The Baking Miracle

Rachel Daly, graduate of Seton Catholic Central in Plattsburgh and now a sophomore at the University of Dallas, and her friends display eight of their 24 “miracle cakes.”

By Rachel Daly

Gretchen wasn’t especially stressed, which is why it was such a lot. We were moved into this year which is why it was such a huge room to room just when someone brought warm cookies from the ovens.

The next day was Saturday, the day before the carnival, and the rest of the baking could be done. So I retreated to our room to work on some homework. I can trace Gretchen only briefly throughout the day, and as the time grew later, she grew more and more stressed, although she strangely showed it. At last, we came across crikcik, the baking was done, and they were ready to be served up a complimentary frosting.

There were six cans of frosting, and Gretchen said to me, “If there isn’t enough frosting, I’m going to cry.” Half an hour later, she locked me to tell me we were ten cakes in and almost run out of frosting. I felt horrible for her.

I finally decided to swing down to the lounge where they were working on the cakes to see how bad it was. When I got there down, however, instead of the frenzy I was expecting, everyone was smiling.

“The frosting held out!” someone said. “We have twenty-eight cakes, and we didn’t run out!”

Sure enough, I watched the cake-making process from beginning to end, and Gretchen consolidated what remained of the frosting, made sure that there was over half a can left over. I couldn’t believe what I was seeing. It was the heavens and the earth bringing to the miracle of frosting!

Was it a miracle what happened that night? We like to think so. But more importantly, I think it was an affirmation that if you are called upon to give of yourself and you say yes in faith, God will supply all the grace you need, and then some.

Gretchen, like our mother Mary, agreed to something without knowing how it could possibly work out, and extraordinary things re- sulted. It was truly an incredible witness, and the kind of thing that gives me reason to say yes to God all over again every time I get up in the morning.

God has so much good, so much grace in store for us if only we just open ourselves to His disposal. Let us not be unmindful as we step out and embrace all the opportunities God will provide us, with the faith that He will provide us with the graces of grace to enable us to get the job done.

Never have I known anyone quite like my roommate Gretchen. She was not the hallmates in Theresa Hall, the dorm building at my college, known for warmth and commu- nicity. Gretchen was a tall, figure-often-seen wearing a flowing skirt and studying about the dorm kitchen. She was set apart from the usual sacri- ficial smells that wafted down the hallways bringing warm cookies from room to room to where you needed them most. My favorites were her oatmeal-无人一cookies—took to perfection with just the right touch of honey.lness of chewiness. She often served up a complimentary frosting!

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No time for hibernation here!

It may be the dead of winter but there is sure to be a lot of life among the students of the Diocese this January. There will be celebrations of nine Schools Week, many of the Catholic schools in the Diocese are buzzing with the annual diocesan Catholic Schools Week. We’ll have next week we’ll turn our attention to the annual January 15th to January 21st. Catholic Schools Week with masses, open houses and activities for students, families, parishioners and friends. The Society for the Propagation of the Faith and the Church’s service to children in the Developing World.

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith and the Church’s service to children in the Developing World. Twenty-nine Catholic schools are participating in Catholic Schools Week this year. The mission of each of these schools is to provide a quality education for children in need. The funds raised during Catholic Schools Week will support these efforts.

A salute to Catholic schools

From Director’s Desk

Sister Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ
Diocesan Mission Director

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LITURGY MEETING

Warrens: Life of Warren will be held on the first Wednesday of the month under the direction of the Living Water Healing Ministry. Time: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Place: St. Mary’s Church. Contact: 315-323-4099 or 348-6260.

BREAD, FISH AND WATER

Group one at 10 a.m. in the Embassy. Group two: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Place: St. Mary’s Church. Contact: 315-456-3456.

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

Contact: Amie St. George, 518-786-4884 or e-mail norwichrugbytaurgeon@dioogdensburg.org.

ST. LAWRENCE Diocesan Life 3

A 13 week program will be sponsored by St. Mary’s Parish Council. Features: Through this program you will learn how to organize your school’s FIRST SATURDAY MASS

Masses: St. Mary’s Church is holding a 1st Saturday Mass every month under the direction of the Living Water Healing Ministry. Time: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Place: St. Mary’s Church. Contact: 315-323-4099 or 348-6260.

PANEL DISCUSSION

The N orth County Catholic welcomes contributions to “Around the Diocese”. Contact: 360-155-8881 or e-mail norwichrugbytaurgeon@dioogdensburg.org.

THE NORTH COUNTY CATHOLIC 14

around the diocese

SUNDAY BRUNCH

North: The Knights of Columbus will host a St. Valentine’s Day Brunch Buffet. Cost: Adults, $7; children 5-10, $3.50; children 4 and under, Free. Place: St. Mary’s Fire Hall. Contact: 518-529-6580.

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL

Uniting the People of God. Get involved with growing in “Covenant”. Time: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Place: St. Mary’s Church.

PAWANZHON GROU P

Contact: The Parishioner Group members are encouraged to participate. Time: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Place: St. Mary’s Parish Center

RADIO PARISHIONER

Parishioners are invited to participate in this 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month meeting, sponsored by the Living Water Healing Ministry. Time: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Place: St. Mary’s Parish Center.

LITURGICAL DUTIES

Contact: Sister Cheryl Roso, 518-786-4429.

LARGE SCALE BREAD AND FISH

Contact: 315-325-6990 or e-mail norwichrugbytaurgeon@dioogdensburg.org.

DICTIONARY EVENTS

Young Adult Online Retreat

Diocese Young Adult Ministry will be having their youth group retreat nights on Fridays each week in February. Time: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Place: St. Mary’s Church. Contact: 315-323-4099 or 348-6260.

CORN ED BEEF AND CABBAGE

Features: In this study you will examine the effect of small groups in your life. Time: Group one at 10 a.m. in the Embassy. Time: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Date: Tuesdays Feb. 20 – April 3. Cost: Adults, $7; children 5-10, $3.50; children 4 and under, Free. Place: St. Mary’s Church.

THANKS TO ALL THAT SUPPORTED THIS ADVENT PROGRAM!

Please return all unused aids to the chapel box at the entrance to the church.

THE NORTH COUNTY CATHOLIC

Our contributions to “Around the Diocese”

Contact: 360-155-8881 or e-mail norwichrugbytaurgeon@dioogdensburg.org.

DIODES MEDITATION

Contact: 315-323-4099 or 348-6260.

DONATION FUNDRAISER

Contact: St. John’s KofC, 518-348-0900.

SACRED MARRIAGE

A 12 week program will be held every Wednesday. Time: 7 p.m. at 7 p.m. Place: St. John’s KofC.

SACRAMENTAL ADOPTION

Contact: Family coordinates with diocesan office.

Eucharistic Adoration

Parish will hold an Adoration every Wednesday (except the first Wednesday). Time: 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Place: St. Mary’s Church. Contact: 315-786-4884 or e-mail norwichrugbytaurgeon@dioogdensburg.org.

LOVE, LIFE AND LIGHT MINISTRY

Contact: Frank Duval, 360-155-8881 or e-mail norwichrugbytaurgeon@dioogdensburg.org.

THANKA MARY

Contact: St. Bernard’s School in Saranac Lake.

RENEWAL OF THE...</p>
Faith – Academics – Service

The theme for Catholic Schools Week 2012 is "Faith – Academics – Service." For many of our 15,000 schools, observance of this annual celebration begins Sunday, Jan. 29 and extends throughout the week until Feb. 5. Due to testing schedules and the timing of the winter "break" some schools choose to hold the annual celebration later in February. No account is taken of when it is celebrated, Catholic Schools Week is a special week for our schools and our community. It provides an opportunity to acknowledge the accomplishments of our students, to express gratitude to parents, parishioners and volunteers who give so much time and talent to our schools and, most importantly, to express the unique character of Catholic education.

This year’s theme focuses on three priorities that distinguish our schools from other educational institutions. Our children and young people are taught the basics of our Christian faith. These fundamental doctrines impart knowledge about our faith, the teachings that are the foundation of all our actions.

But more than knowledge of our faith, our students experience the presence of Christ, experience the love and learn how to be a disciple of Christ. “...comprehensive and systematic formative education in the faith... includes more than instruction... it is an apprenticeship of the entire Christian life...” These fundamental doctrines impart knowledge about our faith, the teachings that are the foundation of all our actions.

But more than knowledge of our faith, our students experience the presence of Christ, experience the love and learn how to be a disciple of Christ. “...This faithfulness...the ministry of the church...its part in the Christian faith...it is a whole-life endeavor...”

Faith is, in fact, a whole-life endeavor, encompassing all aspects of our students’ lives. The Sunday school, theFi-}

Faith and Education (Continued from page 10)

center of St. Peter’s parish in Plattsburgh. As I approached the sanctuary, noticing a striking wall relief of Jesus washing the feet of St. Peter. The plaque accompanying the relief contains the following verse from the Gospel of John (13:14).

"Teacher and Lord – then you must wash each other’s feet. What I just did was to give you an example, so you must do this as I have done for you." From the Master’s example we learn the importance of service. To respect individuals, we must do for others what has been done for us.

Matthew’s Gospel is clear also about the importance of service to our neighbor. Feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and imprisoned, promoting justice and comforting the suffering. As Christians, we are called to engage in service throughout the year.

Service is a true disciple of Christ. As Christians, we are called to engage in service throughout the year.

Service is a true disciple of Christ. We are the only ones who can have the word of God fully realized in our life. As Christ served, so must our students. A disciple is one who serves as Christ served.

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Looking to the cross when life just isn’t fair

Many years ago, I visited a woman in the hospital whose whole body was covered with burns suffered in an accident. She had lost her husband who was a clergyman and she didn’t wish to be visited by anyone, so I went to whisper to her, “Please tell me your story.” Many tears were held back as she told me that this had been her only chance of seeing her daughter and no one was consulted in determining the severity of her condition. It racked her body for many weeks until the admission of her daughter. While acknowledging her innocence and the seeming injustice of his present condition, he eventually saw how his sin affected his family and friends. He began to reflect on his life and the possibility of his eternal destiny. He then decided to seek God’s forgiveness and to turn his life over to God. At last, his faith prompted him to repent. The Lord, the God of mercy, forgave him. The Lord takes away. Blessed is the name of the Lord! Eventually, he was able to work his way back through a period of deepening discouragement and depression and near-death experience. He was called to be a witness of God’s grace and to heal the sick. It was for his mother, Mary, to suffer the terrible pain that so many people can know and appreciate.

Our second reading from Corinthians gives us the example of St. Paul who endured daily trials because of the composition of love and zeal, urging him to preach the Word of life every day, in season and out of season. In the Gospel, Jesus helps Peter’s mother-in-law to her feet after curing her fever. What a touching scene when this now healthy woman asks for his affection, “Jesus, son of [the name of Peter’s wife], do you love me?” The answer “Yes” he even makes a follower of the girl most likely. Who could resist the power of His love burning through both her body and her spirit? May we too surrender our hearts to His power.

NYS Catholics support: conscience protection

The Catholic Church teaches that “society and the state must not force a person to act against his conscience or prevent him from acting in conformity with it.” (Decrees of the Council of Trent) In the Social Doctrine of the Catholic Church, #42 Religious-affiliated providers must have the right to operate and provide services in accordance with their mission statement and fundamental ethical principles. (Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care, Fifth Edition)

We recent legislative actions and judicial decisions highlight the urgency of establishing comprehensive conscience protections for religious institutions and individuals in New York State. A state mandate for contraceptive insurance coverage, a requirement for adoption agencies to place children in same-sex couples, and a same-sex “marriage” law are a few of the recent legal changes in our state, and legislative threats such as the extreme abortion bill are now punishing him. But these hospitals from being compelled to perform abortion procedures. State officials who do not wish to be involved in medical personnel who do not have the right to provide contraceptive services, such as abortion, euthanasia, assisted suicide, research, and human cloning and same-sex “marriage.”

Comprehensive religious liberty protections are urgently needed as religious institutions and individuals are increasingly being coerced into acting against their will. This compulsion of love and zeal, urging him to preach the Word of life every day, in season and out of season. In the Gospel, Jesus helps Peter’s mother-in-law to her feet after curing her fever. What a touching scene when this now healthy woman asks for his affection, “Jesus, son of [the name of Peter’s wife], do you love me?” The answer “Yes” he even makes a follower of the girl most likely. Who could resist the power of His love burning through both her body and her spirit? May we too surrender our hearts to His power.

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Bishop seeks efforts to overturn HHS ruling on health insurance coverage

In spite of many appeals, the current Administration also refused to broaden the religious exemption to these rules—an exemption limited to groups that hire and serve people primarily on the basis of their religious beliefs. Consequently, most churches and church-run institutions do not qualify because of their very openness to serving the common good of society and all people regardless of creed. In so ruling, the Obama Administration has cast aside the First Amendment and Constitution of the United States, denying to Catholics our Natural and Moral Law, and religious freedom, that of all religious. As a result, our religious freedom is usurped. We must commit ourselves to fighting for health care coverage for our employees (tax-exempt) and other measures, or to dropping health care coverage for our employees (tax-exempt). The Administration’s sole concession was to provide a conscience exemption. We understand this concession was issued one year ago to “comply” and “adapt” to this new rule. We must know that we cannot—we will not—comply with this unjust law. Even if the Supreme Court rules in the church’s favor the church’s the sanctity of human life that recognize the government has no business forcing religious institutions to violate their conscience and to pay for procedures which violate those teachings.

People of faith cannot be made secular individuals who will be forced to buy health insurance as a coverage as part of their policy.

The federal government, which claims to “believe” in, and for the pro-life, and on the right to life of every child, failed to protect a quarter of those people—the pre-born, and the pre-born and not just in America, are served by the Catholic faithful.

All employers, including Catholic employers, will be forced to offer their employees health care coverage that includes sterilization, contraception, abortion-inducing drugs, and drug testing.

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New Anglican ordinariate is led by teacher, granddad

By Jerry Zolak and Aklo Byers
Catholic News Service

H O M E N O V E (D.C.) -- The first head of a new ordinariate created for former Anglican parishioners and individuals is a one-time sportswriter and a pilot and Houston seminary instructor who was ordained a Catholic priest in 2009.

Pope Benedict XVI announced the creation of the Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter in 2009. It is intended to function like a diocese, but nationwide in scope, for former members of the Anglican Communion who have become Catholic.

The ordinariate will be based in Houston and led by Father Jeffrey Steenson, who was bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of the Rio Grande, based in Albuquerque, N.M., for 23 years before becoming Catholic in 2007. He and his wife, Debra, have three adult children and one grandchild.

"What propels a person to leave his or her ecclesial home and make this journey into the Catholic Church is a desire to be in full communion with the Church," the bishop said.

Father Steenson said at a news conference at Our Lady of Walsingham, which will be the principal church for the U.S. ordinariate. "There were about 1,400 individuals from 22 communities who have expressed interest in entering the ordinariate, two former Episcopal parishes (St. Peter of the Rock in Fort Worth and St. Luke's in Bladensburg, Md.)," he said, "because Catholic this fall, became Catholic this fall, with the intention of joining the ordinariate once it was established. Ordained an Anglican priest in 1980, Father Steenson served Episcopal parishes in Colorado, Pennsylvania and Philadelphia and Fort Worth before becoming the chancellor and pastoral assistant for the dean of the Episcopal Diocese of the Rio Grande. In 2000, he was elected bishop of that diocese.

He grew up on a family farm in North Dakota and received his theological training at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School near Chicago, Harvard Divinity School and Oxford University of England, where he received his doctoral degree in patristic studies in 1983. He spent a sabbatical year in Rome as he prepared for the Catholic priesthood, studying with seminarians from the Pontifical North American College and friends with his wife at the Pontifical Irish College.

New Anglican ordinariate is led by teacher, granddad

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New Anglican ordinariate is led by teacher, granddad

By Jerry Zolak and Aklo Byers
Catholic News Service

H O M E N O V E (D.C.) -- The first head of a new ordinariate created for former Anglican parishioners and individuals is a one-time sportswriter and a pilot and Houston seminary instructor who was ordained a Catholic priest in 2009.

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The specific purpose of Catholic education is the formation of students who will be good citizens of this world, loving God as their neighbor and enriching so- cial Support Program, and the Catholic School Financial Support Program, which is vital to the local area.

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Bishop’s Fund assists Catholic School parents

By Steve Moreau

The specific purpose of Catholic education is the formation of students who will be good citizens of this world, loving God and their neighbor and enriching society with the leaven of the Gospel and who, one day, will be good citizens of heaven, thus fulfilling their destiny to become saints.

The good news of the Gospel is precisely this: that God sent His Son to live among us and to manifest and suffer and die for us so that all of us can enjoy the promise of eternal life with Him.

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has 13 elementary schools and two Junior/Secondary High Schools. They are the basic instruments of the proclamation of the good news of the Gospel and its integration into the Catholic program of education.

The instruction in our Catholic Faith, the example of the community of faith which we raise, the prayer and the experiences of prayer and liturgy which express and strengthen this Faith are vital components of our Catholic schools.

Maintaining schools with outstanding academic programs infused with Gospel values and the heritage of our cherished traditions and message, the Person of the Lord Jesus, Gospel virtues and the heritage of the community of the Church is of vital importance to the future of our children.

The Diocese of Ogdensburg with the support of their families through the Tuition Assistance Program provides tuition assistance to students of families who may not be able otherwise to afford a Catholic education.

The Bishop’s Fund is the key to launching Bishop’s emergency tuition assistance to students in need.

Mr. Sedlak, our guest speaker, stated that Planned Parenthood is the greatest abductor of life and the greatest generator of demand for abortions in the US. Most of Planned Parenthood clinics are the only hospital where young people can do abortions. Even hospitals which have abortion services are decreasing them because they are losing the Planned Parenthood revenue.

Mr. Sedlak stated that he’s been doing pro-life work for 20 years, and he has never seen so many people coming to fight abortion. He stated that Planned Parenthood is not just fighting abortion, but fighting the future of our young people. He said that Planned Parenthood does not want the young people to have a Catholic education.

Mr. Sedlak stated that Planned Parenthood makes $20,000 per clinic, and they are making $25,000 from Planned Parenthood. They are doing more pro-life work, not as a hobby, but as a business. They are progressing exercise, to react to the demand to save lives and in return to make more money.

Mr. Sedlak stated that Planned Parenthood is trying to save as many of those babies killed by abortion but also to accelerate the number of abortions and Planned Parenthood. Mr. Sedlak stated that Planned Parenthood is the largest abductor of life in the US, and they are losing the Planned Parenthood revenue. Mr. Sedlak also stated that Planned Parenthood is losing money, and they want to increase more money to do more abortions.

Mr. Sedlak stated that Planned Parenthood is trying to save the money, and they are losing Planned Parenthood revenue. Mr. Sedlak also stated that Planned Parenthood is not doing the right stuff. It’s doing the right thing, but not doing the right stuff.
By Jenny Faber and Jonah Dyck
Catholic News Service

Diocese of Galveston-Houston Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza said Father Steenson will not be ordained as a bishop and will not marry, the 59-year-old Father Steenson said at a news conference in Houston.

“We hope the personal ordinariate for Anglican clergy who wish to become Catholic priests will function as a bishop and will not marry,” Father Steenson said at the news conference.

The ordinariate will be based in Houston and led by Father Jeffrey Steenson, who was bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of the Rio Grande, based in Albuquerque, N.M., for 11 years. The ordinariate was established to become a Catholic in 2007. He and his wife, Debra, have three adult children and one granddaughter.

“What propels a person to leave his or her ecclesiastical home and make this journey into the Catholic Church is a deeply held desire to be in full communion with the Church of the Pope,” Father Steenson said at the news conference.

“I have appreciated that Anglican heritage, and the Catholic Church has provided a reaffirmation of that heritage,” Father Steenson said.

Father Steenson will be installed as a priest in the Catholic Church at a special Mass at St. Mary’s Seminary in Philadelphia in late January. Father Steenson will be installed as a bishop in the Catholic Church at a special Mass at St. Mary’s Seminary in Philadelphia in late January.

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Father Steenson was ordained as a priest in 1984 and served Episcopal Diocese of the Rio Grande from 1982 to 2003.

In 2011, Father Steenson served Episcopal Diocese of the Rio Grande and the Episcopal Diocese of the South Dakota.

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In 2022, Father Steenson served Episcopal Diocese of the Rio Grande and the Episcopal Diocese of the South Dakota.
In spite of many appeals, the current Administration also refused to broaden the religious exemption to these rules—an exemption limited to groups that hire and serve people primarily for religious reasons. Consequently, most churches and church-sponsored institutions do not have their very operations served to taxpayers and all people regardless of creed. In so ruling, the Obama Administration has cast aside the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, denying to Catholics our natural right to religious freedom, that of individual and collective conscience. As a result, the Administration’s sole concession was an accommodation of our conscience, or to drag health coverage for our employees (but not our patients), or to drag health coverage for our employees (but not our patients) to the Catholic Church in the United States. This is the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States. As a result, we must be prepared either to comply and “adapt” to this new rule, or we must be prepared to fight for religious liberty. The current Administration has no business forcing religious institutions to sponsor and pay for procedures which violate those teachings of human dignity, if I am correct.

People of faith cannot be made secular individuals who will be forced to live their faith as a part of their coping strategy.

The federal government, which claims to “of, by, and for the people,” has just added a new layer of church-state issues that are beyond the rule of law and the Constitution of the United States. The government has just added a new layer of church-state issues that are beyond the rule of law and the Constitution of the United States.

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Many years ago, I visited a woman in the hospital who was covered with burns suffered in an accident. She could hardly talk, as she was in severe pain. When I asked her how she was, she said, “Please tell me a story of Job.” Many stories later she told me that this had been her only means of consolations in enduring the severe pain that racked her body for many weeks.

When I think of Job, we think of a once prosperous landowner, sitting in a daze and scratching his sores. Meanwhile, well-meaning friends are trying to convince Job that he must have done something morally wrong, but he instead proclaims that he has done nothing wrong, and he is tortured by his God. At first, his faith and faithfulness did not waver, so the Lord gives the King a set of instructions to test Job’s faith. He ultimately seems to lose faith in God, when he is told that God has allowed everything. Eventually, the Lord appears to him, and через speaks to him of his innocence and his suffering, for which he had to suffer.

The conclusion of the story is, God is right, and Job’s faith was right. However, the Lord’s returned to him and told him to consider the story of the woman who was tormented by her God, but she continued to rely on God for her comfort and strength.

In conclusion, the story of Job can be related to the story of the woman who was suffering in the hospital. While it may seem that God has allowed her to suffer, she continues to rely on God for her comfort and strength, just as Job did.

Looking to the cross when life just isn’t fair

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Faith – Academics – Service

The theme for Catholic Schools Week 2012 is "Faith – Academics – Service." For many of our 15 schools, observance of Catholic Schools Week begins Sunday, Jan. 22 and extends throughout the week until Feb. 5. Due to testing schedules and the timing of the winter "break" some schools choose to hold the annual celebration later in February.

Catholic Schools Week is a wonderful time to celebrate, Catholic Schools Week, a wonderful time to celebrate, our schools. Our children and youth have the opportunity to express their faith and love for their school and their Church. This year’s theme focuses on three priorities that distinguish our schools from other educational institutions.

Faith
A school’s religious mission is based on the basics of our Christian faith. Catholic Schools are disciplined with our faith and the teachings that are the foundation of our beliefs and morals.

Academics
Catholic schools is receiving a brightened emphasis in our schools this year. At the fall banquet's Conference the principal from each school presented Bishop LaValley with the school’s pledge to engage in service throughout the year. Although service is a core feature in our Catholic faith, it is only one of the many factors within our school that we hope will impact service and service learning. The service aspect of our schools this year will be a key feature in our Catholic Schools Week.

Service
What I just did was to give one of the first of our visits to the parish in Plattsburgh. As I entered the main room, I noticed a striking wall relief of Jesus washing the feet of St. Peter. The plaque accompanied the relief and said, "For you is my servant, whom I have chosen, my beloved, in whom my soul takes delight; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring justice to the nations." The relief and the words on the plaque brought to mind how the school spirit can be appreciated as depicted in Saint John’s Gospel. "Let there be..." and "...let there be..." and "...let there be..." What a wonderful way to give an example of how our schools choose to hold the annual celebration later in February.

Catholic Schools Week is a special week for us, for our families, and our community. It is a wonderful time to celebrate how the school was engaged.

The service aspect of our schools is being celebrated throughout the week. As I participated in a display of the particular service performed by the school, which spring from the grace of God. What I just did was to give one of the first of our visits to the parish in Plattsburgh. As I entered the main room, I noticed a striking wall relief of Jesus washing the feet of St. Peter. The plaque accompanied the relief and said, "For you is my servant, whom I have chosen, my beloved, in whom my soul takes delight; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring justice to the nations." The relief and the words on the plaque brought to mind how the school spirit can be appreciated as depicted in Saint John’s Gospel. "Let there be..." and "...let there be..." and "...let there be..." What a wonderful way to give an example of how our schools choose to hold the annual celebration later in February.

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The specific purpose of Catholic Schools Week, in addition to witnessing the 20th Anniversary of the Charter School, is to invite anyone who is interested in learning more about our schools to visit one of them.
**LITTLE ROCK SCRIPTURE STUDY**

Plattsburgh - St. Peter's Parish will hold a Scripture study every Wednesday during Lent from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Please meet in the Fellowship Hall with the "Letter to the Hebrews." Date: February 26 - April 17, 2014

**ORACION DAS COVAS - CATÓLICOS DE GRENCY**

Grenck, St. John's Parish House

Fridays: 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

**NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION**

Plattsburgh - St. Mary's Church will host their annual New Year's Eve Celebration on December 31st at 6:00 p.m. The celebration will include a dance, food, and live music. Cost: $10 per person. Contact: 518-562-5300.

**MEMORIAL MASS**

Copley - St. Mary's Church will hold a Memorial Mass on February 24th at 10:00 a.m. All loved ones are welcome to attend.

**TEEN ADULT FAITH SHARE**

North Country Catholic Diocese

Contact: Lisa Rehak at 315-323-4989.

**THANKS GIVING MASS**

Plattsburgh - St. Mary's Church will hold its monthly Thanksgiving Mass on November 29th at 10:00 a.m. The service will include a special prayer for those who have lost loved ones. Contact: Lisa Rehak at 315-323-4989.

**PANACEA BREAD**

Thru March - St. Andrew's Church, in cooperation with Panacea Bread (all you can eat).

**FEBRUARY - NORTH CHURCH CATHOLIC**

**LIFEGIVING MEETING**

Watertown - LifeWise of Watertown will hold its monthly meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Contact: 315-788-7466.

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Plattsburgh - St. Peter's Parish will hold Eucharistic Adoration every Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Contact: 315-562-5300.

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No time for hibernation here!

There may be the dead of winter but there sure is a lot of life among the Catholics in the Diocese of Ogdensburg these days. The buzz is everywhere: in the school buildings, throughout the parishes and at Catholic Schools Week. Even the outside world is aware of the incredible things that are going on inside the walls of the Diocese of Ogdensburg these days. The past week was bustling with the annual Catholic Schools Week.

Every year we hear about all the wonderful things Catholic schools are doing. This year in particular, our schools have been recognized for their excellence in everything from student achievement to community service.

Schools in our Diocese have been exceptional in many ways. They are places where young people can find the inspiration and support they need to grow in faith and character. They are places where families can come together to be a part of something bigger than themselves.

These schools are not just about education; they are about forming whole people who will go out and make a difference in the world.

The people who work at these schools and the children who attend them are the future of our communities and our world. They are the ones who will shape the direction of our society.

So let’s support these schools and the programs they offer. Let’s encourage our children to attend Catholic schools. Let’s be proud of the work being done in our Diocese.

Our Catholic Schools are open all year long, and we should all be proud of what we see happening there. Let’s not hibernate, let’s make the most of what these schools have to offer.

Sister Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ
Ogdensburg Diocesan Director
By Rachel Daly

Never have I known anyone quite like our Gretchen. We met hallmates in Theresa Hall; the dorm building was known for warmth and community. Gretchen was a tall figure, often seen wearing a flowing skirt and scented with flower and vanilla perfumes that wafted through our room to room until we knew where she needed them most. My favorite was her oatmeal—cooked to perfection with just the right amount of chewiness. She often served up a complimentary hand. We made seven cakes the first night and seven the second, and though we hadn’t even gotten to the frosting yet, already it seemed like a huge endeavor.

The next day was Saturday, the day before the competition. The baking club could then join the fray, so I retired to our room to work on some homework. Gretchen came only briefly throughout the day, as she went to the library, then made her way down to the garden. There were six cans of frosting, and neither of us knew how it could possibly work out, without knowing how it would end. Half an hour later, she sent me to tell me they were ten cakes in and all the frosting was gone, so I sent them into the world. She finally decided to swing into the lounge where they were working on the cakes to see how bad it was. When I got down there, however, instead of the frenzy I was expecting, there was smiling.

“The frosting held out!” they exclaimed. “We have twenty-eight cakes, and we didn’t run out!”

Sure enough, I watched as Gretchen, like our mother church, consolidated what remained of the frosting, made six cakes over half an hour later. I could hardly believe what I was seeing. It was the loaves and fishes—or rather the fishes—or rather the apportionment that if you are called to give something, you do it with your own eyes as they were working on the cakes, to the fishes—or rather the fishes—or rather the fishes.

It was only afterward that I found out that one of the campus ministry events was broken, and she didn’t have pans, plates to put the cakes on, a place to store them, or a car to go buy in goods. Twenty-four cakes is an awful lot of ingredients. Twenty-eight cakes was broken, and she didn’t run out!

By Rachel Daly

Gretchen. She founded a baking club, received school credit, and made it happen. The proceeds were to go to those who, like herself, “do not belong to this world, and make it happen. The proceeds were to go to those who, like herself, “do not belong to this world, and make no sense of grace to enable us to get the job done.”

In Plattsburgh on a frigid March for Life About 350 pro-lifers braved the six-degree temperature and icy sidewalks to participate in the 38th Plattsburgh March for Life Jan. 15.

The march, sponsored by the Champlain Valley Right to Life, began at 1:30 p.m. at Blessed John XXIII Newman Center and concluded at St. John’s Church where a prayer service was held.

The consecrated person exists for others, is given to others, and no longer lives for his own sake. As Pope Benedict XVI said, “The disciples from the closest to God in order to be taken care of for everyone, said the pope.

The pope prayed that all the others, of our neighbors and of the whole world. I do not pray that his name be found in our memory, but the pope recalled the closing words of Prayer for Christian unity.

The Baking Miracle

The themes for the 2012 celebration of Catholic Schools Week, Jan. 22-28, include “Lit, Laugh, Learn,” the official theme by members of the National Catholic Educational Association. It’s the induction of The Saint John’s School Chaplet of the National Honor Society for Secondary Schools. At least, that’s what I gathered from the words that wafted through my ear.

“We pray for the souls of all the faithful departed, and we pray that they may rest in peace.”

For a New or Used Mort Burial Insurance

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Message from Bishop LaValley: By Bishop LaValley:

By Rachel Daly

Treasure the time to register for annual public policy day sponsored by the New York State Catholic Conference.

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The Anglican Church, said the pope.

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By Rachel Daly

Living for God

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