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NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

JAN. 18, 2012

Strength from the Eucharist

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- The Eucharist sustains those who are tired, worn out or lost in the world and transforms human sin and weakness into new life, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Speaking at his weekly general audience Jan. 11, the pope focused on Jesus and the Last Supper, where he instituted the Eucharist, "the

sacrament of his body and blood. Jesus' gift of himself anticipates his sacrifice on the cross and his glorious resurrection," the pope said.

He offers his life before it is taken from him on the cross and as such "transforms his violent death into a free act of giving himself for others. Violence immedi-

ately is transformed into an active, free and redemptive sacrifice," the pope said.

The pope said that, at the Last Supper, Jesus prayed for his disciples, especially Peter, warning him, according to the Gospel of Luke, that "Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat."

But Jesus prayed that his

disciple's faith would not fail and that Peter, who would betray Jesus, would return to strengthen the others' faith, the pope said.

"The Eucharist is food for pilgrims, which becomes (a source of) strength also for those who are tired, worn out and lost," Pope Benedict said.

39 years of perseverance with love

From Bishop LaValley: *This month marks the 39th anniversary of the Supreme Court's dreadful declaration in Roe v. Wade that a woman has a constitutional right to abort her preborn child.*

In spite of society's naysayers, the Church insists that life matters from the very start to the end of our days on this earth. Life is always, always good. This month, with loving perseverance, many individuals will once again participate in Life marches and rallies, to voice and give public witness to this goodness.

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New director of development

Scott Lalone of Ogdensburg will succeed Janice Shoen as head of

diocesan development office
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SERVICE WITH A SMILE



PHOTO BY ANN CHARLEBOIS

Father Donald A. Robinson, pastor of St. Anthony's and St. Patrick's parishes in Watertown, performs his duties as head waiter at one of St. Anthony's monthly spaghetti dinners. Here, he stops and talks with Tracy and Daniel Gyoerkoe who recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary.

READY TO MARCH

39th March for Life is Jan. 23



CNS PHOTO/CHRIS WATTIE, REUTERS

Tens of thousands of people from across the United States - including several busloads from the Diocese of Ogdensburg - are expected to gather in the nation's capital Jan. 23 for this year's March for Life in Washington with the theme: "Unite on the life principles to overturn Roe v. Wade and with love protect mothers and preborn children - no exception, no compromise." Above, pro-life supporters take part in Canada's National March for Life demonstration on Parliament Hill in Ottawa in May.

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