A top issue for US church:

BY TOBIAS H. THOMAS

John Garvey is convinced that religious freedom will be the most important issue facing the Catholic Church in the United States over the next half century. “This is so because our culture is existing in ways that are indifferent and sometimes even hostile to religious freedom,” said Garvey, president of The Catholic University of America in Washington, in a May 10 address. The sexual abuse crisis has particularly wounded the Catholic Church, he said, contributing to a loss of moral authority.

In the past decade, he said, legal restrictions aimed at the church generated a sympathetic hearing. The church now finds itself in the same position as religious minorities, he said. “In fact, its position is worse,” Garvey said. “Because when a state like the Commonwealth of Massachusetts enacts laws that are aimed at the church, it may not seem discriminatory to people because a majority of the legislators who passed the laws were baptized as Catholics.”

Religious people have traditionally sought shelter in the Constitution, he explained, “and that’s an arena where the shade has been diminishing in the last decade.”

Knights rally at State Capitol

Hundreds of New York State Knights of Columbus traveled to Albany May 10 for their 9th Annual Prayer Rally at the State Capitol. The Rally prayers asked God to enlighten the lawmakers. The speakers — including Msgr. John R. Murphy, moderator of the curia for the Diocese of Ogdensburg — reminded the Knights that it is essential that all Catholics make their voices heard.

Two people who are completing the diocesan Formation for Ministry program reflect on its value

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Among the representatives from the diocese were Father Philip Allen and Father Timothy Canaan who led decades of the rosary.

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FULL STORY PAGE 5

BE SEALED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

Young Catholic Voice: Seminarian reflects on gift of the priesthood... p. 8
A day of diocesan joy!

It’s been quite awhile since the Diocese of Ogdensburg could celebrate an event like this coming up this weekend.

On Saturday, Bishop LaValley will lead the exorcisation ofحمى نورس (St. Margaret’s Church) at 10 a.m. in the parish center, followed by the opening Mass and dedication of the new communion table and altar. The event will be followed by a small breakfast and the presentation of new liturgical vestments and an icon of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

On Sunday, the Diocese of Ogdensburg will celebrate its 175th anniversary with a mass and a procession through the city of Ogdensburg.

As a family of faith, we need to make the words of Jesus part and parcel of our daily lives through prayer and active works of charity.

It’s also good news for the diocese and ultimately for us today. He promised that we would never have evil in the world.

This is the second form of the indwelling presence of the Risen Lord. The essence of the mission of the Spirit is to strengthen the disciples’ faith.

The essence of the mission of the Spirit is to strengthen the disciples’ faith relationship with Jesus and bring us home to the Father.

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HUNDREDS ATTEND 9TH ANNUAL K OF C PRAYER RALLY IN ALBANY

Hundreds attend 9th annual K of C Prayer Rally in Albany

By John Saladino

The Knights of Columbus kicked off their 9th annual Prayer Rally in Albany, May 25, to get Catholics to pray for life, marriage, and family. The rally was attended by 600 members of the Knights throughout the state.

The rally was held at the Knights of Columbus State Council Building.

Knights of the New York State Knights of Columbus made the annual event a success.

The Knights of Columbus is the world’s largest Catholic fraternal order with 15 million members in 13,700 councils in 80 countries.

The Knights of Columbus has six core values: faith, family, education, and community service.

The rally was opened with a prayer led by Father Michael Ahearne, council chaplain, followed by a blessing of the building by Bishop Michael B. Olicensed, Diocese of Albany. The Knights of Columbus is the largest Catholic organization in the world.

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The fourth movie in the series inspired by the Dis-covery of the Fountain of the Carthian. On Stranger Tides (Disney) spins a yarn that leads to the Fountain of Youth. No wonder it makes the popu-lar box-office hit. Even if a three-year-old would benefit from watching it.

After All 2007's conved, novels continue to heat up the "World of End." producer Jerry Brunsting and director Rob Marshall to do just that. Known for big screen adap-tations of the musi-cal "Chicago" and "Nine," Mars-shall is an odd choice to helm an adventure-comedy. "On Stranger Tides" (Disney), the jolly. Johnny Depp doesn't bore, "On Stranger Tides" hedges its bets, taking great care not to offend -- or to say anything of real consequence. The film contains recur-ring adventures in si-lence and peril, including a suggestive humor and innu-merous suggestive humor and innu-merous suggestive humor. PG-13 -- adults may be incon-venient for children under 13.
The work of the Holy Spirit in the early Church

Although Pentecost is still called “Mother’s Day,” our Sunday readings today tell us a lot about the work of the Holy Spirit in the early Church.

The first reading is from Acts of the Apostles, 2:1-11. It’s a story that shows how the Holy Spirit was at work in the early Church. Following Pentecost, the apostles were able to perform miracles and heal the sick, very similar to the ones Jesus Himself worked while yet on earth. This same sign gave such strong credibility to their message that people immediately believed in Jesus and, in the same breath, believed the apostles’ baptism story. It tells us that Philip “acted the part of Jesus” and was able to demonstrate the truth of Jesus’ teachings in a vivid and enthusiastic way. When the apostles heard this, they came into the house of Simon the magician there, in this way, to put an end to his autocentric thinking. The Holy Spirit, of course, will do this every time.

The second reading today is from Romans 8:7. This passage begins with the, “But if the Spirit of God dwells in you...” statement. Paul reminds us of the great gift of the Spirit, who is with us now. The Spirit demonstrates the meaning of our godly suffering. So, Paul says, “The hope that is in you is steadfast and unchanging, even if they have no fear of God.”

The Gospel reading today is from Matthew 26:64. Jesus is saying, “But if the Spirit of God dwells in you...” Let’s not forget that, in the end of the day, we are judged by what’s in our hearts. Jesus says, “I have told you now before it comes to pass, that so also will youye be witnesses.”

Jesus, unfortunately, made a serious mistake of offering this final evidence of power to the world. Today, even we refer to the “signs and wonders that the Spirit does.” Our words apply very much to sicknesses and apocalyptic stories. Today, we talk about miracles and the Holy Spirit of Pentecost. After all, the Cross is a “sign of Jesus’ triumph over death.”

So, dear reader, we must be prepared to answer any question our faith will come into question. We must be witnesses, as our Lord asks us to account for our faith, to carry out the hope that is in us; yet, for the first time, they have no fear of God. We must be prepared to answer the third question of what Jesus asked from His apostles. Prepare to be witnesses for God. And God will make sure we have all the information we need to understand the purpose of the Church and the Church’s history.

We can transform you if you let it. We can no longer afford to sit in the pews and wait for someone else to serve. We are the Church. We are the Body of Christ. We are the Church. We are the Body of Christ.

If you want to learn more about your faith and to see the great work of the Holy Spirit, it can be and should be up to each of us.

One year ago, our own native son, Terry LaValle, was ordained as our beloved bishop. We are so proud of him and our best wishes to him on his Feast day.

Many people may think that this end of life decision is not a topic that will ever come terminally ill. So, quite recently this March, I was well informed that we are, you, young, old, healthy and unhealthy, here, and there, in one of our classes which were part of the Formation for Lay Ministry program.

That’s why the last three months we have been involved in the book of the Bishops of New York State. The basic premise of this book is that each of us must be better informed on how to take care of ourselves, our families and our loved ones. We are all God’s children and that never changes. Dave tells us the story that as a 6’ 7” basketball player, he was never at a loss for words. He was always speaking, whether it was about basketball or something else. He has always been a great storyteller.

In addition to the educational and spiritual values, there are other unexpected benefits coming from the Formation for Ministry program. After two years of classes which every parish priest in our diocese is required to take, no one can say that we haven’t learned a lot and have found out still have to live to learn.

Saying that he is a part of the Church’s history is not the same as saying he is the Church’s history. But it is true that when I converted to Catholicism and thought I had found my true religion, I was wrong. I have learned so much about the Catholic Church that I didn’t know before and I have been called to help others learn more.

There has been some reading and a few panels involving the experience of the Church and the lay person. We have met diocesan, professors and diocesan ministers, and our own native son, Terry LaValle, is now a Bishop of the Diocese of Buffalo. Our priests have always served us faithfully and have always been part of a community that is growing and “paying it forward.”

The Church is the only place that you can find that feeling of excitement and discovery? As we prepare to enter into the Holy Spirit, we must always keep in mind the words of the Bishops of New York State: “Do not be afraid, because times have changed, we can and should trust the Holy Spirit in us.”

There are a lot of reasons why this program is necessary. We all know what it means to be a lay person and to be involved in other parish organizations such as the Knights of Columbus, Catholic Daughters, Altona Rosary society and others. You’ll make friends and new to rise is levels of understanding. Dave tells us in his own words: “I didn’t think I’d be a Bishop!”

So, cheers to this year’s Formation for Lay Ministry program. The courses are: The Old and New Testament, The Church, Spirituality, Moral Theology, The Church and Ministry, Social Justice and Ethics. Each year in the Fall and ends with an awesome weekend retreat in May at Southtown Hall in Ogdenburg. In return, the candidate promises to live true the past year of service in the ministry area of their choice outreach, faithful, worship, and service, orRatio, religious, social outreach, youth. Each class has the first five months in which their ministry would like to serve.

In addition to the educational and spiritual values, there are other unexpected benefits coming from the Church and the lay person. After two years of classes which every parish priest in our diocese is required to take, no one can say that we haven’t learned a lot and have found out still have to live to learn. We have a lot to learn.

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One of the reasons is in its innate ability to do it with gentleness and love. It doesn’t change or decrease the needs of people who will complete their education, reminding that as the sin of simony. We never do find out why the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. They should have no fear of God and be prepared to answer the third question of what Jesus asked from His apostles. Prepare to be witnesses for God. And God will make sure we have all the information we need to understand the purpose of the Church and the Church’s history.

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If you want to learn more about your faith and to see the great work of the Holy Spirit, it can be and should be up to each of us.
Gail Barr and Sally Rusaw were 2011 recipients of the Volunteer Service Awards during the May 4 Celebration of Women event, at St. Mary’s Cathedral. “These women have volunteered countless hours of service to the Cathedral parish,” said Grey Nun Sister Mary Teresa LaBrake, pastoral associate. “The living out of their Catholic faith has prompted them to extend volunteer service, beyond the parish, to local organizations as well.”

“Gail Barr, a woman of deep faith, has portrayed true Christian living by lovingly devoting her life to her parish, family, and all who know her,” Sister Mary Teresa said. “She has been involved through the following ministries in the parish: census worker, Altar Society, catechetical, social committee, hospital committee, regular choir as well as the funeral choir, and a dedicated member of the annual Coffee House event at the cathedral. Mrs. Barr has extended her life into the civic community with her involvement in the Knights of Columbus Altar Society, Pro-Musica, and Showtime.”

Sister Mary Teresa mentioned that Sally Rusaw, a Commissioned Lay Minister and faith-filled, commissioned member of the Cathedral parish, through her faith in God's power, has been able to balance her responsibilities with her spirituality. Her involvements in the parish have included the following: census worker, Extraordinary Minister of the Holy Eucharist, Lector, and team member for the RCIA process. Her extension into the civic community has led her to volunteer as a member of the St. Magarett D’Youville Academy Education Council, music ministry in the prison, and volunteer Archivist for the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Cathedral parish celebrates women

VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARDS: Gail Barr and Sally Rusaw were 2011 recipients of Volunteer Service Awards. Barr, left, and Rusaw are shown with Sister LaBrake and Father Joseph Morgan, pastor of St. Mary’s Cathedral, during the May 4 Celebration of Women event.

Bishop LaValley’s Schedule

May 26 – 7:00 pm, Confirmation for St. Mary’s, Fort Covington; St. Patrick’s, Hemingway, and St. Joseph’s, Bombay at St. Mary’s Cathedral.

May 27 – 10:00 am, Mass at St. Joseph’s Home in Ogdensburg.

May 28 – 11:00 am, Dedication of Thomas A. Hynes in St. James Church at Carthage. 4:00 pm, Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral in Ogdensburg.

May 30 – 11:00 am, Memorial Day Ceremony at the Ogdensburg Cemetery.

June 1 – 7:00 pm, Confirmation for St. Francis Solanus, Malone and St. Hubert’s, Star Lake at St. Francis Solanus Church.

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. To pre-register online go to www.virtus.org by selecting the registration button and following the directions. All employees and volunteers who participate in this training. Further information: Resource Officer Ellen Donahue, phone, 315-393-2920 ext. 403. All employees and volunteers who participate in church sponsored activities with minors are required to participate in this training. Further information: Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, phone, 315-393-2920 ext. 403. All employees and volunteers who participate in church sponsored activities with minors are required to participate in this training. Further information: Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, phone, 315-393-2920 ext. 403. All employees and volunteers who participate in church sponsored activities with minors are required to participate in this training. Further information: Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, phone, 315-393-2920 ext. 403. All employees and volunteers who participate in church sponsored activities with minors are required to participate in this training. Further information: Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, phone, 315-393-2920 ext. 403.

By Louise DeRosa
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan of New York, a Catholic who chairs the Senate Budget Committee, and Republican House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan, R-Wis., a Catholic who chairs the House Budget Committee, have written to each other about the federal deficit.

In his letter, Ryan explained that he wanted to explain to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, where he said he was a member of the budget committee, his budget proposal to help advance an informed debate in light of the congressional teachings about the well-being of the family, subaltern and minority, the professional opinion for the poor and the dignity of the human person.

The budget “honors responsibility to family and self, work, re-estimation, community and self-government both individually and collectively,” he wrote.

Ryan said the budget would reduce the country’s debt by $4.4 trillion and prevent Medicare from becoming insolvent. He also said it ‘proposes that tax rates be lowered, while closing loopholes that benefit upper income earners.”

In any transition that seeks to bring new proposals to current problems in order to build a better future, care must be taken that those current problems in need not be left to suffer,” Archbishop Dolan wrote. “I appreciate your assurance that your budget would be attentive to such considerations and would protect those at risk in the processes and programs of such a transition.”

While appreciating these assurances, the archbishop said that “the depth of our current economic crisis is such that we are all called to prioritize, to reassess our options, and to consider which they become a reality.”

Archbishop Dolan took no stance on the House budget, however.

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The priesthood: a gift and a mystery

By Br. John Pietropaoli

The call that a young man hears is a call from God. The "mystery" of the priesthood — a gift and a mystery that Paul II called the "Gift and Vocation of the Priesthood" — is the realization that we did not choose it, but it was chosen for us by someone who loves us, and called us to share his life and his mission.

"If God's call is a mystery, it is also a gift; and it is a gift that is a demand upon the conscience to be present to this mystery. To understand the call of God, to discern its meaning and direction, is the essence of a priest's life." (Theology of the Priesthood, Paul VI, 2004). The method and manner of the call of a young man varies, depending on his vocation.

Dr. John Paul II, former secretary general of the Legionaries of Christ, discussed the vocation of priesthood in "Gift and Vocation of the Priesthood," a document that was written soon after his election as pope. The document defined the Priesthood in the context of the vocational community of the Legionaries of Christ, which is a religious order whose mission is to serve the Church through priestly ministry in the context of the Gospel and the liturgy.

The Priesthood is a gift for the Church and the world. John Vianney put it, "O how great is a priest! The priest is the priest only in relation to his calling as God's gift." God's plan for the Priesthood was to be his priest and to serve his people. The Priesthood is a gift for the Church and the world.

The call to the Priesthood is not for everyone. God's call is a mystery, but the essence of that mystery is that we choose to serve him. The Priesthood is an ancient institution that goes back to the days of the Levites, who served as priests in the Hebrew Temple. The Priesthood is a gift for the Church and the world.

The Priesthood is a mystery that we must discern and understand in order to serve God. The Priesthood is a mystery that we must work to understand in order to serve God. The Priesthood is a mystery that we must work to understand in order to serve God.

Conclusion

And so, after 11 years in the Priesthood, I know that I cannot not tell you why God would call you. I cannot not tell you why God would call you. I cannot not tell you why God would call you. I cannot not tell you why God would call you.

The report noted several misperceptions about the behavior of priests. The report noted several misperceptions about the behavior of priests. The report noted several misperceptions about the behavior of priests. The report noted several misperceptions about the behavior of priests.

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The priesthood: a gift and a mystery

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WASHINGTON DC (CNS) — Because potential
sexual abusers of minors cannot be pinpointed
through "identifiable psycho¬
logical profiles," it is "very important" to prevent
abuse, but also "significant organi¬
zational factors" associated with priests are involved,
the author of a new 2015
study said, and those variables need to be
addressed.

"The study pointed out that the risk factors for sexual
abuse of minors are 'personal,'" said Father Michael
Cushing, a parish priest in Washington.

Father Cushing, a member of the Society of St. Paul,
explained that the study, which he helped
undertake as director of the archdiocesan Sexual
Abuse Advisory Board, helps "differentiate between
natural and preventable abuse. The study is a tool
that helps us move from a 'reactive' to a 'proactive' posture.

"The study used a more holistic approach than
other studies, and it is also a tool that can help others
create their own protocols." The study, "Sexual Abuse
of Minors by Priests in the United States, 1950-2010," was
published by John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

The study did not look at abuse that occurred before 1960.

The study's lead author, Karen Terry, a full professor
teaching psychology at John Jay College, said the study
was "the first to systematically link the profiles of the
abusers and the profile of the victims," and that it
showed that abuse was much more common than had been
realized by the Church.

The study found that, while most victims were prepubescent,
seven percent were adults, and that, while the victims
were largely boys, three percent were girls.

The study showed that the victims were often
recruited by the abusers as friends, and that the abusers
often used professional relationships to gain access to the
victims.

The study also showed that the victims were often the
children of other priests, and that the victims were often
the "children of men who themselves were victims of
sexual abuse." The study found that, while most victims
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By Dennis Sadowski
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- The president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the chief author of the recently passed House budget for 2012 have exchanged letters discussing the moral implications of the federal budget debate.

The House budget's correspondence came in response to a May 11 letter from Ryan, who explained that the needs of the poor, the sick and the elderly were not being addressed. He asked his Catholic correspondent to address the growing federal deficit in the budget as passed in the House. The Senate has yet to take up the budget.

Ryan's office released the letters May 19.

The House budget has been criticized by some Catholic bishops and theologians as it deviates from the basic principles of Catholic social teaching.

"In any transition that would be attentive to such assurance, our duty as pastors is to ensure that your budget proposal is consistent with the teachings of our church," Ryan wrote to Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan of New York, who was president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, when he sent a letter to Rep. Paul Ryan on the revised implications of the federal budget debate.

"If the budget 'honors responsibility to family and self work, self-restraint, community and self-government both individually and collectively,'" he wrote.

"In any transition that seeks to bring new proposals to current problems in order to build a better future, care must be taken that those current needs in mind not be lost to suffer,'" Archbishop Dolan wrote.

"I appreciate your assurance that your budget would be attentive to such considerations and would protect those at risk in the processes and programs of such a transition," Ryan said.

"While appreciating these assurances, I wish to insist on the duty as past to reflect upon our Christian teaching, a teaching which they become a reality," Archbishop Dolan added.

"In his letter, Ryan explained to the USCCB president that he wanted to "provide facts about our budget to help advance an informed debate about major budget proposals in light of both Catholic teachings about the well-being of the family, subsidiarity, the preferential option for the poor and the dignity of the human person." The budget "honors responsibility to family and self work, self-restraint, community and self-government both individually and collectively," he wrote.

"In any transition that seeks to bring new proposals to current problems in order to build a better future, care must be taken that those current needs in mind not be lost to suffer,'" Archbishop Dolan wrote. "I appreciate your assurance that your budget would be attentive to such considerations and would protect those at risk in the processes and programs of such a transition," Ryan said.

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Cathedral parish celebrates women

MAY 25, 2011

OGDENSBURG - Gail Barr and Sally Rusaw were 2011 recipients of the Volunteer Service Awards during the May 4 Celebration of Women event, at St. Mary’s Cathedral.

“These women have volunteered countless hours of service to the Cathedral parish,” said Grey Nun Sister Mary Teresa LaBrake, pastoral associate. “The living out of their Catholic faith has prompted them to extend volunteer service, beyond the parish, to local organizations as well.”

“Gail, a woman of deep faith, has portrayed true Christian living by lovingly devoting her life to her parish, family, and all who know her,” Sister Mary Teresa said.

She has been involved through the following ministries in the parish: census worker, Altar Society, catechist, social committee, hospital committee, regular choir as well as the funeral choir, and a dedicated member of the annual Coffee House event.

Mrs. Barr has extended her life into the civic community with her involvement in the Knights of Columbus Auxiliary, Pro-Musica, and Showtime.

“Sally Rusaw, a Commissioned Lay Minister and faith-filled, committed member of the Cathedral parish, through her faith in God’s power, has been able to balance her responsibilities with the RCIA process. Her extension into the civic community has led her to volunteer as a member of the St. Marguerite D’Youville Academy Education Council, music ministry in the prison, and volunteer Archivist for the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

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The Diocese of Ogdensburg has scheduled sessions for Protecting God’s Children for Adults. Pre-registration online is required in order to participate. For information, call Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, phone, 315-393-2920 ext. 403.

Protecting God’s Children

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The work of the Holy Spirit in the early Church

May 29
Sixth Sunday of Easter
READINGS
Acts 8:1-4, 14-17
Phil 3:1-18

Jesus, unfortunately, made a serious mistake of offering peace to his enemies. Even today, we refer to the non-payment of taxes and the sin of simony.

The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, tells a story that shows how the early Christians, following Pentecost, were able to perform miracles and build up the same to the ones Jesus Himself worked while yet on earth. This story gives such strong credibility to their actions that it allows people immediately be saved to Jesus and His new Church. The story tells us that Philip Philip Peter evangelizes a man named Nathanael.

When the apostles heard to this, they were astonished with courage to witness to others, and by the same manner they could receive the Holy Spirit.

In Samaria that a woman named Simon, reverenced there as a god, was converted to the Christian faith.

On the contrary, every one of us, regardless if they are Catholic or not, is all God's children and that every one of us know not the day nor the hour. Because, truly, we have a moral duty to still be fed spiritually and cared for corporally.

There is and always has been some reading and a few pages to turn. There is theáltar Rosary Society and others. You'll make new friendships, and you have great snacks during the breaks.

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The fourth movie in the series inspired by the Disorder Play of the Carthage. On Stranger Tides (Disney), spins a yarn that leads to the fount of youth. Its wonder makes it the popu- lar one of the year. While not a boat or a lost treasure, the movie would benefit from another allusion. 

After 2007’s con- volved, new-age-y “Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides,” producer Jerry Bruckheimer, director Rob Marshall and Disney’s John Lasseter were determined to do justice, with fun, to the original high-seas animated movie. Known for big screen adaptations of the novels of “Chicago” and “Nine,” Mar- shall is an odd choice to helm a Pirates movie, which set the scene. In an ex- change for a leaner, more compact entertainment, this picture leaves its inspiring visuals and a grand scale — not surprising given its digital effects and it being the first in the series, pho- tographed in 3 D. “On Stranger Tides” amounts to miniaturized hoary — the cinematic equivalent of a ship in a bottle. There’s not much movie here.

The movie’s characters are... 

The first movie in the series was shot in 2003 and has been a huge success at the box office. It tells the story of Jack Sparrow (Johnny Depp), a young and aspiring privateer who is hired by Captain Barbossa (Geoffrey Rush) to help him locate the Fountain of Youth. The story follows Jack as he travels the world, meeting new friends and enemies along the way.

Along the road - and through the years

The Immaculate Heart Central Catholic Mystery Players of 2011 are front, from left, Hailey Parsons, Caitlin Stone, Laura Deporrier, Danielle Burgess, Pat Fontana, Jr. and Jayne Brady; back, Dan Charlebois and Brandon Cooney. The Immaculate Heart Central Mystery Players of 2011 were Brian, John, TIME, Patrick, Peggy, Dillon, Sara, Laura, DePorrier, Danielle, Burgess, Hailey, Parsons, Caitlin, Stone, and Laura Deporrier. The Mystery Players presented their interpretation of the Passion and Death of Jesus to Watertown, New York, who were saddened by the news. It is the students' Christian responsibility to do good works and to participate in religious activities.

The Catholic News Service (CNS) is the official news organization for the Catholic Church in the United States. CNS provides coverage of the Church, featuring its leaders, institutions, organizations, people, and the faithful who govern, serve, and learn in the Church.

The Immaculate Heart Central Mystery Players of 2011 was a project of the school's Pro-Life Activities office. Mrs. Gallagher is the Director of the Immaculate Heart Central Catholic School. She is the mother of two former Mystery Players, John, now an attorney for NASCAR. She is also a member of the McGuire Woods Law Firm, and Cris, systems analyst.

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But then there are also those who disagree with the Church's stance on the issue. The Vatican has stated that birth control is a matter of personal conscience and that individuals should be free to make decisions about their own lives. However, many people believe that the Church has a right to speak out on matters that affect the family and the community. The issue is complex and there are many different perspectives on it.
HUNDRED ATTEND 9TH ANNUAL K OF C PRAYER RALLY IN ALBANY

Hundreds attend 9th annual K of C Prayer Rally in Albany

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

Knights of NYS rally at State Capitol

By John Ryan

Knights of NY State rally at State Capitol

Hundreds attend 9th annual K of C Prayer Rally in Albany

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Elected officials delivering speeches included Msgr. John R. Murphy, moderator of the NYS Catholic Conference; Patricia Gavin, Vice-rector of the NYS Catholic Conference; Arthur LaBaff, pastor in Clayton and Father Philip Allen and Father Ralph Ruggles, Associates of St. Francis Solanus. The rally opened at 10 a.m. with a rosary celebration and a reading of the names of the 40 Martyrs of the Scottish Missions. Afterward, the speakers addressed topics related to pro-life and pro-family issues. The highlight of the rally was a Mass celebrated by Msgr. Murphy at 11 a.m. The rally concluded with an inaugural Mass offered by Msgr. Allen. The rally was attended by hundreds of Knights and their families. The rally was co-sponsored by the Knights of NY State and the Archdiocese of Albany. The rally was held at the State Capitol in Albany, New York.
A day of diocesan joy!

It's been quite awhile since the Diocese of Ogdensburg could celebrate a day of diocesan joy! And yet, at this time two years after this tragic loss to our diocese, we have cause for great joy. The Catholic Church will be filled with Tom's family and friends, people who knew him as a man of great faith and love. 

All will nod at the words of Bishop LaValley: “For in the way he goes his disciples, may you recognize him as a disciple of Jesus, who came to serve, not to be served.”

Through this, we have now doubts! Through the sacrement of ordination, our new deacons will be able to draw strength from the gift of the Holy Spirit. He will also draw strength from the prayers of all who love him and love the Church. We see our prayers to Tom and to all the young men and women who are preparing to serve the Church with generosity, love and, in Tom’s case, at least, a good measure of good humor.

God bless, Deacon

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The Society For
The Propagation of the Faith

Maryknoll visitor to Catholic schools

By Marie Mary Bell, OSB, Director

Earlier this year, I visited Father Kevin Hanlon, a Maryknoll priest, at his residence in Immaculate Heart Central School in Carthage, New York, and spent three days traveling in our Diocese. Below is a synopsis of my experiences.

I am very grateful to St. Mary Ellen for inviting me, a Maryknoll priest, to participate in promoting the Mission of the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers to the United States, well over half of the young who become priests, Brothers and Sisters today went to Catholic schools, and spent three days traveling in our Diocese. Below is a synopsis of my experiences.

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**Bishop LaValley has confirmed hundreds of young people across the Diocese of Ogdensburg this year including Kellen Munn of St. Bernard’s Parish in Saranac Lake. Others who received the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Bernard’s May 15 were confirmed from Saranac Lake, Lake Placid, Keene, Lake Clear and Bloomingdale.**

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**Now and at the hour of our death**

The church is working to ensure that a protective culture is in place when young people are young and susceptible to abuse.

**The John Jay Report**

The John Jay report on abuse crisis is a landmark moment in the church's efforts to address the crisis. The report's findings have led to significant changes in how the church handles allegations of abuse.

**Knights rally at State Capitol**

Hundreds of New York State Knights of Columbus traveled to Albany May 10 for their 9th Annual Prayer Rally at the State Capitol. The rally played asked God to enlighten the lawmakers. The speakers, including Mgr. John R. Murphy, reminded the Knights that it is essential that all Catholics make their voices heard.

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**A top issue for US church:**

TO WSON, MD. (CNS) - John Garvey is convinced that religious freedom will be the most important issue facing the Catholic Church in the United States over the next half century.

The sexual abuse crisis has particularly wounded the Catholic Church, he said, contributing to a loss of moral authority. In the past decade, he said, legal restrictions aimed at the church garnered a sympathetic hearing. The church now finds itself in the same position as religious minorities, he said.

"In fact, its position is worse," Garvey said. "Because when a state like the Commonwealth of Massachusetts enacted laws that are aimed at the church, it may not seem discriminatory to people because a majority of the legislators who passed the laws were baptized as Catholics. Religious people have traditionally sought shelter in the Constitution, he explained, and that's an area where the shade has been dimming in the last decade."