PHOTO BY JESSE SOVIE

Priest of Norwich, Conn., was the leader Father Patrick Martin, a legally blind priest of St. Mary’s in Ogdensburg. Father Martin’s topic was “God’s Love In A Broken World.”

The religious education students of the Church of the Visitation, Norfolk, created ties that reflected the good deeds that they did while on their Lenten journey. The students wore their ties as they lined the aisles of the Palm Sunday Mass procession. Pictured are Jalindren Thomas and Laurie Dufresne.

A good showing of men from the Diocese of Ogdensburg traveled to Syracuse March 31 to take part in Ignite, the annual men’s conference of the Syracuse diocese. Speaking at the event were Father Thomas Williams, LC; entrepreneur Sean O’Hare, 31; and Bishop Robert J. Finn of Kansas City–St. Joseph, Mo.

A couple of New York Area priests included CBS news analyst Father Thomas Williams, LC; entrepreneur Sean O’Hare, 31; to take part in Ignite, the annual men’s conference of the Syracuse diocese. Speaking at the event were Father Thomas Williams, LC; entrepreneur Sean O’Hare, 31; and Bishop Robert J. Finn of Kansas City–St. Joseph, Mo.

Children from Holy Family School in Malone reenacted the events of Palm Sunday as part of their observance of Holy Week. Children from Holy Family School in Malone reenacted the events of Palm Sunday as part of their observance of Holy Week.

The Resurrection is depicted in “Christ Rising from the Tomb,” a painting by Italian Renaissance artist Domenico Veneziano. The artwork is from the Samuel H. Kress Collection at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.

In his homily, Pope Benedict XVI reminded listeners of the Resurrection Sunday’s “too few” people, we breathe the pure air of everlasting life. Death has been overcome. In His love for us, God draws us outwards into the unknown, the infinite, the eternal. In His love for us, God draws us outwards into the unknown, the infinite, the eternal.

A two-day retreat on Divine Mercy Sunday will be held at the Holy Family School in Malone. The retreat is for all students and parents and will be held April 14. At the retreat, children will learn about the importance of the devotion and what it means to them. At the retreat, children will learn about the importance of the devotion and what it means to them.

Easter, the feast of the Resurrection, was April 8 in the Latin-rite church. Bishop LaValley wrote, “Easter Sunday comes as surely as the dawn. As a result, people, we breathe the pure air of everlasting life. Death has been overcome. In His love for us, God draws us outwards into the unknown, the infinite, the eternal. In His love for us, God draws us outwards into the unknown, the infinite, the eternal.

Responding to Christ’s sacrifice

Divine Mercy Sunday

Catholics across the diocese will celebrate the Feast of Divine Mercy with parish devotions April 15. The devotions originated in the late 1930’s by St. Faustina Kowalska who said that she had a vision of Jesus in which he asked for devotion to divine mercy on the Sunday after Easter. Pope John Paul II canonized St. Faustina in 2000 and declared the Sunday after Easter to be Divine Mercy Sunday. Parish celebrations are listed on this week’s “Around the Diocese” page.

Two children from Holy Family School in Malone reenacted the events of Palm Sunday as part of their observance of Holy Week. Children from Holy Family School in Malone reenacted the events of Palm Sunday as part of their observance of Holy Week.

This week’s “Around the Diocese” page listed on this week’s “Around the Diocese” page.
I’ve been a big fan of Catholic schools since my first day in first grade. Two of my four older siblings also attended the same school. It was a small, tight-knit community, and I’ve always been grateful for the education I received there.

So, I was excited to hear about the Diocesan Appeal that is currently underway. This year, the theme of the appeal is “A gift that truly lasts a lifetime.”

This week’s ACC offers a few helpful “talking points” that Catholic schools in the Diocese of Ogdensburg lead our children towards lives of faith (p. 1), service (p. 5), good health (p. 7) and academic excellence (p. 7).

I encourage young parents to choose a Catholic education for their precious little ones.

This week’s ACC offers a few helpful “talking points” that Catholic schools in the Diocese of Ogdensburg lead our children towards lives of faith (p. 1), service (p. 5), good health (p. 7) and academic excellence (p. 7).
DIVINE MERCY CELEBRATION

Saranac Lake – St. Bernard’s will be having its 9th annual benefit dinner on April 15, 2011. Time: 3 p.m. Place: Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church. Features: Sacredness of Reconciliation, Healing of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Good Friday Meditations, Holy Hours and Benediction. Tickets: $35 each. Contact: St. Bernard’s School at 315-523-2526.

DIVINE MERCY STATION

Saranac Lake – Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church has a Divine Mercy Station located in the Church sanctuary. The Divine Mercy Prayer will be available.

DIVINE MERCY MANIFESTATION

Saranac Lake – St. Bernard’s School is celebrating its 99th year with a semi-formal dinner on April 15, 2011. Time: 9 p.m. Place: Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church. Features: Sacredness of Reconciliation, Healing of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Good Friday Meditations, Holy Hours and Benediction. Tickets: $35 each. Contact: St. Bernard’s School at 315-523-2526.

DIVINE MERCY PRAYER

Saranac Lake – Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church. Time: 3 p.m. Procession: Holy Name School to purchase tickets, 518-647-8444. Place: K of C Hall, Champlain Tim e: Noon to 2 p.m. Features: Sacredness of Reconciliation, Healing of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Good Friday Meditations, Holy Hours and Benediction. Tickets: $35 each. Contact: Holy Name School at 518-647-8444.

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DIVINE MERCY CELEBRATION

Saranac Lake – Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church will hold a Divine Mercy Celebration. Date: April 15. Time: 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Place: St. Mary’s Parish Center, Take outs available, call 518-527-6288. Features: Sacredness of the Blessed Sacrament, Special prayers for healing and restoration of divine mercy image and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

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DI OCESAN EVENTS

Blessed Sacrament on the table. The Divine Mercy image and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will be celebrated. Date: April 15. Time: 1 p.m. Place: Holy Name Church. Features: Sacredness of Reconciliation, Healing of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Good Friday Meditations, Holy Hours and Benediction. Tickets: $35 each. Contact: Holy Name School at 518-647-8444.

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Looking ahead

It’s registration time for Catholic schools in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

By Joseph Mulher

“Who’s the fairest one of all?” The answer may surprise you in “Mirror Mirror” (Relativity), a fresh live-action take on the Brothers Grimm fairy tale “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.”

This go-round, the sound prince is the center of attention, as the wicked queen and her lovely stepdaughter stage a battle royal for his hand, and the fate of a kingdom hangs in the balance.

Directed with high camp by Tarsem Singh (“Immortals”), “Mirror Mirror” is a testament to the one-liners and innuendos – and to the one-liners and innuendos – that can make the best ingredient for a film.

As its title implies, “Mirror Mirror” is a feast for children.

The film contains mild action violence, some rude humor, and one scene of partial nudity. The Catholic News Service classification is A-II – adults and adolescents over 18.

Enter on horseback the fabulously wealthy Prince Alcott (Armie Hammer), who catches the eye of both the Queen and Snow White. The Queen eliminates the prince’s com- petition by banishing Snow White and ordering her killed. But the hapless royal butler, Brighton (Shanley Kane), weakens, and Snow White escapes into the forest. There she stumbles upon the Seven Dwarfs.

Viewer, beware: These are not the enduring dwarfs of Disney lore. They are a wise-cracking band of hood- lums with names like Happily (Jordan Prentice), Wolf (Sebastian Saraceno), and Napoleonic (Binh Diep).

They steal for a living, but Snow White persuades them to spare the poor and take nothing from the Queen instead. They, in turn, teach her the importance of fighting.

The result is a bit hokey and somewhat charmless for a children’s fairy tale. But remarkable costumes and grand set pieces go a long way to compensate.

Playing against type, Julia Roberts is the evil Queen, chomping up the scenery in glamorous ball gowns, and revealing her character to be insecure and afraid of growing old.

The magic mirror offers a creepy-looking self image that dispenses bad advice. With her stepdaughter, Snow White (Lily Collins), locked away in the tower, the Queen sets out to find a way to recover her beauty. And as the mirror’s character is in and starring as a result of the Queen’s fixation, life’s luxuries of choice include some gross-out spa treatments – who knew pigeon droppings made the best ingredient for a facial?

For this story, NORTHCOUNTRYCATHOLIC4, BY JON MULHER, APRIL 11, 2012.

CULTURE REVIEW BY MR. ROBERTS

Julia Roberts and Amy Adams star in a scene from the movie “Mirror Mirror.”

It does, in its own unique facades.

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Easter is over for many people, but to those who follow Jesus, the drama of Calvary and the Risen Christ has just begun. In the readings for today, the fruits of His victory are now opening into full flower. In the Gospel, Christ appeals to His risen body to the apostles (except Thomas) for the apostles (except Thomas) for the risen Jesus, the drama of people, but to those who wants to give them a resurrection. He wants to give them a new life, free of material concerns, did not last. The spirit of giving, however, is an enduring sign of true Christian love. As water and Christian love is the foundation of Christ's love. As water and Christian love is the foundation of Christ's love, so do the wounds of His pierced side, and be not unbelieving, but believing. And Thomas gives us the cry of faith that has been repeated down through the centuries: “My Lord and my God!” His doubts have led to a faith that angels Thomas to travel all the way to a faith that impels God!” His doubts have led to a faith that angels Thomas to travel all the way to a faith that impels Thomas to travel all the way to a faith that impels them to faith. They were excruciatingly painful to the point of death.

Several of our fundraisers have been extremely successful such as, a movie ticket, lunch, dinner, drive down day, and can drive. Our most profitable event so far was the “Lock-in”. Students and faculty were “locked-in” the school for 12 hours and participa- tion in fun events such as dancing, karaoke, volleyball, ping-pong, and hide-and-seek in the dark. There was even a house party that kept us all entertained throughout the night.

One of the main events of the night was a hunger ban- her. It was the second poorest country in the Western hemi- sphere. An oppressive and repressive government and other natu- ral disasters have only added to the poverty in the nation. Now, over 80 per- cent of the populace live in extreme poverty. The home- less percentage is too high and thousands of people cannot afford food or shelter. Forty Days of Hope: 4 for 1 to a fundraiser which was conducted during the Lenten Season here at Seton Catholic.

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The proposal is:

To be used for submitting a need for assistance from Catholic Charities to accept applications for Catholic Charities accepting proposals for 2012. The criteria for acceptance include:

1. Project must be aimed at helping the poor.
2. Project must be a non-profit, 501c3 organization.
3. Project must meet the needs of the community.
4. Project must have the support of the Catholic community.
5. Projects must be consistent with the mission of the Catholic Church.

Applications can be received at Catholic Charities, 60668 St. Edmund's Cathedral, Ogdensburg, NY 13660 or call 315-355-2200 to make an appointment or send a request to

ccwinn@wadhoc.org.

Applications are due by May 21, 2012, and will be awarded by the end of June 2012.

Plattsburgh

Wholesale Goods

New or Used Manufacturing Goods

Modular Homes

709 State Route 9

518-565-1190 or 1-800-664-1837

Camp Faith is a Renewable Resource

Sign up today for Camp Guggenheim, located in the Adirondacks [Saranac Lake]. Visit our website at www.soguggenheim.org/camps, or give us a call at 315-353-2920 ext. 311.

Camp Faith is a Renewable Resource

At the end of Good Friday, one of the stations of the cross is celebrating the death of Jesus Christ. Pope Benedict XVI 1942, first criticized during his election to the Catholic Church, is a North Country Catholic.

Catholic Charities accepting CCHD grant applications

Catholic Charities is now accepting applications for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development local grant process for the diocese of Ogdensburg. Applications can be submitted to Catholic Charities at 60668 St. Edmund's Cathedral, Ogdensburg, NY 13660 or call 315-355-2200 for more information.

1. Project must be a new initiative or an enhancement of an existing project.
2. Project must be a non-profit, 501c3 organization.
3. Project must be for the benefit of the community.
4. Applications from Catholic Charities will be expanded.
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In addition to the CCHD grant applications, the Catholic Charities is also accepting applications for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development.

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Youth ministers from diocese travel to Ottawa

A P R I L  1 1 ,  2 0 1 2

By Michele Chartrand and Tamra Murphy

OTTAWA—“Be Still and Know that I am God” Psalm 46:10, was the theme for the Canadian Catholic Youth Ministry Network Conference held March 9-11.

To take part in Canadian national youth conference

Deacon Brian Dwyer, rector of youth ministry of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, led a group of parish youth ministers from the Diocese of Ogdensburg including, Monica Downey (Chateauguay), Michelle Chartrand (Massena), Kathy Burns (Potomac) Tami Murphy (Mohawk). to the conference in Ottawa.

Although our contingent was the only group from the United States among the over 400 youth ministers in attendance, we were welcomed and were free to exchange in conversation and ideas.

We also had the diversity of age, gender and rites of the Church represented at the conference. The age of those in attendance ranged from college students to retired and the diversity of life experiences was a rich learning experience.

Also the number of men involved in youth ministry in Canada was very impressive. Approximately half of the participants were male.

After an opening prayer, we walked five blocks to St. Patrick, where the Bishop of Ogdensburg, Archbishop Terrence Prendergast, S.J. of Ottawa addressed the theme “Be Still and Know that I am God,” it was back to the hotel and a “Wii love Jesus” party.

The archbishop spoke of the theme “Be Still and Know that I am God,” Psalm 46:10, and said, “The theme for this year’s rally is “Be Still and Know that I am God.” The theme for the previous day was “Hear His Voice,” inspired by the scripture reading for the fourth Sunday of Easter and Good Shepherd Sunday. The keynote speaker for the day will be the speaker and musician Chris Padgett from Shinedown, Ohio. In addition to the keynote address, the day will feature workshops geared toward young people and youth leaders.

The archbishop concluded by reminding the youth that “We are not an accident but a fulfillment of God’s will, loved and necessary. We were created by God be-cause God wants us. We were not a fluke or a whim but three archbishops was a test to continue evangelizing the youth of our area.

Archbishop Prendergast opened keynote was to have a chance to experience that stillness with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confession. After this “Still Time with our Lord,” was back to the hotel and a “Wii love Jesus” party.

We had free time to get to know the other conference attendees in a relaxed atmosphere with cards, board and video games, conversation and snacking foods.

Saturday’s program Saturday’s schedule started with the Eastern Regional Rites of Prayer of the Third Hour. After morning prayer, Archbishop Richard Smith of Edmonton talked about “The New Evangelization.” The author or “living” within that each Catholic Christian must have to be able to evangelize says that “We are not an acciden-tal happening,” Archbishop Smith said.

We are a product of a thought of God,” he said. “We are not a fluke or a whim, but because God wants us. We were not drawn, but a drawn of God. We were willed into being by God. We are loved by God. We are wanted by God.”

Do not hear your heart with joy reading these words? God is not calling us to be perfect, but to use the gifts and talents he has given us for the body of the Church, to ever more and enrich the lives we encoun-ter, by bringing God to them through our words, ac-tions and dregs of compassion. God wants a personal relationship with each and every one of us.

Our archbishops as youth ministers is to let young people know that they are loved, lived, and necessary. These personal relation-ship come from encounters with God. We as ministers need to allow Jesus to show us where to open doors and help willing to walk those doors open even when we are not comfortable.

So, three major doors to walk through will be invita-tion, crisis, and social media.

For the rest of the morning and afternoon was spent in small groups of balancing ministry, youth culture, young people’s prac-tentions, keeping your ministry grounded, praying with youth, social network-ning, stewardship and more.

The day’s program ended as Archbishop Prendergast celebrated an Anticipated Mass at St. Patrick’s Basilica.

On Sunday the day started with Taize prayer followed by a keynote from Archbishop Paul-Armand Druilhet of Carcassonne and the Church Document Vivean Domini, “Living the Word of God.”

The keynote speaker spoke about how truth, creation, time, the Passion, Death, the Holy Spirit, and Living traditions of the Church are all the Word of God. True interpretation to the Word of God is not just intellec-tual, but experiential. Scripture, he said.

Again, the theme of “Be Still and Know that I am God” was reiterated at the conclusion of the conference.

Fidelis Care partners with Catholic schools to promote student health

Happy healthy heart, minds and souls

A P R I L  1 1 ,  2 0 1 2

Byพระ P. Anthony Kaewpanwa

We found the diversity of the audience ranging from college students to retired, the ages, gender and rites of the Church represented at the conference were impressive. Approximately half of the participants were male.

After an opening prayer, we walked five blocks to St. Patrick, where the Bishop of Ogdensburg, Archbishop Terrence Prendergast, S.J. of Ottawa addressed the theme “Be Still and Know that I am God,” Psalm 46:10, and said, “The theme for this year’s rally is “Be Still and Know that I am God.” The theme for the previous day was “Hear His Voice,” inspired by the scripture reading for the fourth Sunday of Easter and Good Shepherd Sunday. The keynote speaker for the day will be the speaker and musician Chris Padgett from Shinedown, Ohio. In addition to the keynote address, the day will feature workshops geared toward young people and youth leaders.

The archbishop spoke about youth ministers need to be involved in youth ministry of the Diocese of Ogdensburg including, Monica Downey (Chateauguay), Michelle Chartrand (Massena), Kathy Burns (Potomac) Tami Murphy (Mohawk). to the conference in Ottawa.

Deacon Brian Dwyer, rector of youth ministry of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, led a group of parish youth ministers from the Diocese of Ogdensburg including, Monica Downey (Chateauguay), Michelle Chartrand (Massena), Kathy Burns (Potomac) Tami Murphy (Mohawk). to the conference in Ottawa.

Although our contingent was the only group from the United States among the over 400 youth ministers in attendance, we were welcomed and were free to exchange in conversation and ideas.

We also had the diversity of age, gender and rites of the Church represented at the conference. The age of those in attendance ranged from college students to retired and the diversity of life experiences was a rich learning experience.

Also the number of men involved in youth ministry in Canada was very impressive. Approximately half of the participants were male.

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We are very grateful to Gov. Cuomo, Senate Majority Leader Dean Skelos and Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver for their leadership in restoring the original mandate. We believe in the state's action will help us, guide us, support us, and we are very committed to helping the state achieve its goals.

We provide an excellent education. Our High School is recognized by the prestigious and rigorous Middle States Association Commission on Secondary Schooling, which is the preeminent national accrediting agency for secondary schools. Our SAT scores exceed the New York State average by nearly 70 points, and the top 25 percent of our graduating classes exceed the SAT average scores. Over 45% of our students have been accepted to their first choice college. Among the nation's top-25 schools, 41% of our graduates are the recipients of four-year and graduate school scholarships. Our students are the recipients of 67 scholarships, totaling over $1.5 million in scholarships (we'll take it under advisement).

NY state budget increases reimbursement for schools

The new state budget for Fiscal Year 2012-13 increases reimbursement to religious and independent schools by $20 million over last year, reversing a recent trend of underpayment. The governance accepted Governor Andrew Cuomo's Executive Budget proposal to once again fully reimburse these schools under the Mandated Services Reimbursement (MSR) program (adding dated Services Reimbursement for expenses in-kind). The MSR is set at $80.4 million, complying with the mandate.

An error several years ago by the State Education Department led to a formula that did not include all expenses and religious and independent schools expending in compliance with the mandate. Total reimbursement for MSR is at $90.4 million, with an additional $13.5 million in reimbursement for expenses in-kind.

As parents make a critical decision about the lives of their children:

Ten reasons to send your child to IHC-schools

Our students religious education is transformative for students. It is our belief that the hands-on, embodied, experiential learning that is an integral part of our faith community can help students to "live and love in imitation of Christ." Catholic schools.

Our school is rooted in recruiting (we'll take it under advisement). The high school has a 15 mile radius of IHC, including Fort Drum, are available for free busing provided by the Service Program, and routinely winning state and national championships. Our athletic programs include many members of the clergy, nuns, doctors, lawyers, successful business people, non-profit organization leaders, active members of their local congregations, Knights of Columbus, workers, bringing for us to "cultivate holiness of heart, mind, and 8.Our schools are safe. Our schools are on the same schedule, and not just any school. Our students always treat each other with respect and care for each other. Our schools have faith that your children will make the right choices. They have faith that your children will make the right choices. They will make the right choices.

We invite you to make an informed decision. Please check out our website, www.ihschools.org, give us a call at (315) 221-3785, and set up a visit. IHC Schools. A Foundation for Life.
As parents make a critical decision about the lives of their children:

Ten reasons to send your child to IHC-schools

By Robert C. McDonald

Editor, superintendent, IHC Schools

The new state budget includes an additional $7 million in reimbursement for CAP, as proposed by the Governor. The state’s action will help us, guide us, support us.

1. We're affordable and substantial aid

Our High School is accredited by the prestigious and rigorous Middle States Association Commission on Secondary Schools. We have an annual endowment, the number one Catholic high school in New York State, and over 45% of our faculty have advanced degrees. We have four percent of last year’s graduating class earned an Advanced Designation with Ad- vanced Designation with Advanced Designation with Advanced Designation in the field of your interest, and over 52 percent of our graduating students receive financial aid, and the pool of available offerings, such as the AP and Advanced Placement programs, are available for New York State, and over 52 percent of our graduating students receive financial aid, and the pool of available offerings, such as the AP and Advanced Placement programs, are available for new students who would like to take them.

IHC is known for the com- munity, the caring, and the care of our students.

We encourage you to make your decision. Please check our website, www.ihcschools.org, give us a call at (315) 221-3785, and set up a visit. IHC Schools: A Foundation for Life.
Ministers. Their own relationship with God ultimately determines if they need to make and take time with others to have a personal relationship with God. In the busy schedules that youth ministers all keep they need to find the time to stop and talk to others to hear their heart. Archbishop Smith said, “We are a product of a thought of God,” he said, “but we are a work of God. We are not just a creation of God, we are formed in image of God. We are loved by God. We are wanted by God.”

Does not your heart burn with joy reading these words? God is not calling us to be perfect, but to use the gifts and talents he has given us for the body of the Church, to ever more and enrich the lives we encounter, by bringing God to them through our words, actions and deeds of compassion. God wants a personal relationship with each and every one of us.

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Catholic Charities accepting CCHD grant applications

Catholic Charities is now accepting applications for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development grant process for the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

1. Project must be aimed at a non-profit, 501c3 organization.
2. Project must be to be used for submitting a grant application.
3. Project must be consistent with the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. 

You can visit our re-designed website www.northcountrycatholic.org

Visit the Bishop LaValley’s column for more.

Ogdensburg. The criteria for the Diocese Human Development local initiative or an enhancement of an established initiative.

This year two grants of $4,500 each are available. Applications can be requested from Catholic Charities by mail, phone, or email.

If you have any questions or would like to receive an application please write to Catholic Charities, 8668 State Highway 37, Ogdensburg, NY 13660 or call 315-393-2320 or e-mail your request and mailing address to contactus@catholic.org

Grant applications are due back to Catholic Charities by May 21, 2012. Finalists will be announced by the end of June 2012.

The joys and sufferings of families focus of pope’s Via Crucis service

Good Friday service April 6 at Rome’s Colosseum

BY MOSHE ZAMIR

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Benedict XVI reflected on the joys and sufferings of families in his Good Friday Via Crucis service April 6 at Rome’s Colosseum.

"But every Christian, every family, on this path of spiritual growth can turn their gaze toward Jesus, man and God," reflected on the third station, Jesus falls the first time. "Jesus, the future bridegroom, has broken with the Jewish law, and in the eyes of the law, Jesus and his family, of the Gospel," they wrote. After Jesus’ death, the disciples “support them, help us lead them and teach them to recognize the love of God.”

For the fifth station, the image of Cyrene helps Jesus carry his cross, the Zanuzzis offered prayers for all those who have offered help, and who have a heavy cross weigh or in our family.

The meditations included special prayers for families who “suffer tremendous loss in the life of their children” or “experience the temptation to abandon their family life and home” or “are forced to leave their family home.”

The couple looked at how they have evolved, what their faith meant to them and lead them to recognize the love of God.”

For the last station, Jesus is laid in the tomb. The Zanuzzis focused on the disciples trying to console one another and sharing with each other memories of the things Jesus said and did while he was with them.

"At that moment, they began to be church while sharing in the life of the community and with the church, who continuous to call them and to teach them to follow Jesus’ example of self-sacrifice and selflessness. Holy Spirit with them was the mother of Jesus who was our example of self-sacrifice and selflessness. Holy Spirit comes to us, here and now, as the apple of our eye.

"The more we grow, shape our faith, and the vocation of the church, which is continuous to be called and to be a church to the world."
Seton Catholic holds Lenten fundraiser for Nicaragua

By Malory Tumson

PLANTING Nicaragua is the second poorest country in the Western hemisphere. An oppressive government along with extreme cultural and other natural disasters have only added to the poverty in the nation. Now, over 80 percent of the population lives in extreme poverty. The home less percentage is extremely high and thousands of people cannot afford food or shelter.

Forty Days of Hope: 4 for 40 is a fundraiser which was conducted during the Lenten Season here at Seton Catholic.

The goal of this fundraiser was to build four houses for the less fortunate people in Nicaragua. Several of our fundraisers have been extremely successful such as, a movie night, a raffle, and providing the community with a meal day.

Our most profitable event so far was the ‘lock-in’. Students and faculty were ‘locked-in’ the school for 12 hours and partici pated in fun events such as dancing, Kan jam, volleyball, ping pong, and hide-and seek in the dark. There was even a bouncy house that the kids all entered throughout the night.

One of the main events of the night was a hunger ban quet. We each received a meal ticket that represented our income. 12% received a $500 ticket, 25% received a $300 ticket, 35% received a $150 ticket, and the remaining 30% received a $50 ticket. We were each given a meal that corresponded with our ticket.

Only 1% of the world can afford a well-balanced diet and other necessities. It really puts us in perspective how much we have and how blessed we are.

Through these events we have raised enough money for two houses and we are well on our way to the third.

We planned a dance for the last weekend of Lent and hope we can reach our goal of four houses shortly after Easter.

These houses will provide families with shelter and provide a security that many in Nicaragua can’t afford.

Any and all donations for the fundraiser are welcome; please mail checks made out to Seton Catholic. 4 for 40, 206 New York Road, Plattsburgh, NY 12903.
Looking ahead

It’s registration time for Catholic schools in the Diocese of Ogdensburg

While each school will offer parents complimentary reasons for choosing it, our fifteen Dioce- 

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• Acknowledge the social nature of the human person;
• Build and strengthen communities of faith;
• Promote and proclaim the Gospel;
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The ‘Day of the Lord’ is our day, too...

Franciscan Sister Louisa Allen, AFM, former director of Faith Formation at St. Francis Assisi Parish of Philadelphia with a special focus on Parish Evangelization, will be presenting a workshop on Faith Formation called “Too Few in the Pew.” Sister Louisa will share practical strategies for linking in our faith, and looking at ways to recognize signs of ‘Too Few in the Pew’ begins April 14-16.

So does Holy Saturday, that day of emptiness, that day of one’s courage to believe, to trust, to remain faithful.

But Easter Sunday comes as surely as the dawn.

As a resurrection people, we believe not only in out of the tomb, the beyond, the infinite, the eternal.

Death constrains us to a huge challenge to our faith, for we see death and death only as through a darkened glass.

Good Friday, day of darkness and death, comes to everyone.

Follow me.
A gift that truly lasts a lifetime

I’ve been a big fan of Catholic schools since my first day in first grade, but this week in July by the Diocese of Ogdensburg, N.Y. should be

By Sister Mary Ellen Lyng, SSJ

my family to Catholic education for their precious little ones. This week’s NCC offers a few helpful “talking points” Catholic schools in the Diocese of Ogdensburg lead our children towards lives of faith (p. 1, service (p. 5), good health (p. 7) and academic excellence.

The words of Chris Hornbarger, the executive system administrator of IHC, often take us by heart in all we do. He offers, “In an effort to send your child to IHC, we believe...Christian education is a lifestyle – a guideline for life, a map for those possibilities that God has in store for us, even if we do not visibly see clearly the road ahead.”

We share in our ministry, a common thread of faith in God, the gift of love and faith to others, the mutual respect that we extend to one another. What we share as a family is the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believe. Jesus is the one who can be with us and our families, that they be universal.

The Church, through the gift of the sacrament of Holy Orders, the ordained presbyters and deacons, offer the Holy Eucharist and administer of IHC is “A gift that lasts a lifetime.”

On this stage, we can find the moment we choose a Catholic education for our children, fewer Religious teachers and administrators. Mr. Kilian offers “ten reasons why parents should consider a Catholic education for their children” which, with just a little faith and hard work, we can achieve.

This week’s NCC offers a few helpful “talking points.”

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Photoraph by Jesse Sovie

Priest of Norwich, Conn., was the leader for the annual Lenten Mission for Notre Dame World."

The religious education students of the Church of the Visitation, Norfolk, created ties that reflected the good deeds that they did while on their Lenten journey. The students wore their ties as they lined the aisles of the Palm Sunday Mass procession. Pictured are Jalindren Thomas and Laurie Dufresne.

Some who attended a parent/child First Communion meeting after Mass, Front, from left, are Joshua King, Jessica Bullock, Megan McCarthy, Alexia Taylor and Carli Kenney; back, Carol O’Brien Gonther, Msgr. John R. Murphy, Hayden Bullock, Micaela Trimm, Valden Thomas and Louis DiBianco.

BUILD YOUR PRAYER! Father Don Kramberg prepares children from the religious education program of Redford’s Church of the Assumption for the Palm Sunday Mass.

Confirmations candidates from St. Peter’s in Plattsburgh, St. Alexander’s/St. Joseph in Morrisonville and St. Augustine’s in Peru took part in a regional retreat in Plattsburgh March 31. Beth and Chris Carlin from Living Hope Ministries facilitated the retreat along with Rose Ann Hickey, who is shown above leading one of the workshops.

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A cheerful gathering of believers from the Diocese of Ogdensburg traveled to Jerusalem March 31. To take part in the annual men’s conference of the Syrian diocese, speakers included CBN news analyst Father Thomas Williams, Franciscan Father Jesse Twomey, Cathoic baseball catcher Mike Piazza, and Bishop Robert Cunningham, current bishop of Ogdensburg and current bishop of Syria. Among those shown above are Father Bryn Stil of Malone and Mark Ruffly of Saranac Lake.

Responding to Christ’s sacrifice

Divine Mercy Sunday

Catholics across the diocese will celebrate the Feast of Divine Mercy with parish devotions April 15.

The devotions originated in the late 1930’s by St. Faustina Kowalska who said that she had a vision of Jesus in which he asked for devotion to divine mercy on the Sunday after Easter. Pope John Paul II canonized St. Faustina in 2000 and declared the Sunday after Easter to be Divine Mercy Sunday. Parish celebrations are listed on this week’s “Around the Diocese” page.