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# NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

APRIL 20, 2011

## 'To be holy is to love God'

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Everyone is called to holiness, which is simply striving to imitate Christ, particularly in loving God and loving others, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Ending a long series of general audience talks about saints and doctors of the church, the pope spoke about the meaning of holi-

ness and how it is achieved. Addressing an estimated 12,000 people in St. Peter's Square April 13, Pope Benedict said there are three simple rules for living a holy life: "Never let a Sunday go by without an encounter with the risen Christ in the Eucharist; this is not an added burden, it is light for the en-

tire week"; "Never begin or end a day without at least a brief contact with God" in prayer; "And along the pathway of our lives, follow the road signs that God has given us in the Ten Commandments, read in the light of Christ; they are nothing other than explanations of what is love in specific situa-

tions." The pope said he knows most people, aware of their limits and weaknesses, think it wouldn't be possible to be a saint. The doubts, he said, are one of the reasons the church proposes "a host of saints - those who fully lived charity and knew how and follow Christ in their daily lives."

### DIVINE DRAMA

#### The holiest of weeks

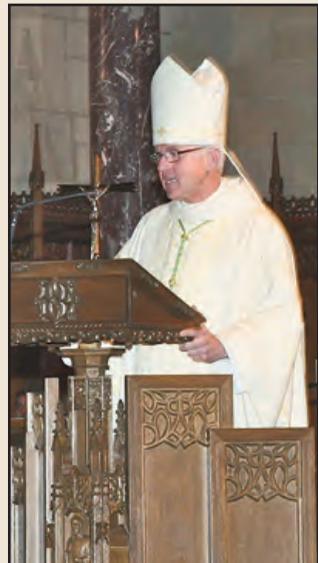


PHOTO BY BETTY STEELE  
Bishop LaValley preaches at the Chrism Mass April 14 at St. Mary's Cathedral. He is also presiding at the Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil services at the cathedral this week. In his "Follow Me" column on page 3, Bishop LaValley encourages Catholics of the diocese "to come with me this holiest of weeks and look into the eyes of Jesus at key moments of the drama of these next few days. Experience the depth of that far-reaching love Jesus has for you that led Him through this journey of such suffering. Pay attention to the simple words that come from His lips. Focus on His gestures so pregnant with meaning."

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

## Preparing for the church of 2021

Today there are 62 resident pastors serving 102 parishes in the Diocese of Ogdensburg. By 2021, the number is expected to drop to 40.

To ensure that Catholic families of the North Country continue to receive the pastoral care they need, the Diocesan Planning Committee has been working to determine the best way to staff parishes in light of the decline in number of priests.

The group has proposed the 40 likely locations in the diocese's 12,000 square miles where pastors will be in residence.

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

## Campus minister

Craig Martin, campus minister at SUNY Potsdam and Clarkson

University, reflects on his first year  
FULL STORY, PAGE 5

## THE WAY OF THE CROSS



Sixth through eighth graders at St. Mary's School in Ticonderoga presented the "The Way of the Cross" at St. Mary's Church April 11. Pictured are Thomas Manley, Makayla Holt, Chad Stevens, Jacob Spaulding and Justyn Granger. The entire community was invited to the prayerful service and many joined the students for this observance of Jesus' passion, death and resurrection.

**SCENES FROM THE CHRISM MASS:** Oils blessed... priests renew commitment, p. 7

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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

## The play's the thing

In this space last week, I sang the praises of many of the young Catholics in our midst who are living their faith in a way that inspires us all.

Believe it or not, I have yet another young name to drop.

After a long history of Lenten experiences, I encountered one of the most powerful a couple of weeks ago through the talent of a 27-year-old.

I've long known Zack Skelly to be a whiz with a computer but it turns out that his talent extends to a different kind of keyboard, as well.

Zack actually composed a Passion taken from the Gospel of St. Luke.

And it was magnificent.

Interspersed in the reading of the 22nd and 23rd chapters of Luke, were hauntingly beautiful melodies illuminating the Last Supper, Agony of the Garden, Peter's Betrayal, the Trial of Jesus, the Persecution of Jesus and the Last Breath.

It didn't hurt that the music was brought to life with the voices of some of the most gifted choir members in Ogdensburg, accompanied by our very talented cathedral organist Ernie Hadley. I attended the concert to show my support for a young member of our parish.

I left the concert with my breath taken away.

I was not prepared to be drawn into Jesus' story with such force.

While Zack's accomplishment is unique, our diocese is blessed each year with inspiring dramatic presentations of the last days of

Jesus.

The Mission Players of IHC in Watertown and the Franciscan Mystery Players in Clayton as well as Catholic school kids who create their own Passion Plays all illustrate the point that Bishop LaValley makes in his Follow Me column this week: "with the arrival of Palm Sunday, the curtain rises again on the 'divine drama of love in motion.'"

Bishop LaValley asks us to take part in the drama as we attend liturgical events in our churches this week.

"Look into the eyes of Jesus at key moments of the drama of these next few days," he writes. "Experience the depth of that far-reaching love Jesus has for you that led Him through this journey of such suffering. Pay attention to the simple words that come from His lips. Focus on His gestures so pregnant with meaning."

We can imagine ourselves sharing bread with Jesus at the Last Supper, struggling to be the one to stay awake with him at Gethsemane, holding tight to his mother under the cross.

We can each be part of the drama - even though our days of 'let's pretend' are long forgotten.

We can focus. We can pay attention. We can make these days the holiest of Holy Weeks... ever.

Mary Lou  
Kilian

## CHURCH: A FAMILY OF FAITH

## Let Yourself Be Raised

Easter Tidings - Easter Sunday

By Sister Mary Eamon Lyng, SSJ  
Director of Evangelization

*"I have risen: I am with you once more; you placed your hand on me to keep me safe. How great is the depth of your wisdom, alleluia!"*

(Ps. 138: 18, 5-6).

Jesus has been raised from the dead! This is an event beyond our experience. Jesus did not return to life as before but passed, beyond death, to new life with God.

This was an experience that the disciples did not understand that Jesus had to be raised from the dead.

## The mission of the Church had now begun!

The power of Jesus' Resurrection  
had truly become good news

When Peter and the other disciple arrived at the tomb and found it empty, they were afraid, astonished, confused. Was the body stolen? The burial cloths "were there, and the cloth that covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place" (John 20:8).

When the other disciple entered the tomb, he saw and believed, but they still did not realize that Jesus had to rise from the dead. It was not until He appeared to the disciples and began to eat and drink with them that their doubts were turned into amazement, joy and faith.

This was "truly good news"!

The mission of the Church had now begun! The power of Jesus' Resurrection had truly become good news. The disciples were to wait for the coming of the Holy Spirit that would empower them to go to the ends of the earth to proclaim the Gospel message.

We continue the mission of Jesus in the life of the Church with the message of Jesus' Resurrection through the witness of our lives. Our words and actions express our hope for our own resurrection and the gathering of all people being raised up in glory.

This is our hope that one day; we too, will share in the fullness of Jesus' resurrection. Every Sunday, we gather as the People of God to proclaim the Death and Resurrection of Jesus until He comes again. Every Sunday, we assemble as the Body of Christ to become the Body of Christ, His hands and His feet, to go forth to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ that He is with us now and will be with us until the end of time.

Every Sunday, we come together as a community of believers, a family of faith to praise our God, a communion of Trinitarian love - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, "with one great heart and the union of minds, the accord of souls, the bond of charity, the prayers of the priests" (St. John Chrysostom).

We are here today because we believe in the Resurrection. What makes it believable to us? How important is it to you that Jesus did rise from the dead? How does the Resurrection give you hope or influence your life? What will you do to concretely bring hope to someone who seems lost? Jesus Christ is risen!

Let yourself be raised up into the glory and power of Jesus' resurrection, alleluia! Happy Easter!

## Welcome Spring

Enjoy the renewal of spring with a subscription to the *North Country Catholic*, the newspaper for the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

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FOLLOW ME

# A divine drama of love in motion

*Bishop LaValley's homily for Palm Sunday:*

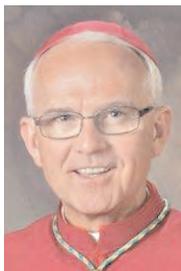
Every year, as Pope John Paul II expressed it, on this special Sunday, "the curtain rises once again on the definitive drama of all history - the drama of our redemption."

As we reflect on these events of the first Palm Sunday from the historical point of view, we might wonder what was in the heart and mind of Jesus on that Sunday.

Monsignor Francis Kelly offers a good insight into this question.

He suggests that as Jesus rides into Jerusalem surrounded by people shouting "hosanna," cutting branches from the trees and spreading them in His path, Jesus appears completely concen-

trated on something else. He does not look at the excited crowd. He does not wave. He sees beyond all the noise to what is ahead of Him: an agonizing journey of betrayal, torture, crucifixion, and death.



**Bishop Terry R. LaValley**

His unfocused eyes see what nobody around Him can see.

His high forehead reflects a knowledge of things to come far beyond anyone's ability to under-

stand.

There is a melancholy, but also peaceful acceptance. There is insight into the fickleness of the human heart, but also immense compassion. There is a deep awareness of the unspeakable pain to be suffered, but also a strong determination to do God's

will.

Above all, there is love, an endless, deep, and far-reaching love born from an unbreakable intimacy with the Father and reaching out to all.

I invite you to come with me this holiest of weeks and look into the eyes of Jesus at key moments of the drama of these next few days.

Experience the depth of that far-reaching love Jesus has for you that led Him through this journey of such suffering.

Pay attention to the simple words that come from His lips. Focus on His gestures so pregnant with meaning.

Participate at the Mass of the Lord's Supper Thursday night. Listen to the words as if it's the first time you ever heard them: "Take and eat...this is My Body...Take and drink, this is My Blood

poured out for you."

As He washes their feet, listen to Jesus tell His closest friends, and allow these words to echo in your own heart: "See what I have done, so also you must do."

And then, stay in the garden of agony! Adore Him. Stay awake that one hour with Jesus, that hour which found Him all alone.

On that Friday called "Good," come into this Sacred Space and join your family of faith as we walk the Passion Path together as true companions on the journey of faith.

Be present at each station as if you were there so many years ago and gaze into the eyes of the One Who loved us to His death as He bore the burden of our sins. And then, let us come back to this most beautiful Cathedral to experience the triumph of Light over darkness as we cele-

brate Christ's victory over death! Yes, we return here to welcome new members into this family of faith and to rejoice in the full initiation of others into this Mystical Body of Christ!

As we participate in all of these most solemn moments of our faith story, we keep our eyes and hearts focused on Jesus' words and on His gestures, what He says and what He does. They will reflect a deep, intimate love for His Father, reflected in what He does for you and for me.

As we conclude this Passion Sunday Liturgy, once again this year we will leave our cathedral in silence, ready to focus our eyes and sensitize our ears as we are about to enter the drama, responding to Jesus' call, "Follow Me."

Let us now enter this divine drama of love in motion.

## Fr. Gratto retiring

Father Stephen H. Gratto, pastor of St. Martin's in Port Leyden and St. John's in Lyons Fall is retiring, due to ill health. Bishop LaValley has appointed Father Philip Allen to serve as temporary administrator of the two churches, effective April 25 until a new pastor is named in June.

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Notre Dame Church, St. Mary's Cathedral, and SMDA are seeking a Business Manager. A two-year accounting/business degree or measured experience is required. Applicant must have working knowledge of QuickBooks including payroll. This is a full-time position with benefits. Salary is negotiable, dependent upon experience and skill level. Resume' with references should be sent to Rev. Joseph A. Morgan, St. Mary's Cathedral, 415 Hamilton Street, Ogdensburg, NY, 13669 (telephone: 315-393-3930, FAX: 315-393-6680, email: [jmorgan@saintmaryscathedral.net](mailto:jmorgan@saintmaryscathedral.net)).

Resumes' should be submitted no later than April 25.

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# Preparing for the future

By Mary Lou Kilian  
Editor

**OGDENSBURG** – Today there are 62 resident pastors serving 102 parishes in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Ten years from now, the number is expected to drop to 40.

## Diocese plans how to staff parishes with fewer priests

To ensure that Catholic families of the North Country continue to receive the pastoral care they need, the Diocesan Planning Committee has been working to determine the best way to staff parishes in light of the decline in number of priests.

For example, the group has proposed the 40 likely locations in the diocese's 12,000 square miles where pastors will be in residence. (See map on this page)

The Planning Committee, under the director of St. Joseph Sister Jennifer Votraw, is comprised of the deans of the diocese, the chancellor, the head of priest personnel, a parish life coordinator, the bishop's secretary and two lay people assigned by the bishop.

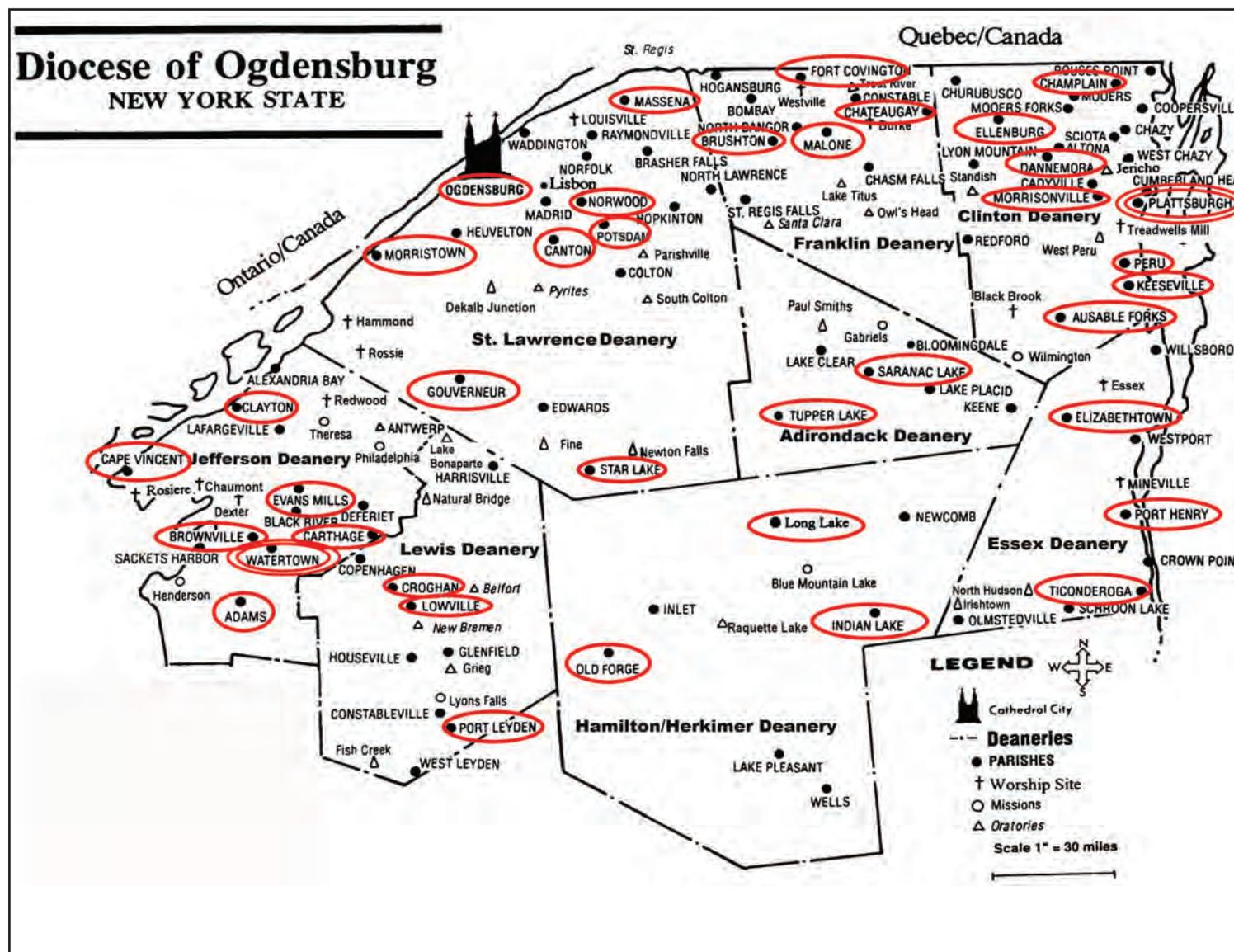
From the first day of February through the end of March, Sister Jennifer and the committee members made presentations in seven deaneries of the Diocese of Ogdensburg seeking input as the plan continues to develop.

Pastors and parish representatives were invited to offer solutions or suggest changes to the plan which the planning committee didn't consider, Sister Jennifer said.

### Diocesan Planning Phase I

The first phase of diocesan planning started 12 years ago, Sister Jennifer said. A plan of linking parishes was devised in an effort to prepare for the time when the number of available priests fell below the number necessary to staff each parish in the diocese.

As a result some parishes have merged, or been made or-



This map of the Diocese of Ogdensburg features red circles around the names of the communities where resident pastors are expected to be placed when the number of available priests declines to 40. Diocesan officials expect to face this decrease by 2021.

atories and others have a pastor but not a resident pastor (linked parishes).

All but a very few of the parish linkings of Phase I have been completed, Sister Jennifer said, but the number of priests of the diocese has diminished to the point that the plan needs upgrading.

### Looking to the future

When the number of priests in the diocese drops to 40, another 22 parishes will not have a resident pastor.

Thus the planning committee was charged with making recommendations to the bishop about the best placement of future pastors.

Some of the criteria for de-

termining where resident pastors would be assigned include:

- Ease of access (highways etc.)
- Population density
- Size and condition of existing churches.
- Centrality of existing parishes
- Percentage of priests per deanery so the total remains the same as today,

"It should be pointed out," Sister Jennifer said, "that we expect that the parishes without a resident pastor will still have a vibrant parish life. They will be staffed by a non resident pastor as well as deacons, religious and laity assuming a much larger role in parish life.

Sister Jennifer told those

Members of the Diocesan Planning Committee - led by St. Joseph Sister Jennifer Votraw - have spoken at deanery meetings throughout the diocese to gather additional input from pastors and parish representatives as the plan continues to develop.

who attended the recent deanery meetings that the new plan "is not cast in stone."

"The plan may change as circumstances change but it is as we expect it to eventually work out," she said. "For example, a parish may not be immediately linked to one of the 40 but that will eventually happen."

Sister Jennifer emphasized that the new plan, "like any planning document is a *living* document because we're dealing with human beings."

"This isn't cut and dried," she said, "because we always need to be respectful of the needs of people and of the priests."

How should Catholics of the diocese plan for the next phase?

"First pray for vocations and then encourage young people to consider the priesthood, religious life," Sister Jennifer said. "Encourage parishioners to become parish life coordinators, deacons and lay ministers."

"What is happening today is an opportunity for a greater empowerment and involvement of the laity as well as an opportunity for an enhanced spiritual life of the faithful," she said.

"The Lord promised to be with us until the end of time but He didn't say what form His Church would take," Sister Jennifer said. "There have been many changes since AD 32 and there will be many more."

# Potsdam campus minister sees 'huge blessing' in work

By Mary Lou Kilian  
Editor

**POTSDAM**—With a new degree in philosophy from John Carroll University in Ohio, Craig Martin needed to expand his search beyond his Cleveland home to find a job.

Last summer, he saw what he was looking for at Catholicjobs.com

This is where Msgr. Robert Aucoin, pastor in Potsdam and Colton, had posted an opening for campus minister at SUNY Potsdam and Clarkson University.

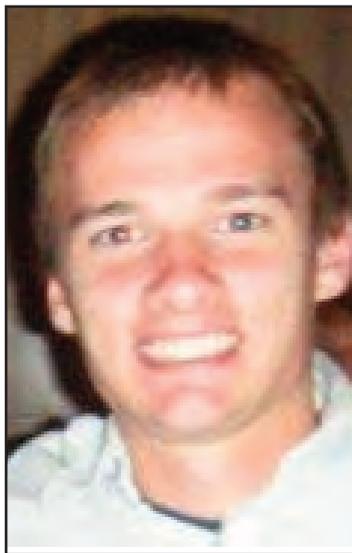
After an interview on Skype (a software application that allows users to make phone calls over the Internet), Martin was hired for the position.

At the same time, Msgr. Aucoin hired Peter Mueller, a graduate of Notre Dame University, to work as pastoral associate for the two parishes.

The two young men live at the rectory in Potsdam while Msgr. Aucoin makes his home at the rectory in Colton.

Since arriving in Potsdam July 24, Martin has become a regular fixture on the college campuses.

He has organized regular



Craig Martin

events including Theology on Tap sessions, praise and worship gatherings, and Newman house parties.

He also leads evening prayer at SUNY Potsdam every night.

On Fridays, he hosts dinner for the Newman Club at the rectory.

In January, Martin and Mueller accompanied eleven local college students to the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) Conference in Baltimore. (see accompanying article)

Martin also works individually with college students.

As he nears the end of his

first year on the job, Martin says he has "absolutely enjoyed" every part of his work.

"Ministering to college students has been a huge blessing," he said, "building relationships with them and helping them draw closer to Christ."

"And working with Msgr. Aucoin has been outstanding," he said. "He's great to work for—I couldn't ask for a better working situation."

The job has not been without its challenges. "It's always difficult to start a new job and sort through what's been done before and what I need to do," he said.

And 22-year-old acknowledges a bit of homesickness as he misses "everything" about Cleveland where all his family lives.

But for now, he's happy to be working among other young Catholics in Potsdam.

He doesn't know where he'll be in the future but he's confident that his church will be alive and well.

"My generation is re-discovering the beauty of our faith," Martin said. "We see its richness and grandeur that our culture just can't give us."

"The future of the Catholic Church is very promising," he said.



In January, eleven members of the Potsdam Newman Club traveled to Baltimore to take part in a FOCUS Conference. FOCUS is a national organization with a goal to reach out to Catholic college students and invite them to a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. Craig Martin, campus minister at SUNY Potsdam and Clarkson University; and Peter Mueller, pastoral associate at St. Mary's Church in Potsdam, led the local contingent. At the end of the conference many of the college students - including five from Potsdam O continued on to Washington, DC, to join the annual March for Life. Shown during the March are Ally Nowakowska, Michael Burns, Candice Panetta, Joe Camilo, Dina Panetta, Craig Martin and Tom Wienandy, a student at John Carroll University, Martin's alma mater.

## Local college students attend national gathering

FOCUS is a national organization founded 12 years ago to reach out to Catholic college students and invite them to a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

The annual FOCUS Conference brings together students from throughout the United States for a weekend of fellowship, spiritual renewal, and learning about the faith.

Well-known Catholic speakers, musical performances by Christian artists, focused around the daily celebration of the Eucharist mark this event.

Increased student requests

forced the expansion to four separate conference locations this year, in Baltimore, Nashville, St. Paul, and Denver. Approximately 5,000 students attended nationwide, some 1,300 of whom gathered at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Baltimore.

This year, eleven members of the Potsdam Newman Club were among the participants at the Jan. 22-23 event.

The students made the long road trip to Baltimore on Friday, arriving in time for the opening keynote speech, a musical performance by

Christian artist Audrey Assad.

### FOCUS Conference: a weekend of fellowship, spiritual Renewal and learning about the faith

They also viewed a special advance screening of the new movie "The Way", portraying a man who makes a pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela to cope with the death of his son. The film's star, Martin Sheen, and its director, Sheen's son Emilio Estevez, were both on hand to

answer questions.

Saturday featured a series of talks and workshops on a wide variety of topics, ranging from *What They Didn't Tell You in Sex Ed* and *Authentic Masculinity to Suffering and the Love of God* and *Evangelization as a Way of Life*.

Archbishop Charles Chaput of Denver celebrated Mass at the conference and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament concluded the day. Over thirty priests were on hand to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance, and the line for confessions stretched around the hotel

lobby. In fact, there was perpetual Adoration throughout the entire conference.

In addition, representatives of many Catholic organizations and religious orders were present to talk with the students.

Sunday culminated with a final talk and Mass celebrated by Bishop Salvatore Matano of Burlington, VT.

Many of the conference attendees immediately boarded their buses and continued on to Washington, D.C. to take part in the March for Life on Monday including five students from the Potsdam Newman Club.

## 'CREATE' HELPS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



PHOTO BY MARY LOU KILIAN

The St. Lawrence County Psychiatric Center in Ogdensburg recently donated 25 used computers to Catholic schools in the diocese through the state's CREATE program. The Computer Recycling for Education and Technology Enhancement ACT allows state agencies to take computer equipment that is no longer needed by the state and private industry and distribute it to schools, libraries and other educational institutions. Shown, from left are Linda Ross, bishop's secretary, who applied to the psychiatric center for the computers; Ian Fawcett, information technology director for the diocese; Samuel Bastien IV, executive director of the psychiatric center; and Rose Bailey, information technology specialist 2 and acting facility information center coordinator for the psychiatric center.

# GUGGENHEIM: reach out and help us get ready!

By Sister Jennifer Votraw, SSJ  
Diocesan Chancellor

It is time again for spring cleaning! Camp Guggenheim is no exception and, after a long, cold winter, the facility with its many buildings and activity areas needs loving attention.

## Camp Clean-Up Weekend to be held May 13-15

This is not a job that can be done by one person. Each year, volunteers across the diocese gather as a community for a common good: to make the diocesan camp a welcoming and clean environment for all who will be

present during the summer camping season.

From the Summer Camp program to the Family Life program to the many diocesan organizations and families who also rent the lodge and dorm for retreats, workshops and vacation time, all enjoy and benefit from the hard work and planning that go into the annual cleanup weekend.

This year May 13 at 5 p.m. to May 15 will be the "Camp Clean-Up weekend" coordinated by Dick Lynch, Youth Director from St. Joseph's, Dannemora.

If anyone is interested in helping prepare Camp Guggenheim during this time, please contact Dick Lynch at 518-492-7583 or e-

mail [yesgrp7@aol.com](mailto:yesgrp7@aol.com) for more information and to sign up!

So, if you would like an exciting Adirondack experience and do a wonderful service at the same time, please come and join us!

## To Report Abuse

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact: **Episcopal Vicar for Clergy** - Rev. James Seymour at 315-393-2920 or the **Victims Assistance Coordinator** - Terrianne Yanulavich, 7061 Rt. 9, Plattsburgh, NY 12901-0310; Tel. 518-561-3100; Fax 518-561-3003; e-mail: [aycsn@westelcom.com](mailto:aycsn@westelcom.com)

# Book fair set

The 19th annual "Book Fair" for the Diocese of Ogdensburg is scheduled for May 3 at the Edgewood Resort in Alexandria Bay and May 4 at the Crowne Plaza in Lake Placid. The event opens at 8:30 a.m. for refreshments and concludes at 1 p.m.

The program is geared for all who are involved in designing or planning religious education programs and in the selection of materials for groups from pre-school to adults including sacramental programs.

This year, participants will also be hearing about a variety of materials regarding the new Roman Missal for liturgy or catechesis.

Five publishers: Loyola Press, Our Sunday Visitor, Pflaum Publishing, RCL Benziger, and Wm. H. Sadlier, collaborating with the Diocesan Office of Christian Formation, make this informative day on publisher materials a wonderful opportunity for the Diocese of Ogdensburg and its parishes.

Call (518) 563-2022 for further information and to register by April 25.

## 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. All employees and volunteers who participate in church sponsored activities with minor are required to participate in this training. Further information: Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, phone, 315-393-2920. ext. 403. Upcoming programs:  
**May 4** - 4 p.m. Holy Ghost Parish Center, Tupper Lake,  
**May 12** - 6 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi, Constable  
**May 16** - 6 p.m., St. Alexander's, Morrisville

## Bishop LaValley's Schedule

**April 21** - Holy Thursday  
9:00 a.m., Morning Prayer at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg.  
7:00 p.m., Mass of the Lord's Supper at St. Mary's Cathedral.

**April 22** - Good Friday  
9:00 a.m., Morning Prayer at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg.  
3:00 p.m., Celebration of the Lord's Passion at St. Mary's Cathedral.

**April 23** - Holy Saturday  
9:00 a.m., Morning Prayer at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg.  
8:00 p.m., Easter Vigil at St. Mary's Cathedral.

**April 24** - Easter Sunday  
8:00 a.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral.

**April 25** - 7:15 p.m., Novena and Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

**April 26** - 12:00 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg.

**April 27** - 9:45 a.m., Episcopal Council Meeting at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg; 1:15 p.m., *North Country Catholic* Advisory Board Meeting at the Brzana Conference Room in Ogdensburg; 7:00 p.m., Confirmation for St. Mary's Church, Waddington and St. John the Baptist Church in Madrid at St. Mary's Church.

## Rest in Peace

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

**April 20** - Rev. James Igo, 2007  
**April 21** - Msgr. Michael E. Fogarty, 1936  
**April 22** - Rev. Daniel M. Sullivan, 1933  
**April 23** - Rev. L. Victor Petit, O.M.I., 1898; Most Rev. Henry Gabriels, 1921  
**April 24** - V. Rev. Alfred L. Pelletier, O.M.I., 1978; Rev. Thomas Egan, S.J., 1994  
**April 26** - Rev. Charles M. Mestre, O.M.I., 1870; Msgr. David Stinebrickner, 1998

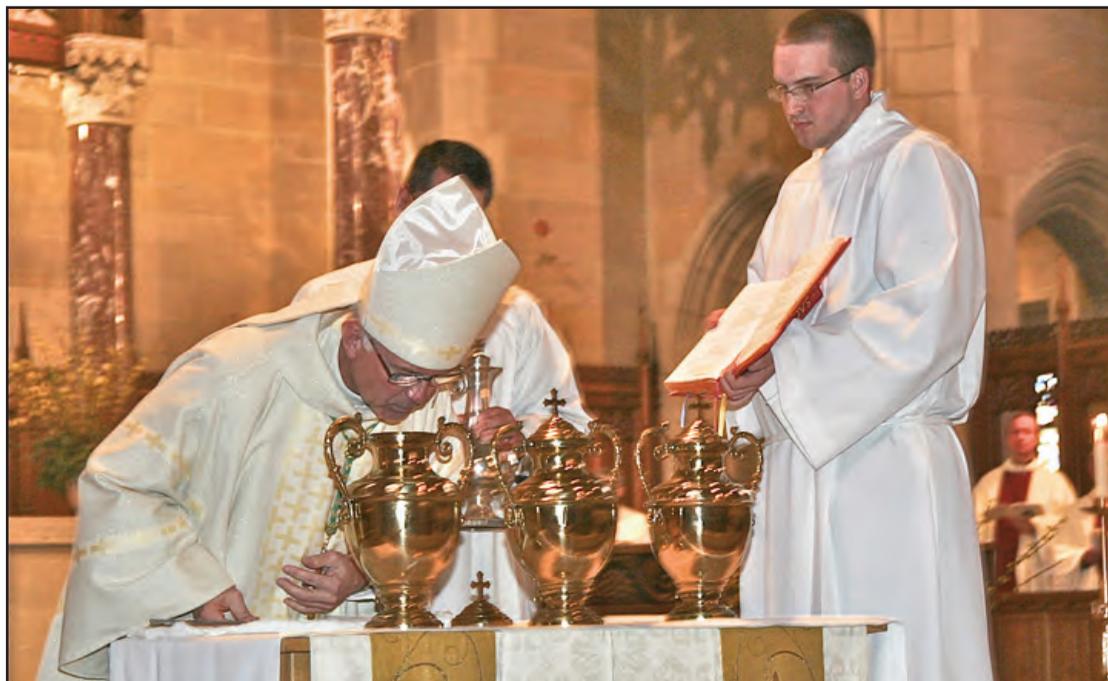
PREPARING THE SACRED OILS... RENEWING PRIESTLY COMMITMENT

# THE CHRISM MASS

Held April 14 at St. Mary's Cathedral



Deacons James Snell, Patrick Lyons, Gary Frank and Brian Dwyer carried the oil of the sick, oil of the catechumens and oil for holy chrism to the altar for the bishop's blessing.



PHOTOS BY BETTY STEELE

Bishop Terry R. LaValley breathes into the chrism oil symbolizing the infusion of the Holy Spirit during the diocesan Chrism Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral April 14. Holy chrism is used for anointing the newly baptized, candidates for confirmation, the hands of new priests, bishops at their ordination and at the dedication of churches and altars. The book bearer at right is Christian Doran, a student at SUNY Plattsburgh.



Students from Catholic schools in the diocese traveled to the cathedral to participate in the Chrism Mass including these sixth graders from IHC in Watertown, Shane Grill, Nicholas Clement, Trent Mitchell and Cooper Uliano.

## THE CHRISM MASS ONLINE

Further coverage on the 2011 Chrism Mass - including Bishop LaValley's homily, more photos and a slide show - can be found on the Website and Facebook page of the North Country Catholic.

Visit [.northcountrycatholic.org](http://northcountrycatholic.org)



Grey Nun Sister Mary Elizabeth Looby, pastoral associate at the Catholic Community of Malone, proclaimed the first reading during the Mass.



Priests from throughout the Diocese of Ogdensburg gathered around the altar for the consecration. During the liturgy, Bishop LaValley led them in a renewal of priestly service.

## FAREWELL, SISTER EVELYN



PHOTO BY SISTER JULIANA FITZPATRICK, O.S.M. Pictured at left is Sister Evelyn McCarte who has returned to her live with her religious community, the Daughters of Charity. Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, diocesan delegate for religious, said, "We are grateful to Sister for her dedicated service to our diocese. Many of us were gifted with her friendship and outreach to the many people she came in contact with and the Boards that she served on during her stay in the diocese. Sister's last assignment was to the people of the Church of Sacred Heart and St. Lawrence in Massena. Her gentle spirit and compassionate care for many people in our area will be greatly missed. We ask God to bless Sister Evelyn in her new assignment and we will remember her generosity to the people she served in our diocese."

## OUR READERS WRITE

## In support of our 'Men in Black'

A few weeks ago I read the editorial by Don Roberts, "This Priest-This Man" and he told it like it is, only he neglected to say how long and frustrating the hours are for these dedicated, loving, serving men. This is a very precarious time that you and I live in these days. It is hard, exhausting, and nearly life threatening to be a priest, or dedicated religious person. The day is never over, and the night too short.

Our new Bishop, Father Terry, week after week, meeting after meeting, gives so much encouragement in his calling to all of us to "come and follow". His message is strong and sure, and I hope we are doing all we can.

As a former pastor of several small protestant churches I know the bone weary, mind-tiring vocation it is, being all things to all people all the time. In their time of pain, sorrow, grief, need, besides financial loss, and whatever else crosses the life of those you serve, in God's call.

I only had one small church at a time; some of these priests have three or four churches, many miles apart with cemeteries attached as well as a school. How these dedicated shepherds keep up is beyond me.

In this day and age when it seems that God is a dirty word (not only in our schools, or communities, or government) we need to be vigilant in keeping what few Catholic Schools we have open and speaking to the new generation who need so very much to hear of His glory and love. Somehow you and I have to provide a place to nurture our young people's faith.

You and I need to encourage, support, and nurture these schools so there will be a place where young people will be inspired to become priests, deacons, and teachers. If we are going to play ball against the opposing team (and believe me he is out to win) we need to step up to the plate and give it our all. Our priests cannot be the only players on the team.

I know I am (by Confirmation in March of 2008) a very new person to all things needed in the Catholic Church to instill, inspire, inject and win young people with the excitement there is to be gained in life when one answers the call to serve the King of Kings. I know I am new to you, but I have been answering God's call for more years than some of you have been born and plan to keep on until He calls me home. But alas, I cannot be called to be a priest or a deacon and that is what we need.

So we have to provide the excitement, education and most of all the example of faith, so others may want to be "The Men in Black". It is a lot of work, long hours, but the retirement plan is out of this world.

PATTY FRANCISCO  
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF TUPPER LAKE

## Pope Benedict XVI speaks to youth..and us

The words of Pope Benedict XVI printed in the forward of the new "Youth" CCC (Catechism of the Catholic Church) would not be wasted should the parents read them as well. (NCC, April 6). Here the Pope tells the youth not to abandon God and the Church because of the 'attacks of evil' inside the heart of the Church. He also reminds them they need to KNOW their faith if they hope to survive the negative impacts that society has on us all.

"Today's Christians really need to understand their faith more than ever before in order to resist modern day challenges and temptations", he wrote. I am sure that he will talk to them in greater detail when he meets with Youth representatives from around the globe at the World Youth Day 2011 in

Spain this coming summer. Each Catholic pilgrim who attends will receive the New Youth CCC in his or her "backpack".

As adults I am sure we are all well aware of those 'challenges and temptations' that Pope Benedict speaks of. More and more, we are becoming a society of people who are self-centered and evermore drifting from our Faith. The influence of indifference and 'relativism' - where one makes decisions based on how it affects him personally, without taking into account how his 'choices' affect society as a whole. We deceive ourselves if we think that when we make the wrong choices, it does not have consequences for society as a whole. We do not live in BUBBLES folks!

When Adam and EVE took a big bite out of that 'luscious red apple' . . . they were not thinking of the future and how it would affect us today. They looked at it. They saw that it looked pleasing to the eye, and that it just might be quite tasty! As we often do, they probably thought... "What harm could there be?" So they both took a BIG BITE! You know the rest of the story . . . the bad news. They and their heirs would have to toil and work, suffer in childbirth, and have to subdue the earth.

I am SURE they would have never taken that bite, if they knew what was going to happen to All of us. At least I like to think that. Folks the truth is, as we do these things . . . giving into desire, selfishness, dishonesty, immorality, etc; it affects every one of us. It may not have an instant affect on our next door neighbor, but collectively, it is detrimental to our society as a whole.

Sadly, sin inside the Church does as well. When a priest or Lay minister, or ANYONE in the community for that matter, sins, it has a collective affect on the Body of Christ. That is us, the individuals who make up that Body.

Pope Benedict goes on telling the youth this:

"You have need of divine help if you do not want your faith to dry up as a dewdrop in the sun, if you do not want to succumb to the temptations of consumerism, if you do not want your Love to be drowned in pornography, if you do not want to betray the weak and the victims of abuse and violence,"

This is the GOOD NEWS! THERE is HOPE! God Is who he Is! He can take our terrible sin or any circumstance that WE might create, and turn it into something for good.

HOWEVER, the devil on the other hand will use these same circumstances to create havoc, division, hate, dissension, a turning away from the Faith, and completely banishing all Hope. He will do his best to try to bring down the Church in any way he can. But remember, GOD on the other hand can take our terrible sin and use it for the Good of his Church. How? That is a good question.

Throughout salvation history, God has provided the GRACE to all who want to Love him, embrace truth and endeavor for the good of the 'whole'. HOWEVER, we must make the choice to cooperate with that grace or, choose not to. If we choose not to . . . the devil will win and prevail in the battle at hand. If we choose to say, "yes Lord, help me to help the Church" . . . He will give us the grace to do so. HE WILL supply the GRACE to accomplish what is HIS will is for his Church, and that will is . . . "to have Life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10)! If we choose to be the best person that we can be (which is His will for our individual lives), HE WILL provide the grace to do so. AS we walk and work with Him, He will be by our side; He will even carrying us if He has to.

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*April 22, 2011*



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The Good Friday Collection is a Pontifical Collection; requested by Pope Benedict XVI

## WASHINGTON LETTER

# Budget debate leads to questions on US priorities

By Dennis Sadowski  
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- As the political debate surrounding the country's spending priorities, tax policy and reducing debt deepens, the faith community and social service advocates have mounted a campaign to prevent the needs of the poor and vulnerable from being heaped into the pile of expendables.

The effort is rooted in the biblical call for justice for people on the margins -- children, the elderly, the sick, the poor. Nonreligious groups also have invoked the values theme in their messaging.

Employing tactics from a rolling fast involving 36,000 people -- including 27 members of Congress -- to town hall meetings, the broad-based effort has stressed that spending priorities must reflect basic moral principles.

"The meeting of needs for those who can't meet their own is the gold standard for a moral economic system," noted Daniel K. Finn, professor of economics and theology at St. John's University in Collegeville, Minn.

The advocates' main concern is that the cuts approved by Congress April 14 disproportionately target programs benefiting the poor. For example, the U.S.

**Most fundamentally the budget is a moral document ... in the sense that it's going to attach fundamentally to what we believe to be priorities. At the top is the responsibility to care for the poorest and most vulnerable in our society.**

Bishop Stephen E. Blaire of Stockton, Calif.

Chairman of the bishops' Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development,

bishops' Office of International Justice and Peace and Catholic Relief Services compiled a list of 17 poverty-focused international humanitarian programs that accounted for 0.6 percent of the U.S. budget (almost \$20 billion) but originally were targeted for about 25 percent of the cuts.

In the end, the revised spending plan adopted by Congress cut \$38 billion from the 2011 budget. It's the largest one-year reduction in discretionary spending in U.S. history.

Cuts include the Women, Infants and Children program, \$504 million; community development block grants, \$942 million; community health centers, \$600 million; public housing, \$605 million; and foreign food assistance, \$194 million.

Left in the budget was about \$75 million in funding for Planned Parenthood, the country's largest abortion provider. Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee for Pro-Life Activities, asked

Congress in an April 13 letter to defund the agency.

"Congress will have to make decisions whether to cut programs that everyone agrees are beneficial because of a consensus that the federal budget can no longer sustain the current level of spending," he wrote. "Whether to fund the largest abortion network in the country is not one of those hard choices."

As for cuts that were approved, Republicans said difficult choices had to be made to rein in spending in the face of a \$14.3 trillion debt. Democrats argued that deep cuts would stifle the gradual economic recovery and especially harm women and children.

While the advocates for the poor are hardly claiming victory, they believe their effort helped pre-empt even deeper cuts.

"The bishops were relieved the cuts were not nearly as deep as originally proposed," said Stephen Colecchi, director of the bishops' Office of International Justice and Peace.

The recent machinations were an inkling of what's to come.

Next up: the 2012 budget and more maneuvering to determine government's role in American life.

Bishop Stephen E. Blaire of Stockton, Calif., chairman of the bishops' Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, offered a starting point for lawmakers.

"Most fundamentally the budget is a moral document ... in the sense that it's going to attach fundamentally to what we believe to be priorities," he told Catholic News Service.

"At the top is the responsibility to care for the poorest

and most vulnerable in our society. What is important is to identify these priorities and then you begin to address the issue of budget adjustments," he said.

Bishop Blaire also suggested that lawmakers look at all areas of the budget for possible cuts and seriously consider ways to boost tax revenues.

The California bishop joined Bishop Howard J. Hubbard of Albany, N.Y., chairman of the bishops' Committee on International Justice and Peace, in a letter to each House member April 13 pointing to the moral imperative of budget decisions.

The letter was partly a response to the budget outline and debt relief plan proposed April 5 by Rep. Paul Ryan, R-Wis., a Catholic who chairs the House budget committee. Ryan claimed his plan, "Path to Prosperity," would reduce U.S. debt by \$6.2 trillion in the next decade while strengthening the social safety net.

The proposal would reshape Medicaid and Medicare and rescind much of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to achieve savings.

President Barack Obama's proposal for debt reduction was not yet introduced when the bishops sent their letter to Congress.

Made public April 13, the president's plan calls for boosting taxes for the top 2 percent of wage earners, cutting waste and duplication in defense spending, and maximizing savings under the health reform act. Obama claimed his plan would lower the debt by \$4 trillion by 2023.

Bishop Blaire told CNS he thought the Ryan plan

would reduce access to health care for the poor and elderly if it became law.

Father Larry Snyder, president of Catholic Charities USA, echoed the same concern even as he welcomed efforts to reduce the deficit.

"Simply repackaging responsibilities for the administration of existing programs continues to miss the opportunity for true reform that has the potential to both aid the country's nascent economic recovery and enable those most vulnerable among us to establish a stronger path to self-sufficiency," Father Snyder said in a statement April 11.

Ryan's plan calls for converting Medicaid into a block grant program for states beginning in 2015 with increases in spending adjusted only for inflation and population growth.

Medicare, under Ryan's proposal, would become a voucher system for people who turn 65 in 2022 (and 67 in 2033), and shift much of the program's costs to seniors. The Congressional Budget Office said a typical 65-year-old with private insurance covering standard Medicare benefits could pay for 61 percent of total health care costs in 2022, rising to 68 percent by 2030.

Ryan also called for reducing the highest tax rates -- those for the highest income earners -- from 35 percent to 25 percent and for closing loopholes, limiting tax deductions and ending most tax credits to make up the difference.

Roberton Williams, a senior fellow at the nonpartisan Tax Policy Center, told CNS that Ryan's plan would reduce tax revenues by about \$2.9 trillion between 2012 and 2021. He said he found Ryan's proposition short on specifics on how the tax base would grow.

Ryan's office took a phone call from CNS but did not provide a spokesman to discuss the plan.

## Secretary/Receptionist Position

St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg, NY, is seeking a Secretary/Receptionist. The applicant must have knowledge of computers and relevant software applications such as word processing. Excellence in office procedures is required. This is a full-time position with personal benefits. Salary is negotiable, dependent upon experience and skill level. Resume with references should be sent to Rev. Joseph A. Morgan, St. Mary's Cathedral, 415 Hamilton Street, Ogdensburg, NY, 13669 (telephone: 315-393-3930, FAX: 315-393-6680, email: [jmorgan@saintmaryscathedral.net](mailto:jmorgan@saintmaryscathedral.net)). Resumes should be submitted no later than April 25.

# CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

**Value poor people, don't work to get rid of them, papal nuncio says**  
UNITED NATIONS (CNS) -- The world must not view poor people as a commodity to be managed and controlled but as unique individuals who need the help of the global community to achieve their full potential, the Vatican's ambassador to the United Nations said. "In order to combat legitimate problems, the increasingly discredited concept of population control must be discarded," said Archbishop Francis Chullikatt in an April 12 address to the Economic and Social Council during the 44th session of the Commission on Population and Development. "Instead of focusing political and financial resources on efforts to reduce the number of poor persons through methods which trivialize marriage and the family and deny the very right to life of unborn children, let us instead focus these resources on providing the promised development assistance to the approximately 920 million people living on less than \$1.25 per day," said the Indian archbishop, who heads the Holy See's permanent observer mission to the United Nations. Archbishop Chullikatt disputed a report from the Office of the Secretary-General that said rates of reproduction in developing countries must be slowed through greater access to modern contraception and safe abortions. The report "promotes the tragic theory that if there were fewer poor children, there would be less need to provide education; that if there were fewer poor women giving birth, then there would be less maternal mortality; and that if there were fewer people needing to be fed, then malnutrition would be more easily addressed and that greater resources could be allocated to development," he said. He said the international community should instead direct "greater financial, political and social emphasis" at initiatives to support the family.

**Vatican announces Masses, Oct. 22 feast day for Blessed John Paul**  
VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- The feast day of Blessed John Paul II will be marked Oct. 22 each year in Rome and the dioceses of Poland. When the Vatican made the announcement April 11, it also said Catholics throughout the world will have a year to celebrate a Mass in thanksgiving for his beatification. While thanksgiving Masses for a beatification -- like the observance of a feast day -- usually are limited to places where the person lived or worked, "the exceptional character of the beatification of the Venerable John Paul II, recognized by the entire Catholic Church spread throughout the world," led to a general permission for the thanksgiving Mass, said a decree from the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments. The decree was published in the Vatican newspaper, L'Osservatore Romano, and included information about the thanksgiving Mass, Pope John Paul's feast day, annual Masses in his honor and naming churches after him. The newspaper also published the text of the opening prayer -- formally the "collect" -- for his feast day Mass in Latin, English, French, German, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese and Polish. A local bishop or the superior general of a religious order is free to choose the day or dates as well as the place or places for the thanksgiving Mass, as long as the Masses are celebrated by May 1, 2012, which is one year after the beatification, the decree said. In the Diocese of Rome, where Pope John Paul served as bishop, and in all the dioceses of his native Poland, his feast day is to be inserted automatically into the annual calendar, the decree said. Oct. 22 was chosen as the day to remember him because it is the anniversary of the liturgical inauguration of his papacy in 1978.

## RAISING A FROSTY MUG TO JOHN PAUL II



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

People socialize in the GP2 bar in Rome April 7. The bar honors Giovanni Paolo II, or Pope John Paul II, and seeks to provide a place for Catholic youth to gather in a safe environment, enjoy a beer or coffee and share in the joys of being Christian. The Italian words on the counter say "Give me to drink," a scriptural reference to Jesus' words to the woman at the well.

## Abuse audits find most dioceses in compliance, but weaknesses remain

By Nancy Frazier O'Brien  
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) - Most U.S. dioceses are in compliance with the U.S. bishops' "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People," but annual audits are uncovering problem areas and reports of boundary violations short of abuse, such as inappropriate hugging.

An audit report released April 11 and covering the period from July 1, 2009, to June 30, 2010, showed that "management letters" had been issued to 55 of the 188 dioceses or eparchies participating in the annual compliance assessments by the Gavin Group.

Those letters "offered guidance for performance improvement or highlighted potential problem areas," said William A. Gavin, president of the Gavin Group, in a letter to Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan of New York, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, and Diane Knight, who chairs the National Review Board.

The issues cited, "though not at a level to categorize the diocese/eparchy as non-compliant in a particular area, were identified as possibly doing so if not sufficiently addressed," said an introduction to the audit summary, which was released in conjunction with a report by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate on abuse-related statistics and costs in 2010.

During the 2010 audit period, 653 people who alleged that they had been abused in the past came forward for the first time and another 30 people who were currently minors made such allegations.

Of the 30 cases involving current minors, "eight were considered credible by law enforcement, seven were determined to be false, 12 were determined to be boundary violations and three are still under investigation," the re-

port said.

The report also evaluated how successful dioceses and eparchies have been in providing safe environment training and evaluating the backgrounds of clergy, employees and volunteers who work with children.

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## SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

## Beginning a new journey... our Easter journey

Easter has come suddenly, with a burst of light. Now we know that Jesus stands by his promises.

In a flash, Christ has changed the Messianic secret into the fullness of Paschal Mystery!

Our journey through the struggles of Lent and the pain of Holy Week is over.

With malicious sacrilege, evil has done its worst to the sacred body of God's Son.

Through our sharing in the Church's liturgies on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil, we were with at the Last Supper, in the Garden, on the way to Calvary.

With Mary and John, we

saw Him die. We wept at the tomb. Then, before dawn on Sunday, Christ broke through the rock, shattered the power of sin, and, according to tradition, appeared first to His Mother, then to the women and the apostles.

As we listen to the first reading, we experience one of Peter's very first sermons. The curious bystanders were astounded at the change in this man. He comes fresh from the fiery tongues of Pentecost, still in shock at the dream he had on the way to Cornelius' house.

Nothing any more was to be considered unclean. So he is free to preach to Gen-

tiles the Good News of God's forgiveness.

Peter and the others are commanded to baptize any who believe in the Christ. So the word spreads through the whole countryside and beyond. Resurrection is the hope of every living person. No wonder they preached with such courage and enthusiasm!

They preached about a God who cared first for people who were poor and powerless, a God whose love governed all His relationships. And He taught us to not only believe in justice, but to act justly.

The Scripture readings during these fifty days between Easter and Pentecost are among the most exciting in the Church year.

We give over to "Alleluias" and a joyful shout of "Christ

APRIL 24

Easter Sunday

Readings:

Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Colossians 3:1-4

OR: 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8; John

20:1-9 or Matthew 28:1-10

has Risen" this Sunday, and then settle in for a new time of reflection on our own program for resurrection in these very troubled times.

After all, it is our mission to bring new life to a troubled world. If we don't do it, who will?

And so we begin a new journey this week, our Easter journey.

As followers of the Risen Christ, the time has come for greater attention to where our legislators are going with all the many life

issues that affect the unborn, the elderly, and immigrants. We need to take much better care of our veterans. We need to safeguard against every form of injustice.

Faith and action begin with understanding and loving the teachings and plans for action of our Church. We have so much to do as hope-filled Easter Catholics. These are critical times, and we must not fall back into laziness or complacency now that Lent has ended.

May the Holy Spirit guide us into a higher level of faith as He did the apostles and other followers of the risen Christ. Now they knew that he was truly God and Lord of Life, and their new journey would lead through suffering to their own resurrection!

## In New York, now is the time to defend marriage

By Kathleen M. Gallagher

Director of Pro-Life Activities,  
New York State Catholic Conference

Does marriage mean something to you? If it does, now is the time to make a statement.

When lawmakers return to Albany on May 2, legislation to legalize so-called "same-sex marriage" may soon come before them for a vote. It is high on Governor Andrew Cuomo's to-do list, and the latest public opinion polls show that it's gaining support.

Yes, as disheartening as that is, this month's Siena College survey found 58% of registered New York State voters in favor of legalizing gay marriage.

Personally, I don't put a lot of stock in polling. I think people answer the way they think they should. We all want to be liked. We want to be hip and modern, cutting edge, politically correct. We certainly don't want to be against equality or civil rights, or God for-

bid, be perceived as bigots. Who knows with whom those pollsters are sharing our answers?

The mainstream media, after all, would have us believe that gay marriage is inevitable. Every celebrity on the planet supports the concept, every television show celebrates it, every magazine article we read makes us feel guilty for even questioning the idea. The train has departed the station, and if we don't hop on, we will be left standing all alone on the platform, woefully behind the times.

Baloney.

I think the vast majority of New Yorkers support the historic, cultural, timeless meaning of marriage and don't want to see it altered or redefined in any way. And if they could say that out loud, with a guarantee that they wouldn't be labeled or ridiculed or ostracized, they would be more than willing to do so.

Just look at what's happened in every state that ever put the issue up for a

referendum on Election Day: voters, alone in the privacy of the voting booth, have soundly rejected the idea of redefining marriage.

Well, it's time to step outside the booth and proclaim it boldly: Marriage is meant for one man and one woman together for life.

Nature and common sense tell us that only a relationship between a man and a woman is designed to literally unite the partners and create new life. Gay marriage is an oxymoron. Partners of the same sex simply cannot fit into the meaning of marriage.

Nor can other partnerships of loving people. Last month, in an interview with CBS News, New York Archbishop Timothy Dolan urged policy makers not to tamper with the definition of marriage.

He noted that there are certain relationships in life that are beautiful and noble, but that don't entitle us to marriage. "I love my Mom," the Archbishop said, "but I don't have the right to

marry her." He concluded with a troubling question: "Where would the tampering stop?"

Indeed. Could friends get married just to get the tax benefits? How about a man and two women? Is marriage merely about satisfying personal desires? Where would the tampering stop?

Our law treats same-sex relationships differently than marriage because they are different. The law is not discriminatory or homophobic. And neither are we. Most of us have gay friends or family members who we love and cherish; they deserve our respect and the full protection of the law.

But marriage can't be something that it isn't. New York's highest court has ruled that marriage as the union of one man and one woman has a rational basis: it is the most stable and effective relationship in which to create and raise children. The law sends a message: a mother matters and a father matters, and each plays a

necessary, unique, critical role in the development of children.

If marriage means something to you, and you don't want to see it redefined, then it's time to stand up and defend it. Yes, it may appear to be counter-cultural and yes, we may be scorned and branded for our beliefs. But that's what being a Christian is all about! We are simply following in the footsteps of Jesus Christ.

Contact your state Senator and Assembly representative as soon as possible. You can easily e-mail them through the New York State Catholic Conference web site at [www.nycatholic.org](http://www.nycatholic.org). Or write to your State Senator at the New York State Capitol, Albany, NY 12247 and Assembly member at the New York State Capitol, Albany, NY 12248. Tell them with certainty and conviction that authentic marriage is the very foundation of our society and deserves protection and recognition in the law.

## AT THE MOVIES

## RIO

By John Mulderig  
Catholic News Service

There's not much to blame on "Rio" (Fox). Instead, praiseworthy lessons about environmental stewardship and love-inspired loyalty are decked out in kaleidoscopic colors and delivered in an overwhelmingly child-friendly tone in this animated 3-D flight of fancy.

Living as a cosseted pet in chilly Minnesota, Brazilian-born macaw Blu (voice of Jesse Eisenberg) has daily mugs of hot chocolate and - more importantly - the loving protection of his devoted owner, small bookstore proprietor Linda (voice of Leslie Mann), to keep him warm.

Blu's jungle origins and the traumatic experience of being kidnapped by exotic bird traders - only a happy accident eventually landed him in Linda's possession - are long past and barely remembered.

So it comes as a shock when eccentric Rio de Janeiro-based scientist Tulio (voice of Rodrigo Santoro) turns up in the North Star State to inform Linda that Blu is the last living male of

his species.

As such, Tulio explains, it's imperative that Blu return to his native land, at least temporarily, to mate with his sole remaining female counterpart.

Reluctantly, homebody Linda and thoroughly domesticated Blu agree to Tulio's plan.

But Blu's opposite number - fetching yet feisty Jewel (voiced by Anne Hathaway) - immediately intimidates her shy blind date and proves far more concerned with breaking out of the captivity of Tulio's lab than with perpetuating her kind.

Things only go from bad to worse when the lovebirds are suddenly nabbed (in Blu's case, yet again) by illegal avian dealers.

Jemaine Clement's voice work as Nigel, the elegantly odious cockatoo who aids these human villains, is one of the comic highlights of "Rio."

Jake T. Austin as Fernando, a boy from the "favelas," or slums, of Rio offers, by contrast, a gentle but poignant reminder that the real life of the Brazilian capital involves more than just bikini-clad girls strolling along the beach at Ipanema.

Perhaps inevitably, direc-

tor Carlos Saldanha sets the climactic scenes of his buoyant adventure - which also includes a handful of upbeat musical numbers - against the dazzling background of Rio's legendary carnival.

In a bit of possibly excessive realism, though, this occasion is used to show off some questionable costuming choices, not least that of one minor male character who briefly dons a gold lame set of men's underwear. His walk on the wild side - though calculated to make kids laugh - may strike some parents as a step in the wrong direction.

Otherwise, there's just one vaguely sexual joke aimed over the heads of youngsters and a couple of allusions to bodily functions couched in terms even the members of the target demographic might acceptably use. The film contains a few nursery-level bathroom references and a fleeting double entendre. The Catholic News Service classification is A-I - general patronage. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is G - general audiences



CNS PHOTO/FOX

Animated characters Blu and Jewel appear in a scene from the movie "Rio."


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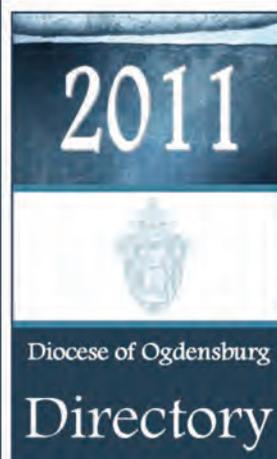
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## ADIRONDACK

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

**Saranac Lake** – Divine Mercy Sunday will be celebrated at St. Bernard's Church.

**Date:** May 1

**Time:** 2:30 p.m.

**Features:** The chanted chaplet, evening prayer, benediction and confessions. Father Mark Reilly will be officiating.

## CLINTON

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

**Plattsburgh** – Stations of the Cross will be held for the victims of abortion.

**Date:** April 22, Good Friday

**Time:** 10 a.m.

**Place:** At Planned Parenthood

**Features:** Introduction and prayer led by Fr. Demarais. Stations will be led by Fr. Demarais, Msgr. Duprey, Msgr. Aubin, Fr. Canaan, Fr. Seymour and Fr. Cote. Please stand in the four parking spaces reserved by the City Council. Please stay off Planned Parenthood's lawn and do not interact with hecklers. Please do not bring or hold posters or banners. This is a prayer service, not a protest.

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

**Plattsburgh** – St. Peter's Church to celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday.

**Date:** May 1

**President:** Msgr. Dennis Duprey

**Schedule:** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 12:15 p.m. to 3; Sacrament of Reconciliation in the chapel 1:30 p.m. to 2:30; Video "Tell All Soul's About My Mercy" at 12:30 p.m. and "Extreme Mercy" at 1:45 p.m.; Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Prayer Service begins at 3 p.m.; Blessing of Religious objects will take place after the service.

## BLESSED SACRAMENT ADORATION

**Keeseville** – The Keeseville Altar Rosary Society to sponsor Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

**Date:** Every Sunday

**Time:** 1 p.m. to 4

**Place:** Immaculate Conception Church

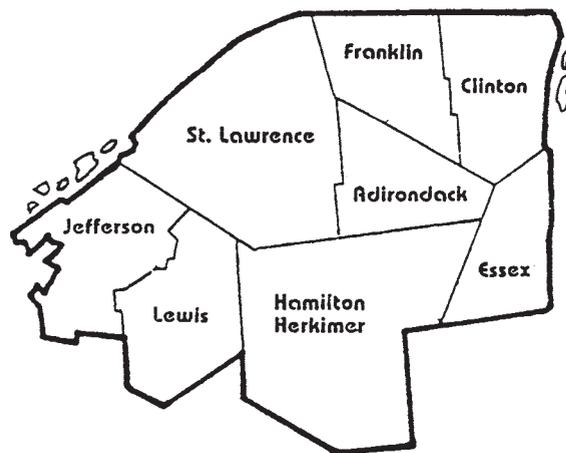
## EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

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

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

**Contact:** For more information about spending a special hour with Jesus weekly, or becoming a substitute, please call 518-561-5083 or email us at Sjohnsadoration@aol.com



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.

## FRANKLIN

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

**Malone** – Divine Mercy Sunday to be celebrated.

**Date:** May 1

**Time:** 11 a.m.

**Place:** Notre Dame Church

**Schedule:** Noon to 3 p.m. the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for individual adoration. Confessions will be heard from 1 p.m. to 2:50. At 3 p.m. Devotions for Divine Mercy Sunday will begin. The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy will be sung and there will be Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome to join in any or all of the above times.

**Contact:** Fr. Joseph Giroux, Malone Catholic Parishes Office, (518) 483-1300.

## JEFFERSON

## RUN ON THE RUNWAY

**Fort Drum** – Special fundraising walk is being sponsored by AAAA.

**Date:** April 30

**Time:** Registration begins at 6 a.m. race starts at 8 a.m.

**Place:** Wheeler Sack Army Airfield

**Cost:** 5k Run/Walk, \$5; 10K Run, \$10; Kids under 5, free

**Features:** Strollers and Headsets are welcome. There is no pre-registration. Prizes will be awarded for the top female male in each category, 15 and under, 16-25, 26-35, 36-45 and 45+. This open to Military and the local community.

**Contact:** Debbie Lindeman 315- 774-1581 for more information.

## CHICKEN BARBECUE

**Evans Mills** – The St. Mary's Booster Club will be having a chicken barbecue.

**Date:** May 1

**Time:** 11 a.m.

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

**Cost:** \$8 and take-outs are available

## BEREAVEMENT MEETING

**Watertown** – An ecumenical bereavement meeting is to be held.

**Date:** April 25

**Time:** 7 p.m.

**Place:** Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse  
**Speaker:** James Monaco, LCSW, will be returning for Part II of his March presentation "Continuing the Journey of Healing" .. Mr. Monaco is a psychotherapist with a local private practice, as well as a consultant for agencies and schools.

## THE SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

**Clayton** – The Franciscan Mystery Players of Clayton will present "The Sorrowful Mysteries", a dramatic multi-media presentation of the passion and death of Jesus.

**Schedule:** April 22, 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Church

**Features:** Through the use of special lighting and sound, this dramatic meditation on the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary promises to be a high point in your Lenten journey. For more information visit www.mysteryplay.org or call St. Mary's at 315-686-3398.

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

**Watertown** – Our Lady of the Sacred Heart will hold a Divine Mercy Sunday

Celebration.

**Date:** Divine Mercy Sunday is May 1; a novena Will begin April 22 at 3 p.m.

**Features:** On May 1 at 3 p.m. there will be Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, Singing of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, & Special prayers for Healing your family tree, Blessing of the Divine Mercy image (you may bring your own Divine Mercy picture to be specially blessed) and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

**Further Information:** The Divine Mercy Devotion consists of making a Novena by praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy beginning on Good Friday; celebrating the Feast of Mercy, the 1st Sunday after Easter; Being merciful to others, Placing our complete trust in Jesus & making a good confession, eight days before or after that Sunday and receiving Communion on the Feast of Mercy Sunday without the stain of mortal sin.

**Contact:** For more info on how to prepare for Mercy Sunday . . . call Judy at 315-783-7349 or 315-788-2388, or visit www.divinemercysunday.com

## LIFERIGHT MEETING

**Watertown** – Liferight of Watertown will hold its monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of the Month.

**Time:** 4 p.m.

**Place:** 312 Sherman St.

**Features:** Liferight is a pro-life educational organization. The office has videos, books and educational materials which may be borrowed. Topics covered: infanticide, assisted suicide, euthanasia and chastity.

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

## LEWIS

## BULLHEAD FEED

**Harrisville** – The Knights of Columbus Council #7733 will be sponsoring a Bullhead Feed.

**Date:** April 29

**Time:** 4:30 p.m. to 6:30

**Place:** Harrisville Fire Hall

**Cost:** Adults, \$11 for Bullhead, \$9 for Ham; Children 5-12, \$6; under 5, Free  
**Features:** Take-outs available.

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

**Houseville** – The Feast of Divine Mercy will be celebrated at St. Hedwig's Church.

**Date:** May 1

**Schedule:** 2 p.m. Listen to a tape by Sister M. Caterina Esselen of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy entitled "Receive an Ocean of Graces on Divine Mercy Sunday; 3 p.m. Vespers, Homily, Exposition of the

Most Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy Chaplet (sung) and Benediction. A pot luck supper will follow in the church hall.

**Contact:** Mary Ann at 348-6260

## ST. LAWRENCE

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

**Ogdensburg** – St. Mary's Cathedral will be hosting Divine Mercy Services.

**Date:** May 1

**Time:** 3 p.m.

**Features:** You are cordially invited to come and pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet during this service.

## K OF C BRUNCH

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

**Date:** May 8

**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

## FISH FRY BUFFET

**Ogdensburg** – The Knights of Columbus to hold a Fish Fry Buffet during Lent.

**Date:** Fridays

**Time:** 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

**Place:** K of C Hall; Eat in or take out.

**Cost:** \$9 per person, Children 6-11, \$4.5; under 5, free; Desserts, \$1 extra

## NOVENA FOR MILITARY

**Ogdensburg** – Notre Dame Church is holding a weekly novena for the safety of U.S. military personnel

**Date:** Tuesday evenings

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

## DIOCESAN EVENTS

## INTERNATIONAL ROSARY

Catholics of the Diocese are encouraged to participate in a continuous praying of the Rosary throughout the world.

**Date:** May 1

**Time:** 2 p.m.

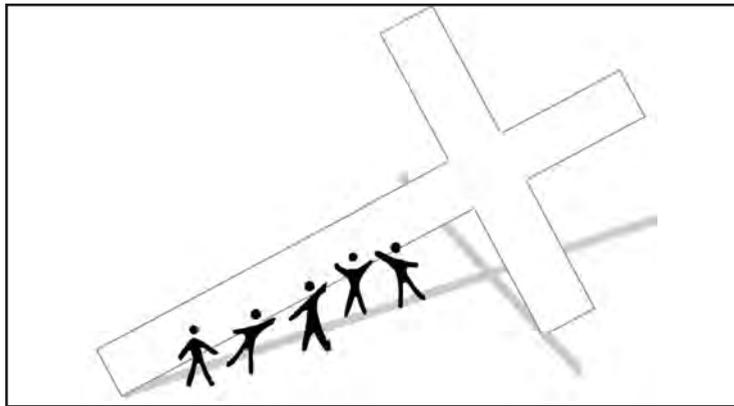
**Features:** praying 20 decades of the Rosary. The intention is: "That in the month of our Blessed Mother we will band together with the Pro-Life forces in the world." Our Blessed Mother is a force for life and of the Rosary. Who better to lead and guide us than she who is the Mother of Life. Pray alone, with family, or with friends. There are no other requirements. We encourage you to take part in this wonderful opportunity to join in prayer with our brothers and sisters, all over the world, who will be praying and doing penance for the conversion of sinners.



## 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

# Lenten sacrifice brings Easter joy



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

I am most grateful for your Lenten sacrifice which is such a blessing to the Church as it serves the poor of the Missions.

Throughout the world, day after day, we find suffering of all kinds – devastation wrought by natural disasters, such as earthquakes and tsunamis that hit Japan. The media reminds us daily of profound hunger, poverty, illness, disease, war and violence. Our world seems particularly filled with political turmoil as of late. There is also the suffering that comes from not knowing of the great love of our Lord.

As people hear of the passion, death and Resurrection of Jesus, they come to realize that, in Christ, they too can rise – to realize that they are not alone, abandoned, in their suffering. In the Missions, local priests, Religious Sisters, Brothers and lay catechists reach out to the suffering in Jesus' name, offering them His love and His message of hope. They remind them that God does not abandon us, helping them to experience in their "Good Friday" world, the hope and joy of Easter Sunday.

By your prayers, and your gifts to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, you accompany those who bring this Good News to the poor and suffering. Please know that you and your own difficulties, great and small, are remembered in the prayers of those you support in the Missions. May you face your Good Friday challenges, ever mindful and strengthened by the hope of our Lord's Resurrection!

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

### Glory Rufa

**MASSENA** - A Mass of Resurrection for Glory M. Rufa, 52, was held April 15 at St. Mary's Church.

She died April 10; burial was in Calvary Cemetery.

Mrs. Rufa is survived by her husband, Robert; sons, Jason and wife Nicolette of Chesapeake, VA; Justin and wife Natalie of Colorado Springs, CO; and Jonathan and wife Kaitlyn of Coram, Long Island, NY; a daughter, Athena and husband Tony Curley of Canton, a brother John Griffin, of Gulfport, MS; and grandson, Aidan Rufa. She was predeceased by her parents and a brother and nephew, Peter and Peter Daniel Griffin in 2010.

Mrs. Rufa was born Aug. 21, 1958 in Massena the daughter of Floyd and Paula (Mathieu) Griffin. She graduated from Massena Central High in 1976, and earned an associate's degree in 1988 in Social Work at Mater Dei College.

She was employed for Hospice of St. Lawrence Valley as a bereavement counselor and was most recently employed at Massena Housing Authority as a tenants relations assistant.

The director of religious education at St. Joseph's Church for 13 years, she was also a Eucharist Minister, director for Children's Liturgy and member of the Parish Council.

Mrs. Rufa completed the diocesan Formation for Ministry program and was a recipient of the 2003 Sharing the Light of Faith Award from the diocesan Department of Christian Formation.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Joseph's/St. Mary's Sanctuary Fund. Online condolences may be made to [www.phillipsmemorial.com](http://www.phillipsmemorial.com).

**Cadyville** – Rance H. Bull, 81; Funeral Services April 14, 2011 at St. James Church; burial in Whitehall, NY.

**Fort Covington** – Lyle J. Mainville, 81; Funeral Services April 11, 2011 at St. Mary's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Heuvelton** – Nola E. (Carr) Rheome, 72;

Funeral Services April 12, 2011 at St. Raphael's Church; burial in Pine Hill Cemetery, Eelweir.

**Keeseville** – Mary Ann Yattaw, 70; Funeral April 15, 2011 at St. John's Church; burial in Union Cemetery, Fort Edward.

**Lyons Falls** – Margerite "Midge" (Brill) Fitzgerald, 93; Funeral Services April 16, 2011 at St. John's Church; burial in Wildwood Cemetery.

**Madrid** – Mary Jean (Fitzgerald) McGrath, 90; Funeral Services April 13, 2011 at St. John the Baptist Church; burial in Holy Rood, Westbury.

**Massena** – Donald R. Case, 86; Funeral Services April 11, 2011 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery, Watertown.

**Massena** – Regina M. (Legault) St. Germain, 102; Funeral Services April 13, 2011 at Church of the Sacred Heart; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** – Joseph Lloyd Cooke, 69; Funeral Services April 11, 2011 at Fox & Murray Funeral Home; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

**Ogdensburg** – Leon "Nig" M. O'Grady, 85; Funeral April 15, 2011 at Notre Dame Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Peru** – John Denis Tessier, 85; Memorial Services April 16, 2011 at St. Augustine's Church.

**Plattsburgh** – Joan M. Church, 87; Funeral Services April 15, 2011 at St. Peter's Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** – June M. (O'Connor) Duffy, 82; Memorial July 23, 2011 at St. John's Church; burial in Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** – Vernon F. "Vern" Jubert, 83; Funeral Services April 11, 2011 at St. John's Church; burial in St. Louis de

France Cemetery, Sciota.

**Plattsburgh** – Louis R. LaBarre, 80; Funeral Services April 14, 2011 at St. Peter's Church; burial in St. Edmund's Cemetery, Ellenburg.

**Potsdam** – Margaret Hayes Stone, 80; Funeral Service April 9, 2011 at Garner Funeral Home; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Colton.

**Redford** – Elsie M. Lannroos, 89; Funeral Services April 19 at Church of the Assumption.

**Saranac Lake** – Manley "John" M. Corson Jr., 84; Funeral Services April 12, 2011 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in St. Agnes Cemetery, Lake Placid.

**Star Lake** – Vivian A. (Maybee) Angrisano, 78; Funeral Services April 11, 2011 at St. Hubert's Church; burial in Woodland Cemetery, Fine.

**Star Lake** – Gladys (deGouffe) Riley, 102; Funeral Services May 28, 2011 at St. Hubert's Church.

**Theresa** – Edward E. Hughes, 86; Funeral Services April 14, 2011 at Frederick Bros. Funeral Home, Inc.; burial in Grove Cemetery, LaFargeville.

**Tupper Lake** – Pauline Marie (Gokey) Ferris, 94; Funeral Services March 17, 2011 at St. Alphonsus Church; burial in St. Regis Falls.

**Watertown** – Lillian M. (Rosenberg) Anzalone, 90; Funeral Services April 15, 2011 at St. Anthony's Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

**Watertown** – Norma Jean Ball-Dunaway, 63; Funeral Services April 11, 2011 at Reed & Benoit Funeral Home, Inc.

**Watertown** – Larry S. Davison, 58; Funeral services April 16, 2011 at Holy Family Church; burial in Fullerville Cemetery, Fowler.

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