pating in the singing group at church. This lasted until late in my sophomore year when I began working to pay for my apartment. I was never late. It couldn’t stay the night be passed. Although I’d always been strong emotionally, I was not strong physically. I can’t remember watching someone I love pass away. I’ll never forget how this was.

I left the hospital. I prayed for the cancer to leave and I prayed for dad to live. When this didn’t happen, I realized that not only thought wasn’t going to help. It hurt to watch your father pass away in front of you. About four months later, a friend of mine passed away. I couldn’t go to sing at the Funeral. Other than that, the funeral, it was the first time I’ve been a church in a long time.

And upon returning, I didn’t miss it. I lost my way into the world—lost going for the fun and I’ve just been hung up on something. I dreamed about you. I was not helpful at all, dragging my feet. I called my father’s death began such a beautiful process of my being in contact with spiritual filled people that helped me, despite my stupidly and stubbornness. Every day I thank God for them. Sometimes I feel so small, or child-like in my growing faith. I feel like I’m far behind others. I need to remind myself we all travel this path to Christ at different speeds and from different places.

What matters is that we get to the end of the path even if it takes or where we come from. The death of my parent was a wake-up call. I’d lost that far-doughted hierarchy on earth. As I understood toward heaven and allowed how unfair I’d been to my heavenly father. As a lapsed Catholic, I’d ignored Him for years but then, He was ready to welcome me in. I’m like the Prodigal Son, erasing the debt. He has forgiven me. I’ve wavered to never leave again. "Ach, ich liebe es!" (“O, how I love it!”) a

**When the doors of the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio, opened this week, four men from the Diocese of Ogdensburg provide support for the education of seminarians through donations to the annual Bishop’s Fund Appeal. Information about this year’s appeal is featured on p. 16.**

**SEMINARIANS: THE FIRST DAYS**

**Rites held for Brother Rene’**

**30 BACK PEEW NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC SEPT. 7, 2011**

**Papal message for ‘cradle Catholics’**

**Shocking quotes from the Pope**

**MARKING TEN YEARS SINCE SEP. 11, 2001**

**SEPT. 7, 2011**

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

**Youth Center’s mandate must be rethought – hit 15**

**Businesses and Catholic organizations support Bishop’s Fund insert**

**Coming back home**

**A chance to help**

**flood victims**

**Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Ogdensburg**

**has established a fund to assist victims in**

**the North Country. Donations (which will**

**will assist victims of both derecho storms and Hurricane Irene) can also be made online at CatholicCharitiesOnline.org.**

** Fritz Dean

**Vatican II**

"nudge" it wouldn’t leave me. Eventually, when several church members asked if I would start a choir, I realized that I needed to step up, no matter how uncom fortable. I knew God wanted me to, even if I didn’t. I thank Him now for His prompting! What a beautiful blessing! God is going to lead others in song. It is a part of coming home.

Thus began my “coming back to faith!” process. There were many kick-starts along the way. One example of a coming back to faith is the time I accidentally sang the wrong prayer. The gesture, the music of the prayer, the spirit of the community inspired me to attend Mass and I do, listening to the Homily, prompting! What a beautiful gift.

My small seedling faith is growing stronger and I’m not the same person I was. What a beautiful gift.

I eventually noticed how unfair I’d been to my father. He was ready to welcome me in. I’m like the Prodigal Son, erasing the debt. He has forgiven me. I’ve wavered to never leave again. “Ach, ich liebe es!” (“O, how I love it!”)

**Kristina Dean**

**Parishioner, St. Joseph’s, Philadelphia**

"What’s on our minds today?"

**NORTHCOUNTRYCATHOLIC.COM**

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

this past July and August, Cindy Sullivan, BVM, a Missionary of Our Lady of Consolation and Director of Evangelization

If you have any questions about your contribution, you can contact us at:

774x581

Please remember “The Society for the Propagation of the Faith” when writing or changing your Will.

Blessings,

Cindy Sullivan, SSF
Thank God that in our land the flag waves freely

Whensoever I go jogging around the streets of Ogdens-
burg, I check out our flag. I look for the flag flying out-
side the Fire Department building and the one waving
outside the City Police Department. They give an
idea about the wind speed and direction and to see how
much energy we need to muster up running against the
wind, especially if it’s raining.

One day, as I was pondering the pou-

ning place to that halfway
mark to the ground.

To keep the flag soaring in the

whole world has tugged

nation’s banner.

One day, as I was

As we remember, we do

something at the White

saying and done, goodness

vast land today provide a

balm for us all. When all is

dead and done, goodness

weighing, we know that

our nation’s banner’s pre-

the pole. The wrenching

the carriers of.

in the flag being wa-

our national flag. For so

considered. The flag of

especially the blood,

all that they symbolize,

of the stars and stripes and

pulse has never been

was thrust our way. Our

fered brutal terrorist at-

20,000 lives were saved in

began to grow, hope be-

on our hearts, we seek

as we continue to strug-

impressive. I called to be

be pinned to its rightful

heaven and earth.

As we remember, we do

with hope beyond hope.

their love, their loved ones,

the world of a particular

nation’s shoulders.

the weight of the world on

acknowledged. The hurt

so fleeting. The flag never

remains in that state of

limbo, wavering between

orphaned. No, it inevitably

It’s an emotional and right-

wounded eagle eventually

The hearts and souls of a
gothic nation once again

pull the patriotic strings
to the faces

soothing, or soaring in the

skies, never, never to be

planed. Yes, ours is a natio-

called to be good. Yes, the

wound must be acknowledged.

aura the need to muster

the weight of the world on

our shoulders.

the wind, especially in

running against the

need to muster up

in the flag, both to

vast land today provide a

our nation’s banner, to look

As we continue to strug-

with hope beyond hope.

currents. And, above all,

seek to rescue and save

that they have emerged.

Our Lord, our King and

Come where terror

have not been

The weight of the world

a flag is a symbol of a

family, neighbor, friend,

The Extraordinary Form of

and is the most

devised by Benedictine

and their ultimate fate.

under the one waving out-

outside the Fire Depart-

with 50/50 Early Bird

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

place of prayer. By the

6580

6 and older, $5; under 5,

$4.25; under 5, Free

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Rites held Tuesday for Brother Rene Demers, FIC

Brother Rene completed a bachelor’s degree at St. Francis College, Baldordel, ME, in 1949. He entered the Brothers of Christian Instruction at the Champlain Valley Medical Center.

He was born in New Bedford, MA, on Aug. 31, 1931, the son of Charles and Dora (Dubois) Demers. He was the founder of the brothers, and made his novitiate with the Brothers of Christian Instruction in 1949 in Plattsburgh, N.Y., and made his profession in 1950. Brother Rene died Sept. 1 at the Champlain Valley Medical Center in Plattsburgh, N.Y., after a brief hospitalization.

Brother Rene died Sept. 1 at the Champlain Valley Medical Center in Plattsburgh, N.Y., after a brief hospitalization.

Brother Rene completed a bachelor’s degree at St. Francis College in 1949. He entered the Brothers of Christian Instruction in 1949 in Plattsburgh, New York, and made his profession in 1950. He then taught at St. Joseph’s High School, Waterville, ME, ten years. He lived in Maine, for a Sept. 7 Mass of Christian Burial at Notre Dame Cemetery in Alfred.

Brother Rene died Sept. 1 at the Champlain Valley Medical Center in Plattsburgh, N.Y., after a brief hospitalization.

The Brothers of Christian Instruction are a religious community of priests and brothers whose members are engaged in the ministry of Christian Instruction and religious education. They were founded in 1817 by the Venerable John-Mary De La Madeleine, and are best known for their work in education, particularly in the Catholic Church.

Brother Rene was appointed director of foreign students for the newly created Seton Catholic Central in 1952. He was actively retired until 1989 when health issues started taking toll.

Brother Rene was first of all, a community man; one could always call on him for a variety of tasks. His great pride in decorating the residences and the house chapel. He had a green thumb, his garden was a source of beauty. He was in contact with jigsaw puzzles, often framing them as gifts for friends.

In the last four years he had had several health issues which have taken a toll. He was actively retired until 1989 when health issues started taking toll.

Brother Rene was a member of the Knights of Columbus Bingos on Mondays for former students. He helped at the Bingo on Mondays with his many friends at the Clinton Historical Society where he called his second home. In addition he had many long term friends from among his former students.

He regularly volunteered for Seton Bingo on Saturdays and the Knights of Columbus Bingos on Mondays. Brother Rene was a member of the Knights of Columbus Bingos on Mondays for former students. He helped at the Bingo on Mondays with his many long term friends from among his former students.

While suitable only for mature audiences, films whose classification is R -- restricted. Under 17 requires an adult guardian.

In addition to supporting Camp Guggenheim and special events in the country, we are here to be a resource for any parish group who may have questions on how to approach any youth ministry project. If your group is interested in developing a new youth ministry program, please contact us at (315) 393-2020 for more information.

To support the 2011 Bishop’s Fund Appeal, please visit dlc Carlos Funeral Home, Inc.

1414 Burying Hill Rd., 366-1100

For more information, visit our website at:

www.gzbfuneral.com

The Information Technology Office provides the diocesan offices with technology solutions along with recommending strategies to maximize efficiencies in a cost-effective manner. The Information Technology Office also supports all computer, phone, network and web related needs.

The IT Office also provides support for parishes throughout the diocese.
God speaks to our hearts on Sept. 11

This Sunday we commemorate ten years of a terrible wound inflicted on our country by foreign terrorists. Surviving it was one thing. Building buildings that symbolize American valor, the murder of thousands of lives that day was far greater.

During these past ten years, families still grieve the loss of loved ones, and our nation still fights off insecurity and fear—and unforgiveness. God is surely speaking to our hurts in the 27th and 28th chapters of Lamentations. Let us take to heart the words of the prophet; let old hurts heal.

God says to his people, “When you say to your neighbor, ‘How do you prosper?’ Say to him, ‘The Lord bless you!’” Let us respond to our neighbors in the same way, remembering that God is surely speaking to our nation.

Our mission is to provide spiritual, Theological and Formational experiences for the human development and ongoing formation of the Church’s priests.

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On this weekend that commemorates ten years of the terrible wounding of our nation, let us remember what we are called to be. Let us pray for a change of heart and a change of spirit. Let us pray for those who have been wounded by the terrorist attacks.

Our mission is to provide spiritual, Theological and Formational experiences for the human development and ongoing formation of the Church’s priests.

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Change in leadership can bring spiritual lift

At the grand jury’s recommendation, two priests, a layman and a former archdiocesan priest were charged with criminal counts related to abuse of juveniles. Another priest was charged with endangering child welfare for his role in assigning the accused priests.

In response, the Philadelphia Archdiocese has taken actions that include hiring a former sex crimes prosecutor to review personal files of the 37 priests named in the grand jury’s report. Cardinal Rigali also placed more than two dozen priests on administrative leave while allegations against them are reviewed.

“It has been a very difficult period, that’s true,” Father Gill said. “There’s been a lot of pain, in so many different ways during this period.”

A different leader will also provide a fresh perspective when dealing with the challenges that face the archdiocese, said Michele Meiers, an administrator for the Pontifical Mission Societies in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Meiers said employees throughout the archdiocese have expressed excitement about the changing of the guard. “It’s not that they have been unhappy with the leadership of Cardinal Rigali, but a change at this time offers everyone a clean slate, she said.

“There is a hope that with someone who is new, things will be different and things will be better,” Father Gill said.

Christopher Bobrowski and Sarah Mabie recent graduates of Schuylerville Central
School were reconoced by parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes Church for 10 years as altar servers.

The Mike Recus Dvacy at St. Patrick’s Parish in Ogdensburg recently held its Congressional Breakfast at Fish & Chips in Ogdensburg. The guest speaker was Sen. Minority Leader Patrick DeStefano from Sacred Heart, Ironton. Patrons in Ironton who gossip about Mary the Mother of Jesus. Pictured, left to right are Jim Gill, Carlton Huggins, Dorothy Kennedy, Ed DiFranco, Bob Szymko, Dwayne Phillips, Tamara Mercier and June Sokolicki, Miles, Ben Minyo, Mary Lou Pessa, Joana Vincelli, Cathy Valler, Betty Williams, Mary Edlidge and Karen Thompson, and Judy Brown, Joe Martini, Patty Edridge, Ann Norren, Bernadette Frohm, Kathleen Collins, Father Larry Gross and Edie Continual.

Father Scott Fobare, pastor in Port Henry, recently blessed the cross for the new Catholic Cemetery of Moriah Cemetery. The Port Henry Knights of Columbus Council Online Money Grant of $1,244 desribed the Cooper of Cooper that hangs on the cross. Pictured, from left are Brights Martin Rees, Raymond Munari, Father Fobare, Patrick Sullivan, Gerald Sargent, Janice Sargent, Joyce O’Brien, Sydney Sargent (great-granddaughter) and Scott Sargent (grandson).

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Reflection on tragedy's spiritual dimension

By Beth Griffin

Catholic News Service

Sept. 7, 2011 - the tenth anniversary

Pfeifer said there is transformation through trauma. "We used to think the 9/11 attacks were just New York City events, that they were a local trauma, an entire world experienced that," he said. "It was a global trauma, an entire world encountered and counter transformation occurred" when people came to see that all local acts of terrorism, whether in Ireland or Israel, or Afghanistan, were represented at the World Trade Center.

"It gave the victims of terrorism an international voice and showed that we are not a crime against humanity," he said.

People encounter spiritual depth in different ways, he said, and the 10th anniversary will allow people to connect with those who are in a larger family.

One such larger group devotedly served by the fire was the 9/11 attacks lives in Rockaway Peninsula, New York, where many residents of the handful of communities that span the narrow 10-mile stretch have only had a short time of peace since the disaster.

"So many of these families, who were a New York firefighter, policeman, firefighter and were national icons and were lost on that day and are gone number one. They are still faithful. I'm not fair-weather friends of God," said Msgr. Martin T. Geraghty, pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Breezy Point, who was a New York firefighter and widow of Lt. Kevin Dowdell, a New York fire-figher who was killed.

Msgr. Geraghty said tribal attorneys have only had a short time of mindfulness since their creation and still have a long way to go.

"We're at the beginning of this. God is calling us out of idolatry into a different understanding," he said.

Rosellen Dowdell was the widow of Lt. Kevin Dowdell, who was a New York firefighter. She is a parishioner at St. Francis of Assisi Church and being in the church was solace in going to funerals, including parishioners.

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Says contraceptives insurance mandate must be rescinded

By Nancy M. Support

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The federal government mandate that health plans cover contraceptives and abortion services “represents an unprece- dented attack on religious liberty” and creates “serious moral concerns” that require its rescission, attorneys for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops said in a Sept. 21 filing following the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision not to hear the bishops’ appeal of the mandate.

The mandate represents an “unprecedented attack on religious liberty and creates serious moral concerns that require its rescission,” according to the USCCB attorneys.

The USCCB also said in its April comments that the HHS contraceptive mandate violates the Religious Amenity, certain religious tenets, and 44 is nonprofit organization “under specific sections of the Internal Revenue Code.”

The mandate requires that health plans provide contraceptive and sterilization services for women and also allow no- cost coverage of those same services for men.

The mandate requires that health plans provide contraceptive and sterilization services for women and also allow no-cost coverage of those same services for men.
Our Faith, Our Family

Ways to Give

Gifts of Cash: Checks should be made payable to the “Bishop’s Fund Appeal.”

Pledge: A gift to the Bishop’s Fund Appeal may be paid in four payments - at the time of the pledge, December, February, and April.

Gifts of Securities: Federal tax laws allow a charitable deduction for the full market value of the securities on the date of your gift.

Matching Gifts: Many companies endeavor to match the charitable contributions of employees. Please contact your company’s Human Resource Department to determine if your company participates in the Matching Gift Program for Catholic Schools.

Online Giving: The Bishop’s Fund Appeal offers the opportunity to make your gift and pledge payments online using a credit card. To donate online, please visit www.ourfaithourfamily.org/development and click on Donate Now.

Please help to support the 2011 Bishop’s Fund Appeal - Give Generously.

YES! I WANT TO MAKE MY GIFT TO THE 2011 BISHOP’S FUND APPEAL

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

E-MAIL

Parish

Send check made payable to: Bishop’s Fund Appeal or fill in credit card info.

1. Charge my credit card for $______

2. Signature:

3. Phone:

4. Single Gift □ Pledge □ Matching Gift to Catholic Schools

Total Gift $______

Now Paying $______

Pledge Amount Due $______

Mail to: Bishop’s Fund Appeal

PO Box 150

Ogdensburg, NY 13669

Or place in your parish collection.

2011 Bishop’s Fund Appeal

$1,250,000

Your support of the 2011 Bishop’s Fund Appeal continues the good works of the Diocese of Ogdensburg.
Our Faith, Our Family

The Bishop’s Fund Appeal provides financial assistance to the vital ministries of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. The following are among the ministries supported:

Religious Formation & Spiritual Life
- Department of Christian Formation
  Through its central office in Ogdensburg, and the regional offices, the Department provides programs for parishioners to establish and maintain religious education and formation programs for children and adults. For those who wish to become religious educators, the Department provides the catechist formation program with the end result being a certified catechist. The work is in catechetical formation and education in parishes.

Disciple Center of Youth Ministry
- Diocese’s year-long program for our young people on the road of life and it is incumbent upon us as a Church
to continue. The programs are in prayer, service, and discipleship that positively highlight the magnificent work of God in our world – past, present and future.

Catechumen Center
- A summer retreat and camp for children, young adults and adults, which provides an opportunity for all ages to enjoy one another within a faith-based environment in the beautiful Adirondacks. Modern facilities, newly remodeled kitchen and dormitories all set against a beautiful, clear mountain lake.

Office of Evangelization
- Sprinkled with inspirational stories to promote and touch the Word of God and to help the parishes and the People of God be aware of their experiences of God’s love in their life and to express this to others. The spiritual life of the People of God grows in different ways. Some of the ways of growing in the faith and being evangelizers of the faith are through prayer, reflection, study of Scripture and becoming involved in small community faith-sharing groups. Resources are available to parishes to support their evangelization efforts and to aid inactive Catholic to help them reconnect with their Catholic faith.

Department of Worship
- Offers assistance in training worship, of church art and architecture, and of music and liturgy. Its primary purpose is to help parishes implement the liturgical norms of the Roman Catholic Church, as well as to be available for liturgical celebrations and Formation through the diocese.

Family Life Office
- Prepares and educates us about the covenant relationship of marriage and family. This ministry encourages couples to be a living sacrament, a sign of God’s love, life and service in our world.

Natural Family Planning Office
- Helps couples live as good stewards of married love and the gift of life. Through parish outreach, media, marriage preparation, and Natural Family Planning ABC sessions, this ministry educates couples to understand and embrace God’s plan for marriage and family.

Permanence Offices
- Facilitates assignments and returns, and organizes vocation activities and continuing education opportunities.

Deacon Formation
- Provides the spiritual, pastoral, personal and academic formation of candidates who are discerning a vocation to the permanent diaconate.

Bishop’s Good Samaritan Fund
- Through our generosity, the Good Samaritan Fund enables Bishop LaValley to provide Christian stewardship aid to our neighbors in the North Country who are experiencing particular financial difficulty.

Education of Seminarians
- Enables our seminarians to pursue God’s call to the priesthood by assisting with tuition, room and board and medical insurance.

Continuing Education & Formation of Clergy
- Conducts programs and conferences that support the ongoing formation and education of the priests for the Diocese.

Tuition Assistance Program
- Financially assists and encourages their efforts to provide their children with a quality Catholic education.

Campus Ministry Program
- Supports Campus Ministries at the two colleges located throughout our Diocese.

Matching Gifts to Catholic Schools
- Supports the matching grants to Catholic Schools.

Bishop’s Fund Prayer

Loving God, pattern of family life, may the Church of Ogdenburg always live as your holy people, united as you are Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Make us a sign of your love for the people of the North Country and beyond, and may your work be holy, the living presence of Christ.

May we persevere in faith and in witness!

Bless the 2011 Bishop’s Fund Appeal. Inhale with faith, exhale with love and life giving spirit.

Help this local Church to grow in faith, holiness, charity, and mutual service.

One God, three Persons, be near to the people formed in your image, and may your love become effective in our lives.

Amen.
BISHOP’S FUND 2011 | NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC | SEPT. 7, 2011

Our Faith, Our Family

Ways to Give

Gifts of Cash: Checks should be made payable to the “Bishop’s Fund Appeal.”

Pledge: A gift to the Bishop’s Fund Appeal may be paid in four payments - at the time of the pledge, December, February and April.

Gifts of Securities: Federal tax laws allow a charitable deduction for the full market value of the securities on the date of your gift.

Matching Gifts: Many companies endeavor to match the charitable contributions of employees. Please contact your company’s Human Resource Department to determine if your company participates in the Matching Gift Program for Catholic Schools.

Online Giving: The Bishop’s Fund Appeal offers the opportunity to make your gift and pledge payments online using a credit card. To donate online, please visit www.dioecesansburg.org/development and click on Donate Now.

Please help to support the 2011 Bishop’s Fund Appeal - Give Generously!

2011 Bishop Fund Appeal Goal

$1,250,000

Your support of the 2011 Bishop’s Fund Appeal continues the good works of the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

YES! I WANT TO MAKE MY GIFT TO THE 2011 BISHOP’S FUND APPEAL

NAME
ADDRESS
CITY
STATE
ZIP
E-MAIL: [ ] PARISH

SEND CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO: Bishop’s Fund Appeal OR FILL IN CREDIT CARD INFO.

[ ] CHARGE MY CREDIT CARD FOR $ _______

CARD NUMBER ____________
EXP. DATE __________

SIGNATURE________________________
PHONE ____________________________

[ ] SINGLE GIFT [ ] PLEDGE [ ] MATCHING GIFT TO CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

TOTAL GIFT $ __________
NOW PAYING $ __________
PLEDGE AMOUNT DUE $ __________
MAIL TO: BISHOP’S FUND APPEAL
PO BOX 150
OGDENSBURG, NY 13669

OR PLACE IN YOUR PARISH COLLECTION

OUR FAITH, OUR FAMILY

2011 Bishop’s Fund Appeal
Reflection on tragedy's spiritual dimension

by Bob Pfeifer
Catholic News Service

As a first responder to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, Lt. Kevin Pfeifer of the New York City Fire Department has long reflected on the 10th anniversary of the attacks as an opportunity for the world to come together and think about the tragedy's spiritual dimension and its aftermath.

On Sept. 11, 2001, Pfeifer was chief of the 1st Battalion, which was the first on the scene in the north tower of the World Trade Center. His fireman brother in the lobby of the building as Lt. Kevin Pfeifer responded to the second alarm.

"With my family in the first few words, and Kevin headed up the stairs. He helped evacuate workers and di-cup the stairs. He helped..." Pfeifer said an interview with Catholic News Service. "I walked back to the firehouse from the site on the second day, when I knew there would be no more survivors. It was totally dark except for the lights we had brought in. There was no power and I could see everywhere." The head of anger, I felt an encounter, as if I was coming back to an old friend, or putting on a mask. It was very much on West Street, walking back in com-memoration of God's presence. "Instead of anger, I felt an encounter with his life. He is now the chief of the 1st Battalion, Fire Department and in charge of directing emergency response in the New York City Fire Department and an emergency preparing role for people. The mes-sage of the Twin Towers is that we can become irrelevant that day, many parts of the world. "At Christmas 2001, a group of people from around the United States and Canada held a prayer service, which is the kick-off for Re-spect Life Sunday. "Life Chain is open to all families here. The visual statement of solidarity by the families, which includes three chains, that abortion kills children and that the sanctity of human life should be supported from the moment of conception until natural death.

Life Chain participants stand in prayer on sidewalks across the United States and Canada, holding profession-ally printed signs which are provided at each location.

The North Country Loca-tions are:

• Plattsburgh - Smithfield Blvd at Center St, 2:30 to 3:30; Contact: Wanda Gaffney, 518-566-2778
• Potsdam - Market St at Center St, 2:30 to 3:30; Contact: John & Colleen Miner, diocesan director of respect life ministry, 518-891-2309
• Willsboro – Main Street empty parking lot.
• Westport – Westport Library from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

North Country Catholic Life Chains have been promoted by the Diocese of Ogdensburg. Pinto Munceno Hooper is the diocesan coordinator. Certified Public Accountants, P.C.

SULLIVAN'S

104 Sharrow Ave, PO Box 3048
Plattsburgh, NY 12901
Phone: 518-561-4010 518-561-4026

Supporting the 2011 Bishop's Fund Appeal Insert

One Cumberland Avenue
PO Box 2947
Plattsburgh, NY 12901

Ph: 518-561-4400
Fax: 518-561-4848
Website: www.soctlaw.spacesquare.com

Supporting the 2011 Bishop's Fund Appeal Insert

Oct. 2 Life Chains planned

Life Chains have been scheduled in several sites in the Diocese of Ogdensburg for To Re-spect Life Sunday.

To open Respect Life Month

CNS PHOTO/GREGORY A. SHEMETZ

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• Westport – Main Street near the library, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.; Pick up signs at the empty parking lot.

The question of why? is still not out there, but they are willing to trust God and keep him at the center of their lives. He slammed down their bat and ball and gone home," he said.
Change in leadership can bring spiritual lift

At the grand jury’s recommendation, two priests, a layman and a former archdiocesan priest were charged with criminal counts related to abuse of juveniles. Another priest was charged with endangering child welfare for his role in assigning the accused priests.

In response, the Philadelphia Archdiocese has taken actions that include hiring a former sex crimes prosecutor to review personal files of the 37 priests named in the grand jury’s report. Cardinal Rigali also placed more than two dozen priests on administrative leave while allegations against them are reviewed.

“It has been a very difficult period, that’s true,” Father Gill said. “There’s been a lot of pain, in so many different ways during this period.”

A different leader will also provide a fresh perspective when dealing with the challenges that face the archdiocese, said Michele Moir, an administrator for the Pontifical Mission Societies in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Moir said employees throughout the archdiocese have expressed excitement about the changing of the guard. “It’s not that they have been unhappy with the leadership of Cardinal Rigali, but a change at this time offers everyone a clean slate, she said.

“There is a hope that with someone who is new things will be different and things will be better,” Father Gill said.

Christopher Gieseking with Sarah Mahler, recent graduates of Schroon Lake Central School, were recognized by parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes Church for 10 years as altar servers at Mass. Christopher, who has twice been to Nicaragua with the North Country Catholic Charity, will be attending SUNY Canton this fall while Sarah, valedictorian of her class, will be enrolling at the Culinary Institute of America.

The Mike Burns Society of St. Patrick’s Parish in Boonville recently held its Annual Breakfast at the Fish ‘n’ Chip Inn in Boonville. The guest speaker was Sr. Therese Mary Hopkins from Sacred Heart, Lorraine Patterson in Malone who spoke about Mary the Mother of Jesus. Pictured, from left are Carol Accomazzo, Margaret Lucey, Evelyn McAteer, June Wint, Cindy Rhoades, Donna Hackett, Dolores Burgoyne, Mary Connors, Mary Guglielmo, Mary Santoro, Kathy Brown and Sue Walker.

When Nanno Frankowski walks to church, she is confronted with scaffolding covering much of her beloved Cathedral Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul so that workers can refinish the exterior of Philadelphia’s 147-year-old Catholic structure. While it’s a temporary eyesore for the Philadelphia Catholic says she is looking forward to seeing the building restored to its original grandeur.

She is also looking for a renovation of sorts for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia when it welcomes Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, formerly of Denver, who succeeds the retiring Cardinal Justin Rigali Sept. 9.

“A fresh face at the helm may provide the spiritual lift that is needed in an archdiocese that has been rocked by a child abuse scandal and in dictum,” Frankowski said following a 12:05 p.m. Tuesday Mass. “I think it will be good for Philadelphia.”

A change in leadership can provide a psychological boost to every diocese and archdiocese, said Father Dennis Cull, director of the Office for Divine Worship in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Archbishop Chaput’s appointment to Philadelphia comes as the archdiocese is still reeling from a scathing grand jury report released in February.

The grand jury had concluded the Philadelphia Archdiocese of failing to stop priests from sexually abusing children even after a previous report had called attention to problems. It said more than three dozen priests with allegations of sexual abuse were still in positions where they could contact children.

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God speaks to our hearts on Sept. 11

(scripture reflection)

This Sunday we commemorate ten years of a terrible sound inflicted on our country by foreign terrorists. Remembering it, we understand that it was not just buildings that symbolized American power, the murder of thousands of lives that day was far greater.

During these past ten years, families still grieve the loss of loved ones, and our nation still fights off insecurity and fear-and unforgiveness. God is surely speaking to our hurts in the 27th and 28th chapters of Sirach that morning.

There are more really good advice in today’s passage from Sirach. And that servant owed a greater. Look at the steward in this Sunday’s Gospel. He probably thought his Master was foolish and soft to forgive him the millions of dollars he owed, even though he gladly accepted the favor. He’s not maybe moderate Islam really teaches. There’s more really good advice in today’s passage from Sirach.

We need to understand how slow we are to forgive others. And that servant owed a bare fraction of the debt his master had forgiven him. What a huge debt we owe God for His great mercy toward us. Forgiving others is the way we pay that debt to God. And the funny thing is that we don’t really lose anything at all by forgiving. God gives us back our health. Just the opposite.

Forgiving others opens our heart to God’s forgiveness, and what true and moderate forgiveness! What a huge debt we owe God for His great mercy toward us. Forgiving others is the way we pay that debt to God. And the funny thing is that we don’t really lose anything at all by forgiving. God gives us back our health. Just the opposite.

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Brother Rene Demers, FIC

Brother Rene D emer s, FIC, was appointed director of foreign students for the newly created Seton Catholic Central School in 1989.


Brother Rene was first of all a community man; one could always call on him for a variety of tasks. His greatest pride in decorating the residences in his care. He had a green thumb; his garden was a source of beauty. He was interested in jigsaw puzzles, often framing them as gifts for others.

Over the last four years his health issues started taking their toll.

He was a member of the Knights of Columbus

The Assumption Institute is part of the Catholic News Service Scholarship Fund to be established by Mount Assumption Institute. Donations may be made to the Brother Rene Demers Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Brother Rene was a member of the Knights of Columbus Bingham 4th Degree Knights of Columbus, St. Peter’s Church. He is survived by his brothers, Raymond, Aaron, and Alyssa Griffin and her children James Griffin, 22, of Howardsville, Va; and Andrew Griffin, 25, of Fairhaven, Mass. He was predeceased by his parents, his sisters Maury and Margaret, and his nieces. He is survived by many other nephews and nieces.

For his special friends.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Catholic News Service Scholarship Fund.

The information Technology officer provides the diocese with offices with technology solutions along with recommending strategies to maximize efficiency in a cost-effective manner. The Information Technology officer also supports all computer, phone, network and web related needs.

The IT office also provides support for parishes throughout the diocese.

N O R T H  C O U N T R Y  C A T H O L I C
LENS}

OVER THE TOP

AND bd...
Of faith and family

by Mary Lou Groom, SJC

Our common baptism has connected us and our love for God, reflected in our family of faith... and know that they will be accomplishingall these challenges and more for us.

The first official opening of the Bishop's Fund is set for Sept. 17. It's in parishes all across the diocese. It gives you some time to consider how important YOUR financial decision will be.

There's all kinds of information about the work of the Bishop's Fund in the centerfold of this issue. You're also going to be making more in your parish over the coming weeks.

But there's really just one thing to remember: as you make your contribution, you will be doing God's work in our diocese and affecting the lives of 450,000 people. To include you, and to those who have been here before us, and our cousins upon cousins, and our mothers, aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews, cousins upon cousins!

Charges to our shared family group. How blessed we are in the greatest of days and just day.

Our community holds true when we consider the family of God.

A letter from the desk, Sister Mary Ellen Brett

Bishop's Fund

This past July and August, Sister Cindy Sullivan, RVM, a Missionary of Charity lived in the Boys Center in Quito, Ecuador. For 13 weeks, she lived the Joaquin Machado and native of Massena, visited several parishes in the Diocese of Ogdensburg while participating in our Annual Missionary Cooperative Program. Just recently, Sister Cindy shared with me a letter she received and it moved me far more than I had expected.

“Dear Sisters,

I am writing to you on this beautiful day of August 9, a most precious day in the calendar of the Church. I am one of the 13 Sisters who have been participating in the Diocesan Visit of the Virgin Mary this year. The guest homilist was your Sr. Cindy Sullivan. I listened to her talk about all of your good works in Quito, Ecuador. I am aware of that, that I want to share this modest donation with you to thank you for your good work and to bless your ministry and to encourage you to continue and to pray for the development of the Church and to work hard and truly work in strong ways! May he continue to bless you all.

Phil from NY”
By Kristina Dean

Plattsburgh will be remembered at a funeral to be held at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church on Sept. 10. Cardinal Sean P. O’Malley, of Boston, will celebrate the funeral Mass, which will be broadcast on the newBH network.

In 2006, things change. I am married with a family. Although I’d always thought religion was something I needed, I never actually went to church. I’ve been back to my Catholic faith for about five years. Actually, I should say “coming back.” The process didn’t happen all at once. There were steps and it involved some work.

As a college student, one never goes to confession for bills so one takes the hours one can get - usually weekends, evenings, nights. So, there went my church time.

I didn’t miss it, I lost the world into my life - always going to church, having fun, meeting friends. Occa- sionally I’d ask God to go in the church, mostly when I needed something, eventually I realized how much I missed it, I found a job of my own place. Thus began my “coming back to faith” process. There were many kick-starts along the way. For example, at one point in my life, I accidentally sang the Memorial Acclimation instead of the great Amen, which is great, for fulfillment to everyone, Pope Benedict XVI told a group of religious youth in July.

For the pope, there is a great need for the faithful to return to their roots - both personal and institutional - in order to face the challenges of the future.

A chance to help flood victims

Cardinal O’Malley addressed the North Country Catholic’s readership in his column from the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

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