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NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

APRIL 23, 2014

'Imitate Jesus' humility'

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Jesus' resurrection "isn't the happy ending of a beautiful fairytale, it isn't the happy ending of a film," but is the result of the loving intervention of God, who wanted to give humanity hope and salvation, Pope Francis said.

In the middle of Holy Week, Pope Francis encour-

aged people to pick up a crucifix, kiss it and recite the simple prayer, "Thank you, Jesus. Thank you, Lord."

At his weekly general audience April 16, the pope said Jesus willingly endured the most humiliating, most painful path to death: betrayal, mocking, being nailed to a cross "like the worst

criminal."

Watching Jesus suffer and die, the pope said, "we see the suffering of all humanity and we find the divine response to the mystery of evil, suffering and death. We often feel horror because of the evil and pain around us and we ask, 'Why does God allow this?' It hurts deeply

when we see suffering and death, especially when it involves the innocent. When we see children suffering, it wounds our hearts.

This week it would do all of us good to look upon a crucifix, kiss the wounds of Jesus," he said. "He took upon himself all human suffering."

Steps towards realizing the vision

During this year's Chrism Mass, Bishop Terry R. LaValley delivered his pastoral letter "Find Your Home in Christ," outlining the new five year vision for the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

To insure that the vision is realized, Bishop LaValley offered three priorities "with their six achievable, time-bound goals" as a "roadmap for all of us to follow on this journey."

To assist in the implementation of the diocesan vision, the bishop has appointed a "point person" for each of the priorities and goals.

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Sign-up for Catholic school

Registration at Catholic schools across the diocese for the 2014-2015 school year is now open
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A HOLY WEEK OF PRAYER

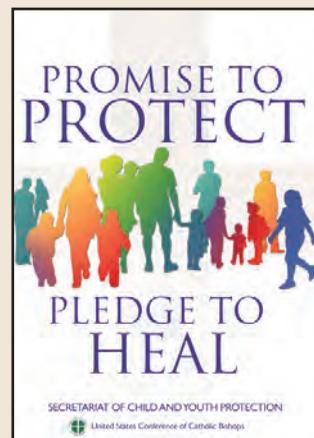


PHOTO BY BETTY STEELE

Bishop LaValley presided at Holy Week services at St. Mary's Cathedral. Above, he is shown during Adoration in the cathedral chapel at the conclusion of the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday.

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

What has the church done?



In recognition of April as National Child Abuse Protection Month, the Safe Environment Office of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, has released its annual report, printed in this week's *North Country Catholic*. The report opens with a message from Bishop LaValley. "Our efforts to create a climate of safety for all the youth entrusted to our pastoral care continue," the bishop writes. "The Diocese of Ogdensburg is committed to fulfilling the three-fold pledge of the Church: to help the victims heal; to educate about and prevent abuse; and to hold accountable those who have harmed our children." The report also includes information about the efforts of the church on the diocesan and national level to prevent abuse of children.

FULL STORY, PAGE 8-9

YOUTH RALLY: Diocesan teens will gather at IHC on Saturday... p. 3

NORTH
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CATHOLICBox 326
Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669
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R. LAVALLEY

President

REV. JOSEPH A. MORGAN

Vice President

SR. JENNIFER VOTRAW, SSI

Secretary-Treasurer

MARY LOU KILIAN

Editor/

General Manager

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(315) 608-7556

E-mail:

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EDITOR'S NOTES

Protecting all of God's children

Easter Week, as our thoughts turn to springtime and new life, seems a perfect time to focus on the young life in our parish communities.

In this week's *North Country Catholic*, we offer information about registering for Catholic schools and attending Saturday's diocesan youth rally.

In the coming weeks, we'll introduce the young adults who will serve on the staff of summer camp at Guggenheim this year.

In addition, this week, we

are publishing the annual diocesan report on the continued efforts to protect every single child in our pastoral care.

Mary Lou
Kilian

No one is more committed than Bishop LaValley in creating a climate of safety for children in our parishes and diocesan programs.

As he writes for the report, the diocese offers *immediate and ongoing pastoral care* to those who have suffered abuse at hands of those in church ministry.

"Because we care deeply

for the vulnerable among us, the Church of Ogdensburg continues to review our policies and explore ways to ensure that our children protected from all who would harm them," the bishop said.

Those of us who work for the diocese understand exactly what that means – background checks, initial training sessions with a monthly follow-up program, even for those who don't have regular contact with children.

We are all trained to understand the signs of child sexual abuse, the methods and

means by which offenders commit abuse and steps one can use to prevent child sexual abuse.

Absorbing this kind of information isn't pleasant but we all understand that it is necessary.

Parents who send their children to Catholic schools, to the youth rally, to Confirmation programs and Guggenheim deserve the comfort they can take in the steps that have been taken.

And our children - all of them - deserve nothing but safety and security as they come to church and go to Catholic school.

A PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

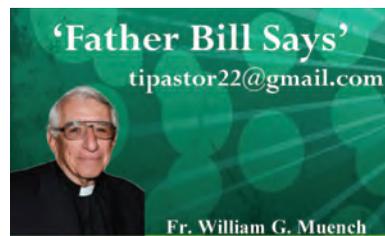
The joy and life of the resurrection

Happy Easter to you all! Let us rejoice for our crucified Savior rose to new life! You are all remembered in my Easter Masses during this sacred time.

Easter is about new life. The resurrection of Our Lord Jesus is about new life. Jesus truly died – crucified on a cross – resurrected to new life. Death leads to resurrection. This is the pattern of our spiritual life as Catholics.

As followers of Jesus, we realize that our life is filled with innumerable deaths. Yet, with Jesus, there will always be resurrection, our resurrection, when we place our faith in Our Savior. Death – too many times we may have turned away from our God – too many sins have isolated us from our God – too many times we may have lost confidence, lost faith in our God. There have been the deaths of loss, loss of loved ones, loss of opportunities, so many losses. Yet, each death will lead to resurrection, new life from the Lord, our God.

Resurrection, our own resurrection, is an important part of our lives as Catholics. Each day of our life should be filled with the joy and life of resur-



rection in our own religious life. Each Sunday – indeed, each time – that we join together to celebrate the Blessed Eucharist, we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. We celebrate our own hope of resurrection, that personal resurrection that brings new life into our everyday life, today.

This New Life from Our God gives us the strength and confidence to meet the challenges of each day, the power to make our world a better place. God leads us and guides us to where we are needed. To where we will make a difference.

Recently, my friend, Father Riani, sent me a copy of a prayer from the writings of Father Teilhard de Chardin, the Jesuit priest and scientist.

Teilhard picked up on a passage from Isaiah's Servant Song. Isaiah writes, "The Lord called me from birth, from my

mother's womb, he gave me my name. He made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me."

In his prayer, Teilhard describes our spiritual journey with the Lord as being an arrow in the hands of the Great Archer, our God. Each day, this Great Archer sends us out, fires us to some place. We do not know where it will but we can trust our God; the Great Archer knows where we are needed, where we should be, where we can bring God's love and peace and make the world happier, truly a better place.

This Easter, our Bishop, Bishop LaValley, has given a call to us all in this diocese to bring new life into our Church with God's help.

Easter is a perfect time to begin this new five year program. Each of the priorities this program proposes will be opportunities for us all to bring new spirit and new enthusiasm to the life of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. As we celebrate Christ's resurrection during the weeks of Easter time, we pray for this new life of our Savior for our diocese.

Our prayer must be that in

the Spirit of our Easter celebration we, the people of the North Country, will find new Spirit of involvement through this program.

As Church, so much depends on the involvement of us all. This will be a real call especially to you, the laity of this diocese. Pope Francis speaks often of the importance of your enthusiastic involvement in the life of our Church. Pope Francis has such a wonderful way of speaking about this involvement – he knows the right words. At the World Youth Day he challenged the young people – actually, a challenge to us all – in this way, "I want things messy and stirred up in our congregations. I want you to take to the streets. I want the Church to take to the streets."

So, you are needed. All of you have wonderful gifts that will make a difference in your Church, in your parish – and the reason is simple: the Lord Jesus died and rose again for you. Each one of us share in the life of that resurrection so that we can live fully as we join Jesus in bringing the joy of the resurrection to our part of the world.

Bishop appoints a 'point person' for each diocesan priority, goal

Implementing diocesan vision: the first steps

OGDENSBURG - During the April 9 Chrism Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral, Bishop Terry R. LaValley delivered his pastoral letter "Find Your Home in Christ," outlining the new five year vision for the diocese of Ogdensburg.

"For the next five years," he said, "we will be sustained in our ministry with the deep desire that all people take to heart these words - Find your home in Christ: Renew Faith, Nurture Hope, Discover Love."

Bishop LaValley then offered three priorities "with their six achievable, time-bound goals" as a "roadmap for all of us to follow on this journey."

To assist in the implementation of the diocesan vision, the bishop appointed a "point person" for each of the priorities and goals:

The list follows:

Priority one:

Creating a Culture of Vocations - Father J. Roger McGuinness, Point Person

Goals:

1. Establish the "We Are Called" vocational awareness plan for parishes by Nov. 1, 2015 - St. Joseph Sister M. Gregory Munger, Point Person

2. Convene "Follow Me Summit" by Sept. 24, 2016 - Father Garry Giroux, Point Person

Priority two:

Strengthening Faith Formation in Family Life - St. Joseph Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, Point Person

Goals:

1. Establish youth ministry, in accordance with diocesan standards, in 25-30 parishes with competent, qualified leaders (adults and youth) by June 30, 2015 - Father Christopher Carrara, Point Person

2. Provide Family catechesis for the Seven Sacraments for every parish by Feb 1, 2016 - Pam Ballantine, Point Person

Priority three:

Building Parishes with Liv-

ing Stones - Father Jay Seymour, Point Person

Goals:

1. Charter a diocesan Living Stones Planning Committee with a clear mission and broad representation by Sept. 1, 2014 - Dr. William Amoriell, Point Person

2. Complete diocesan-wide Find Your Home in Christ Census of all households between Oct. 1, 2014 and Aug. 1, 2015 - St. Joseph Sister Shirley Anne Brown, Point Person.

PALM SUNDAY CONCERT



PHOTO BY JESSE SOVIE

Ernie Hadley directed choir members of St. Mary's Cathedral and Notre Dame Church in a Palm Sunday concert at Notre Dame.

PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION



Confirmation candidates from Au Sable Forks, Peru, and Keeseville recently gathered together for a day of reflective prayer. The retreat was directed by Father Roger McGuinness assisted by Father Kris Lauzon and five other adults. Represented in the picture are Rachel Ford and Peter Daly from Keeseville, Brandon Snow and Addy Stong from Au Sable Forks, John Gallo and Lauren Lawliss from Peru and Father McGuinness, pastor in Chazy and West Chazy.

2014 Youth Rally

WATERTOWN - The annual diocesan Youth Rally, featuring keynote speaker Kelly Colangelo and musician Ryan Grant will be held Saturday at Immaculate Heart Central Jr. Sr. High School. The program is geared for young people in grades six through 12.

Bishop LaValley will preside at the closing liturgy.

Further information is available from the diocesan Youth Office at 315-393-2920 ext. 1411. www.rcdony.org/youth

CHOIR DIRECTOR NEEDED

St. Augustine's Church in Peru, NY is looking to fill the positions of Choir Director. For further information call Fr. Alan Schnob at 518-643-6759.

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It's time to register at Catholic schools

The mission of Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Ogdensburg

Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Ogdensburg promote and proclaim the Gospel message in the context of the Tradition and official teachings of the Catholic Church.

Rooted in the humanities and sciences, they exhibit academic excellence and iden-

tify the uniqueness of their students. They foster a vision and desire in the students to develop as individuals and members of families and to continue life-long growth as Catholics and believers influencing society and the world.



The Immaculate Heart Central High School New York Math League Team for 2013-2014 earned first place among all high schools competing in Jefferson County. Tests were given each month October through March. The students pictured represent the top scorers. Derek Shi had a perfect score twice and Daniel Liu once. From left are St. Joseph Sister Mary Anne Croitz, moderator; Megan Goss, fifth place; An Le, fourth place; Ranyu Bo, third place; Daniel Liu, second place; and Derek Shi, first place.



The fifth and sixth grade Irish Dancers of St. Mary's School in Canton performed the "Traditional Irish Reel" at the St. Patrick's Day dinner at St. Mary's School March 15. Pictured, from left, are Miss Augenstein, Sarah Bailey, Sophia Silver, Megan Saber, Emily Anderson, Noelle Black, Naomi Crowell and Grace Sawyko.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS WITNESS THE FAITH



PHOTO BY PAT HENDRICK

From St. Joseph Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, diocesan superintendent of schools: "When I think about our Catholic schools my mind goes immediately to the people who support and serve in them, the principals, teachers, parish priests and staff. They, in many respects, embody the Catholic school. They pass on the vigor – the energy and vitality, the spirit and strength – of our Catholic faith. They are the credible witnesses who teach not only by what they say but especially by who they are and how they live. God bless them and our Catholic schools." Among these witnesses of faith are three women above, shown leading music for the 2013 Superintendent's Day Mass, Karen Reynolds, teacher at Seton Academy in Plattsburgh; Catherine Russell, principal at Seton Catholic Central in Plattsburgh and Pam Ballantine of the diocesan Catholic school office.



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Left to Right Harrison Scott, Jaden Thesier, William Briggs, Hanna Overholt, Kiannah Sadler, McKinley Fielding, Katherine Morgan, Michael Holbrook, Ana Ortiz, Wesley Mahan, Lillia Campeau, Hunter Clarke, Tanner Richards, Olivia Boyd

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CCHD applications sought

Catholic Charities is now accepting applications for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development local grant process for the Diocese of Ogdensburg. The criteria to be used for submitting a proposal is:

1. Project must be aimed at alleviating the causes of poverty.
2. Project must be a new initiative or an enhancement

of an established project.

3. Sponsoring group must be a non-profit, 501c3 organization.

4. Project must have the potential to be funded after the CCHD funds have been expended.

5. Projects must be consistent with the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church. (Applicants do not have to be Catholic.)

This year two grants for \$4,250 each are available. Applications can be requested from Catholic Charities by mail, phone or e-mail. If you have any questions or to receive an application, please write to: Catholic Charities, 6866 State Hgwy. 37, Ogdensburg, NY 13669, or call: (315)393-2255, or e-mail your request and mailing address to: ccwinny@wadhams.edu

Grant applications are due back to Catholic Charities by June 6, 2014. Grants will be awarded by the end of June 2014.

Foster homes

Catholic Charities is looking for a temporary foster care home for infants placed with the agency for adoption. A foster family provides infant care until the permanent adoptive placement can take place.

For more information, or to apply, please contact Catholic Charities at (315)393-2255.

To Report Abuse

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

Bishop's Schedule

April 23 – 12 p.m., Mass at Riverview Correctional Facility in Ogdensburg
7 p.m., Confirmation at St. Mary's Church in Clayton

April 24 – 9:45 a.m., Episcopal Council Meeting at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg

April 25 – 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral
7 p.m., Confirmation at St. Peter's Church in Plattsburgh

April 26 – Diocesan Youth Rally at Immaculate Heart Central High School in Watertown
6 p.m., Immaculate Heart Legacy Gala at the Hilton Garden Inn in Watertown

April 27 – 11 a.m., Mass & Blessing of new sign at the Blessed John XXIII Newman Center in Plattsburgh

April 28-29 – Pontifical College Josephinum Board Meeting in Columbus, OH

Protecting God's Children

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

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

All employees and volunteers who participate in church sponsored activities with minor are required to participate in this training. Further information is available from Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, 315-393-2920, ext. 1440.

Upcoming programs:

May 6 - 6:30 p.m., Kateri Hall, Akwesasne

Environmental Stewardship

On Holy Saturday Vigil Liturgy the waters for baptism were blessed giving us new life in Christ. As the waters of the rivers, lakes, streams are melting, we are mindful, too, of the preciousness of water to bring new life to our frozen earth.

Most of us live in places where we have access to clean, fresh water. But in many parts of the U.S. and around the world, fresh water is scarce and becoming more scarce every year.

In the words of Pope Benedict XVI "Attention needs to be paid to the world-wide problems of water and to the global water cycle system, which is of prime importance for life on earth. The ecological problem must be dealt with not only because of the chilling prospects of environmental degradation on the horizon; the real motivation must be the quest for authentic world-wide solidarity inspired by the values of charity, justice and the common good."

Take a few moments this week to be aware the many ways that water is a vital part of your day, beginning with the moment you rise in the morning until you retired at night. Give thanks for the wonders of the Lord.

Consider one way that you could reduce the amount of water you use, i.e. in the Kitchen, in the Bathroom, in other aspects of your day.

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 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

April 27 – Rev. John J. Fedigan, O.S.A., 1908; Rev. Michael F. Ambrose, 1934

April 28 – Rev. J. A. Larose, 1967

April 29 – Rev. Peter Mullen, M.M., 1999

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Parish-based ministry assists women in crisis pregnancies

New Gabriel Project is launched in Canton

By Colleen Miner
Staff writer

CANTON - St. Mary's Catholic Church is the newest site of a Gabriel Project. The parish-based apostolate joins eleven other locations in our diocese, offering hope and assistance to women in a crisis pregnancy.

According to parish coordinator, Linda Trill, Gabriel angels (women trained for the ministry) will act as advocates and spiritual mentors for women in need both before and after pregnancy.

"We will promote the message of the angel Gabriel," she said. "Rejoice, Fear not!"

Mrs. Trill is the mother of five adult children and grandmother to four. She was a young mother, giving birth to her first child at the age of sixteen.

"I know what it's like to be in a pregnancy and not know what's going to happen next", said Trill who first learned about Gabriel Project while riding with a friend to a Formation for Ministry class.

Shortly after, the parish

was approached by a mother in need.

"I thought, this is something I'd like to do," Trill said. "It's something our parish needs. Father Doug Lucia (pastor of St. Mary's) has been super! He's with me 100 percent!"

After sitting in on a couple of Potsdam Gabriel Project meetings and touring the Brasher Falls Gabriel Project, Trill along with 12 interested volunteers from St. Mary's attended a training session on March 1. Then, the group held a parish-wide baby shower to collect baby items which will be kept in rooms in the rectory which have been designated for the

Gabriel Project.

Trill said "A donation of shelving units was received but there is a need for more shelving or bookcases for the storeroom. The Knights of Columbus (Sarto Council #1059) will soon purchase a sign for the parish lawn. It's amazing how it's coming to-

gether. Everyone has been very helpful especially the other Gabriel Projects - Massena, Potsdam, Gouverneur, Brasher Falls."

Donations from a parishioner and friends paid for all advertising materials and the project's phone. The hotline number is 315-244-8232.

Donations may be made by sending a check payable to St. Mary's Gabriel Project, 68 Court Street, Canton, NY 13617.

Further information, including about how to serve a volunteer angel, is available from Linda Trill at 315-212-9918 or bltrill@yahoo.com.



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PROMISE TO PROTECT



PLEDGE TO HEAL



Dear Friends in Christ:

Our efforts to create a climate of safety for all the youth entrusted to our pastoral care continue. The Diocese of Ogdensburg is committed to fulfilling the three-fold pledge of the Church: to help victims heal; to educate about and prevent abuse; and to hold accountable those who have harmed our children.

The Diocese offers immediate and ongoing pastoral care to those who have suffered such abuse. I encourage these individuals to contact our Victims' Assistance Coordinator, Ms. Terrienne Yanulavich at 518-569-0612 to report such abuse

and for assistance with the healing process. We express our deep sorrow for our past failures in addressing the sinful acts that have been perpetrated against our young loved ones.

Because We Care deeply for the vulnerable among us, the Church of Ogdensburg continues to review our policies and explore ways to ensure that our children are protected from all who would harm them. Under the direction and good guidance of Sister Ellen Donahue, SA, Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator, the Diocese of Ogdensburg diligently works to ensure that the national and diocesan policies established to provide safe environments for our children are implemented fully here in the North Country. With the strong support and cooperation of our pastors and pastoral leaders, we have taken seriously this responsibility. For the last twelve years, independent audits have been conducted here to determine compliance with these standards. Each year we have been found to be in compliance.

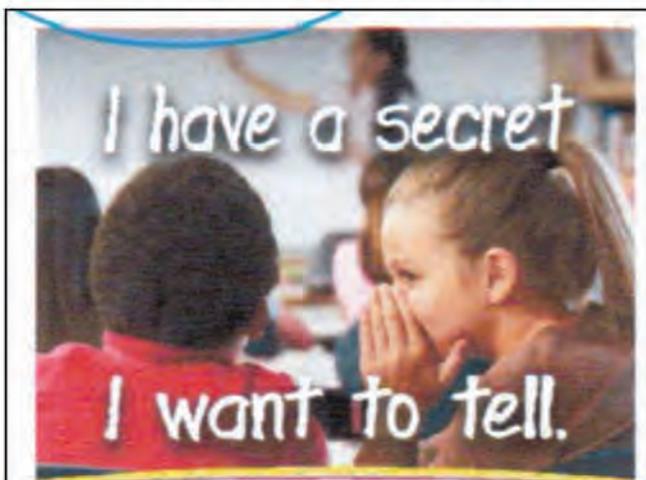
I am grateful to all those individuals who assist with the implementation of our safe environment programs in our Diocese. Many have spent countless hours in our parishes and schools to train adults in providing safe environments for our children and youth. Your continuing cooperation and prayers help us all keep the promise to protect and the pledge to heal. As Jesus, the Good Shepherd, showed constant care for the vulnerable, your local Church is seeking to do likewise.

With a Shepherd's care and concern,

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley
Bishop of Ogdensburg



WHAT HAS THE DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG DONE TO PROTECT CHILDREN?



Our Commitment to Children's Safety:

- Safe Environment Policies & Procedures
- Mandatory Background Checks/References
- Annual Training for Staff, Parents & Children
- Reporting Procedures Implemented
- Children's Activities Supervised
- One-on-one Instruction Monitored



Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

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DIOCESAN STATISTICS 2013 NATIONAL AUDIT July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013

- 5,182 students attended Christian Formation
- 2,189 students attended Catholic schools
- 412 youth attended Guggenheim Summer Camp
- 120 adults and children attended Family Guggenheim
- 48 Safe Environment training sessions were held
- 812 Background checks were performed

WHAT HAS THE CHURCH DONE TO PROTECT CHILDREN NATIONALLY?

The Church has done more to protect children than almost any other organization in the U.S. Of the 195 dioceses/eparchies, 191 participated in the 2013 National Audit.

- Over 2 million employees and volunteers have been trained to recognize the behavior of offenders and take action, and 4.6 million children have been trained to recognize the behavior of offenders and what to do about it.
- 2 million employees and volunteers who have contact with children have undergone background checks.
- 168,013 educators, 253,587 other employees, 35,970 priests, 16,199 deacons, and 6,425 Candidates for Ordination have had their background evaluated in the year 2013.

The Church has worked hard to protect children, but more needs to be done.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP??

➤ **YOU can be trained in safe environment practices.** Free Virtus safe environment training dates are printed in the North Country Catholic weekly with locations across the Diocese. Or, go to www.rcdony.org, scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on Safe Environment Office, then click on Virtus trainings. PARENTS ARE WELCOME.

➤ **YOU can monitor the computer use in your home.**

Statistics for online usage:

1 in 5 children (age 10 to 17) receive unwanted sexual solicitations

- Only 25% told a parent or adult about the solicitations (Crimes Against Children Research Center)
- Only 1/3 of households with internet access use filtering software (Center for Missing and Exploited Children)

294,000 children served by Children's Advocacy Centers in the United States

- 113,487 age 0 to 6 years; 105,926 age 7 to 12 years
- 202,265 reported sexual abuse (National Children's Alliance Statistics)

Bullying and sexual abuse are the most prevalent crimes facing children today.

- 25% of girls and 17% of boys are sexually abused before age 18 (www.childluresprevention.com)

RESEARCH SITES:

www.youtube.com "Child Lures Prevention"
www.kidsafenetwork.com

Computers - use filtering software:
Free: <http://www1.k9webprotection.com/>

Video games - filter the wireless signal:
www.opendns.com

Most importantly, spend time with your children, helping them to know safe places to go on the Internet.

If you suspect a child has been harmed or is at risk:

EMERGENCY - Dial 911

**Report a Non-Emergency/Suspicion ANONYMOUSLY:
1-800-342-3720**

Pope's message to priests on Holy Thursday:

'Go out into the world, serve with love'

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - A priest is called to be in the midst of his flock, protecting his people, searching for those who are lost and always serving those in need, Pope Francis told the world's priests.

If a priest wants to overcome those inevitable moments of sadness, exhaustion and boredom as well as discover his true identity, he must head for the exit sign, going outside himself to be with God and his people, he said April 17 during the chism Mass in St. Peter's Basilica.

He must also be a dutiful servant who listens to people's need and builds a church whose doors are wide open, offering refuge for sinners, a home for the home-

less, comfort for the sick and God's word and joy for the young, he said.

Presiding over the first of two Holy Thursday liturgies, Pope Francis blessed the oils that will be used in the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, ordination and the anointing of the sick.

Joined by more than 1,500 priests, bishops and cardinals, Pope Francis led them in a renewal of their priestly vows and a reflection on what it means to be a priest, in a homily that was lengthier than usual.

He focused on the meaning of being anointed through ordination, emphasizing that Holy Thursday was the day Jesus shared his priesthood with the apostles by anointing them with "the oil of gladness."

"Priestly joy is a priceless treasure, not only for the

priest himself but for the entire faithful people of God," the pope said.

He said it's not an exaggeration, given the "grandeur of the gift granted us" to minister and serve, to say the priest is a very small person.

While "in that littleness we find our joy," he said, being "little" without God spells danger.

"No one is more 'little' than a priest left to his own devices."

Priestly joy must be sought and rooted in God's love and it can find protection from evil in prayer to Mary, he said.

Otherwise a priest risks becoming "the poorest of men unless Jesus enriches him by his poverty, the most useless of servants unless Jesus calls him his friend, the most ignorant of men unless Jesus patiently teaches him as he

did Peter, the frailest of Christians," unless Jesus gives him strength in the midst of his flock, pope Francis said.

Self-denial, forsaking earthly happiness and giving oneself to others mean the priest "has to seek his joy from the Lord and from God's faithful people. He doesn't need to try to create it for himself."

Nor should the priest be trying to carve out his own identity because "there is no identity -- and consequently joy of life -- without an active and unwavering sense of belonging to God's faithful people," he said.

"The priest who tries to find his priestly identity by soul-searching and introspection may well encounter nothing more than 'exit' signs, signs that say: Exit from yourself, exit to seek

God in adoration, go out and give your people what was entrusted to you."

The people of God "will make you feel and taste who you are," he said.

They will also be able "to protect you, to embrace you and to help you open your heart to find renewed joy" during those moments a priest finds himself feeling isolated, gloomy, listless and bored, "which at times overcome us in our priestly life and which I too have experienced," the pope said.

With his infinite compassion "for all the little ones and the outcasts of this earth, wearied and oppressed like sheep without a shepherd," Pope Francis said, Jesus calls people to his ministry, so that he can be present and work "in the person of his priests, for the good of his people."

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CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Ordination ceremony like Albany's new bishop: pastoral, personable

ALBANY, N.Y. (CNS) -- The ceremony ordaining Bishop Edward B. Scharfenberger and installing him as the 10th bishop of the Albany Diocese seemed much like the bishop himself. As a man captivated by languages, he chose Scripture readings in Spanish and English; as someone known to be pastoral and personable, he gave off-the-cuff remarks -- and then sent the 1,300 people who filled Albany's Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception April 10 to "go out and be God's presence in the world that He loves." On the bright spring afternoon, the new bishop was enthusiastically received by those in attendance, who interrupted even the reading of Pope Francis' apostolic letter appointing the new bishop with applause. Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, apostolic nuncio to the United States, quoted Pope Francis in noting that bishops are placed at the head of a community of believers, but are meant to use their gifts to serve that community, just as "the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve. Msgr. Scharfenberger," the nuncio added, in nearly four decades of priesthood "you have certainly shown yourself to be no stranger to serving." In the letter, Pope Francis called the bishop a "beloved son" who has "clearly demonstrated the virtues and qualities" necessary to lead the diocese.

Health care must protect everyone, 'born and unborn,' say bishops

RICHMOND, Va. (CNS) -- Virginia's two Catholic bishops have urged the state's lawmakers to enact health care reforms "that cover everyone and protect everyone, born and unborn." An April 11 statement issued by Bishops Francis X. DiLorenzo of Richmond and Paul S. Loverde of Arlington was prompted by the Virginia General Assembly's ongoing debate over health care reform during a special session on the state budget. According to AP, one of the issues facing law makers is what to do about Medicaid expansion, which has resulted in an impasse, delaying passage of a state budget. Democratic Gov. Terry McAuliffe and the Democrat majority in the Senate, with the support of three Republicans, want to expand Medicaid eligibility to about 400,000 low-income residents. House Republicans oppose the Senate's proposal. "The current debate over health care and the state budget is, at its heart, about Virginia's poorest and most vulnerable people," said Bishops DiLorenzo and Loverde. "For this reason, it is one we bishops care about deeply, and are actively engaged in through our Virginia Catholic Conference." The conference, which released their statement, is the public policy arm of the Catholic Church in Virginia. The bishops said their advocacy on the issue of health care "is informed by the church's teaching that, first, everyone has the right to life, and second, health care is a right -- not a privilege -- that flows from the right to life itself. This understanding transcends the categories of left and right, liberal and conservative, Democrat and Republican," they said. "It applies to all members of the human family -- born and unborn, affluent and poor, insured and uninsured."

A POPE IN PRAYER



CNS PHOTO/STEFANO RELLANDINI, REUTERS

Pope Francis lies as he prays during the Celebration of the Lord's Passion in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican April 18.

Rome prepares for influx ahead of canonizations

By Judith Harris
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Just over a week before Pope Francis canonizes two of his predecessors in a ceremony in St. Peter's Square, Romans are bracing for the arrival of as many as three million outsiders.

Nineteen heads of state, 24 prime ministers and 23 government ministers from various countries are due in Rome April 27-28 for the canonization of Blessed John XXIII and Blessed John Paul II, Italian Interior Minister Angelino Alfano said.

The event will be the climax of an Easter-season tourist boom for what one newspaper dubbed "superstar Rome." Alfano, who chaired a meeting April 17 attended by Rome Mayor Ignazio Marino and the heads of police and intelligence agencies, predicted attendance by at least 800,000 pilgrims, including some 5,000 coming from Poland on five special trains.

"We see a consistent influx of pilgrims and tourists arriving for Easter and the canonizations," Msgr. Liberio Andreatta, head of Opera Romana Pellegrinaggi, the Vatican-related pilgrimage agency, told Catholic News Service.

The office will set up 17 maxi-screens in the historical center of Rome in time for the canonizations.

"The surge in religious tourism to Rome and the Vatican this season over the previous will be an imposing 30 percent or so," said Flavio Mollicone, spokesman for ADOC, a union of Italian consumers. He told CNS the estimate is based on reports from hotel, travel and business associations.

"The crescendo reflects the popularity of Pope Francis," Mollicone added. "The major influx is from Latin America and Spain, plus East Europe - Poland, Bulgaria and Russia."

Five consecutive years of recession in Italy had put a damper on Italian tourism in general, so merchants wel-

come the business, according to Lamberto Santini, ADOC president. March alone brought more than two million visitors to Rome.

Preparing for the canonizations, the city has invested more than \$7 million in 980 portable toilets, street barriers, first aid stations, bottled water and other amenities, Mayor Marino told the press in early April.

Because religious pilgrims tend to remain only briefly in pricey Rome, cafes and restaurants near the Vatican are preparing relatively inexpensive sandwich and take-away menus for this period.

Reports of canceled hotel reservations suggest a few might fear it is too much of a good thing. "Risk of Chaos, Tourists Flee from the Days of Canonization," trumpeted a banner headline in the newspaper La Repubblica April 16.

The paper estimated that up to three million visitors would be in Rome during the two weeks ending May 4, a period that includes three public holidays

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Easter joy... for a lifetime, not just one day!

Alleluia! The Lord is Risen! Our joy is not just for a day...it's for a lifetime.

The Easter season has the most exciting Scripture readings of the year. They take us from the empty tomb all the way to the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

On Easter Sunday, we left the Apostles huddled in fear in the empty room. They weren't so sure that the women's report was believable. They weren't singing for joy!

Now, a whole week has gone by. They still felt "rocky" about their future.

In today's Gospel, Thomas wasn't the only one who had doubts about

Jesus. In today's Gospel, they were still huddled behind locked doors, pondering the shocking experience of a week before. Jesus had broken through those doors to assure them that He was alive. And His message must have troubled them: "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." Just when they were planning to go back to their former occupations, Jesus wants them to continue the message... to take up His Mission.

While on his earthy ministry, He had preached with mixed success. Would they have any better results?

The Resurrection made all the difference, of course.



Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore

Was it really true?

When Jesus showed Thomas the wounds in his hands, his feet, and his side, not only Thomas but the rest of the Apostles were strengthened in their faith and trust in the Lord.

And the Gospel hints at many more miraculous events and appearances.

In today's first reading from Acts, we see what life was like in the early Christian community. Their faith was firm, and they were unified in their faith. They catechized all who would listen. Their fears and doubts were replaced with joy.

The second reading describes for us an early sermon of Peter, written down a few years after he had already been martyred for his staunch faith. He is writing

APRIL 27

The 2nd Sunday of Easter
(Divine Mercy Sunday)

READINGS

Acts 2:42-47

1 Peter 1:3-9

John 20:19-31

to a group of churches in Asia Minor to whom the Good News has already been preached.

His prayer speaks of the promise of Eternal Life and salvation at the end of time. He speaks of the suffering they will have to endure, but the reward of praise, glory and honor that awaits them.

Today is also Divine Mercy Sunday. It is quite appropriate that today we celebrate the canonization

of Pope John XXIII and Pope John Paul II who established this Feast based on the appearances of the Lord to a Polish nun, Blessed Faustina Kowalska. Christ's message to her was (and is for us today) that, if we trust in His Divine Mercy, He will transform us sinners through His merciful love.

As Pope Francis directs us, we must courageously reach out to so many doubters among us, and assure them of the great mercy of Jesus, His great love for them.

Our world is hurting as never before in our lifetime. We must all seriously take on ourselves the obligation Jesus gave to the Apostles in that Upper Room: "As the Father has sent me, I also send you." With Thomas may we respond, "My Lord and my God!"

MAKING SENSE OUT OF BIOETHICS

Path of renewal for Catholic sterilized couples

Among married men and women who undergo surgical sterilization through a vasectomy or a tubal ligation, it has been estimated that anywhere from ten to twenty percent will come to regret the choice.

Sometimes there may be an immediate awareness of wrongdoing following the surgery, while in other cases, as Patrick Coffin, radio host and author of *Sex au Naturel* notes, sterilized couples may "...drift for years before acknowledging that something between them is no longer in sync.

After the initial pregnancy fear subsides, and the vision of 1001 erotic nights turns out to be something of a scam, spouse may (subtly) turn against spouse while doing their best to ignore the silent, disturbing 'presence' of the choice they made."

Their decision to seek out a permanent form of contraception can also affect their marriage in other important

ways. As Dr. John Billings has noted: there is "an effect that is even more tragic than the clinical, and it is that in many cases the use of contraceptive methods in marriage has been followed by an act of infidelity of one of the members. It would seem that contraception diminishes the mutual respect of husband and wife... Additionally, the abandoning of self-control diminishes the capacity to exercise this self-dominion outside the marriage."

The "abandonment of self-control" that can follow permanent sterilization raises ongoing spiritual and moral challenges for couples who later repent and confess the sin of having undergone a vasectomy or a tubal ligation. A unique and vexing problem arises because sterilized individuals may find themselves, as Patrick Coffin observes, "sorely tempted to delight in the very sex-without-babies

mentality that led to the sterilization in the first place."

Repentant couples, out of an abundance of spiritual caution, may thus wonder what they should do, and whether they are obliged to get a surgical reversal of the procedure.

The Church has never declared this to be a required step, in part because of the risks and burdens associated with surgical interventions, in part because of the high uncertainty of a successful outcome, and in part because of the potentially significant expenses involved.

Even though a reversal may not be feasible or obligatory, the repentant couple may nonetheless become aware of the need to order their sexual activity and ap-

petites in the face of their original sterilization decision and its extended consequences. They may recognize a pressing interior need to grow in the virtue of marital chastity and to engage in a lifestyle that authentically embodies their new, albeit delayed, rejection of the contraceptive mentality.

In these situations, clergy and spiritual advisors will often encourage couples to pattern their sex life on the same cycle of periodic abstinence that fertile couples follow when using Natural Family Planning (NFP).

During times of abstinence, the couples actively exercise self-control, thereby reordering the sensual and sexual appetites. This strengthens spouses in their resolve not to reduce each other to objects for

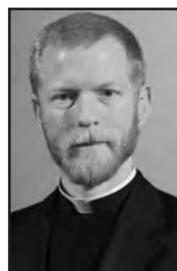
pursuing sexual self-gratification.

This is important because various forms of contraception, including permanent sterilization, often involve the phenomenon of the woman feeling as if she is being "used" by her husband.

Abstinence, therefore, assists couples in learning to express their mutual love in other ways.

St. John Paul II explains this perspective in his famous work *Love and Responsibility*: "Inherent in the essential character of continence as a virtue is the conviction that the love of man and woman loses nothing as a result of temporary abstinence from erotic experiences, but on the contrary gains: the personal union takes deeper root, grounded as it is above all in the affirmation of the value of the person and not just in sexual attachment."

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



Father Tadeusz
Pacholczyk Ph.D.

AT THE MOVIES

HEAVEN IS FOR REAL

By John Mulderig
Catholic News Service

"Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength." Those familiar words, addressed to God in Psalm 8 of the King James Bible, might serve as the tagline for the fact-based drama "Heaven Is for Real" (TriStar).

Audiences of almost any age will benefit from this intriguing, child-guided glimpse into the afterlife.

As readers of Todd Burpo's best-selling book (written with Lynn Vincent) will know, this is the story of his young son, Colton. After coming close to death during an operation, the 4-year-old (Connor Corum) startled his Wesleyan minister father (Greg Kinnear) and choir-director mother, Sonja (Kelly Reilly), by announcing that he had visited heaven and met Jesus.

His subsequent descrip-

tion of two deceased relatives, the existence of one of whom was previously unknown to him, lent remarkable credibility to the lad's claim.

Perhaps because they seemed too literal to be readily accepted, however, Colton's matter-of-fact statements about paradise stirred controversy in his family's small-town community of Imperial, Neb. Ironically, they also provoked a crisis of faith for Todd, who was forced to ask himself how genuinely he believed what he had long been preaching.

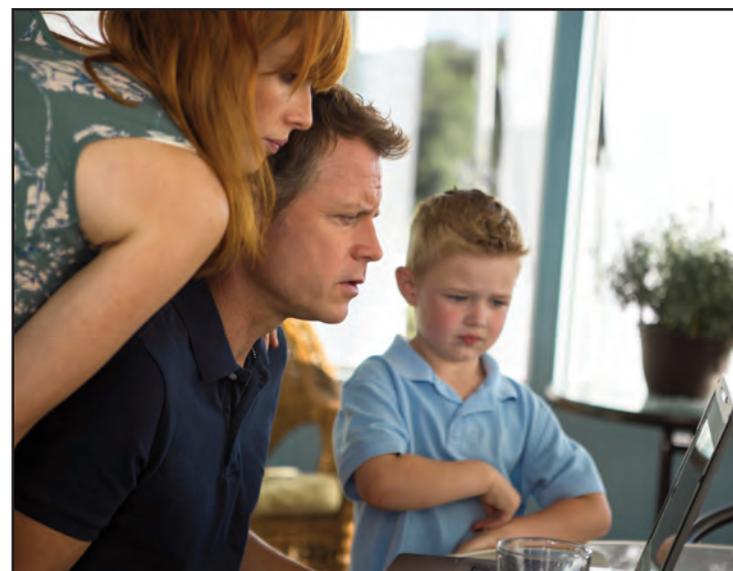
Director and co-writer (with Christopher Parker) Randall Wallace's adaptation of Burpo's account is substantial and moving, thanks in large part to the mature way in which it grapples with fundamental issues of religious belief -- and doubt. What could have been a hokey, feel-good exercise in Christian cheerleading in-

stead comes across as a sober, though far from humorless, meditation on the reality of death and the virtue of hope.

Those themes are ably personified by Margo Martindale in the role of Burpo family friend Nancy Rawling. A stalwart member of Todd's congregation, Nancy suffers deep, ongoing grief over the loss in combat of her Marine son.

Along with its faith-affirming revelations about the beyond, "Heaven Is for Real" also showcases a tenacious marital bond. Beset by money troubles, illnesses and other worries, Todd and Sonja occasionally quarrel. Yet their underlying commitment to each other is unwavering.

Scenes portraying the medical difficulties the Burpos endure -- including a painful baseball injury for Todd -- might not be suitable for the littlest moviegoers. An unspoken innuendo



CNS PHOTO/SONY

Kelly Reilly, Greg Kinnear and Connor Corum star in a scene from the movie "Heaven Is For Real."

between Todd and Sonja, however, will sail well over youngsters' heads.

Viewers will particularly appreciate Colton's take-away from his celestial journey, a message so simple and liberating that those around him, including believers, were hesitant to accept it: Thanks to the

existence of heaven he says, "We don't ever have to be afraid."

The Catholic News Service classification is A-I -- general patronage. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG -- parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

Path

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

In one of his weekly general audiences later as Pope, he further notes that "...continence itself is a definite and permanent moral attitude; it is a virtue, and therefore, the whole line of conduct guided by it acquires a virtuous character."

Fertile couples who incorporate NFP into their marriages to avoid a conception often end up acquiring a different attitude towards life as they chart and practice periodic abstinence: they can have a change of heart and discern a call to have one or several additional children.

A similar spiritual conversion to a culture of life might reasonably be expected to occur among some sterilized couples who resolve to live out an NFP lifestyle, perhaps becoming

more open to adopting a child, or more open to other forms of spiritual parenthood in their communities such as Big Brother/Big Sister programs.

By abstaining during fertile times, then, the sterilized couple reintegrates the same positive behaviors that they might have practiced had they not chosen to be sterilized.

In this way, the science of NFP offers the repentant sterilized couple a school of opportunity to acquire virtue within their marriage and their conjugal relations.

Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D., priest of the diocese of Fall River, MA, and serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia.

See www.ncbcenter.org



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ADIRONDACK

CATHOLIC MEN'S GROUP

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

Time: 8 a.m. to 10

Place: St. Bernard's Chapel

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

Contact: Fr. Mark Reilly, 518-891-4616.

CLINTON

SPRING BRUNCH

Altona – All you can eat spring brunch buffet to be held.

Date: April 27

Time: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Place: Holy Angels Church

Cost: Adults, \$7; Children under 12, \$3

Features: Bake sale and craft tables. Call 236-5848 to reserve a craft table.

QUILT CLASS

Ellenburg Center – The Lost Sheep Quilt Shop will have a quilt class.

Date: May 24

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

Place: Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer

Cost: \$25

Features: Quilt uses a jelly roll and border fabric and is built block-by-block.

Contact: Register at thelostsheepquiltshop@gmail.com or call 518-594-3253. Limit 12.

CDA PAST REGENTS MEETING

Morrisonville – The diocesan Catholic Daughters of the Americas Past Regents Chapter to hold spring meeting.

Date: May 3

Time: 11:30 a.m.

Place: St. Alexander's Parish Hall

Cost: \$10 for the Luncheon

Contact: Anna Lucia at 518-492-7246 or lmudduck@aol.com by April 25. Annual dues can be paid at this time and a Ladies Basket will be raffled.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

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

Date: April 27

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

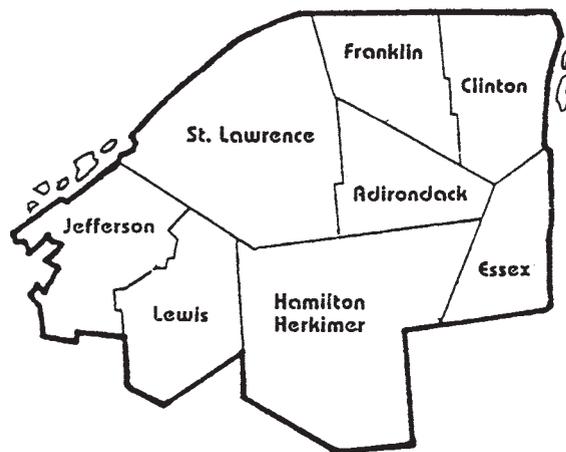
Place: St. Joseph's Church Parish Hall

Cost: Adults, \$6; Children 12 and under, \$3; under 5, Free

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Plattsburgh – Divine Mercy Sunday to be celebrated.

Date: April 27



The North Country Catholic welcomes contributions to "Around the Diocese." Parishioners are invited to send information about activities to:
North Country Catholic, PO Box 326,
 Ogdensburg, NY 13669; fax, 1-866-314-7296;
 e-mail news@northcountrycatholic.org.

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

Place: St. Peter's Church

Schedule: Exposition begins at 12:15 p.m. in the Church. Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available in the chapel from: 1:15-2:15 p.m. Video, Jesus, I Trust in You, will be shown in the Emmaus Room at 12:20 p.m. Prayer Service and Chaplet begins at 2:30 p.m.

HEALING MASS

Ellenburg Center – Our Lady of the Adirondacks is holding a Healing Mass.

Date: May 17

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Place: Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer

Features: Fr. Doug Decker presiding. The Mass will be followed by an opportunity for individual prayer by our prayer ministry team. Donations appreciated.

Contact: RSVP by May 14 to olaprayerhouse@gmail.com or ph. 518-594-3253 if you plan on staying for the light lunch

IGNATIAN RETREAT

Ellenburg Center – An Ignatian Retreat, Discernment of Spirits to be held.

Date: May 3 beginning at 10 a.m. to May 4 ending at 5 p.m.

Place: Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer

Cost: Suggested donation for the weekend is \$60. Overnight guests add \$50.

Features: Father Jack Downs will be the Retreat Director. This time of prayer and learning will be based on St. Ignatius of Loyola's Rules for Discernment,

Contact: Register for the retreat by April 28 by emailing olaprayerhouse@gmail.com or call 518-

594-3253. Rooms available for overnight guests on a first come basis.

HEALING MINISTRY

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

Date: First Thursday each month

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: St. Alexander's Church

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

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

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

Theme: "Remaining in silence before the Blessed Sacrament, it is Christ totally and really present whom we discover, whom we adore and with whom we are in contact." (St. John Paul II)

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

FRANKLIN

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Malone – Divine Mercy Sunday to be celebrated.

Date: April 27

Schedule: 11 a.m. Mass at Notre Dame; Noon to 3 p.m. Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for individual adoration.

Confessions will be heard from 1 p.m. to 2:50. Devotions for Divine Mercy Sunday begin at 3. The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy will be sung and there will be Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

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

JEFFERSON

LATIN MASS

Constable – A Tridentine (Latin) Mass is celebrated each Friday with Fr. Howard Venette as the celebrant.

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Place: St. Francis of Assisi Church

BENEFIT SPAGHETTI DINNER

Evans Mills – The Indian River Knights of Columbus is holding a spaghetti dinner will be held to benefit the family of Kollin Barker.

Date: April 26

Time: 4 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Parish Center

Features: Kollin was diagnosed with aplastic anemia after a severe viral infection. Since October he has had several blood transfusions and chemotherapy. His family has been making several trips to Syracuse for his treatments

BEREAVEMENT MEETING

Watertown – There will be an Ecumenical Bereavement meeting.

Date: April 28

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: SSJ Mother House

Speaker: James Monaco will speak on "A Counselor's Perspective on Grief".

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

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

Date: April 24

Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7

Place: Msgr. Sechi Hall

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

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

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Watertown – Our Lady of the Sacred Heart parish will celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday.

Novena: the Divine Mercy novena will begin Good Friday by praying the chaplet; April 27 at 3 p.m.

Schedule: Divine Mercy Sunday is April 18, (the day that Blessed John XXIII and Blessed John Paul II Will be canonized).

Celebration begins at 3 p.m.,

Program: Exposition of the 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 blessed) and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Contact: Call Judy at 315-783-7349 or 315-788-2388, or visit www.thedivine-mercy.org.

LIFERIGHT MEETING

Watertown – Liferight of Watertown meets third Wednesday of the Month.

Time: 4 p.m.

Place: 312 Sherman St.

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

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

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

LEWIS

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Houseville – The Feast of The Divine Mercy is scheduled to be celebrated.

Date: April 27

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Schedule: Reconciliation will begin at 2 p.m. and a Divine Mercy movie, Ocean of Mercy-Three Lives-One Vision-No Limits, will be shown in the church hall at 2 p.m. At 3 p.m., the Divine Mercy Celebration program will include: Blessing of the Divine Mercy Image, Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Homily and Benediction.

Features: The Rev. David DeLuca, MSC, a Missionary of the Sacred Heart, Watertown, will be the Guest Celebrant. A reception will follow in the church hall.

Contact: For more information contact 348-6260, or 377-3111.

K OF C BRUNCH

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

Date: April 27

Time: 8 a.m. to Noon

Place: St. John's Church Hall

Cost: Adults, \$6; Children 5-12, \$3; under 5, Free

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE



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

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

Sr. Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ, Director

622 Washington St., Ogdensburg, NY 13669

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

mbrett@rcdony.org

The origins of the Mission societies

Question: Who founded the Pontifical Mission Societies? Was it a bishop or pope or maybe a priest who started the Papal mission funding organization, The Society for the Propagation of the Faith? No! It was a lay woman, a young girl in Lyons, France. Her name was Pauline Jaricot. She was a Catholic who had a deep love for God and zeal for the world to know that same amazing love.

Born in 1799, the Missions acknowledged 150th anniversary of her death in 2012. Pauline came from a wealthy family who knew only the exclusive side of Lyons. But after health problems and the death of her mother when she was a teenager, her interests were focused away from the wealthy lifestyle by a strong desire to support mission work in China and the United States. Pauline's older brother, Phileas, was studying for the priesthood and shared letters from missionaries with her.

So, at age 18, Pauline announced her vocation and came to believe that "to truly help others is to bring them to God."

One day at prayer, Pauline had a vision of two lamps. One had no oil; the other was overflowing and from its abundance poured oil into the empty lamp. To Pauline, the drained lamp signified her native France, still reeling from the turbulence of the French Revolution. The full lamp was the great faith of Catholics in the Missions in the New World. By aiding the faith of the young new country of the United States of America, Pauline knew that seeds planted would grow and bear much fruit.

Pauline decided to support missionaries. She had the workers in her family's silk factory form "circles of 10" where the group pledged to pray daily for the Missions and to offer each week a sou, or about a penny. Each member of the group then found 10 friends to do the same. After a year, there were 2000 people joining her cause.

Her great love for Mary can be found in her great prayer initiative, the Association of the Living Rosary, started on December 8, 1826, just four years after her vision led to the foundation of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. Her method was to form "circles" – groups of 15 people, each of whom pledged to pray one decade for a specific one of the traditional 15 Mysteries, every day for live. In this way, each circle of 15 would pray an entire Rosary every day, forming a "Living Rosary".

Pauline's successful efforts were the main push behind the formation of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. By 1922, the Society for the Propagation of the Faith and three other societies established to help the Missions became Pontifical, with their headquarters moved to Rome, under the direction of the Pope.

On January 9, 1862 Pauline died. The prayer found after her death, written in her own hand, ended with these words: "Mary, O my Mother, I am Thine!"

In 1962, 100 years after her death, Pope John XXIII signed the decree that proclaimed the virtues of Pauline Marie Jaricot declaring her "venerable."

OBITUARIES

Bombay - Karen Mulvana-Robert, 74; Funeral Services April 15, 2014 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in Maple Grove Cemetery, Cooks Corners.

Canton - Lawrence E. "Gene" Elliott, 86; Funeral Services April 14, 2014 at St. Mary's Church.

Cape Vincent - Ronald J. Esemplare, 77; Funeral Services April 12, 2014 at St. Vincent of Paul Church; burial in St. Vince of Paul Cemetery.

Carthage - Joseph Charles Hartley, 67; Funeral Services April 17, 2014 at the Lundy Funeral Home

Chazy - Royal Phillip Giroux, 86; Funeral Services April 21, 2014 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Chazy - Marimus "Dutch" Rovers, 64; Funeral Services April 15, 2014 at Sacred Heart Church.

Hogansburg - Theodore "Teddy" "Taiothorakhe" Mitchell, 83; Funeral Services April 15, 2014 at St. Regis Church.

Gouverneur - Patricia A. (Hendrick) Roe, 85; Funeral Services April 18, 2014 at St. James Church; burial in the New St. James Cemetery.

Lake Placid - George Varga, 57; Funeral Services April 12, 2014 at St. Agnes Church.

Lyon Mountain - Harold "Fuzzy" D. Charland, 78; Funeral Services April 14, 2014 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Massena - Keith F. Sharlow, 81; Funeral Services April 17, 2014 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Pine Grove Cemetery Area #2.

Norfolk - Dorothy A. (Debien) Grady, 82; Funeral Services April 16, 2014 at Church of the Visitation; burial in Visitation Cemetery.

Ogdensburg - Arthur "Louie" P. Baker Sr., 61; Funeral Services April 18, 2014 at the Fox & Murray Funeral Home

Ogdensburg - Richard Hooper, 62; Funeral Services April 16, 2014 at Fray Funeral Home.

Ogdensburg - Katherine E. (Sharland) LaComb, 94; Funeral Services April 17, 2014 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Olmstedville - Shirley (Donnelly) McNally, 80; Funeral Services April 16, 2014 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery, Irishtown.

Plattsburgh - Louva Ann (Trombley) Jones, 72; Funeral Services April 22, 2014 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Whispering Maples Mausoleum.

Plattsburgh - Kenneth C. O'Connell, 89; Funeral Services April 14, 2014 at St. Peter's Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

Rouses Point - Lucille "Lucy" Anctil Merchant, 93; Funeral Services April 15, 2014 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

St. Regis Falls - Lawrence "Woody" Sussice, 81; Funeral Services April 21, 2014 at St. Ann's Church.

Ticonderoga - Janet Louise (Steurer) Breitenbach, 86; Funeral Services April 16, 2014 at St. Mary's Church.

Watertown - Bertha P. (Patnod) Raymond, 84; Funeral Services April 14, 2014 at Holy Family Church; burial in Brookside Cemetery.

West Chazy - Jack J. Jerry, 78; Funeral Services May 5, 2014 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Willsboro - Elizabeth "Bette" Maire (Young) Yutronich, 89; Funeral Services April 16, 2014 at St. Philip of Jesus Church.



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PERU PARISH HONORS



PHOTOS BY JOHN RYAN

Father Alan Shnob, pastor of St. Augustine's Church in Peru, honored two parishioners March 30 when he presented the Golden Rose Award to Peggy Banker, left, and Peter Keenan. Peggy Banker was honored for her 28½ years of service as parish secretary and for her faithful ministry to the parish community. She also received a Papal Blessing signed by Pope Francis recognizing her generous and faithful service. Peter Keenan has been an active member of St. Augustine's Parish and the Peru community throughout his life. A charter member of

St. Augustine's Knights of Columbus Council 7273, Keenan was the Applefest barbecue chairman for 33 years, served as a Peru Town Justice for 24 years and was elected to the Clinton County Legislature in November 2011. Father Shnob explained that the Golden Rose Award in past centuries was a sign of respect and appreciation. Recipients have included churches, royalty, military figures and governments. As a youth Father Shnob was a member of St. Ann's Parish in Mooers Forks where his pastor, Msgr. George Philips, presented the award during each Lenten Season, a tradition Father Shnob has carried on.

Around the diocese

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LEWIS

ST. PETER'S MAY FESTIVAL

Lowville – Plans are underway for St. Peter's May Festival

Date: May 16-18

Place: Lewis County Fair Grounds

Features: Ontario Amusement Carnival rides. Saturday matinee with unlimited rides from 1 p.m. to 5. The festival will feature homemade food specialties including Shiskabob, Pizza, Clam Chowder. Other booths will include "This-n-That," a Giant Bake Sale, and Games for all ages. Fri. is the Grand Opening at 5 p.m., Sat. there is the ride special, Calk Walk at 2 p.m. and R19 Band from 7 p.m. to 10. Sun. there is the Chicken Barbecue. please contact Bob Mullin or St. Peter's Church Office (376-6662) to reserve your chicken or the whole dinner. At 3 pm, the drawings begin for cash prizes totaling \$2000.

BULLHEAD FEED

Harrisville – The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a Bullhead Feed.

Date: May 9

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

Place: Harrisville Fire Hall

Cost: Adults, \$11 for Fish, \$9 for Ham; Children 5-12, \$6; under 5, Free

Features: Choice of Ham or Bullheads. Take-outs available.

MAY DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS

Houseville – Divine Mercy devotions for the month of May have been set.

Date: May 4

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Features: Vespers (evening prayer), exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Benediction

ST. LAWRENCE

HOLY FAMILY MEGA REUNION

Massena – Join classmates at the first ever Holy Family High School Mega Reunion.

Date: Aug. 16

Time: 5 p.m.

Place: The Village Inn

Cost: \$40 per person payable to HFH

Mega Reunion

Features: Hot and cold hors d'oeuvres, entertainment and cash bar. Additional

activities for Aug. 15 and 16 will be listed at <http://holyfamil-massena.webs.com>

Contact: Ray Fenton at 315-250-4445.

RSVP by May 16

RUMMAGE SALE

Norfolk - The Altar Rosary Society of Church of the Visitation is hosting a Rummage Sale.

Schedule: April 24 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. & April 25 from 9 a.m. to Noon

Place: Parish Center

Features: Baby items, household goods, tools, dishes, books, puzzles and clothing for men, women and children and many more items will be available.

POTSDAM LIFECHAIN

Potsdam – A Lifechain is planned for the day before Mother's Day.

Date: May 10

Time: 1 p.m. to 2

Place: Downtown Potsdam along Market and Main Sts. We will gather around 12:45 p.m. at the parking lot across Main St. from the Roxy Theater.

Features: Life Chain will happen regardless of the weather. Don't forget chairs, hats and water.

COMMUNITY FREE LUNCH

Ogdensburg – The Knights of Columbus Council 258 is starting its community free lunch program again.

Date: Every Wednesday

Time: Noon

LATIN MASS

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

Time: 12:30 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Church

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

Time: 9 a.m. to 10

Place: St. Mary's Family Room

5KWALK/RUN

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

Date: May 3

Time: 9 a.m.

Place: Robert Moses State Park Picnic Area at Barnhart Island

Features: Stroller and child friendly 5K event. Visit website at <http://www.glorinourhearts.org/5k.html> for more information.

DIOCESAN EVENTS

WOMEN OF GRACE RETREAT

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

Date: June 27-29

Place: Wadhams Hall

Speaker: Johnnette Benkovic, of Living His Life Abundantly

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

Contact: Mary Dillenback at marydillenback@twcny.rr.com or call 315-771-1377.