured are Deacon Mark Soloski, Bishop Terry R. LaValley, David McNally, Laura and John West, Tom and Amanda Savarie, Judy Jennings, Diane McNally, and Father Nnadibuagha.

who have supported and guided him during his formation and priestly ministry.

Father Jude Nnadibuagha was born in Imo State, Nigeria, and was raised in a practicing Catholic family. As a young man, he initially considered becoming a lawyer, but his plans changed after attending the first Mass of a newly ordained priest in 2005. The experience prompted him to begin seriously considering a vocation to the priesthood.

He later joined the Discalced Carmelites and studied philosophy in Nigeria and theology in Rome, completing his theology degree in 2017. Eventually, he discerned that he was called to a more active form of priestly ministry rather than the contemplative life of the Carmelites.

Father Jude came to the United States in 2018 after learning of the need for priests in American dioceses, particularly in rural areas. He has said that a priest in Nigeria told him about the shortage of priests and about priests traveling between multiple

churches to celebrate Mass — a striking contrast to Nigeria, where one parish might have two or three priests.

After applying to several dioceses, Father Jude felt especially drawn to the Diocese of Ogdensburg and came to the North Country to interview in 2018. In a fitting connection to what first drew him to the diocese, he now serves three rural North Country churches himself.

Father Jude was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop LaValley at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg on August 1, 2020.

His assignments in the Diocese of Ogdensburg have included service in Lowville, Glenfield and Houseville; St. Mary's Cathedral Parish in Ogdensburg; Holy Cross Parish in Plattsburgh; and Blessed Sacrament Parish in Watertown.

In 2026, Bishop LaValley appointed Father Jude pastor of St. Mary's in Indian Lake, St. Paul's in Blue Mountain Lake and St. Joseph's in Olmstedville, succeeding Father Philip T. Allen in July.



PHOTO BY MICHELLE BEAGLE/NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

Father Sony Pulickal, pastor of St. Hedwig's Church in Houseville, blesses flowers, herbs and grains on Aug. 16.

Blessing flowers, herbs and grains

By Michelle Beagle
Contributing Writer

Sunday, August 16, St. Hedwig's Parish in Houseville celebrated a special occasion honoring the Blessed Mother, Matka Boska Zielna, Our Lady of the Greens.

This is a longstanding Polish ethnic custom that is celebrated annually at the church. Parishioners and visitors bring pots and/or bouquets of flowers, herbs and grains to be blessed.

A procession was held as the flowers were laid at the altar.

Once these items are blessed, they can be used to decorate a home, be taken to be placed on a loved one's resting place or given as gifts.

Father Sony Pulickal, pastor at St. Hedwig's, blessed the beautiful flower arrangements. After Mass, an ice cream social was held in the parish hall.

One young participant, Morgan Schzewin, who was visiting her great-grandmother, stated, "I liked it," while smiling brightly.

Manya Kubinski, a member of the St. Hedwig's Society, stated, "It is an old Polish custom, and I am very glad to pass the traditions on to the next generation."

Debbie Jackson, a first-time visitor with her family, when asked about her impression of the blessing while enjoying a dish of ice cream, said, "It was unique and beautiful."

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Environmental Stewardship

Water: The miracle substance

Earth is sometimes referred to as the water planet and for good reason. Roughly 75% of its surface is covered with water. Even on dry land, water is present in one form or another.

Because of the amazing properties God instilled in water, many forms of life have developed and evolved here, all heavily dependent on water for their existence. For example, the human body is composed of approximately 60% water, with some organs being nearly 75% water. While we can live for days without food, the body needs water daily to remain healthy and vibrant. This is why having access to clean drinking water is considered a primary human right for all.

As we enter the second quarter of this century, we find many "evils" affecting water supplies around the world. Microplastics register in nearly every sample of clean water that is examined. Heavy metals and chemicals associated with computer hardware show up in various locations, and toxins like mercury are found in ocean waters far removed from any population centers.

Perhaps the most difficult to comprehend is the thermal pollution occurring and corresponding increase in nutrient levels. As water temperatures increase, so does its ability to support harmful bacteria and agents of disease. Swimming in a sheltered bay of a large lake is no longer safe sometimes, as these places can occasionally be contaminated by harmful microorganisms.

How we dispose of items, like plastics, is critical to the health and wellbeing of future generations. We must exercise care in getting rid of old electronic equipment to ensure the harmful compounds these digital devices contain do not seep into the soil and water.

We live in a chemical age that has provided us with a remarkable lifestyle. We must act wisely when disposing of waste if we want to preserve God's creations.

Bishop's Public Schedule

Sept. 23 – noon – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral followed by Lunch with the Consecrated Religious Leaders at Bishop's Residence

Sept. 26 – 4 p.m. – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

Sept. 27 – 2:30 p.m. – Blue Mass at St. Paul's Church in Black River

Protecting God's Children

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has scheduled Protecting God's Children training sessions. This required training addresses child abuse, the methods and means by which abusers commit abuse, and the five steps to prevent abuse from occurring and stop it from continuing. Pre-registration is encouraged at www.virtus.org. Upcoming sessions:

Sept. 29 – 3 p.m. – Holy Cross Parish Center, Plattsburgh

Oct. 7 – 6 p.m. – St. James School, Gouverneur

Rest in Peace

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

Sept. 23 – Rev. P. Phillips, 1872; Rev. Marcel Dupont, M.S.C., 1982

Sept. 24 – Rev. John Talbot Smith, 1923; Rev. Leo Staves, O.M.I., 1994; Rev. Jude Belisle, 1994; Deacon Reginald F. Merrill, 2005

Sept. 25 – Rev. Frederick P. Shue, 1989

Sept. 26 – Rev. Francis Van Compenhandt, 1880; Rev. Stephen Royet, M.S.C., 1933; Rev. Michael F. Gallivan, 1939; Rev. Joseph Ludger Desjardins, 1941; Rev. Earl Mayo, 1994; Msgr. Francis A. White, 2007

Sept. 29 – Rev. Patrick O. Thompson, 1955

To Report Abuse

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact Victim Assistance Coordinator, Terrienne Yanulavich, Ph.D., LMHC, 5050 Route 374, Merrill, NY 12955; terrienneyanulavich@yahoo.com; Phone: 518-569-0612; or Father Christopher Carrara, the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy; ccarrara@rcdony.org Phone: 315-393-2920 ext. 1340.

If you have a complaint of suspected sexual abuse or related misconduct by the bishops, contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at 800-276-1562 or www.ReportBishopAbuse.org

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Vatican Latin Mass permissions steady across papal transition

By Victoria Cardiel
EWTN News

Thirty-four dioceses received Vatican permission to celebrate the Traditional Latin Mass in parish churches in 2025, matching the 2024 total and remaining broadly consistent with previous years despite the election of a new pope. The United States accounted for 24 of the 34 decrees issued.

Pope Francis restricted the use of the 1962 Roman Missal with the 2021 *motu proprio* *Traditionis Custodes*. Under subsequent Vatican regulations, diocesan bishops must obtain permission from the Holy See to authorize celebrations according to that missal in parish churches.

The 2025 figure was also close to the 35 dioceses and other ecclesiastical jurisdictions that received permission in 2022, the first full year after *Traditionis Custodes* took effect. The number rose to 55 in 2023 before returning to 34 in each of the following two years.

The figures appear in the *Summarium Decretorum* for 2025, the annual summary of decrees issued by the Dicastery for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments.

The document shows that permission was granted during 2025 for celebrations according to the 1962 Roman Missal in parishes located in 34 dioceses around the world.

Seven of the decrees were issued during the pontificate of Francis, who died April 21, 2025, at the age of 88. The other 27 were issued after the election of Pope Leo XIV on May 8, indicating continuity in the Vatican's case-by-case handling of requests during the change of pontificates.

The vast majority — 29 of the 34 published decrees — renewed existing permissions for an additional two years for communities already celebrating the liturgy according to the 1962 missal promulgated by St. John XXIII. In several cases, a single authorization covered more than one parish in the same diocese.

The U.S. decrees included permissions for Traditional Latin Mass cele-

brations in the dioceses of Sacramento, California; Nashville, Tennessee; Lincoln, Nebraska; Davenport, Iowa; and Cleveland, as well as the Archdiocese of Seattle.

According to the *Summarium Decretorum* for 2022, the Holy See that year granted permissions to 35 dioceses and ecclesiastical jurisdictions, 20 of them in the United States, making the country the leading recipient of such concessions.

The Traditional Latin Mass, also called the Tridentine Mass, traces its form to the liturgy codified by St. Pius V following the Council of Trent. The reform was set out in the Roman Missal of 1570 in response to the council's call to unify the various liturgical uses then in existence.

The missal currently used for these celebrations is based on that promulgated by St. Pius V but was revised by St. John XXIII in 1962.

One of the form's most distinctive characteristics is that the priest generally celebrates "*ad orientem*" — facing liturgical east rather than the congregation — as he leads the faithful in common prayer.

The permissions granted across the two pontificates in 2025 show that the Holy See continued to consider requests individually under the restrictions established during Francis' pontificate.

The annual *Summarium Decretorum* is one of the few official sources indicating how the provisions of *Traditionis Custodes* are applied in practice.

The decree indexes published from 2022 through 2025 also document the Holy See's broader work regulating the liturgy. The records include approvals of translations of liturgical books, confirmations of calendars particular to dioceses and religious congregations, grants of the title of minor basilica, canonical coronations of Marian images, and recognitions of new heavenly patrons.

This story was first published by ACI Prensa, the Spanish-language sister service of EWTN News. It has been translated and adapted by EWTN News English.

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Church documents 304 martyrs in Latin America this century

The Catholic Church has documented 304 martyrs in Latin America so far this century. These are men and women killed not only for professing their faith but also for defending the poor, confronting organized crime, and protecting creation. Their stories are part of a global catalog of martyrs promoted by the Vatican that already exceeds 1,700 documented cases. "Many were murdered for reasons related to drug trafficking, deforestation, or for opposing the exploitation of natural resources," explained Cardinal Marcello Semeraro, prefect of the Dicastery for the Causes of Saints. The cardinal noted that while many were missionaries, the group also included lay faithful who gave their lives defending the Gospel and denouncing drug traffickers, protecting Indigenous territories from deforestation, or fighting the illegal exploitation of natural resources.

Pope repeals COVID-era pay cuts to Vatican cardinals

Pope Leo XIV has officially repealed the salary cuts Pope Francis imposed on cardinals and other senior officials working in the Roman Curia. In a decree published by the Vatican on Sept. 14, the pontiff canceled the cost-cutting measures Francis had established in 2021 to address the Vatican's financial deficit that year, projected at \$60 million. A Vatican cardinal's monthly stipend is about \$5,768. Under those measures, the Vatican cut cardinals' stipends by 10%. Francis had previously described these cuts in a March 2021 decree as necessary for an "economically sustainable future" at the Vatican. Those measures, introduced during the COVID-19 pandemic, also reduced the pay of other senior officials and employees of the Holy See and Vatican City State by 8%. Clergy and religious employed by the Vatican saw their salaries reduced by 3%. Leo stated in his *motu proprio* that those salary cuts "may now be set aside, in the certainty that the Institutions of the Holy See and of the Vatican City State will continue, through different means, their commitment to ensuring economic sustainability."

Chicago Archdiocese to pay \$5.5 million to nine abuse victims

The Archdiocese of Chicago will pay out more than \$5 million to a small number of abuse victims after a recent settlement, attorneys said this week. Lawyers with Jeff Anderson & Associates, a law firm that specializes in abuse cases, announced at a press event on Sept. 10 that they had settled with the archdiocese for \$5.5 million to be paid out to nine survivors of abuse in the Church. Attorney Jeff Anderson described the development as a "tipping point and a turning point" regarding allegations of abuse in the archdiocese. He said the settlements were a matter of both "reckoning" and "accountability." "It is about the courage of every survivor with whom we and others have had the privilege to work to bring about change, change in the Archdiocese of Chicago and change across the state of Illinois and change across this country," the lawyer said.

ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN

SEASON OF CREATION

Fish Creek – The Faith and Ecology Group of Northern NY will host a Season of Creation Celebration with the theme “Immersed in Living Waters” (see Ezekiel 47:9, 12).

Date: Sept. 26

Time: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Place: Day Use Pavilion of the Fish Creek Campgrounds just south of Saranac Inn

Features: Invitation to pray and enjoy the beauties of Creation, and to reflect on the gift of WATER; Guest presenters: Blake Lavia and Tintzun Aguilar-Izzo, environmental scholars, artists, advocates and protectors of rivers and watersheds in northern New York; time to share thoughts and ideas facilitated discussion, music and Autumn snacks. Anyone who desires to connect more deeply with Creation, especially with Water, and learn how to be a better steward of the precious gift of Water. This is a free event, bring yourself, family and friends.

Contact: Tom Kalinoski 518-891-1876

ITALIAN BUFFET

Lake Pleasant – An Italian Buffet, hosted by St. James Major Altar Rosary Society, will be held.

Date: Oct. 3

Time: 5 p.m. to 7

Place: Adirondack Veteran's Center

Cost: donation, eat in or dine out

Menu: Several Italian dishes with salad, dessert and drinks. Gluten free and vegetarian options will be available.

CLINTON NORTHERN FRANKLIN

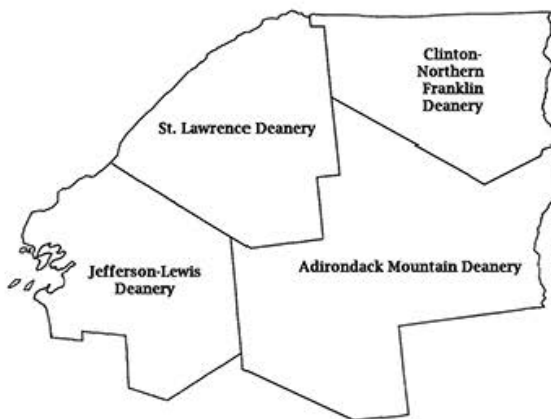
TALK AND REFLECTION

Ellenburg – Join Marika Donders at the House of Prayer for a beautiful talk in the morning, followed by a light luncheon and a prayerful Conversation in the Spirit in the early afternoon.

Date: Sept. 26

Time: 10 a.m.

Place: Our Lady of the Adirondack's House of 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

e-mail news@northcountycatholic.org.

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

Theme: Fruitful Parish Life Begins in Communion with Christ. “Ministry begins, not with efficiency, programs or plans but with the living encounter with Christ.”

Contact: Please call 518-534-9976 (Sarah) to register.

TURKEY DINNER

St. Regis Falls – St. Ann's Society will be hosting a Turkey Dinner with all of the fixings.

Date: Sept. 27

Time: Noon to 3 p.m.

Place: St. Ann's Parish Hall

Cost: Adults, \$15; Children 5-12, \$10; under 5, Free

HARVEST DINNER

Ellenburg – The Catholic Daughters of America to have a Ham and Roast Beef dinner with all the trimmings and homemade desserts.

Date: Sept. 27

Time: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Place: St. Edmund's Parish Center

Cost: Adults, \$17; Children 6-12, \$8; 5 and under, Free

Contact: Take-outs available by calling 518-536-2442

HARVEST DINNER

Chazy – Sacred Heart Parish is having their Turkey Harvest Dinner with all of the trimmings.

Date: Sept. 27

Time: 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Place: Parish Center

Cost: Adults, \$18; Children 6-12, \$10; All Take-outs, \$18

Features: Visit our “Sinner's Den” for sinfully delicious goodies. Raffle with great prizes. Please join us!! We are handicapped accessible.

Contact: For more info, 518-846-7650 or Chazypa@rcdony.org

FIRST FRIDAY

Champlain – St. Mary's to have Mass, Exposition and Benediction every first Friday of the month.

Date: Oct. 2

Schedule: 9 a.m. Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. 11 a.m. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

HARVEST DINNER

Brushton – St. Mary's Church to host its annual Harvest Dinner.

Date: Oct. 4

Time: 11 a.m. until sold out

Cost: Adults, \$15; Children 6-12, \$10; 5 and under, free

Menu: Roast turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, stuffing, squash, cranberry sauce, rolls and dessert.

POT ROAST DINNER

Chateaugay – 45th Annual Pot Roast Dinner to be held.

Date: Oct. 4

Time: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Place: St. Patrick's Parish Hall

Cost: \$17, dine in or take out

SOAKING PRAYERS SESSIONS

Come enjoy a relaxing prayer opportunity at two different locations.

Plattsburgh: Newman Center, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30; Oct. 5, Nov. 2 and Dec. 7

Ellenburg Center: Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (please bring a bag lunch); Oct. 8; session includes recitation of the rosary.

Features: Each session begins with a short introduction followed by praise, worship and soaking prayer for an extended period of time as guided by the Holy Spirit. Remainder of time is spent listening to scripture readings and remaining receptive to receive healing at any level: emotional, psychological, mental, physical, spiritual or generational.

Contact: All sessions are facilitated by Eve McGill, Living Waters Healing Ministry 518-645-2648, evemcgill16@charter.net

JEFFERSON-LEWIS

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Watertown – St. Anthony's Altar and Rosary Society is sponsoring a spaghetti dinner.

Date: Sept. 24

Time: 4 p.m. to 7

Place: Downstairs in St. Anthony's church in Msgr. Sechi Hall

Cost: Adult, \$12; Child, \$8

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

Contact: For more information contact the Parish Center at 315-782-1190

SEASON OF CREATION

Cape Vincent – Come join us to celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi; enjoy the beauties of God's Living Water and share ways to be better stewards of this precious gift of WATER. (Ezekiel 47:9, 12)

Date: Oct. 4

Time: 1 p.m. to 3

Place: Missionaries of the Sacred Heart Camp Dablon Point, 27393 Hertzler Dr.

Features: Prayer, Reflection

on “Water” by Lee Willbanks from Talking Rivers, quiet time along the Water, sharing with others and Autumn snacks. Come with an open mind and an open heart. Sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph Faith and Ecology Committee.

Contact: For more info., contact Sr. Bethany Fitzgerald srbethssj@gmail.com/315-212-6592

HOUR AND DIVINE MERCY

Houseville – Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament and the Divine Mercy Chaplet will be observed the first Sunday of the month.

Date: Oct. 4

Time: Following 11 a.m. Mass

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Contact: 315-348-6260

SPAGHETTI DINNER

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

Date: Oct. 10

Time: 4 p.m. to 7

Place: St. Mary's Parish Center

Cost: Adults, \$12; Seniors, \$10; Children 12 and under, \$5; under 5, Free; Sauce or meatballs available for \$6 per quart

Contact: For more information call 315-629-4678

HARVEST DINNER

Constableville – St. Mary's Altar and Rosary Society to have their annual drive thru take out Turkey Harvest Dinner.

Date: Oct. 11

Time: 10:30 a.m. until gone

Place: St. Mary's Church

Cost: \$15

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Carthage – Pancake Breakfast to be held in support of Augustinian Academy, sponsored by the Carthage K of C Father John Cosmic #291 and Ave Maria Circle.

Date: Oct. 11

Time: 8 a.m. to noon

Place: St. James Community Room

Cost: Adults, \$10; Seniors, \$8;

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

Task force eyes dignity as AI advances

By Daniel Payne
EWTN News

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops announced a task force to ensure human dignity is protected as artificial intelligence (AI) rapidly develops, and more than a dozen bishops went to Capitol Hill to urge lawmakers to adopt meaningful safety guardrails for the technology.

The bishops said in a Sept. 16 announcement that the conference's administrative committee also met with "representatives from a variety of tech firms and specialists" who work with AI.

Bishops' spokeswoman Chieko Noguchi said the meeting "focused on ways to keep any system of Artificial Intelligence at the service of humanity" as well as "the urgent need to address the real and present dangers such technology presents."

The meeting came amid warnings from numerous AI leaders of the risks posed by AI systems, which are undergoing rapid

advancement and which critics say could one day threaten humanity with extinction if they become advanced enough.

In an apparent reference to those warnings, Noguchi in the press release referred to "recent events" she said "have only emphasized the great need for action by everyone involved."

The bishops aimed to use the conversations to "help to identify ways the Church can contribute to the moral foundation of AI models and steps the companies can take to protect against misuse of their inventions and to guarantee human oversight of the technology."

Following the meetings, the bishops' administrative committee launched a task force aimed at "preserving human dignity in the age of artificial intelligence." San Jose, California, Bishop Oscar Cantù will serve as task force chair, the bishops said.

"Over a dozen" bishops traveled to Capitol Hill after the meetings to press Congress for

strong safety standards on artificial intelligence and to "support legislation to protect children online."

Noguchi said the bishops and AI leaders also discussed "how the Church and industry can work together toward the goal of ensuring that technology is used in ways that keep it human-centered" while respecting human dignity and benefiting both the rich and the poor.

Church leaders have repeatedly called for meaningful AI oversight as the technology has progressed from a computer-based novelty to an embedded part of the global economy and of modern life.

Pope Leo XIV in May published his encyclical Magnifica Humanitas, in which the Holy Father warned that AI "tends to amplify the power of those who already possess economic resources, expertise, and access to data."

"In practice ... technology is never neutral, because it takes on the characteristics of those

who devise it, finance it, regulate it, and use it," the pope wrote.

In August, meanwhile, the pope warned that decisions affecting human life are increasingly being entrusted to machines and called for safeguards governing artificial intelligence and other digital technologies.

Earlier this month the U.S. bishops acknowledged the "widespread concern" that AI will lead to "higher unemployment and to fewer jobs that can support a family." The technology must be "carefully developed" to serve the common good, they said.

Also earlier this month Archbishop Gabriele Giordano Caccia, apostolic nuncio to the United States, noted the "perception that we need a moral voice" on the topic of AI.

"Not everything which is possible to be done should be done. Not everything that technology offers should be taken. This is a moral choice," the archbishop said.

Around the diocese

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Children under 10, \$5; Family of 4, \$30

Menu: Scrambled Eggs, Pancakes, French Toast, Ham, Sausage, Baked Goods, Juice, and Coffee

Contact: For more information call 315-493-3224

BASKET RAFFLE

Houseville - St. Hedwig's Society will hold its Annual Themed Basket Raffles to benefit church outreach and repairs at St. Hedwig's Church.

Schedule: The raffles will be held on the following Sundays: Oct. 11, 18 and 25 after the celebration of the 11 a.m. Mass. No tickets will be sold during Mass. Themed Baskets and a handmade quilt will be on display and raffle tickets may be purchased in the church hall from noon to 1 p.m. on the above Sundays. Drawings will be on Oct. 25. A bake sale and a limited kielbasa sandwich luncheon will also be featured on Oct.

25. The drawing for the handmade quilt will take place during the church Christmas party.

ST. LAWRENCE

DAY OF MERCY

Canton - St. Mary's Church will be offering All Day Confessions.

Date: Sept. 23

Time: 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Divine Mercy Chapel

Features: A schedule of confessions will be made available closer to the date at cantoncatholics.com/events

TRIVIA NIGHT

Canton - Are you ready for an evening of fun and friendly competition? Join us for St. Mary's Fall Trivia Night!

Date: Sept. 26

Time: Doors open at 5:30 p.m., trivia begins at 6 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Parish Center

Cost: \$20, must be 21+. Includes two slices of pizza, chips

and popcorn, two beverages and a chance to win door prizes and the grand prize.

Features: Teams can be 4 or 6 people. There will be a special St. Mary's Canton history round so start your research. Free childcare will be available.

Contact: Register at cantoncatholics.com/trivia or call 315-386-2543 for more information. 769-2469

DIOCESAN EVENTS

LEADERSHIP WEEKEND

Saranac Lake - High school Leadership weekend to be held for teens entering 9th to 12th grade.

Date: Sept. 25 - 27

Place: Camp Guggenheim

Cost: \$150, Financial Aid available

Features: Spend an unforgettable weekend growing in faith, building friendships, enjoying outdoor adventure, and learning from inspiring Catholic leaders.

Contact: To register and find out more information go to www.rcdony.org/leadership

BLUE MASS

Black River - Bishop Terry R. LaValley cordially invites all Police, Corrections, Fire and EMS Personnel to the Diocese of Ogdensburg Blue Mass.

Date: Sept. 27

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Place: St. Paul's Church

Features: Offer thanksgiving to God for the dedication and sacrifices made by the men and women of Fire, EMS, Corrections, Law Enforcement and Communications. First Responders, their families and all the faithful are invited to attend this Sunday celebration. Uniforms are encouraged but not required.

Contact: Questions can be addressed to Father Chris Carrara, Blue Mass Committee Chair at info@rcdony.org or by phone at 315-393-2920.

DYING WITH CHRIST, LIVING WITH HOPE

Plattsburgh - When we make a commitment to die with Christ, we can truly live with hope. Learn about the new Physician Assisted Suicide law and how MAID has progressed throughout Canada.

Date: Sept. 29

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Place: St. Peter's Emmaus Room

Cost: \$10 donation, includes lunch

Features: Discussions feature theologians and healthcare professionals giving perspectives on suffering, grief, dying and our

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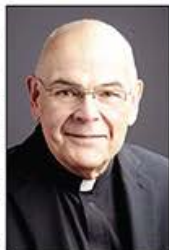


SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE

By what we do, not what we say

"Would you please make up your mind before I qualify for Social Security?" That used to be one of my favorite expressions... until, of course, I actually did qualify for Social Security. Now, I can only use the first part, "would you please make up your mind!"

Making up our minds was easier before we had so many choices. Whether we are choosing cereal from an abundance of choices, ice cream flavors with all kinds of enticing names, a McDonald's order, or even cat litter or dog food, the options can leave us spinning as we wonder what Snickers and Reggie would prefer.



Msgr. Robert H. Aucoin

Our Gospel presents us with a very simple request: "Would you please go and work in the vineyard?" There are two sons and two answers. One says "yes" but does not go; the other says "no" but then says "yes." Of course, both sons should have answered "yes" and then gone to work.

Many years ago, a song captured this same thought. "First you say you do and then you don't; then you say you will and then you won't. You're undecided now. So, what are you gonna do." Not surprisingly, the name of the song is "Undecided."

This Sunday's Gos-

September 27

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

READINGS

Ezekiel 18:25-28

Philippians 2:1-11

John 10:27

pel clearly exhorts us: make up your mind and then do it. Make up your mind to do what is right, then do it. Make up your mind to follow Christ, then do it.

Ultimately, it boils down to what we do, not what we say we will do. In life, we get very disappointed with "no-shows," those who say that they will participate - that they will help with a project, that they will come to the party, that they will join a club, that they will do this or that - but when the moment comes, they are no-shows.

The first son in today's Gospel is the "no

show." He says "yes" but does not show up. How does that translate into living the Christian message? Yes, Lord, I will follow you....yes, but right now there is something a little more important. I can't pray because I have this important meeting. I can't help with projects because the project would interfere with my free time. I can't go to church because the Mass times do not fit perfectly with what I have planned for myself.

Another name for no-shows is "yes, but." Yes, I can or will... but.

Then, there are those who say no or who won't commit but ultimately decide in favor. Following Christ is not convenient, but it's the right thing to do. Helping with a project really prevents me from doing what I want, but it's the right thing to do. Going to church on Sunday really messes with my social life, but shouldn't I spend some time with God and my fellow Catholics?

Please remember

that we cannot dream ourselves to heaven or wish ourselves into a relationship with God. The popular slogan to become whatever you want to be forgets to mention that it takes work to become what you want to be. If you want to date a girl, you have to do something... you have to ask her. If you want to follow Jesus, you have to accept his invitation and do something about it. The nice thing about following Jesus is that he always says "Yes, follow me." He not only says yes, but he gives us an abundance of support to guide us along the journey.

Here's a little prayer that can help us in saying yes:

Voice of Jesus, call out to us when we stray from you.

Hands of Jesus, anoint us when we grow weak and weary.

Arms of Jesus, lift us up when we stumble and fall.

Heart of Jesus, teach us to love one another as you love us.



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

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



School through uncertainty

First day of school in Haiti; the school year traditionally begins with the Mass invoking the Holy Spirit.

"Unfortunately, many schools, especially in the capital Port-au-Prince, but not only there, have had to postpone their opening because of insecurity, violence and an education system in disarray," Father Massimo Miraglio, a Camillian missionary and parish priest of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in the hills of the village of Pourcine-Pic Makaya, told Fides. "At the parish school in Pourcine-Pic Makaya, we have been working for several days to prepare for the opening, in accordance with the Ministry's academic calendar. Today we are reopening our doors in the hope of a good school year. All the teachers are here, and the students have turned out in large numbers, but the building housing the classrooms is still in a very precarious condition, despite some maintenance and reinforcement work."

In recent months, drought and the resulting loss of much of the harvest have further worsened the population's living conditions. "Our commitment is to remain close to families and students."

"The longer I continue in my ministry, the more I realize how fundamental the school is in laying the foundations for a better future for our community," the Camillian missionary stressed.

"Invest in education today to reap good fruit tomorrow. It is a struggle whose outcome is highly uncertain, but here at the parish school of Pourcine-Pic Makaya, we are not backing down," Father Massimo concluded.

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

Please remember the Pontifical Mission Societies when making or changing your will.

CALLED TO SERVE

Fly me to the moon

Kathy observed the moon above the horizon the other evening. She said that it looked like it was about a third of the moon. I confidently responded that the moon in the night sky is measured in quarters, so it must be a quarter moon.

For the record, Last Man Standing was on the TV. The show, a situation comedy, stars Tim Allen as Mike Baxter. It is in reruns now. The main character, Mike, staunchly supports traditional, conservative values.

I do not agree with Mike most of the time, but he is funny.

Again, for the record, I did not agree with Archie Bunker most of the time. Archie was a character in All In The Family. I was more a Meathead kind of guy, but I also found Archie funny.

Back to the moon. I admit sounding a bit overconfident when I brashly responded to

her third of the moon thesis, "the moon in the night sky is measured in quarters, so it must be a quarter moon."



Deacon
Kevin Mastellon

Kathy was willing to accept my pronouncement for what it was and move on. We have been married for almost 56 years. She knows when to just shake her head.

But I was full of myself and suggested my bride look it up on her iPhone. The weather app we both use has a moon view. So, she did.

Kathy announced the app reported the moon was in its "waxing crescent" stage.

I felt good about that. Validation crossed my mind.

Then she crushed me.

The app said the viewable illumination was 33 percent. "That's about a third," she said.

I was lost for words. I had been, as Nana used to say, "hoisted on my own petard."

It reminded me of an experience just after I was ordained.

You should know that, for the most part, deacons do not wear clerical collars in this diocese. I did have a jacket and tie on and a St. Lawrence Society lapel cross on my jacket on this visit.

I was walking in a hospital corridor in route to see a parishioner in his room. I came around a corner and a lady in a wheelchair stopped me.

"Are you a priest?" she bellowed.

"No," I replied. "I'm a deacon."

I said, "I'm a deacon" as confidently as I said, "it must be a quarter moon" 20 some years later.

The lady brushed me away with the wave of her hand and uttered something like, "nahh-hhh".

I was lost for words then, too. Remind me to work on my humility, please.

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

OBITUARIES

Clayton — Dr. John Edward Slatery, 81; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 19, 2026 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Lowville — Jana M. (Rhurbart) Ingersoll, 65; Funeral Services Sept. 17, 2026 at Sundquist Funeral Home; burial in West Lowville Rural Cemetery.

Lyon Mountain — John Riley Farrell, Jr., 88; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 16, 2026 at St. Bernard's

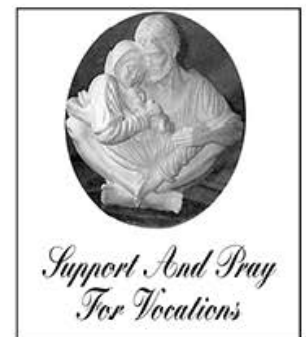
Church; burial in St. Bernard's Cemetery.

Plattsburgh — Carolyn A. (Webb) Keable, 94; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 18, 2026 at St. Peter's Church.

Waddington — Judy (Morgan) Villnave, 77; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 15, 2026 at St. Mary's Church; burial in New Brookside Cemetery.

Watertown — Richard M. Capone,

90; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 18, 2026 at St. Anthony's Church.



*Support And Pray
For Vocations*

Around the diocese

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

Christian duty to care. The day will include guest speaker Jessica Rodgers, coalition director of Patients Rights Action Fund.

Contact: Registration online at: <https://www.rcdony.org.living-withhope> For more information contact cminer@rcdony.org

MIDDLE SCHOOL WEEKEND

Saranac Lake - Join us for an exciting weekend at Camp Guggenheim designed just for middle school students, entering 6th to 8th grade.

Date: Oct. 2 to 4

Place: Camp Guggenheim

Cost: \$100, Financial Aid Available

Features: Experience fun outdoor activities, high-energy games, inspiring talks, praise and worship, prayer, and new friendships—all while discovering how much God loves you. Whether you're coming with friends or meeting new ones, Middle School

Impact Weekend is the perfect opportunity to grow in faith, have an amazing time, and make memories that will last long after the weekend ends.

Contact: To register and find out more information go to www.rcdony.org/msleadership

LIFECCHAIN

National Life Chain Sunday to be held. Join in the annual peaceful, prayerful, public, pro-life witness to the sanctity of life. Rain or shine. Signs will be provided.

Date: Oct 4

Schedule: Gouverneur - St. James Church Line up along Main Street, 12 p.m. Contact: Brandy, prinnygrl@aol.com; Massena - Main Street & Rt. 37, 2:30 p.m. to 3:30, Contact: Father Mark Reilly, mreilly@rcdony.org; Plattsburgh - Smithfield Blvd., 1 p.m. to 2, Contact: Deacon Lushia, lushiak@gmail.com; Potsdam - Pick up signs in St. Mary's Community Room. Gather for prayer at 12:50

in public parking lot across from Roxy Theatre, Line up along Main Street. 1 p.m. to 2. Contact: Hattie, campusministrysm@gmail.com; Saranac Lake - Meet at Bandshell/Riverside Park, line up along River Street 2:30 p.m. to 3:30, Contact: Colleen, cminer@rcdony.org; Watertown - Public Square, 12 p.m. to 2 p.m., (please note this location will be held on Oct. 3), Contact: BetiAnn Honan, bhonan51@gmail.com

Contact: www.lifechain.org for more information

RACHELS VINEYARD

Saranac Lake - Are you or a friend suffering after abortion? You aren't alone. Join others for a weekend of hope and healing.

Date: Oct. 9-11

Place: Guggenheim Lodge

Cost: \$150 includes lodging, food and all retreat materials. Scholarships available.

Contact: Confidential online registration at www.rcdony.org/

pro-life/rv-retreat For more information: Colleen Miner Email: cminer@rcdony.org Phone Number: 518-524-0774

HEALING RETREAT

Ogdensburg - This year's Annual Our Lady of the Rosary Healing Retreat will have the theme of Love Heals.

Date: Oct. 8 - 11

Place: Wadhams Hall

Features: The Presenter will be Sonja Corbitt. Do not waste another day. Stop the pain. Love heals. John Paul the Great said, "Suffering unleashes love," because we only ever find Jesus and His love in our wounds. Sonja Corbitt has been teaching people how to acknowledge and open their woundedness to God's love for over 17 years as a leader in the Catholic Church and Scripture teaching space. You may know her as the Catholic Evangelista through her speaking, writing, and podcasting.

Contact: Space is limited and

Register today: <https://www.rcdony.org/ourlady>. For more information contact Kathleen Nichols kmsnichols1163@gmail.com

JOURNEY WITH CHRIST

Norfolk - All catechists and parish leaders are invited to join us for Journey with Christ, a Fall LEAD event.

Date: Oct. 17

Time: 9:15 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Features: Journey with Christ to learn how parishes can nurture faith across every stage of life while building stronger family and ministry connections among the wider parish community. No fee. Speaker: Dr. Steven Serafin, of Faith and Family Life Catholic Ministries. Please bring a bagged lunch.

Contact: Register at www.rcdony.org/journey For more information contact Anita Soltero, asoltero@rcdony.org; 518-310-3669

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Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

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