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# NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

OCT. 26, 2011

## Knowing God's love...

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Remembering God's love is forever helps lead the faithful out of darkness and despair and toward a future of hope, Pope Benedict XVI said.

It's important to remember all of God's gifts to humanity - from creating the earth to giving humanity his only son

-- because it is that very recollection of his generosity that "becomes the strength of hope," he said during his weekly audience Oct. 19.

Remembering God's goodness and mercy "also opens up the path of light toward the future during times of darkness," the pope said. In

his audience talk to about 15,000 people in St. Peter's Square, Pope Benedict spoke about praising God for his everlasting love, an attitude reflected in Psalm 136.

The psalm praises "God's mighty deeds in the creation of the world and in the history of Israel," saving his

people from their enemies and leading them to the Promised Land, the pope said.

After each recollection of something God has given or done for his people, the psalm repeats the refrain "God's love endures forever," the pope pointed out.

## 'Metanoia' for twelve young adults

The Office of Young Adult Ministry, headed by Lorraine Turgeon, plans to offer a Metanoia Retreat for 12 young adults Nov. 18-19 at Wadhams Hall.

The 24-hour retreat will bring committed, spiritually minded young adults together to help them experience the necessary conversion of the heart to become effective leaders of the Church.

Turgeon plans to offer these retreats every 12 weeks for different groups of young adults

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

## The NCC 'goes green'

Receive your copy of the weekly diocesan newspaper in your

email on Monday afternoons

FULL STORY, PAGE 6

## FOR DEVOTED AND UNSELFISH SERVICE



PHOTO BY MARY LOU KILIAN

Bishop Terry L. LaValley presents the 2011 Catholic Charities Caritas Award to Beth and Deacon Ronald Ste. Marie of St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Inlet, during the Oct. 16 Caritas Dinner at the Gran View Restaurant in Ogdensburg. The Caritas Award has been presented each year since 1978 for "devoted and unselfish service to the people of the North Country, exemplifying the spirit and ideals that Catholic Charities embodies in its mission, ideals of service and social action, of justice and charity." Catholic Charities also honored the deacon community of the Diocese of Ogdensburg at the dinner and presented its Legacy Award to a young person exhibiting these ideals to Joy Leader of Gouverneur. (More photos on page 3)

## RESPECT LIFE MONTH: Reflection on the death penalty & 'respectful' pix, 4-5

## SISTERS OF PRECIOUS BLOOD

Lives of contemplation



PHOTO BY MARY LOU KILIAN

On the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Sister Adorers of the Precious Blood, members of the local Precious Blood Community in Watertown, reflect on their lives of contemplative prayer. The sisters have served as a prayerful presence in the Diocese of Ogdensburg since the opening of their monastery in 1963. Sister Martha Emery is shown above preparing a meal for the community.

FULL STORY, PAGES 8-9

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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Inviting twelve  
to the table

Regular readers of the *North Country Catholic* know that, in addition to the publication of the weekly printed newspaper, the *NCC* staff (all two of us!) also maintains a website for the paper ([www.northcountrycatholic.org](http://www.northcountrycatholic.org)) and a Facebook page.

Work on the Facebook page has been particularly enjoyable because it gives us a chance to post compelling videos, lots of photos and even an occasional cartoon.

It also offers our visitors a chance to comment on the posts, ask questions and even share their own material with others who "like" our page.

Over the past few months, we've been able to build a relationship with lots of other Catholics who care about the Church in the Diocese of Ogdensburg and its future.

For me, one of the best parts of our work online has been the opportunity to "be-friend" many of the Catholic young adults who live and work in our communities. I've connected with the seminarians, World Youth Day travelers and a gaggle of Guggenheim-lovers.

That's why I'm so excited about

the plans announced by diocesan Office of Young Adult Ministry this week. (See page three)

Lorraine Turgeon, director of the office, said that 12 young adults will be chosen to participate in the first Metanoia retreat at Wadhams Hall Nov. 18-19.

The goal is to offer them the spiritual tools to become the "disciples" our church needs.

Twelve weeks later, this group be offered continued support through a "Manthano Gathering" as a second group of 12 will experience the Metanoia.

Twelve weeks after that, it happens again, slowly but surely building up a group of educated and enthusiastic young evangelizers for our church.

Those of us who, sadly, can no longer call themselves young adults, have a responsibility too.

Lorraine writes: "For anyone who doesn't fall into the "Young Adult" category, please pray for those who may be hearing the call to participate, spread the word to those of your parish or group, encourage participation and invite young adults into the fold. With your help, God will get the right 12 to the table at the right time."

Mary Lou  
Kilian

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## CHURCH: A FAMILY OF FAITH

## Humility and Truth

31st Sunday of Ordinary Time - Oct. 29-30  
(Until You Come Again—Eucharistic Prayers)

By Sister Mary Eamon Lyng, SSI

Director of Evangelization

As a family of faith, we are called to serve one another in humility and in truth. This is what Jesus commanded His disciples to be—a witness of love through service.

Both Malachi's and Jesus' messages were strong. As a community of believers, whether as religious leaders or the people, they were to reflect and communicate God's love to one another with compassion, justice, and mercy, not just speak it.

God is the Father of all. He is the Master who admonishes us to be servant of all in truth and in humility. We all have a responsibility for right worship and for careful handing on the religious tradition. Religious leadership as Malachi and Jesus point out is not disjointed from the rest of the community.

There are different roles in the life of the Church but we all contribute to proper worship and to the building up of the Body of Christ. Our common fatherhood in God calls us all to participate in what pertains to God.

As we celebrate Priesthood Sunday, let us give special recognition to our priests whom we call "Father"! They image for us the gift of "fatherhood" in their total self-giving to the people of God.

How blessed we are as a family of faith that the priest stands before us as a humble servant at the head of all the faithful, presides over our prayer, proclaims the message of salvation, associates us with himself in the offering of sacrifice, gives us, his brothers and sisters, the Bread of eternal life, and partakes of it with us.

In humility and in truth, we gather together with the priest as one faith, one family, one body who hears the Word of God, joins in the prayers and the singing, participates in the common sacrifice, and partakes at the Lord's Table. Together we prepare for the future glory of celebrating the heavenly banquet.

In the second reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians, Paul's community was expecting Jesus' return soon.

But Jesus' Second Coming had not come in the Thessalonians' time and so Paul exhorted them to continue to be models of living their faith to other believers, not only in the Roman provinces, but to the whole world. In the Mystery of Faith (Memorial Acclamation) of the Mass, in proclaiming the mystery of our faith, we proclaim the core of our faith.

It is who we are as Christians when "we proclaim" together what Jesus has done for us. "We proclaim" what we will do for one another, to live what we eat and drink as servants to one another, integrating faith and life as disciples of Jesus, "until You come again". This is the formula for achieving greatness in the reign of God. We do not know when Jesus will return, but He will return in all His glory and power.

In the meantime, we are assured of Jesus' promise of His presence with us now as He said, "Behold, I am with always, until the end of the age" (Mt. 28:20). As the Body of Christ, how can you be a better servant-leader to the wider community?

We are all children of our one Father called to help one another as brothers and sisters to carry out the Father's will.

Be a messenger of hope to someone whose faith is weak. Invite a friend to come with you to the Saturday morning Reflection and Prayer on Saturday at St. Peter's Emmaus Hall, Plattsburgh from 9:30 am-12:00pm to prepare for the Third Edition of the Roman Missal.

## AT THE CARITAS DINNER



For the past two years, Catholic Charities has presented a Legacy Award to a young person who shows "commitment and actions reflecting the Gospel values of love and compassion." Above, Bishop LaValley presents the 2011 award to Joy Leader of Gouverneur. The 15-year-old parishioner of St. James Parish is shown with her parents, Henry and Dayna Leader. At right, Daughter of Charity Sister Donna Franklin, director of Catholic Charities, presents a gift to Glenda Jones of Ogdensburg in recognition of Jones' 10 years of service to Catholic Charities. The awards were presented at the annual Catholic Charities Caritas dinner Oct. 16 in Ogdensburg.



# Metanoia Movement begins for young adults

By Lorraine Turgeon  
Director, Young Adult Ministry

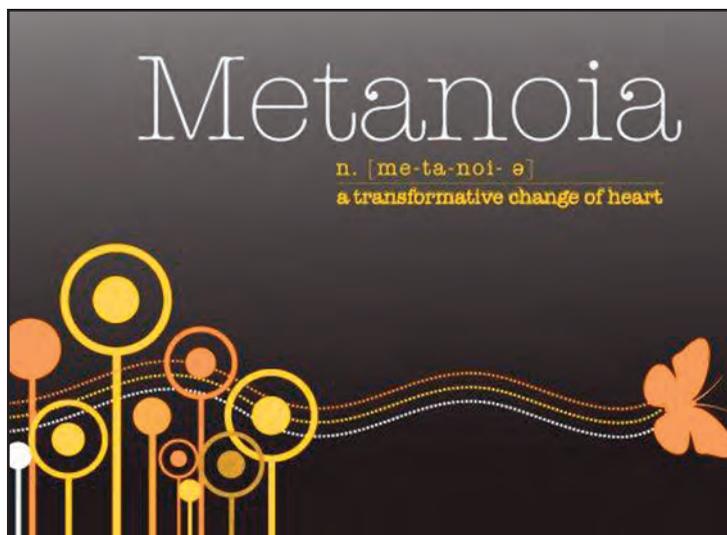
The Office of Young Adult Ministry will be sponsoring a Metanoia Retreat Nov. 18-19 at Wadhams Hall.

### Is Jesus inviting you to the table?

The Metanoia Retreat is a 24 hour retreat experience based on the Last Supper and the call to, and cost of, discipleship.

The Church needs committed, spiritually minded young adults to take responsibility for the future of our Church. Without them, the Church cannot be everything God intends her to be.

John Paul II wrote in his Apostolic Letter ... "To follow Christ, to be his disciple, is to courageously take the path of the Cross. For a disciple of Christ, the Cross is a sign of love, not of torture 'it is not suffering for its own sake that a Christian seeks, but love. When the cross is embraced it be-



comes a sign of love and of total self-giving. To carry it behind Christ means to be united with him offering the greatest proof of love." (ibid, n 5)

Jesus personally invited each of his disciples, he saw them, knew them and most importantly he loved them, with all their weaknesses. We need moments in which we know that we have that same connection with Jesus.

The world is hurting, and each person is dying to be

seen and to be known, and it is the Church which must reach out to each lost sheep.

We are all, in one way or another, lost, reaching for God and for purpose and we must be Jesus for those around us, we must invite and really see those that we are inviting, and promise to walk the journey with them.

Therefore, this retreat experience is specifically designed for a small group in order to experience real Metanoia - a true conversion

of the heart.

A component of the Metanoia Movement is the Manthano Gatherings which will be held in conjunction with the Metanoia Retreats every 12 weeks; Metanoia Retreats will only be attended once and then those who have completed the retreat will be presented to the Manthano group, which will then offer support to learn by experience (the meaning of Manthano) the Catholic faith, fellowship and evangelization.

It is the hope that this group will become the Church alive of the future.

If you are a young adult between the ages of 18 to 40 you are invited to sit at the Lord's Table in an intimate experience of God's love. Through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, quiet reflection, faith sharing, Adoration and commitment to God's mission we can transform the world.

For more information visit the Young Adult Ministry website at [www.dioogdensburg.org/Youngadultministry](http://www.dioogdensburg.org/Youngadultministry); check out our page on

FaceBook at Diocese of Ogdensburg Young Adult Ministry; email Lorraine at [lturgeon@dioogdensburg.org](mailto:lturgeon@dioogdensburg.org) or call the Office of Young Adult Ministry at 315-323-4989. Registrations for the Nov 18/19 retreat must be received by Nov. 10.

For anyone who doesn't fall into the "Young Adult" category, please pray for those who may be hearing the call to participate, spread the word to those of your parish or group, encourage participation and invite young adults into the fold.

With your help, God will get the right 12 to the table at the right time.

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## OCTOBER IS RESPECT LIFE MONTH

## Death Penalty: The Death of a Society

By Randal J. Smith  
Parishioner, St. Peter's, Plattsburgh

The Death Penalty which is part of our "Culture of Death", as Pope John Paul II called our American society, is a failed attempt to produce a deterrent to serious crime. It is, I believe, an article of law to placate a revengeful lust in our misguided society.

If we understand that we are but stewards of the life that God has granted us, where do we get the jurisdiction to take that life?

I believe the answer is simple; we don't.

#### Vigilante justice

The Death Penalty is no more than sanction vigilante justice, "an eye for an eye" philosophy. The failed concept that the death penalty is a deterrent to serious, Capital offense, crime is not supported by the statistics.

According to the FBI Uniform Crime 2008 Report the South had the highest murder rate. The fact of the matter is that states that have the death penalty, especially the south, which accounts for 15 of the 35 states with the death penalty and 80 percent of executions have the highest serious crime rate.

This fact alone is paramount in the understanding that the death penalty as a deterrent is a failed concept.

I believe a society cannot in good conscience perform premeditated murder - capital punishment - to punish the crime murder and expect its people not to follow its lead.

Since the year 2000, 628 lives have been extin-

guished in the name of justice, an average execution rate of 58 people per year.

Most capital offense crimes are committed by individuals with diminished mental capacity. Whether from natural chemical imbalance, illicit drug induced behavior or, "heat of the moment" (crimes of passion) their mental capacity was diminished to the point of not understanding fully their actions or more importantly the consequences of their actions.

I do not promote any such thought that does not bring these individuals to justice and prison terms for their action. Diminished mental capacity is not a reason to be excused from a crime, but should be considered in concluding a penalty for the crime. In the eyes of any good society, justice must be served.

In America, our fore fathers founded a judicial system based on the presumption of innocence to the point that they believed that ten guilty shall be set free so that one innocent shall not be jailed.

That's as long as you have money to pay for a defense. Ruth Bader Ginsburg, U.S. Supreme Court Justice declared "I have yet to see a death case among the dozen coming to the Supreme Court on eve-of-execution stay applications in which the defendant was well represented at trial... People who are well represented at trial do not get the death penalty."

According to the Death Penalty Information Center, since the year 1973 over 180 Death Row Inmates have been exonerated and released from prison. How scary is the thought that our Government imprisoned innocence people and placed them on Death Row to await execution.

The next mind bending logical step in this thought process is, how many innocence people has our Gov-



Randal Smith

ernment executed.

The conclusion can only be that our Government is culpable to the murder of innocence people. This is unacceptable in any civilized society and as members of the Holy Roman Catholic Church we must stand up to protect all life.

#### Staunch pro-life stance

The Holy Roman Catholic Church is staunch in its Pro-Life stance. It believes in the sanctity of life from conception to natural death. There is no real exception for the death penalty because an individual who has committed murder.

Pope John Paul II's Prayer at the Papal Mass at Regina Coeli Prison in Rome, July 9, 2000, was "May the death penalty, an unworthy punishment still used in some countries, be abolished throughout the world."

In a Homily at the Papal Mass in the Trans World Dome, St. Louis, Missouri, January 27, 1999, he avowed "A sign of hope is the increasing recognition that the dignity of human life must never be taken away, even in the case of someone who has done great evil. Modern society has the means of protecting itself, without definitively denying criminals the chance to reform. I renew the appeal I made most recently at Christmas for a consensus to end the death penalty, which is both cruel and unnecessary."

God has granted life to us, we are but stewards of this life. We as Roman Catholics must then respect the life of all. Even the great evil doers who permeate our society, we as Catholics must strive to see Christ in every one.

The death penalty is a ritualistic killing that defies our very beliefs and put us in a position, as a society, in the place of God, choosing who lives and who dies. Executing a criminal, as Pope John Paul II stated, denies the criminal an opportunity of reconciliation and forgiveness from God.

One of the Ten Commandment states "Thou shall not kill." If we agree to or are apathetic to the death penalty then we are responsible for committing a mortal sin. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) teaches us in paragraph #2267 "the Church does not exclude recourse to the death penalty, if this is the only possible way of effectively defending human lives against the unjust aggressor.

"If, however, non-lethal means are sufficient to defend and protect people's safety from the aggressor, authority will limit itself to such means, as these are more in keeping with the concrete conditions of the common good and are more in conformity to the dignity of the human person."

The CCC further states that "Today, in fact, as a consequence of the possibilities which the state has for effectively preventing crime, by rendering one who has committed an offense incapable of doing harm - without definitely taking away from him the possibility of redeeming himself - the cases in which the execution of the offender is an absolute necessity "are very rare, if not practically non-existent." This is an important part to understand that we as Catholics under most circumstances must fight dili-

gently for the sanctity of human life no matter what crime the individual has committed. Our society is very capable of rendering a criminal incapable of doing any more harm.

As a Correction Officer for over 15 years I can attest to our ability render the criminals harmless.

The Catholic community must congeal and form an army to defend the sanctity of life and use this force to bring about the abolishment of the death penalty. As the Co-chairman of the Pro-Life committee for Saint Peter's Church I help bring this very topic to light with in the Church setting. The more people, we as a committee, reach out to and show the moral wrong in killing other human being for the sake of misguided justice the more people we have backing the a movement to abolish the death penalty.

As a civilized society we must lead the way in showing the correct, merciful way of administering justice. The thought of murdering one innocent person by mistake in a state sponsored execution is the horrific conclusion that the death penalty must be abolished.

In conclusion, the death penalty is a failed attempt to produce a deterrent to serious crime. It is nothing more than an article of law to placate a revengeful lust in our misguided society. The fact that where the death penalty is more prominent, the murder rate is the highest in the nation should condemn the death penalty to its own demise.

The Holy Roman Catholic Church's staunch Pro-Life stance compels us as Catholics to take up our crosses and right the wrong of Capital Punishment. Through such Catholic Church Ministries as Pro-Life and Prison ministry, the word can be spread to all of God, children.

#### Editor's note

This article is taken from a paper written by Randal Smith for a Formation for Ministry class on Social Justice taught by Ursuline Sr. Sheila Murphy. Smith has worked as a corrections officer for 15 years.

OCTOBER IS RESPECT LIFE MONTH

# SHOWING RESPECT



Students from Holy Family School in Malone joined more than 1000 area school children Oct. 18, lining Main Street in Malone for a Rachel's Challenge/Karen's Hope event. The children held a couple miles of paper chain (about 21,000 individual links), with each link representing a distinct act of kindness done by one of the young people over the course of the last few months. Horns honked and church bells rang to celebrate this unique achievement. Rachel's Challenge was inspired by Rachel Scott, the first student to be killed during the Columbine High School shootings in 1999. The anti-bullying/peace-making program was brought to Malone last year by Karen Bourdon-Clark, a beloved local counselor/educator who implemented Rachel's Challenge in all of Malone's schools before she herself was violently killed in May.



The Life Chain held Oct. 2 in Potsdam drew many college students who spent an hour in silent witness against abortion.



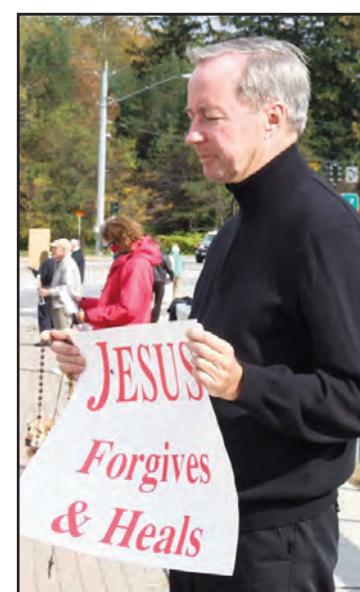
Volunteers Peter and Patricia Esposito from St. Patrick's Church in Watertown prepare donated items to be sent to the parish's adopted unit deployed to Afghanistan. This is the third different unit supported by parishioners of St. Patrick's with donations of books, magazines, playing cards and other items in support of the troops' personal time while on-duty.



Deacon Thomas Proulx of Sacred Heart Church in Massena traveled to Potsdam for the Respect Life Sunday Life Chain.



Mercy Care for the Adirondacks, a mission sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, recently presented awards to its Friendship Volunteers who give time, friendship and assistance to elders in the Tri-Lakes region. Shown, seated are Joan Storey, Barbara Rottier and Rosemary Reiss; second row, Cecile Jarvis, George Herbert, Margo Cooper, Patty Francisco and Bernadette Clarke and back, Frank Lescinsky, Bruce Wadsworth, Bruce Dana, Sr. M. Denise Wilke, Fred Mader, Anne Maltais, and Ruth Tarlton.



Father John Yonkovic, pastor in Lake Placid, took part in the Saranac Lake Life Chain.

# NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC



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## Bishop LaValley's Schedule

**Oct. 27** – 10:30 a.m., Diocesan Finance Council Meeting at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg.

**Oct. 28** – 10:50 a.m., Mass at St. Joseph's Home in Ogdensburg; 1:30 p.m., Foundation Board of Director's Meeting at the Brzana Conference Center in Ogdensburg.

**Oct. 30** – 3:00 p.m., Jubilee Celebration of the Most Reverence Edward U. Kmiec at St. Joseph's Cathedral in Buffalo.

**Oct. 31** – 4:00 p.m., Anticipated Mass for Feast of All Saints at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg.

**Nov. 1** – 9:30 a.m., Mass for Seton Academy at St. John's Church, Plattsburgh; 1:30 p.m., Mass at Seton Catholic Central School, Plattsburgh.

## 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 pre-register at [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org) by selecting the registration button and following the directions. Further information: Sister Ellen Donahue, phone, 315-393-2920. ext. 403.

Upcoming programs:

**Oct. 26** – 6 p.m., St. Marguerite D'Youville Academy, Ogdensburg

**Nov. 2** – 9 a.m., Malone Catholic Parishes, Malone

**Nov. 2** – 6:30 p.m., St. James School, Gouverneur

**Nov. 5** – 1 p.m., Holy Ghost Academy, Tupper Lake

**Nov. 9** – 6 p.m., Holy Family School, Malone

**Nov. 17** – 6 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, Chazy

## Regional reflections

Every Saturday during the month of October, the Department of Worship is providing mornings of understanding, reflection and prayer on the changes in the Roman Missal for the people of the Diocese. The dates for the remaining Regional Saturday Mornings of Reflection follow.

**Oct. 29** – St. Peter's Emmaus Hall, Plattsburgh, 9:30 a.m.



## Rest in Peace

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

**Oct. 26** – Rev. J. G. Lavoie, O.M.I., 1908

**Oct. 27** – Rev. John M. Fagan, O.S.A., 1966; Msgr. George Norton Whitaker, 1971; Msgr. Gerald H. Service, 2002

**Oct. 28** – Deacon Richard Gaebel, 2008

**Oct. 29** – Rev. James R. Scanlon, 1880; Rev. Peter F. Cody, 1888; Rev. John Canning, 1998

**Oct. 30** – Rev. Michael F. Burns, 1921; Rev. Thomas E. Owen, 1945; Rev. Peter N. Butler, 1973

**Oct. 31** – Rev. James Rooney, 1863; Rev. Lucien Jean, M.S.C., 1964; Rev. Ivan G. Boyea, 1996

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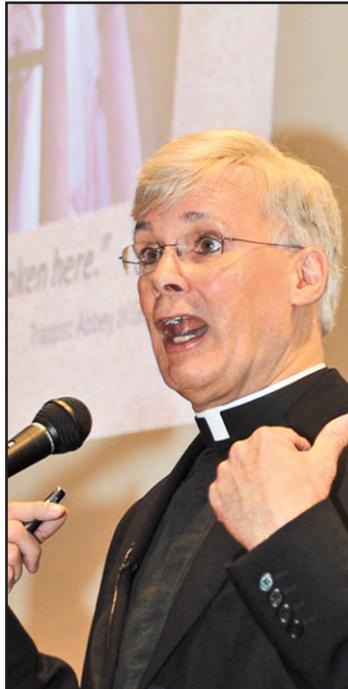
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# Superintendent's Day 2011



PHOTOS BY PAT HENDRICK  
Bishop Terry R. LaValley celebrated Mass for the staff and faculty of Catholic schools of the diocese during Superintendent's Day Oct. 3 in Lake Placid. Father Mark Reilly, pastor in Saranac Lake is at left.



Father Garry Giroux gave the keynote address during the day, speaking about upcoming changes in the Roman Missal.



The Superintendent's Day offers Catholic school personnel from across the diocese to spend time together. Above, St. Joseph Sister Sharon Ann Dalton, principal of St. Mary's School in Ticonderoga, chats with St. Joseph Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, diocesan superintendent of schools. More photos from the day may be seen on the diocesan Education Department's website, [www.dioogdensburg.org/catholicschools](http://www.dioogdensburg.org/catholicschools).

## Catholic school teachers gather in Lake Placid

By Kyle Page  
Staff writer

**LAKE PLACID** - Catholic teachers from throughout the Diocese made the trek to Lake Placid Oct. 3 for the annual Superintendent's Day.

The program opened with Mass celebrated by Bishop Terry R. LaValley followed by a group address, a chance to visit with educational and religious vendors and breakout sessions on key educational topics.

This year the keynote address was given by Father Garry Giroux concerning the upcoming changes in the Roman Missal.

The address offered tools to Catholic teachers as they prepare their students for understanding and accepting the changes that will take place in November.

The afternoon program featured specialized sessions with classroom teachers:

- Those teaching pre-kindergarten to sixth grade heard a presentation on new

Core Standards.

- Physical Education teachers learned more about the new Fitness Gram/Fidelis Grant.

- Music and Art teachers learned how their disciplines directly correlated to some of the Missal changes

- Technology teachers networked to learn about online references for the new Core Standards as well as about dealing with new technologies effectively in the classrooms.

A highlight of the day was the recognition of the Catholic School Teacher of the Year and those completing significant years of service.

Sue Ellen Lacroix, a teacher at Seton Catholic Central in Plattsburgh, is the 2011 Teacher of the Year.

Three teachers were recognized for 15 years of service - Connie Hartle, St. James School, Gouverneur; Aimee Flynn, St. Marguerite D'Youville Academy, Ogdensburg; and Val Bacon, Seton Catholic Central, Plattsburgh.

Honored for 25 years of service were Donna Shoen, Trinity Catholic School in Massena and Karlene Gonyeau, St. Mary's in Ticonderoga.

Superintendent's Day is an annual event coordinated by the diocesan Education Department, led by Msgr. Robert H. Aucoin, vicar for education; St. Joseph Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, superintendent of schools; and St. Joseph Sister Shirley Anne Brown, assistant superintendent.

Sister Shirley Anne worked with the diocesan curriculum committee to plan the pro-

gram. The current members are Lisa Parsons from IHC Jr./Sr. High School, Mary Ann Margery from Augustinian Academy, Meg Trainor from St. Mary's in Canton, Karen

Reynolds from Seton Academy, Joan Rufa from Trinity Catholic School, Aimee Flynn from St. Marguerite D'Youville and Ann Maire Wiseman from Holy Family School.

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NCC

*Sister Adorers of the Precious Blood reflect on their lives of contemplation*

# 'A most rewarding life'

By Mary Lou Kilian  
Editor

**WATERTOWN** – Joan Washburn wanted to serve her country and so she joined the Air Force in the years after World War II.



Sister Rose Mary Rossi spends a moment in prayer in the chapel

Four years later, she took advantage of the GI Bill, enrolled in nursing school and then re-enlisted... in the Navy.

As a Navy nurse, Joan worked in Washington State, Guantanamo Bay and in Maine

Marilyn McGillan wished her high school years in Manchester, N.H. – with friends and clubs, proms and sports – could have lasted forever.

Her dreams for the future included a career as a reporter for the U.S. News and World Report.

Rose Mary Rossi was the ultimate career woman in the New York City area, climbing the ladder as an intensive care nurse.

And Martha Emery knew she wanted to be a Sister – she began formation as a Sister of Good Shepherd near her home in Old Orchard Beach, Maine, and left a year later to enter the Sisters of Mercy.

On the outside these woman were leading active, fulfilling lives.

On the inside, they each knew that something was

missing.

While in Washington, Joan was invited to join a friend on a visit to a monastery in Vancouver and discovered that this was a life she needed to explore.

Marilyn, whose life of prayer was never eclipsed by high school fun, was convinced as a teenager that God was calling her to religious life. Her parents weren't so sure and only gave permission after she spent a year in the working world.

Rose Mary wanted to be a Sister right after grade school and always found time for prayer groups and retreats while building her career.

She finally answered the question "what do I really want to do in my life?" and began to pursue a religious vocation at the age of 54.

Martha, who spent her childhood "hiding in my tent and reading spiritual books," left the Mercy Sisters after six years and prepared to enter yet another religious order for the third and final time.

Today, the lives of these four women have converged; they each left careers, family and much of the "outside

world" to share their lives as cloistered sisters in a monastery in northern New York.

Sister Mary Elizabeth (nee Joan) Washburn, Sister Marilyn McGillan, Sister Rose Mary Rossi and Sister Martha Emery now form the community of the Sister Adorers of the Precious Blood in Watertown.

This year, they join Precious Blood Sisters from around the world in celebrating the 150th anniversary of this religious order.

## About the Community

The Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood is a contemplative community of pontifical status founded in 1861 by Catherine Aurelia Caouette in St. Hyacinth, Canada.

As the Civil War began to ravage the United States, Catherine followed her desire to give her life to the adoration of the Precious Blood of Jesus.

With three other women, she established a community devoted to adoration, reparation and suffering for the salvation of the world.

Today there are 19 monasteries of the Precious Blood.

Like their Sisters around the world, the women in the local community are devoted to a life of contemplation, following the mottos: "Adoration, Reparation and Suffering" and "Fidelity, Constancy and Generosity"

"Many find our way of life – a contemplative life of prayer – a bit mysterious," the Sisters write in their community newsletter. "But a faith view understands and appreciates the value of constancy in prayer and reparation for the sake of the world."

"While God permits evil here on earth – wars and famine and terror – He also inspires people like Catherine Aurelia to give their lives to counteracting the darkness by lighting up the world with their good works," they

wrote. "The Catholic Church depends upon contemplative communities and on their intercession for the needs of the world."

## A typical day

A typical day in the Watertown monastery begins at 5:30 a.m. when the rising bell rings.

Morning prayer starts at 7 a.m. as the Sisters pray the Liturgy of the Hours together and spend time in meditation before Mass at 8.

Msgr. Paul Whitmore, chaplain for the past two years, celebrates daily Mass for the Sisters and for Catholics from around the area who regularly fill the chapel.

Breakfast follows before the Sisters spend two hours in the work of the monastery. This includes the distribution of hosts to parishes across the diocese, and selling religious articles and cards.

The Sisters gather for mid-day prayer at 11:30 a.m. followed by dinner.

From 1 p.m. to 3 they enjoy personal time for private prayer, exercise or rest.

The women join together again at 3 p.m. for prayer, spiritual reading and various work projects.

Evening prayer and meditation begins at 5, followed by supper at 6:15

A recreation hour is scheduled from 7 p.m. to 8 when they often watch the news or movies.

An hour of reparation, night prayer and reading concludes the day.

A priority for the sisters is adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. In addition to daily hours of adoration for each of the women, an Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place for an hour Thursday evenings and for the full day on the first Sunday of the Month.

In addition, the Sisters participate in a retreat on the

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



One of Sister Martha Emery's responsibilities is as cook for the community.



Sister Mary Elizabeth's life has been marked by service to God and country.



Sister Marilyn McGillan, newly elected superior of the local community, is shown at the monastery's organ.

## Sisters

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

last Sunday of every month with a Holy Hour with Benediction and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament during the afternoon that day.

The community observes "Constitutional Enclosure" which means that the Sisters are permitted to leave the house, with permission from the superior for genuine spiritual and physical needs.

These include participation in special diocesan liturgies, trips to the doctor and a yearly home visit.

### A rewarding life

In September, the Sisters elected Sister Marilyn to serve as superior of the local community and Sister Martha as the assistant superior

In the coming year, they expect a young woman from

San Bernadino, CA., to enter the house at Christmas time.

Another plans to come in April, Sister Marilyn said.

Together, the Sisters will continue to "direct all their energy toward a deepening of their relationship with God, (knowing that) their life together in community witnesses to the Presence of God here on earth. ([www.sisterspreciousblood.org](http://www.sisterspreciousblood.org))

"God called me to the most rewarding life I could have imagined," Sister Marilyn said. "Happy and blessed are those who follow where He leads."

### To Learn More....

Further information about the Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood, Precious Blood Monastery in Watertown, is available at 315-788-1669 or [www.SistersPreciousBlood.org](http://www.SistersPreciousBlood.org)



A community portrait at the Precious Blood Monastery on Pratt Street in Watertown, features, from left Sister Mary Elizabeth Washburn; Sister Catherine Gee who recently moved to the Precious Blood community in Manchester, N.H.; Sister Martha Emery, Sister Rose Mary Rossi, Sister Marilyn McGillan and everybody's best friend, Molly.

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*New translation to be implemented on the First Sunday of Advent*

# Missal binds Catholics across 2,000-year history

By Dennis Sadowski  
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) - When the third edition of the English-language version of the Roman Missal is implemented at Advent, it will mark the continuing evolution of the eucharistic liturgy that began in the earliest days of the church.

The most recent changes -- which more closely reflect "Liturgiam Authenticam" ("The Authentic Liturgy"), the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments' 2001 document on liturgical translations -- are unlikely to be the last, liturgists agree.

From Aramaic to Greek to Latin to vernacular language after the Second Vatican Council, the Mass has evolved over 2,000 years in an effort to help worshippers appreciate the mystery that is God.

"It's not the changing that's abnormal. It's not changing that's abnormal," said Jesuit Father John Baldovin, professor of historical and liturgical theology at Boston College, who explores the history of the missal and the new English translation in a video series on the National Jesuit News website.

The translation that began being implemented in English-speaking countries in 2010 has been openly criticized by some clergy and liturgy experts for its structurally complicated language that they believe strays from the intent of Vatican II's liturgical reforms. But other litur-

gists responsible for catechesis on the missal are reminding the faithful that the translation helps bind modern-day Catholics with early Christians through its more authentic language.

"People may find it interesting that this has developed over centuries. It isn't something dropped out of the sky at Vatican II, but it has a history," said Christina Ronzio, director of the Office for Worship in the Cleveland Diocese.

"What it does is it establishes continuity of that tradition of the church," she said.

The Missal of Pius V appeared seven years after the Council of Trent concluded its work in 1563, implementing the council's call for uniformity in liturgical books. Convened in response to Protestant disputes with the church, the council met in 25 sessions in three periods beginning in 1545. By its conclusion the council codified the celebration of Mass and defined church teaching on Scripture and tradition, original sin, justification, the sacraments and the veneration of saints.

The council allowed religious orders that had their own liturgical rites in place for more than 200 years -- among them the Dominicans and the Franciscans -- to continue using their own missal. Those missals continue in use today with updated translations approved by the Vatican.

In part, credit the development of the printing press for the missal's introduction

in the 16th century, said Father Richard Hilgartner, executive director of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Secretariat on Divine Worship.

"The idea of trying to codify the liturgy prior to the invention of the printing press, it was just seen as a huge obstacle because you couldn't reproduce it," Father Hilgartner said.

Until the late 16th century, holy books were reproduced by hand by monks, making widespread distribution of sacred texts impractical.

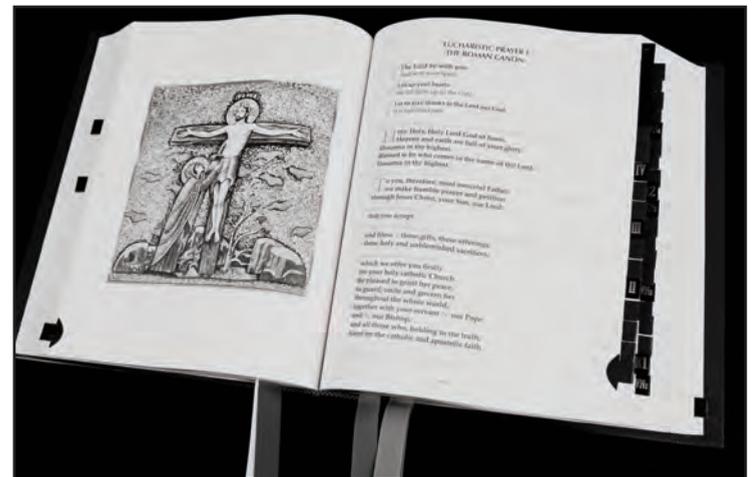
But long before the first missal was promulgated, a desire for consistency in worship began to emerge. Some Mass prayers can be traced to the third century, said Rita Thiron, director of the Office of Worship in Lansing, Mich., citing the second eucharistic prayer, which dates to about 215.

In a series called "Welcoming the New Roman Missal" on the Lansing diocesan website, Thiron wrote that by the fourth century worship became more formalized because of a growing concern for orthodoxy. That concern led to standardization of prayers and readings in various rituals.

By the seventh and eighth centuries the sharing of prayer texts became more common, Father Hilgartner said. Sacramentaries also were assembled, the most notable being the Old Gelasian Sacramentary in the seventh and eighth centuries and the Gregorian Sacramentary in the late eighth century.

In 785, Pope Hadrian I gave a copy of the Gregorian Sacramentary to Charlemagne, king of the Franks, who unified liturgical practice in Western Europe by expanding the Sacramentary's use among faith communities across the continent.

At the same time, Latin was becoming the language of the church. Father Daniel Merz, associate director of the USCCB's Secretariat of Di-



CNS PHOTO/NANCY WIECHEC

The first eucharistic prayer is seen on a page from a copy of the new Roman Missal in English published by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. New missals are on the way to parishes throughout the United States for use beginning the first Sunday of Advent, Nov. 27.

vine Worship, explained that the use of Latin took several hundred years to emerge, beginning in the third century; by the 10th century it was widespread.

"But even in Rome it's interesting that the first several hundred years you can see there was this concern to have the language be in the language of the people," he said.

After the Council of Trent it would be more than four centuries before the Roman Mass saw significant changes. Even though several popes granted concessions to missionaries to allow Mass to be celebrated in local languages to aid in evangelization -- including Mandarin in China in the early 14th century, Arabic for the Carmelites in Persia in 1624 and Iroquoian for the Jesuits in 1773 near modern-day Montreal -- Mass changed little until Vatican II.

The first document to emerge from Vatican II in 1963 was the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy ("Sacrosanctum Consilium"), which called for "full, conscious, and active participation" of all people in the liturgy. The missal reflecting those principles, known as the Missal of Paul VI, was approved in 1969.

That missal was translated

into English by 1973 by the International Commission on English in the Liturgy, known as ICEL. It was slightly revised in 1975 with the addition of new eucharistic prayers for reconciliation. That English translation appeared in 1985 and remains the missal in use until Advent.

But some Vatican officials felt that version of the missal could be improved and set about working on still another translation.

In 2001, the third translation was issued. It incorporates the changes that will take effect at Advent. It took ICEL nearly a decade to translate the changes into English and gain Vatican approval, but not without tension.

Diocesan-based liturgists Ronzio and Thiron both have included a discussion of liturgical history in their workshops on implementing the translation after initially hearing from people who perceived the translation as betraying Vatican II's promise. With knowledge of history, the anger has largely disappeared, they said.

"One of the things (people) appreciate most about the Catholic faith is tradition," Thiron said. "When they see tradition is being preserved, they're comfortable with that."

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# CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

## 'Ad limina' change means not all bishops meet privately with pope

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- In a quiet modification of a traditional format, the Vatican has dropped most of the individual private meetings between Pope Benedict XVI and bishops making their "ad limina" visits to Rome. The unannounced change was instituted earlier this year, apparently in an effort to reduce the scheduling burden on the 84-year-old pope and to help cut through the backlog of "ad limina" visits, which are supposed to be made every five years by heads of dioceses. In place of one-on-one meetings, the pope now usually holds more freewheeling sessions with groups of 7-10 bishops at a time, lasting about an hour. That is expected to be the format for U.S. bishops when they begin their "ad limina" visits in early November. Several bishops who have recently come through Rome on "ad limina" visits had good things to say about the new practice. "The Holy Father welcomed us, he sat down and made us comfortable, at home and he chatted with us. He said, 'Now tell me,' and he listened very attentively and made a comment here or there. At the end, he summed up beautifully what was said," said Archbishop Felix Machado of Vasai, India, who met the pope with a group of eight others in early September. "It was very spontaneous, a heart-to-heart talk. And that's what it should be. It was a real sharing between him and us," the archbishop said. Australians making their "ad limina" visits in October were also pleased with the format, saying it means the pope does not have to cover the same ground with each bishop. "The response of the bishops has been universally positive. As a matter of fact, they've come back from those meetings really excited by the nature of it and by what's happened. They think it's a terrific initiative. And everyone would agree it's a very good use of the Holy Father's time," said Archbishop Philip Wilson of Adelaide.

## Vatican: Gadhafi's death marks end of 'harsh and oppressive regime'

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- The Vatican said the death of Libyan strongman Moammar Gadhafi marked the end of a "harsh and oppressive regime" that was based on power instead of human dignity. It expressed hope that the bloodshed would end in the North African country, and that the new Libyan government would open a rebuilding phase based on "a spirit of inclusion" and social justice. The statement was issued by the Vatican press office late Oct. 20, several hours after Gadhafi was reported killed in his coastal hometown of Sirte, where he had been barricaded with loyalist troops. His death came after months of bloody civil strife and NATO airstrikes in support of Libyan rebels. The Vatican said the Libyan conflict had been "too long and tragic" and should prompt reflection on the "cost of immense human suffering" that accompanies the collapse of systems not founded on respect for human rights. It encouraged the new Libyan government to try to prevent further violence caused by a spirit of revenge and to begin a program of pacification. The international community, it said, should provide generous aid toward the reconstruction of the country. For its part, the minority Catholic community in Libya will continue to offer "its witness and its unselfish service, especially in the areas of charity and health care," it said. The Vatican said it would work in favor of the Libyan people in the international diplomatic arena. The statement said the Vatican considers the transitional government as the legitimate representative of the Libyan people.

# Pope names Archbishop Vigano new nuncio to US

By Cindy Wooden  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Pope Benedict XVI named Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, 70, to be the new nuncio to the United States.

In his most recent position, the Italian archbishop had served for two years as secretary-general of the commission governing Vatican City. He succeeds the late Archbishop Pietro Sambi in Washington.

Just minutes after his assignment was announced Oct. 19, Archbishop Vigano told Catholic News Service he hoped to get to the United States in time for the U.S. bishops' general assembly Nov. 14-16.

The archbishop said being nuncio in the United States is an "important, vast and delicate" task; he said he was grateful to Pope Benedict for entrusting him with the mission and he felt called to renew his "trust in the Lord, who asks me to set out again" to a new country.

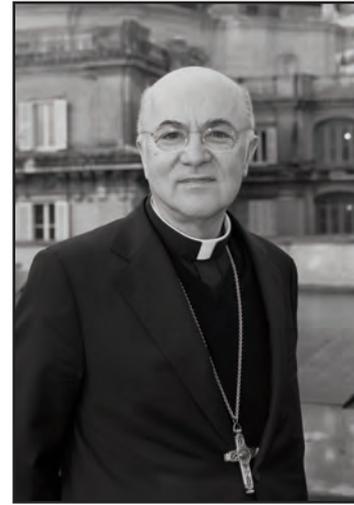
Being a nuncio, he said, is "a call to know this people, this country and come to love them."

"For me to take the place of someone who was so loved, so committed, makes it an even greater challenge," he said.

Archbishop Vigano said he knew a U.S. presidential election is coming up, but before he can say anything "I need to hear from the bishops and learn from them. The election is important for the country and for the whole world."

New York Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, sent a message of welcome to the new nuncio and said the bishops looked forward to meeting him at their November assembly in Baltimore.

Archbishop Dolan said that, as the pope's represen-



(CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING)

Italian Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, the new apostolic nuncio to the United States, is pictured at his residence at the Vatican Oct. 20. He succeeds the late Archbishop Pietro Sambi.

tative in the U.S., Archbishop Vigano would "serve as a continuing sign to us of that source of renewal and hope that Pope Benedict brought to our country" during his April 2008 visit. Archbishop Dolan said the new nuncio's variety of experiences would enable him "to see the intricacies involved in representing the Holy Father in both the church and diplomatic worlds, especially now as they are lived out in America's democratic society."

A nuncio is a Vatican diplomat with the rank of ambassador. He is responsible for diplomatic relations with the government, but also serves as the pope's representative to the church in a given country, which includes responsibility for coordinating the search for and vetting of candidates to become bishops.

While at the commission governing Vatican City, Archbishop Vigano earned a reputation as a careful administrator, skilled at cutting costs and improving the efficiency of an office that oversees the care of Vatican buildings, as well as the Vatican post office, police force and the Vatican Museums.

Born in Varese, in Italy's far north, he was ordained a priest in 1968 for the Diocese of Pavia. He entered the Vatican's diplomatic service in 1973 and served at Vatican embassies in Iraq and in Great Britain before working in the Vatican Secretariat of State in 1978-89.

He was the Vatican's permanent observer at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, France, from 1989 to 1992, when Pope John Paul II named him an archbishop and nuncio to Nigeria. Pope John Paul personally ordained him a bishop.

Archbishop Vigano -- who speaks Italian, French, Spanish and English -- was still serving as nuncio to Nigeria in 1997 when Pope John Paul visited the country.

Returning to the Vatican Secretariat of State in 1998, Archbishop Vigano coordinated the appointments of nuncios and papal representatives around the world.

In 1999, he led a five-man Vatican delegation to Iraq to try -- unsuccessfully, it turned out -- to make arrangements for Pope John Paul to visit. The pope had wanted to go to Ur, the city thought to be the birthplace of Abraham, as part of a biblical pilgrimage for the year 2000. At the time, Iraq was under an economic embargo by the West and Ur was under a no-fly zone being enforced by U.S. and British military.

In November 2010 the archbishop was called upon to represent the Vatican at the general assembly of Interpol, the international cooperative organization for police agencies. In his speech to the assembly, he highlighted the ongoing violence against Christians in Iraq, but also spoke more generally about the Vatican's conviction that the promotion of human rights is the best strategy for combating inequalities that lead to crime and terrorism.

## SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

# Priesthood: necessary but dangerous vocation

Priesthood is a necessary but dangerous vocation.

On this Sunday designated as Priesthood Sunday, we find the readings filled with admonitions and warnings to the priests of the Old Covenant.

God had made a covenant with Levi, and so the term 'levitical' priesthood. Unlike the other tribes, they received their sustenance from the Temple offerings.

In the first reading from Malachi, written for the Israelites who had returned from Babylon, God complains that the temple

priests had neglected to teach well the traditions and laws of former days, and

had been lax in correcting foreign customs brought back to Jerusalem from their pagan masters.

Because of this God threatens to let his anger fall on them again.

We have a similar message in the Gospel when Jesus scolds the Pharisees and the priests for their hypocrisy and

their pride.

Their lives lacked humility, honesty and service.

Jesus did not question their authority to teach, and

urges his followers to follow their teaching, but not to follow their example.

In today's second reading, St. Paul presents the model for the priests of the New Testament.

He reminds the Thessalonians that "we were as gentle among you as a nursing mother cares for her children."

It was because of his love for them that he labored night and day among them, both preaching the word of God, and earning his own living so as not to burden them.

Throughout the writings of the other Apostles and early Church Fathers we find the ideal of priesthood put forward.



Monsignor  
Paul E.  
Whitmore

Oct. 30

31st Sunday of the Year

READINGS

Malachi 1:14b-2:2b, 8-10

1 Thessalonians 2:7b-9, 13

Matthew 23:1-12

To whom much is given, much will be required.

God has chosen weak human beings as His priests.

Through those weak hands, God dispenses heavenly power and strength in the sacraments.

As Jesus from the cross gave his own Body and Blood, for our salvation, so He gives it over and over

through the Mass.

And He does this through his priests.

What greater privilege can be given to a man?

In return, He demands that this instrument of His strive to be himself a living mirror of Jesus' love, forbearance, and mercy.

At the same time, He will hold them accountable for any neglect of their sacred duties.

On this Priesthood Sunday, may all of us in the Church, thank our priests for accepting this divine office. Through our prayers for them, may God forgive their sins and weaknesses.

May they always strive to be shepherds after the heart of Christ, the High Priest.

## OUR READERS WRITE

### To the North Country Church:

I wish to thank everyone for your help, prayers, concerns and physical presence during my transition of Pastor of St. Paul's, Black River and St. Rita's, Deferito to resident at Country Manor Nursing Home and Rehab Center in Carthage, NY. This was no small event moving from one place to another, never sure of where I was going!

During this transition I have fortunately found great spiritual growth. I have also found in the lives of many around me that same spiritual growth as they were at my side offering me Sacraments and/or the presence of Christ.

Thank you for helping me on my journey. May God continue to bless you in all you do.

FATHER ANDREW R. MULVANEY  
CARTHAGE

### Life Chain: amazing experience

The Life Chain that was held in Plattsburgh on Sunday Oct. 2 was the most amazing day in my many years of attendance at this event. The new leadership for the Champlain Valley Right To Life:

Pastor Martin and Deborah Mischenko were vibrant, holy and helpful to all.

County Legislator Mr. Sam Trombley stood with us despite the persecution he has suffered for being openly Pro-Life and inspired so many of us during the Life Chain. Dr. John Middleton was there encouraging the group, holding his sign in the rain and standing as a foundation of our local pro-life work.

Many of our local clergy, sisters and deacons were sprinkled amongst us including Deacon Dennis Monty. Mrs. Bracy and her daughter Mary Beth—who have been strong Pro-Life witnesses in our area for many years stood with us and inspired so many.

Mrs. Wanda Gaffney and her daughters who have worked so diligently on Life issues for many years were present and inspired the over 170 people who stood along Smithfield Blvd.

There were many people present at our Plattsburgh Chain standing in the freezing rain that poured down steadily from the heavens.

Most importantly, the most amazing moment and extremely inspiring sight

occurred when I looked to my right and saw our very own BISHOP TERRY LAVALLEY walking down the line of the Life Chain in the freezing cold and drenching rain. He shook every hand and encouraged every one of us gathered on that street.

When some of the people began to get discouraged by the heavy rain and freezing winds, they looked to the Bishop who stood in the freezing rain with the rest of us and held his sign for the entire hour. This was a moment of great solidarity and a great encouragement to the 170 or so people lining the streets of Plattsburgh. It was wonderful to have such a powerful witness as our Bishop Terry amongst us.

We have strong leadership in our Respect Life work in the North Country and leadership that we can be proud of and can look to for inspiration. May God Bless all who stood out for HUMAN LIFE and DIGNITY on that very icy day in the drenching rain.

May God keep watch over us—in this our just cause with love and peace as one Body in Christ,

KAREN SUE SMITH

ST. PETER'S, PLATTSBURGH, RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE COORDINATOR

P.S. We are in the process of organizing our bus for the National March For Life in Washington DC. If any of you are interested, please feel free to contact me for more information via this email address or through my home phone: Karen Smith (518) 566-6229

### Thanks to diocese

Thank you for your contribution of \$7,779.88 to the 2011 Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land. I thank you in the name of the Custos Fr. Pierbattista Pizzaballa, and the Franciscans who work in the Holy Land. The Christians who live there are also very grateful to you. They need our prayers and support.

The Good Friday Collection "remains the ordinary and indispensable means of promoting the life of Christians in the beloved Land," declared Leonardo Cardinal Sandri, Prefect of the Congregation for Eastern Churches in his Lenten letter. He went on to report how the Custody of the Holy Land uses the money you and

your priests and people give:

- To keep the shrines living Christian communities and places of prayer and to welcome pilgrims from around the world.

- To run 14 schools open to all students regardless of religion or nationality. These schools build understanding and harmony between Muslims and Christians.

- To help young Christians remain in the Holy Land, the Custody offers scholarships to different universities in Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and Amman.

- To provide apartments for needy families rent free or proportionate to their income.

- To staff 29 parishes in Israel, Syria, Lebanon, Cypress, Rhodes.

Without the generosity of American Catholics these ministries would not be possible.

Please thank your priests and people for their contributions to the 2011 Good Friday collection!

FR. JEREMY HARRINGTON, OFM  
COMMISSARY AND GUARDIAN OF THE  
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CATHOLIC



What we're hearing about the newly designed [www.northcountrycatholic.org](http://www.northcountrycatholic.org):

*"Excellent job on the new website. It's clean and easy to navigate. And, you now have the capability to provide news daily and hourly. Good work!"*

## AT THE MOVIES

# THE MIGHTY MACS

By Joseph McAleer  
Catholic News Service

"The Mighty Macs" (Freestyle) is the fact-based story of a women's basketball team from a Catholic college who, through the grit and determination of their rookie coach, got a shot at the national title.

This old-fashioned, family-friendly film is "Sister Act" without the singing, "Rocky" with basketballs, and "The Trouble with Angels" with Ellen Bursytn in the Rosalind Russell role of the mother superior.

The year is 1972, the feminist movement is picking up steam, and change is in the air. For Cathy Rush (Carla Gugino), 23 and recently married, this means searching for a role to play beyond that of dutiful housewife to her husband, Ed (David Boreanaz). A star basketball player herself, Cathy missed out on her own chance for glory, as her college eliminated the sport.

Against Ed's wishes, Cathy takes a job at Pennsylvania's Immaculata College (now University), run by the Congregation of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

The stern mother superior, Mother St. John (Bursytn), has no time for sports; she's trying to keep the school afloat, fighting off appeals from the board and the church to close its doors. Impatient and irritable, she gives Cathy free

rein to build a team from scratch.

This is Cathy's big chance and, although not a Catholic, she is determined to fit in and succeed, inspiring a ragtag group of girls to become a fighting force by believing in themselves.

They practice despite not having a court, with improvised uniforms fashioned from nuns' smocks.

Cathy's faith never wavers, as she hands out "We Will Be #1" buttons all over town. Help arrives in the form of the youngest nun, Sister Sunday (Marley Shelton). Like Cathy, she is struggling with her vocation, trying to find her place in a traditional world. She also shares an interest in basketball. The two bond, and Sister Sunday becomes the assistant coach, drawing out the older nuns to cheer the team on at games.

Against all odds, the "Macs" of Immaculata College make their way to their sport's first-ever national championship game. Cathy not only saves herself and her marriage, but the for-

tunes of the college - melting the cold heart of Mother St. John in the process.

Directed by newcomer Tim Chambers, "The Mighty Macs" is a feel-good movie offering lessons in friendship, teamwork, trust and perseverance.

For the most part, Catholicism is treated with respect, but it serves more as a colorful backdrop than a source for commentary.

Sister Sunday provides some harmless comic relief. She lends Cathy a habit so they can qualify for free tickets on United Airlines. ("Second nun flies for free.") Explaining her call to the religious life, Sister Sunday expresses her love for Jesus. "That whole Cana thing?" she observes, "Jesus just wanted everyone to have a good time."

The entire family will have a good time at "The Mighty Macs."

The Catholic News Service classification is A-I -- general patronage. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is G -- general audiences. All ages admitted.



CNS PHOTO/THE MAXIMUS GROUP

Marley Shelton, who portrays Sister Sunday, and Carla Gugino, who portrays head coach Cathy Rush, star in a scene from the movie "The Mighty Macs." The movie tells the story of the women's basketball team at Immaculata College in the Philadelphia suburbs that won the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women basketball championship in 1972, the year that college women's basketball converted to the full-court game played today.

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## ADIRONDACK

## WOMEN'S WORKSHOP

**Lake Placid** – Sister Janet R. Walton, a member of the Sisters of the Holy Names and professor of liturgy will give a liturgy workshop for women.

**Date:** Oct. 29

**Time:** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Place:** St. Agnes School

**Features:** All women of the north country are invited to attend this day-long workshop that will explore the intersections of liturgy, arts, and women's lives

**Contact:** Mary Blair at 523-1114.

## CLINTON

## HARVEST DINNER

**Morrisonville** – The RCC of St. Alexander and St. Joseph to hold a harvest dinner

**Date:** Nov. 13

**Time:** 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**Place:** St. Alexander's Parish Hall

**Cost:** Adults, \$9; Children 6-12, \$5; Children, Free

**Features:** Take-outs, \$9 call 561-5039. Harvest Dinner Raffle will be at 6 p.m. Grand prize is \$1500, second prize is an Apple iPad. Other prizes: cash and gift certificates. Country store, silent auction.

## LAKE CHAMPLAIN BUS FOR LIFE

**Plattsburgh** – The "Lake Champlain 2012 Bus for Life" will offer concerned citizens an opportunity to attend the march in Washington D.C.

**Date:** A chartered bus will leave the parking lot of St. Peter's Church in Plattsburgh Jan. 22 at 7:30 p.m. for the Jan. 23 National March For Life and return to Plattsburgh early Jan. 24.

**Cost:** The cost of the bus is \$25 per seat. **Contact:** Betty Buffett (518) 536-6640 or Karen Smith (518) 566-6229.

**Donations:** If you cannot attend but would like to donate funds for someone who can attend, please send your check or money order to St. Peter's Church 114 Cornelia Street Plattsburgh, New York 12901. Make a notation on the memo line "Bus For Life Donation."

## LITTLE ROCK SCRIPTURE SERIES

**Plattsburgh** – St. Peter's Church Will hold Little Rock Scripture Series.

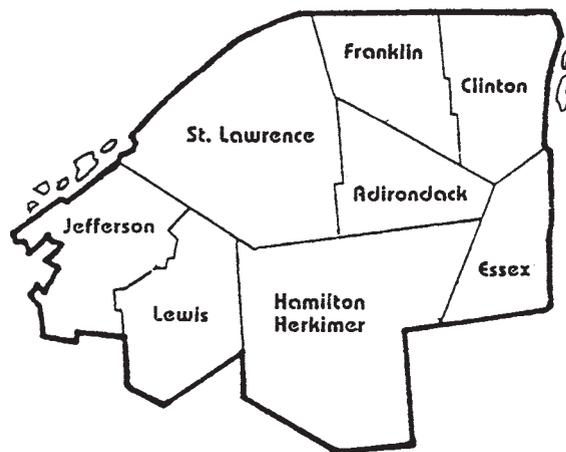
Sessions: Tuesdays, Nov. 8 to Dec. 6 re-suming Jan. 10 to Feb. 7

**Time:** 7 p.m.

**Contact:** 563-1692; sign up by Oct. 28

**Cost:** \$15

**Features:** Exploring Gospel of Mark. The earliest account of Jesus' life focuses on the Paschal events and will draw you into an examination of what it means to follow Jesus, even in his suffering.



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, 315-394-0670;  
e-mail news@northcountrycatholic.org.

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

## HEALING MASS

**Ellenburg** – Healing Mass at Our Lady of the Adirondack's House of Prayer.

**Date:** Oct. 29

**Time:** 10 a.m.

**Features:** Father Doug Decker will preside at Mass and Anointing and be part of our prayer team for individual prayer intentions. Light lunch provided.

**Contact:** olaprayrhouse@gmail.com or call 518-594-3253 for more information.

## WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP

**Ellenburg** – A weekend retreat featuring a Watercolor Workshop set at Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer.

**Date:** Nov. 11-Nov. 13

**Speaker:** Claire Hogue-Reid

**Cost:** \$80 includes food and overnight lodging, \$10 deposit required

**Features:** Retreat will include prayer, Mass, Eucharistic Adoration and learning to watercolor. Space is limited.

**RSVP:** olaprayrhouse@gmail.com or 518-594-3253.

## 'PRAY ALWAYS' RETREAT

**Ellenburg** – Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer will hold a retreat day

**Date:** Nov. 19

**Time:** 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. with the option for an extended overnight retreat ending Sunday at 10 a.m.

**Speaker:** Sr. Bethany Fitzgerald, SSJ

**Donation:** \$25/ day; \$65 for overnight

**Features:** Presentations, sharing, communal prayer, lunch and quiet time. If you spend the night, individual Spiritual direction, private prayer time, and all meals are included.

**Contact:** Make reservation at olaprayrhouse@gmail.com or call 518-594-3253 by Nov. 5 to reserve overnight lodging or by Nov. 13 for day retreat only.

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

**Place:** St. John's Adoration Chapel,  
**Time:** 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

**Theme:** "The Saints found no greater delight in this world than to be in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament." (Fr. Lukas Etlin, O.S.B.)

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

## FRANKLIN

## HARVEST DINNER

**North Bangor** – The CC of St. Augustine will be hosting a Harvest Dinner.

**Date:** Oct. 30

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

**Place:** John C. Dwyer Parish Center

**Cost:** Adults, \$8; Seniors, \$7; Children under 12, \$6; under 5, Free

**Features:** Home cooked turkey with all of the trimmings.

## CABBAGE ROLL SALE

**Brushton** – St. Mary's will have their famous Election Day Cabbage Roll Sale.

**Date:** Nov. 8

**Time:** 6 a.m. until all are gone

**Cost:** \$3.50 each w/ roll

**Features:** Take-outs only. May be pre-ordered starting Nov. 7 by calling 518-529-6580

## JEFFERSON

## ELECTION NIGHT DINNER

**Alexandria Bay** – St. Cyril's Church will be having their Annual Election Night Ham Dinner.

**Date:** Nov. 8

**Time:** take-outs from 4 p.m. to 5; Serving from 5 p.m. to 7

**Cost:** Adults, \$8; Children, \$5; under 5 free

**Contact:** Joann Fitch for deliveries at 315-955-5504

## HARVEST DINNER

**LaFargeville** – St. John the Evangelist Church will be having their annual Harvest Dinner.

**Date:** Nov. 6

**Time:** 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

**Cost:** Adults, \$8.50; Children 5-10, \$4; All Take-Outs, \$8.50

**Features:** Turkey dinner served family style. Raffles and a country store.

**Contact:** 686-3398

## SPAGHETTI &amp; MEATBALL DINNER

**Evans Mills** – Spaghetti & Meatball dinner to be held to benefit the Indian River Knights of Columbus.

**Date:** Nov. 12

**Time:** 4 p.m.

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

**Cost:** Adults, \$7; Seniors, \$6; Children under 12, \$5; under 5, Free

## SPAGHETTI SUPPER

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

**Date:** Oct. 27

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

**Place:** Msgr. Sechi Hall

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

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

## LEWIS

## HARVEST DINNER

**Lowville** – St. Peter's Church will be having a turkey harvest dinner.

**Date:** Nov. 6

**Time:** 11:30 a.m.

**Cost:** \$8; children 5-12, \$4; under 5, free Take-outs available

## ST. LAWRENCE

## HARVEST DINNER

**Gouverneur** – St. James School will be having a Harvest Dinner.

**Date:** Nov. 3

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

**Cost:** Adults, \$9; Children 12 and under, \$5; under 5, Free; Eat in or Take Out.

## HOLIDAY BAZAAR AND BAKE SALE

**Star Lake** – St. Hubert's Church will be having a Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale.

**Date:** Nov. 12

**Time:** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Features:** live wreaths, floral arrangements, handcrafted jewelry, and baby items, crafts Lunch served between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

## K OF C BRUNCH

**Norfolk** – The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a brunch.

**Date:** Nov. 13

**Time:** 8:30 a.m. to Noon

**Place:** Visitation Parish Center; take-outs available

**Cost:** Adults, \$6; Children under 12, \$4; Under 5, Free; Family, \$16

## FALL BAZAAR

**Norfolk** – Church of the Visitation is holding a Bazaar to benefit the Altar Rosary Society.

**Date:** Oct. 29

**Time:** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Place:** Visitation Parish Center

**Features:** Food Sale with Cabbage Rolls, Country Store, Candy Sale, Coffee & Donuts, Crafts, Religious Articles. Luncheon, 11:30a.m. to 1 p.m. Raffle

## CRAFT SHOW

**Brasher Falls** – The Altar Rosary Society of St. Patrick's Church will hold its 21st annual craft show.

**Date:** Nov. 12

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

**Place:** K of C Hall

**Cost:** \$1; students, \$.50; under 5, Free

**Features:** Luncheon and refreshments.

## ST. HUBERT'S ANNUAL DINNER

**Star Lake** – St. Hubert's Church will hold its annual harvest dinner

**Date:** Oct. 29

**Time:** 5pm -until all are served

**Place:** St. Hubert Church Parish Hall; takeouts available

**Cost:** \$8; Seniors and Students-\$7

Under 10-\$5; Children 5 and under free

**Features:** Turkey and all the trimmings All desserts will be homemade.

## FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY

**Massena** : St. Mary's Church is hold a Rosary to mark First Saturday

**Date:** Nov. 5

**Time:** 3 p.m.

**Features:** pray the Rosary to Our Lady of Fatima A 15 minute private meditation on the Glorious Mysteries will follow. Confessions will be available and anticipated Sun Mass will be at 4 p.m.



## The Society For The Propagation Of The Faith

Sr. Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ, Director  
622 Washington St., Ogdensburg, NY 13669  
(315) 393-2920; fax (315) 394-7401  
mbrett@dioogdensburg.org

# The Missionary Union of Priests and Religious

From the Director's Desk,  
Sister Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ,  
Diocesan Mission Director

The Missionary Union of Priests and Religious is a spiritual apostolate. Unlike the other three Pontifical Mission Societies, (Society for the Propagation of the Faith, Holy Childhood Association and St. Peter Apostle) this mission society family member does not collect or distribute funds. Its purpose is to educate and inspire priests, Religious men and women, pastoral leaders and those responsible for catechesis and religious education so that they may better animate others to share their faith and to be missionaries themselves, supporting also the missionary work of the Church worldwide.

The types of activities conducted on behalf of the Missionary Union of Priests and Religious in dioceses throughout the United States involve Diocesan Directors of the Pontifical Mission Societies, as well as others engaged in the work of the Church helping to "animate the animators" so they can tell others about the mission of Jesus Christ.

There are many ways one can further their personal spiritual commitment to the Church's universal mission. If you are a lay person, you can deepen your commitment to the missionary work of the church by offering your prayers and personal sacrifices for the Missions and for missionaries. In addition, the Pontifical Mission Societies offers several publications on mission spirituality for lay people. You can also speak to your pastor or diocesan director of the Pontifical Mission Societies about activities, discussions or pilgrimages in your area designed to animate baptized Catholics to the missionary work of the Church. If you are a priest, seminarian, Religious Brother / Sister or catechist, contact this office about mission education programs and resources that may be available in the Diocese. Pontifical Mission Societies' national and diocesan staff travel throughout the U.S. participating in conferences to bring the "good news" of the Missions to all those engaged in pastoral work. Let us pray for Christians around the world who suffer persecution for their faith in Jesus. Let us pray for those who live as minorities because of their race, religion or social status. Let us pray in gratitude for the gift of faith that has been handed by our ancestors.

Please remember "The Society for the Propagation of the Faith" when writing or changing your Will.  
[www.dioogdensburg.org/missionoffice](http://www.dioogdensburg.org/missionoffice)

## OBITUARIES

**Carthage** – Kathryn "Kitty" Patricia Raymond Maurer, 85; Funeral Services Oct. 21, 2011 at St. James Church; burial in Beaver Falls Cemetery.

**Carthage** – George E. Storms, 64; Funeral Services Oct. 19, 2011 at the Bezanilla-McGraw Funeral Home; burial in Pleasant View Cemetery, Degrasse.

**Clayton** – Kathleen H. (Hickey) Wedge, 89; Funeral Services Oct. 21, 2011 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Lawrence Union Cemetery, Cape Vincent.

**Ellenburg** – Geraldine J. (Clark) Tryon, 94; Funeral Services Oct. 10, 2011 at St. Edmund's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Malone.

**Gouverneur** – Michael A. "Bob" Nicholas, 91; Funeral Services Oct. 21, 2011 at St. James Church; burial in Old St. James Cemetery.

**Massena** – Glennis M. (MacLennan) Ball, 81; Funeral Services Oct. 15, 2011 at Phillips Memorial Home.

**Massena** – Kay L. (Quinell) Stewart, 71; Funeral Services Oct. 22, 2011 at Phillips Memorial Home; burial in Pine Grove Cemetery II, Norfolk.

**Massena** – Ruth R. (Conklin) Ward, 72; Funeral Services Oct. 17, 2011 at the Donaldson Funeral Home.

**Norfolk** – Alice M. (LaCoss) Jarrell, 91; Funeral Services Oct. 18, 2011 at the Buck Funeral Home; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** – Leo T. Compo Sr., 69; Funeral Services Oct. 17, 2011 at Fox & Murray Funeral Home; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

**Ogdensburg** – Lucille B. (Lapointe) De-gone, 95; Funeral Services Oct. 17, 2011 at Notre Dame Church.

**Ogdensburg** – Roger H. Gagnon, 81; Funeral Services Oct. 15, 2011 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** – Dorothy M. (Cutler) Lacombe, 91; Funeral Services Oct. 17, 2011 at St. Peter's Church; burial in St. Augustine's Cemetery, Peru.

**Plattsburgh** – Marion E. (Bouyea) Miller, 87; Funeral Services Oct. 20, 2011 at St. Peter's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** – Kenneth P. O'Leary, 83; Funeral Services Oct. 17, 2011 at St. John's Church; burial in Mount Carmel Cemetery, Plattsburgh

**Plattsburgh** – Doris M. (Bodette) Rivers, 92; Funeral Services Oct. 19, 2011 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Mount Carmel Cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** – Bertha Alice (Bechard) Welch, 98; Funeral Services Oct. 29, 2011 at St. John's Church; burial in Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

**Redford** – Jean Lee (Liberty) Wilson, 64; Funeral Oct. 19, 2011 at Church of the Assumption; burial in parish cemetery.

**Saranac Lake** – Janet L. Finley, 71; Funeral Services Oct. 19, 2011 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery, Rome.

**Ticonderoga** – Eleanor Ford Smith, 81; Funeral Services Oct. 22, 2011 at St. Mary's Church.

**Tupper Lake** – Ruth (Clark) LaFave, 95; Funeral Services Oct. 17, 2011 at St. Alphonsus Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Watertown** – Josephine M. (Bova) Norris, 83; Funeral Services Oct. 19, 2011 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.



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PRAYER SUGGESTION

Eternal Father,  
we lift up to you these  
and all the priests of the world.  
Sanctify them,  
Heal and guide them.  
Mold them into the likeness and  
holiness of your Son, Jesus,  
the Eternal High Priest.  
May their lives be pleasing to  
you. In Jesus' name we pray.  
Amen  
(With ecclesiastical approval)

Mass  
Rosary  
Fasting  
Day Offering  
Eucharistic Adoration  
Offering of Sufferings  
Divine Mercy Chaplet

Or whatever the Lord  
inspires you to offer Him

November  
Holy Souls

DIocese OF  
OGDENSBURG, NY

### NOVEMBER 2011

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REV. MARTIN E. CLINE 6	REV. DOUGLAS G. COMSTOCK 7	OUR PASTOR 8	REV. FRANCIS CORYER 9	REV. JOHN J. COSMIC 10	REV. NORMAND C. COTE 11	REV. LAWRENCE E. COTTER 12
REV. ROBERT L. COTTER 13	REV. JOHN M. CRABLE 14	POPE BENEDICT 15	REV. THEODORE A. CROSBY 16	REV. DOUGLAS A. DECKER 17	REV. ROBERT L. DECKER 18	REV. JAMES A. DELBEL 19
REV. DAVID DELUCA MSC 20	REV. GARVIN L. DEMARAIS 21	RETIRED PRIESTS 22	REV. RICHARD D. DEMERS 23	REV. J. EVERETT DENESHA 24	MSGR. LAWRENCE M. DENO 25	REV. WILFRED L. DEROCHE 26
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## RE-ELECT JUDGE JOHN A. LAHTINEN TO THE NEW YORK SUPREME COURT



Judge Lahtinen is running for re-election to the Supreme Court in the Fourth Judicial District this year. After 26 years of private practice, concentrating in civil litigation, Judge Lahtinen has served the people of the Fourth Judicial District for the past 14 years as a Supreme Court Justice. While on the trial bench, he tried and settled many cases in this district and New York City and always did so with integrity and fairness. In 2000, he was appointed by Governor George E. Pataki to the Appellate Division of Supreme Court for the Third Judicial Department which is comprised of the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> judicial districts. Since his appointment to the Appellate Division as an Associate Justice he has written in excess of 1300 decisions and participated in more than 9000 appeals. His judicial opinions have helped to shape the law of this State.

Judge Lahtinen has also served as Chair of Continuing Education, New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Third Department from 2005-2007 and is a member of the New York State Judicial Benefits Committee. In the past two years, Judge Lahtinen will have presided over a total of 13 Naturalization Terms in Clinton, Schenectady and Washington Counties. In 2004 he was honored by the Finnish-American Lawyers Association with a Special Award for Public Service.

**PLEASE VOTE ON ELECTION DAY: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>**

### 4TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



*Judge Lahtinen is a graduate of Colgate University and Albany Law School. He and his wife Eleanor have three children and three grandchildren.*

### A RECORD OF SERVICE

Formerly John Lahtinen has served his community as:

Seton Catholic High School Interim Board Member	Meadowbrook Nursing Home Ethics Committee
St. John's Academy Board of Education Member	Board of Education Attorney, Peru Central School
Adirondack Chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation	Elsk B.P.O.E. #621
Plattsburgh Little League Board of Directors	Babe Ruth & Little League Baseball Coach
Special Acting District Attorney-Clinton County	Special Acting City Court Judge, City of Plattsburgh
Town Attorney of the Town of Schulyer Falls	St. John's Academy Football Coach
Knights of Columbus #255	YMCA - Board of Directors Chairman, Dottie Harvey Memorial Scholarship Fund



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