Humility in prayer is rewarded

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Humility and perseverance in prayer is rewarded by a true encounter with God, Pope Benedict XVI said.

At his weekly general audience May 25 in St. Peter's Square, Pope Benedict said God's blessing cannot be won by force but rather must be received with humility from him.

The pope continued his series of audience talks about prayer, using the story of the biblical patriarch Jacob, who was challenged by an unidentified foe.

After a struggle that lasted all night, Jacob, who appeared to be winning, demanded that his opponent bless him. The man turned the tables by asking Jacob his name, which the pope said was like appropriating "the deepest reality of the individual, revealing secrets and destiny." The challenger gave Jacob the name Israel, the pope said, which showed that even though the patriarch won the fight, he finally recognized that he had been battling with God, who gave him a new, honest identity.

The pope said the story speaks to us of a long night in search of God, of the struggle to know his name and face. It describes "the night of prayer that with tenacity and perseverance asks God for a blessing and a new name, a new reality that comes from conversion and forgiveness."

Jubilarians honored for 65,40,25 years

This year, the Diocese of Ogdensburg honors five priests who are celebrating significant anniversaries in 2011.

Bishop Terry R. LaValley presided at a Jubilee Mass May 17 during the annual Presbyteral Assembly in Lake Placid.

The jubilarians are Msgr. Robert J. McCarthy, 65 years of priesthood; Father Peter Berg, 40 years; Father Gilbert Boussoert, 40 years; Father Joseph Elliott, 40 years; and Father Stephen Kovacevich, 25 years.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

Pilgrimage to Italy

Jean Bishop Looby and Father Doug Lucey were on a six-week adventure in March 2012.

HELP YOUR CONGREGATION FIGHT DIABETES.

FaithFightsDiabetes.org

Young Catholic Voice: Reflections of a first-year Catholic school teacher, p.7
One with this very “sacramental” time of year, this week’s North Country Catholic features pages filled with obituaries. It is a time of remembering those years old receiving Jesus for the first time, and those years old leaving this world with Jesus for the last time. It is a time when we celebrate the life of someone and remember their love and sacrifice. It is a time when we remember how our faith is a unifying family of faith.

Letter from the Director

Sister Karen Marie Sweeney, OSF
Diocesan Mission Director

Below is an excerpt from a letter received by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith from the CNEWA (Catholic Near East Welfare Association). Each year, a portion of the world’s population is in need of goods from the CNEWA. Thank you for your continuous generosity.

Dear Sister Mary Ellen:

On behalf of the Bishop of Ogdensburg and the people of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, we express our heartfelt appreciation to you and to the generous people of the United States who have made contributions to the CNEWA during the 2010 World Mission Sunday celebration. As always, we will be forwarding your gift to the Congregation for the Eastern Churches to support its operations and efforts on behalf of the Eastern Catholic churches. Permit me to convey to you as well the gratitude and appreciation of Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, Prefect of the Congregation, and Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan, Chair of the CNEWA Board of Trustees.

God bless you, your associates, and the people you serve for your generosity and support.

Sincerely,
Gabriel Delmonico, OSB
National Director

A word about CNEWA: Amidst the upheavals and challenges of the world today, CNEWA (Catholic Near East Welfare Association) has been a lifeline for those in need throughout the Middle East, North Africa, India and Eastern Europe for more than 50 years. Founded in 1926 by Pope Pius XI, CNEWA’s mandate is:

• To support the pastoral mission of the Eastern Catholic churches.
• To provide humanitarian assistance to those in need without regard to nationality or creed.
• To promote Christian unity and understanding, and collaboration.
• To educate people in the West about the culture, history, and churches of the East.

CNEWA does not have inflexible priorities—they are set based on need, time, and urgency. We do not restrict ourselves to a single project; we provide a diverse range of support so that we may help as many people as possible. If you would like to learn more about CNEWA, visit our website at www.cnewa.org.

Pray for the Propagation of the Faith

As the Lord prayed in the difficult hours of His life, we should do the same; especially during this week of prayerful preparation for Pentecost. How will you be the Spirit of Christ for someone who feels alienated from the Church?

The Spirit is the Risen Lord that will give us the strength and courage to bear God’s love to his people.

Letter to the Editor

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

P.O. Box 92
Ogdensburg, NY 13669
(315) 393-2920; fax (315) 394-7401
mbrett@dioogdensburg.org

Church of a Family of Faith

Prayerful Waiting for the Holy Spirit

By Mary Louise Camm, DSL
Director of Education

Jesu’s prayer is a prayer of consecration because He consecrates Himself to His Father as He approaches His death. Actually, this prayer of Jesus is our aspiration and what He must do to complete His mission.

This intimate prayer with His Father is heightened by His awareness of the events that are to follow, His Father’s rejection by the people, and His Father’s response to the diaspora of the Old Testament.

May we be a Community of Disciples who strive to pursue our everyday learning about what it means to be a good Christian teenager. For more than a decade, young Catholic athletes have enjoyed SportCamp, sharpening their ball or soccer skills while learning about what it means to be a good Christian teenager. And then there’s our Cygnus, a place called “home” by thousands of campers who have built a relationship with Jesus and with other young people who share their values and North Country Catholic’s goals, for nearly 40 years.

There’s still some time to register for these camps (See page 6 for information).

“Just as we express our deepest longings and concerns to God in prayer, so did Jesus express His love for the Father. He was aware of the events that were to follow, the Father’s rejection by the people, and His Father’s response to the diaspora of the Old Testament. The disciples had come to believe and understand the mystery of Jesus’ priestly prayer is a prayer of consecration because He consecrates Himself to His Father as He approaches His death. This action is a sacred space in which Jesus, the Incarnate Word, is in deep communion with His Father.

In the most intimate prayer with His Father, Jesus, the Son of God, becomes the sacrifice of the Father to keep them in His name.”

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This year, the Diocese of Ogdensburg honors five priests who are celebrating significant anniversaries in 1993. Bishop Terry R. LaValley provided a jubilee Mass May 17 during the annual Diocesan Priests’ Day of Reflection on the topic of Vocations and Discernment. Profesories of the jubilarians follow:

**Mr. Robert J. McCartney**

Mr. McCartney, a 50-year jubilarian, celebrated 65 years as a priest of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, spent 21 of those years as pastor of Holy Family Church in Watertown. A native of Potomac, he was born July 1, 1918, graduated from Bishop Gibbons High School and attended Potomac State Teachers College for one year before beginning studies for the priesthood.

He studied at St. Michael’s Seminary in Orchard Park, N.Y., and the Pontifical University of St. Thomas in Rome. He was ordained to the priesthood on May 26, 1948. Msgr. McCarthy, who will celebrate his 50-year jubilee this year, is currently the chaplain at St. Mary’s Academy in Watertown.

**Father Peter M. Berg**

Father Berg, a 40-year jubilarian, has been pastor in Newcomb and Long Lake more than 25 years, and has also served as pastor in Tuscarora and Canton. In addition to his duties as pastor, Father Berg serves as the Diocesan Director of Religious Education. He enters his 19th year as pastor of St. Mary’s Church in Newcomb.

Father Berg was born in February, 1943, in Watertown, N.Y. He served two years in the Navy before entering the diocesan preparatory seminary in Buffalo.

He studied for the priesthood at St. John Vianney Seminary at East Aurora, and after working at Queen of Korea Mercy Home in Kenmore, completed his theological studies at the preparation seminary in Rochester. He was ordained Dec. 5, 1971 by Bishop Thomas R. Tracy.

Father Berg has served as associate priest in St. Patrick’s in Watertown, St. Mary’s Cathedral, Ogdensburg, in Loveville, at Saint Mary’s in Massena and in Cumberland, Md.

The priest has also served as chancery assistant, as pastor in Antwerp and Philadelphia and as pastor of Sacred Heart in Malone before completing his 19 years as pastor of St. Mary’s in Newcomb. Father Berg was born in Watertown, N.Y. He served two years in the Navy before entering the diocesan preparatory seminary in Buffalo.

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Father Gilbert O. Boisvert, 82, of Adams, is in his 40th year of priesthood, has served in Adams and six other parishes in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Father Boisvert, another 40-year priest, has served parishes in St. Mary’s, Canton, St. Joseph’s, Ogdensburg, St. John Vianney Seminary, Sicily College, and St. John Vianney College Seminary since 1991.

Father Boisvert was born Jan. 15, 1941, in Treadwells Mill from 2000. He studied for the priesthood at Wadhams Hall and St. John Vianney Seminary in East Aurora, N.Y.

Previously, he was pastor in Morrisonville, West Chazy, and St. Joseph’s Seminary in Dunwoodie, NY, and was ordained May 22, 1971, by Bishop Stanislaus J. Brena. Father Elliott has served as assistant pastor in West Chazy and Parishville before his assignment as pastor at St. Mary’s in Canton in 1988.

He was appointed pastor in Brownsville and Dexter in 1993, serving there until his 2000 assignment in Mor risville and Treadwells Mill.

Father Elliott has also served the diocese as director of the permanent deacon formation program from 1985 to 1995 and Dean of Clinton Deannery from 2004 to 2007.

Father Stephen Kovacevich, celebrat ing a 30-year priest hood, currently serves as director of pastoral care for the Adirondack Medical Center in Saranac Lake in St. Patrick’s, New York.

A priest of the Romanian Catholic Diocese of Canton, Ohio, he received faculties from Bishop Lavallee to serve in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Father Boisvert was assigned to be pastor at St. Mary’s in Canton in 1988. He was appointed pastor in Brownsville and Dexter in 1993, serving there until his 2000 assignment in Morrisville and Treadwells Mill.

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As the days passed after the Resurrection of Jesus, the Apostles were getting used to the fleeting glimpses of the Risen Christ, appearing here and there so dramatically.

He had pretty much made up his mind to leave them in depression, but they were to see and hear Him again! By finally convincing them of His Resurrection on Calvary, they would be cured of their searing abandonment, and among their kinsmen they would be able to carry on with the Good News with new commands to preach the Good News.

Before their eyes, and is lost to sight in the clouds. They must have thought in dismay, “He’s left us again!” So what did they do? It was one thing to label themselves followers of the Christ when he was no longer there, but it was quite another to think of thinking of themselves as leaders without his earthly presence. Still shaken at his seeming abandonment, they withdrew together to that upper room to pray and consider what He had taught them.

Wisely, they kept near their mother, Mary, in those nine days of waiting for the Holy Spirit. They must have remembered what Jesus had said to them, “If you really love me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father.”

In other words, I have a better way to remain with you, I will be with you in the Church through my Spirit and in your Vicar. And did they remember his wonderful Farewell address in that upper room just a few weeks before at that strange, sacred meal? The night before He died, He told them they now understand the reason for his institution of the Eucharist, that He might remain with them always. On this Seventeenth Sunday, we reflect with the apostles on what this new life in the Spirit really means.

When we think ourselves alone and abandoned, when the contrary spirit of the world depresses us, Christ is there. When we are far from God, Christ is there through the Spirit. What Christ really wants of us—Apostles today—is concrete, lasting action. We must not act as though we were present, but we are present. His being present in the Spirit is far more powerful than his earthly presence would have been. He goes simply and deliberately into our souls daily—into the core of our being—and there listens to His incipient presence.

Then, strengthened by His grace, we can confidently go about our Mission. We need that grace more than ever in those days of our suffering nation and our world.

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Then, strengthened by His grace, we can confidently go about our Mission. We need that grace more than ever in those days of our suffering nation and our world.
Students from St. Patrick’s Church, Rouses Point celebrated their First Communion on Baron LaBom bard who has been teaching the First Communion Class for more than 25 years.

Father Joseph W. Elliott
65 Years
from the
cer Camp: July 10-14
ketball Camp: July 3-7; Soc-
Aug. 5 is geared for 16 - 18
year-olds, Week 1,
camp programs –
diocesan summer
director of youth
aysn@westelcom.com
0310; Tel. 518-561-3100; Fax 518-
Coordinator - Terrianne Yanulavich,
camps.org

D L. Calarco Funeral Home, Inc.
335 Keyes Avenue
Westmoreland 78100

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has scheduled sessions for Protecting God’s Children. The sessions are designed to educate people about safeguarding children and protecting them from sexual abuse.

Bishop John Tingey, O.F.S.A., 1984

Evangelizer."

The most wondrous anniversary of Archbishop Sheen's is May 25, Bishop Jenky presented the pope with two leather-bound volumes with golden lettering on the side: "Fultonius Ioannes Sheen." The pope had attended the council in the 1960s. At the end of the pope's weekly general audience on May 25, Bishop Jenky presented the two thick volumes about the life of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen. The volumes – totaling close to 2,500 pages – are the "pope's" official positive opinion on why the Catholic Church made Dr. Sheen a saint. Archbishop Sheen, who was born in Illinois in 1895 and died in New York in 1979, was an Emmy-winning television host. His program, "Life Is Worth Living," was aired on the ABC network from 1951 to 1957. Bishop Jenky said: "I hope it helps" that the pope personally knew Archbishop Sheen, who was natio-

The program is one of 20 at 9 A.M. facilities and is accorded seeking help with substance abuse and mental health is-
ion at the National Conference of Catholic Laity Convention.
Father Soli
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d said: "The training is

Pope Benedict XVI with two thick volumes about the life of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen. The volumes are:

Casey
ext. 411

10:00 a.m., Commissioning of Lay Ministers at St. Mary's Cathedral in Norwood;
3:00 p.m., Commissioning of Lay Ministers at St. Andrew's Church in Norwood;
June 4 – 125th Anniversary of Bishop John Tingey, O.F.S.A., 1984

I know I'm different in how I think and feel from the rest of the world. See through the sign over the door. My wounds of people whose re-
tains of many faiths, in mul-
tours of duty in distant out-
minister to our nation's mili-
diers heal from past wars

PAST IN PEACE

"There are fewer young folks, in their 20s and early 30s, who have served and there are folks in their 40s, who joined the military at the start of the Iraq war, and ended up on active duty for five years. We see parents bringing in their adult chil-
don't proselytize. When he
tual or religious rituals."

"I want to thank the chaplains for their service and the work they do. It's important to this mission," said Father Joseph W. Elliott. "They work alongside chaplains of many faiths, but we want people to be able to accommodate 5-year-
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Tornado survivors in Joplin begin recovery, look back on 5000 people served each day at Veterans Affairs New York Harbor Healthcare System. Father Soli
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Father Soli said the largest group of veterans he has counseled is VIetnam era veterans.

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He said the fastest growing and most diverse group in the Office of

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came home the same. Not everyone comes home with
problems, but all look at life a little differently.

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Pope's journey to Croatia highlights family

The world's spiritual leader has chosen Croatia as the first stop on his 19th trip abroad in the 19th year of his pontificate, and it was an opportunity to underline the importance he places on Christians keeping their faith.

In the papal plane en route to Croatia, the 85-year-old pope was asked about the country's family values:

"It is important to keep faith in God in Croatia," he said.

"The pope brought a message of hope to the citizens of Croatia, who have endured much hardship through the years," said Zvonimir Ancic, first among the pope's spiritual counselors during his stay this week.

"The message was about the importance of family and faith, and the pope underscored the importance of keeping faith in God even when facing difficult times."
Congratulations to our own
Rev. Steven Kovacevich
on his 25 years of service.

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees:
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze.

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

Hymn - How Great Thou Art

From your family at Adirondack Medical Center
We are so proud you are with us!

WWW.AMCARES.ORG

BIDDING A FOND FAREWELL

Bessie Flanders, who has worked for the Diocese of Ogdensburg for the past 16 years, at Waldrons Hall and as secretary for three diocesan departments was honored May 24 on her retirement. From left are Msgr. John R. Murphy, moderator of the curia; Mrs. Flanders holding the papal blessing she received; Heidi Macko, program coordinator for Formation for Ministry; St. Joseph Sister Jennifer Votraw, chancellor and director of the Planning Office; and St. Joseph Sister Mary Eamon Lyng, director of evangelization.

HONORING MARY

Natalie Jack, a first communicant at St. John Church in St. Regis Falls, crowned the statue of Mary during the May Crowning at the parish.

SUNDAY AT ST. JOHN’S

PLATTSBURGH PARISH CELEBRATES FIRST COMMUNION

The gallery
Congratulations to our own Rev. Steven Kovacevich on his 25 years of service.

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From your family at Adirondack Medical Center
We are so proud you are with us!

WWW.LMCARES.ORG
Pope's journey to Croatia highlights family values

By Carol Glatz

Croatia is not an island as far as European affairs are concerned. Pope Benedict XVI's trip to Zagreb, June 11-12, will be a chance to test the waters and underline the importance of building a community with common values.

Two years after it declared independence, Croatia is set to join the European Union this year. Pope Benedict is concerned that as Croatia joins the EU, the Western liberal model of state affairs, which does not recognize human life and dignity, religious freedom and solidarity -- a message that Pope Benedict will likely repeat.

Croatia is holding its first national meeting of Catholic families this year and the pope will celebrate Mass on "National Family Day" on June 5. The Croatian bishops chose "together with Christ" as the theme of the visit to underline the importance of creating a community that has eternal Christian values as its foundation.

The theme, according to the official agenda prepared for the trip, is meant to help people look forward to the future and "the requirements of the new evangelization, which begins first of all within Christian families." Ancic said the pope will help "encourage and uplift sometimes tired spirits," give momentum to the faithful during these challenging times and instill hope for the weekends.

The pope's 33-hour stay in Croatia's capital will hit the basic events and meetings with the country's government, academic and business leaders, young people, families and religious. After meeting the country's president and prime minister in the morning June 4 and academic, political, business and religious leaders in the afternoon, the trip will take part in a prayer vigil with young people in the city's Tina Josip Jelacic Square.

A key feature of the youth gathering is meant to be silent prayer -- an unusual moment of quiet and hardship.

It is likely to be thousands of young people gathered in the streets of the historic city center in the sunny evening.

"Silence speaks of the divine presence," said Josep Maria Abad, national coordinator for World Youth Day. "There is nothing but noise and brutality in Zagreb. We want to show that there are strong signs of the Christian presence on the streets.

The high point of the trip is likely to be Mass with families in Zagreb's famous Upper Forum, the same giant stadium where Pope John Paul celebrated Mass during his visit in 1995.

The pope also will visit the tomb of a Croatian Cardinal, Blessed John Paul I's favorite. The pope, John Paul II, will be canonized in a ceremony at the Zagreb Cathedral as a Catholic churchman.

The focus of last year's trip to Zagreb was 20 years after it declared independence from Yugoslavia, and then trying to deconstruct all elements of the puppet regime. He died under a different guise, but under a different guise, but under a different guise.

The recent warm weather was a bit of a paradox for the Pope, who felt it was time to welcome the sun in his first year as an English teacher at Seton Catholic.

"The weather was wonderful," he said. "Being a teacher in a dystopia where the citizens move around in black overcoat and black glasses, there is nothing but noise and brutality in Zagreb. We want to show that there are strong signs of the Christian presence on the streets.

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Pepe receives papers for cause of Archbishop Sheen, whom he knew

SARANAC LAKE, N.Y. (CNS) — Bishop John D. Barres of Rockville Centre, N.Y., presented Pope Benedict XVI with the papers that, if approved by the Vatican, will mean that theologian and Confessor Stephen Joseph Sheen, born Aug. 5, 1875, will become the nation’s first black saint.

Sheen, the son of Irish immigrants to Chicago, was ordained a priest in 1907 and served as pastor in New York City. He was named archbishop of Newark in 1966 and served in that capacity until his death in 1979. His cause for canonization had been underway for several years.

Bishop Barres said he and his staff had been “striving to present the Saint John Vianney Seminary.”

The bishop said his staff also worked alongside chaplains of many faiths, in the days, weeks and months after the tornado. The chaplains shared their stories in the magazine.

“Tornado survivors in Joplin begin recovery, scene looks like war zone

Financial Aid

Tornado survivors in Joplin begin recovery, scene looks like war zone

J O P L I N , Mo. (CNS) — The devastating scene left by the massive F-5 tornado that hit Joplin the evening of May 22 can best be described as apocalyptic. The tornado’s path through Joplin was left in total ruin. The powerful winds uprooted trees and tossed cars. They toppled bricks, bent steel, snapped power lines, sheared limbs and flattened house after house.

Joe Finks of St. Patrick Church in Rouses Point, New York, said the students “are so proud to celebrate their First Communion.”

“This is our biggest event of the year for the diocesan youth,” said Msgr. Robert T. Kuhns, vicar for young people.

In other parish youth events this summer:

The Gughenheim is for 12-16 year olds, Week 1, June 25 to July 2; Week 2, July 2-9; Week 3, July 9-16; Week 4, July 16-23; Week 5, July 23-30; Week 6, June 25 to July 2; Week 7, July 2-9; Week 8, July 9-16; Week 9, July 16-23; Week 10, July 23-30; Week 11, August 6-13. Registration deadline is July 16.

AT A GLANCE

The priest said he would continue to do spiritual assessments on participants throughout the participants’ journeys.

“I believe we are providing a service that is absolutely needed,” said Sister Mary Beth Mitchell, the director of chaplaincy for the Department of Veterans Affairs New York Harbor Healthcare System.

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“Unfortunately, we have a number of patients who are struggling with addiction, and we have many veterans who have post-traumatic stress disorder,” said Mitchell. “The staff is getting used to the routine of the veteran’s journey and being sensitive to their needs.”

Sister Mitchell said pastoral care and spiritual directors for patients in the hospital in New York.

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Reflecting on what ‘new life in the Spirit’ means

As the days passed after the Resurrection of Jesus, the Apostles were getting used to the fleeting glimpses of the Risen Christ, appearing here and there so dramatically.

He had pretty much managed their depression following the horrible crucifixion on Calvary by finally convincing them that he was alive.

They knew never what he would appear next with no means to reach the Good News.

Sensing that they had been finally cured of their earthly presence,

Still shaken at his seeming abandonment, the disciples gathered together in that upper room to pray and ponder what He had taught them.

They must have remembered what Jesus had said to them: “If you really love me, you will rejoiced that I am going to the Father.”

In other words, I have a better way to remain with you. I will live in you and in the Church through my Spirit and in my Vicar.

And did they remember his wonderful farewell address, that in that same upper room just a few weeks before at that strange, sacred moment the night before He died, he had told them they now understood the reason for his institution of the Eucharist, that He might remain with them always.

On this Seventh Sunday of Easter, we reflect with the apostles on what this new life in the Spirit really means.

When we think ourselves alone and abandoned, when the contrary spirit of the world depresses us, Christ is there! When we are far from God, Christ is there through the Spirit.

What Christ really wants of us modern-day followers is concrete, lasting action.

We must not act as though the reason for his institution of the Eucharist, that He might remain with them always, is there listen to Him in silence, He might remain with them forever at that strange, sacred moment the night before He died.

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We must not act as though the reason for his institution of the Eucharist, that He might remain with them always, is there listen to Him in silence, He might remain with them forever.

Then, strengthened by His grace, we can confidently go about our Mission. We need that grace more than ever in these days of our tending our nation and our world.
Jubilarians

Father Joseph W. Elliott

Father Elliott, a native of Massena, the son of the late Henry W. and Grace (Kovacevich) Elliott, was born Jan. 15, 1938, in New York City but was brought up in Brandon, Ontario. He received his bachelor’s degree from St. Joseph’s College in 1960. After spending the years 1960–1961 in England as a student priest, he was sent to the United States and admitted to residence in our diocese.

He completed his master’s in sacred theology from Saint Mary’s Seminary in Pittsburgh, Pa., in 1963, and was ordained to the priesthood on June 12, 1963. He served as assistant priest in the parish of St. Mary in Canton until 1967, when he was appointed as assistant pastor in Canton. In 1971 he was named as assistant pastor in St. Mary’s Church in Canton. He was later an assistant pastor in the parishes of St. Joseph’s in Massena and Parishville before his appointment as pastor at St. Mary’s in Canton in 1988.

He was appointed pastor in Brownville and Dexter in 1995, serving there until his 2000 assignment in Moreauville and Treadwell Mill from 2001. He was later named as assistant pastor in Moreauville and Treadwell Mill from 2001. Father Elliott has also served as diocese director of the permanent deacon formation program from 1985 to 1995 and Dean of Clinton Deeney from 2004 to 2007.

Father David J. Kovacevich

A priest of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Canton, Ohio, he received faculties from Bishop LaValley to serve in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

He was ordained to the priesthood in 1971. His assignment was as associate pastor at St. Mary’s in Canton. He was appointed as assistant pastor in the parishes of St. Joseph’s in Massena and Parishville before his appointment as pastor at St. Mary’s in Canton in 1988.

He was appointed pastor in Brownville and Dexter in 1995, serving there until his 2000 assignment in Moreauville and Treadwell Mill from 2001. He was later named as assistant pastor in Moreauville and Treadwell Mill from 2001. Father Elliott has also served as diocese director of the permanent deacon formation program from 1985 to 1995 and Dean of Clinton Deeney from 2004 to 2007.

Father Elliott also served as a teacher at Mount Assumption Institute and then as a teacher at the Notre Dame Academy in Plattsburgh for several years.

Father Joseph W. Elliott

Father Elliott, another 40-year Jubilarian, has been pastor of the Catholic Community of St. Philip in St. Joseph and St. Mary’s, Massena and St. John Vianney Semi-nary in East Aurora, NY.

He was ordained May 22, 1971, at St. Mary’s Cathedral by Bishop Brzana. Father Elliott’s first assignment was as an assistant pastor at Our Lady of Victory in Plattsburgh. He also served as an assistant in Morrisonville, West Chazy, Notre Dame in Malone and West Chazy.

He was later named assistant pastor in Moreauville and Treadwell Mill from 2001. He was later named as assistant pastor in Moreauville and Treadwell Mill from 2001. Father Elliott has also served as diocese director of the permanent deacon formation program from 1985 to 1995 and Dean of Clinton Deeney from 2004 to 2007.

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A Massena native, Father Boisvert was born Nov. 30, 1945, and studied for the priesthood at Vassularus Hall and St. John Vianney Semi-nary in East Aurora, NY.

Previously, he had served as pastor in West Chazy and St. John Vianney Seminary in Plattsburgh for several years.

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LIFETIME MEETING
Matarone  •  80-year-olds
were held in monthly meetings as the
Week of the World.
Time: 9 a.m.
Place: St. Rose of Lima St.
Features: Lifetime is a pre-church
organization. The efforts, offers, videos,
books and educational materials which may be borrowed Topics
covered: family, assisted suicide, on
through the church,
andrasite.
Contact: 753-2808, website
at thefraternity.org.

PILGRIM POST
Features: Marge Scott will be in
Father Scott’s home.  Scott will
andScared.

CLINTON

HEALING Mass
Eucharistic Adoration is to be held on
March 19 at 11 a.m. at St. Rose of Lima St.
Time: 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Place: St. Rose of Lima St.
Features: Father Scott will be present.
Contact: EBP 393-5315 or email
bpilgrim@charter.net.

DIOCESE EVENTS
MEDICAL DIRECTOR NEEDED
Eagle River • The Diocese of
is seeking a Medical Director
who will develop and implement
policies and procedures.
Contact: Mgr. Bernard at 315-
347-3324 or email
bberryer@charter.net.

BERGHAMPTON • The Bishop of
is seeking a Medical Director
who will develop and implement
policies and procedures.
Contact: Rev. Francis Swiderski at 716-
632-2626 or email
swiderski@dioob.org.

SCERA PILGRIMAGE
Ogdensburg • The Ogdensburg National
is scheduled for August 6-9, 2011.
Contact: Father John at 315-
266-4752 or email
joseph.macaire@diosag.org.

W E R E M E M B E R  •  W E  C E L E B R A T E
For decades, Father Berg
provided spiritual guidance
and counsel to thousands
of carnival workers in
on the Iron Range.
He was known as the "Carny Priest." For
many years, he also served as pastor
in other locations.

BOOKS, GAMES, LARGE TICKET DRAWING TO 16 YEARS OLD; 2 P.M. TO 6 P.M.
ADULT COUNTRY MUSIC.

BIRTHDAY BREAKFAST BUFFET
Potsdam  •  On Father Berg’s 90th birthday,
the Chazy School will hold a breakfast.
Contact: 371-2458 or email
jerome.randelle@ Charter.net.

FOOD FESTIVAL
Plattsburgh  •  Peddlers Post is to be held on
June 5 at 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at St. Bernard’s School.
Date: June 5
Time: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Place: St. Bernard’s School
Features: Food, games, large ticket drawing
for ages 6 to 16 years old; 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Features: Adult country music.
Contact: 575-3325 or email
b2ljos@gmail.com.

CONGRATULATIONS, JUBILARIANS
This year, the Diocese of
Ogdensburg honors five
priests who are celebrating
significant anniversaries in 2011.
Bishop Terry R. Laliberty
provided a jubilary Mass May 17 during the
annual Priests’ Day Breakfast.
Profiles of the jubilarians follow:

Maj. Robert J. McCarthy
Major McCarthy, celebrat-
ing 65 years as a priest of the
Diocese of Ogdensburg, spent
21 of those 21 years as pastor of Holy Family Church in Watertown.
A native of Plattsburgh, he was born July 1, 1948,
graduated from Plattsburgh High School, and attended Pot-
mansville State Teachers College for one year before begin-
ing studies for the priest-
hood.
He studied at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg and St.
Bernard’s Seminary in Rochester before his ordina-
Early in his priesthood, Major McCarthy was an as-
sistant pastor at St. Mary’s, Watertown, assistant pastor at Holy Family, Watertown; and pastor in Old Forge, Warren
Lee, Leyden, Cotton and South
Colton.
He was director of the Catholic Youth Council in
Watertown from its beginning in 1958 to 1966 and named diocesan director of the
Apostleship of Prayer in 1966.
On May 19, 1960, Major, Mc-
Carthy was named a Papal Chaplain (Military
priest) to the Italian Legion.
In 1961, he was appointed pastor at St. James in
Gouverneur, and, in 1972 pastor of Holy Family, a position he held until his retirement in
1993.
In addition to his ministry within the diocese, Major
McCarthy was internationally known as the “Carny Priest.” For decades, he provided
liturgical and sacramental services to carnival workers
across the United States.
In 1970, Pope Paul VI named Major McCarthy to the
Pontifical Commission for the Care of the Catholic
Poor. He was also named the diocesan chaplain for the
60,000 carnival workers in the United States.
In 1979, he was honored with a private audience with
Pope John Paul II who knew him from the mid-60s.
Major McCarthy is credited with bringing the Precious
Blood Sisters to the Diocese of Ogdensburg in the 1960s and providing financial sup-
port to the contemplative re-
igious order with

Joseph McCarthy
Father McCarthy is a 40-year jubilari-
ary who has been pastor in
Caribou and New London
since 1971.
Previously, he served as
administrator in North Ban-
gor and Portageville and
parochial vicar in Malone
before completing a 15-year
vocational term as pastor
at the Chapel of the Annunciation.
Father Berg was born in
Ticonderoga, NY. He served
for two years in the Navy before
entering the diocesan preparatory Seminary in Buf-
falo.
He studied for the priest-
hood at St. John Vianney
Seminary at East Aurora, and
after working at Kennedy
Mercy Hospital in Kenmore, he completed his theological
preparation at St. Bernard’s
Seminary in Rochester.
He was ordained Dec. 5, 1971 by Bishop Stanley
Brandone.
Father Berg has also served as associate pastor in
St. Patrick’s in Watertown,
St. Mary’s, Ogdensburg,
and St. Luke’s in Massena and in
Cumberland Head.
The priest has also served as associate pastor in
South Arm, as pastor in
Antwerp and Philosophy
since 1987 until his appointment at the correctional facility
in Scotch Andrews.

We Give thanks for our Jubilarians who have served us so well!
Prayerful Waiting for the Holy Spirit

Thursday of Easter June 4-5

By Mary Lou Lawler, S.J.
Director of Education

Jesus' prayer is a prayer of consecration because He consecrates Himself to His Father as He approaches His death. Actually, this prayer of Jesus is His agape and thoughts of what He must do to complete His mission. This intimate prayer with His Father is heightened by His awareness of being excepted – the first of the ordinances being involved in His prayer as He raises His eyes up to the Father. There is a sense in which Jesus, the Incarnate Word, is in deep communion with His Father. This communion of prayer is expressed in the number of times Jesus uses the term “Father” to describe His Father and to place the Father's love and guidance on the lives of human beings.

From the Director's Desk

Sister Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ, Director Mission Office

Below is an excerpt from a letter received by the Society for CNEWA (Catholic Near East Welfare Association) from the Catholic Near East Welfare Association). Each year, a portion of the proceeds of CNEWA’s fundraising efforts is given directly to the CNEWA. Thank you for your continuous generosity.

Dear Sister Mary Ellen:

We are pleased to announce that you and the generous people of the Diocese of Ogdensburg for your contribution of $6,150.00 to the Catholic Near East Welfare Association. We received your check in this amount representing the proceeds of the 2011 World Mission Sunday collection.

As always, we will be forwarding your gift to the Congregation for the Eastern Churches to support its operations and efforts on behalf of the Eastern Catholic churches. Permit me to convey to you as well the gratitude and appreciation of Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, President of the Pontifical Council for the Coordination of the Work of the Congregation for the Oriental Churches, who coordinates our work on behalf of the Eastern Catholic churches.

Sr. Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ
Diocesan Mission Director

Support for CNEWA

• to educate people in the West about the history, culture and current condition of the Eastern Catholic churches of the East.
• to promote Christian unity and interreligious understanding among people throughout the world.
• to provide humanitarian assistance to those in need without regard to nationality or creed.
• to promote Christian unity and interreligious understanding, and collaboration.
• to educate people in the West about the history, cultures, churches of the East.

CNEWA does not have inflexible priorities – they are set according to the needs that arise in the period between each World Mission Sunday collection.

Thank you for your continued support of the CNEWA.

Sincerely,
Garbriel Delmonaco, US National Director

North Country Catholic news 15

Ogdensburg, NY 13669

Letter to the Editor

One with this very “sacramental” time of year, this week’s North Country Catholic features pages of obituaries. Among the many year-olds receiving Jesus for the first time.

Bishop LaValley’s schedule lists many comments from priests among our clergy. We hear so many comments from priests that makes our little dio-

CELEBRATION IN MOORS FORKS

Father Gerald G. Costello, pastor of St. John’s in Moosenee and St. Joseph in Mooselookmegowin, is shown with the First Communion class after the May 21, 2011, distribution at St. Joseph’s Church in Mooselookmegowin.

Memorial Services

Funeral for: 


- Jean C. Beaubriand, 87, February 25, 2011, at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

- Jeanne A. (Lapointe) Pruski, 82, March 25, 2011, at St. Patrick’s Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.


- Elizabeth J. Logan, 75, June 25, 2011, at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

- Mary E. J. Logan, 71, July 10, 2011, at St. Mark’s Church; burial in Dominican Cemetery.

- Mary T. (Brown) White, 80, June 18, 2011, at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

- Jean C. Beaubriand, 87, February 25, 2011, at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

- Anthony R. Barber, 76, May 25, 2011, at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.


- Elizabeth J. Logan, 75, June 25, 2011, at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

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Humility in prayer is rewarded

VATICAN CITY — Humility and perseverance in prayer is rewarded by a true encounter with God, Pope Benedict XVI said.

At his weekly general audience May 25 in St. Peter’s Square, Pope Benedict said God’s blessing cannot be won by force but rather “must be received with humility from him.”

The pope continued his series of audience talks about prayer, using the story of the biblical patriarch Jacob, who was challenged by an unidentified foe.

After a struggle that lasted all night, Jacob, who appeared to be winning, demanded that his opponent bless him. The man turned the tables by asking Jacob his name, which the pope said was like appropriating “the deepest reality of the individual, revealing secrets and destiny.”

The challenger gave Jacob the name Israel, the pope said, which showed that even though the patriarch won the fight, he finally recognized that he had been battling with God, who gave him a new, honest identity.

The pope said the story “speaks to us of a long night in search of God, of the struggle to know his name and face.”

It describes “the night of prayer that with tenacity and perseverance asks God for a blessing and a new name, a new reality that comes from conversion and forgiveness.”

Jubilarians honored for 65,40,25 years

This year, the Diocese of Ogdensburg honors five priests who are celebrating significant anniversaries in 2011.

Bishop Terry R. LaValley presided at a Jubilee Mass May 17 during the annual Presbyteral Assembly in Lake Placid.

The jubilarians are Msgr. Robert J. McCarthy, 65 years of priesthood; Father Peter Berg, 40 years; Father Gilbert Boisvert, 40 years; Father Joseph Elliott, 40 years; and Father Stephen Kovacevich, 25 years.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

Pilgrimage to Italy

Jean Bishop Looby and Father Doug Lauter for a week in a beer adventure in March 2012

HELP YOUR CONGREGATION FIGHT DIABETES. FaithFightsDiabetes.org

My Priest Saved My Life

Father Joe got me to see that I’m at high risk for diabetes. Now I’m taking better care of my health so I won’t get the disease.

IN THIS ISSUE

Pope Benedict to focus on the family While in Croatia PAGE 10

Chaplains provide support for veterans PAGE 11

PRESBYTERAL ASSEMBLY

Brings priests of diocese together

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