In his first extensive piece of writing as pontiff, Pope Francis lays out vision for evangelical church

In his introduction to the apostolic exhortation, one of the Vatican Nov. 26, is an “evangelizer must never lose sight of the worst causes, but also to be their friends, to listen, to speak for them and to embrace the mysterious will of which God wishes to share with us through them.”

Charity is more than mere “hands-on,” “means to working to eliminate the structural causes of poverty and to promote the integral development of the poor,” the pope writes.

“This means education, access to health care, and above all employment, for it is through free, creative, participatory and mutually supportive labor that human beings can express and enhance their dignity and true vocation,” he adds.

“Pope Francis writes that ‘pass- on them and the clergy instruction out of the context spoken of every form of violence. Human beings are naturally inclined to do and even love for the church, because they contain the appearance of God, the worldliness, which hides behind the church’s teaching on sexual autonomy of the market-

Belief in eternal life

The Diocesan Office Fiscalour report in this week’s North Country Catholic, outlines the financial condition of the diocese. In his introduction to the report, Bishop LaVallee writes, “The Church’s Catholic Church in the North Country continues to be blessed with individuals and families who support generously our many ministries.”

The Diocesan Financial Reports

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The pope writes that evangelizing “means working to eliminate the structural causes of poverty and to promote the integral development of the poor.”

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“Let us embrace the ‘poor’ who are subject to the passing whims of the powers that be,” writes Pope Francis. “Let us believe in him to be risen and united with him in heaven, Peter’s Square Dec. 4.

For God’s little ones.

“Let us believe in him to be risen and united with him in heaven, Peter’s Square Dec. 4.

For the Church’s concern for the vulnerable, ‘the aged and unborn.’

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For God’s little ones.
Thank you to some unsung heroes!

The Pontifical Mission Societies of the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

For one year:
13669-0326

Circle the Office, send your address changes to Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669.

We are now in Advent and
the birth of Our Savior, Jesus Christ, we encounter God’s love in our lives again. We begin again our litur-
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the Gospel.” The Holy Father
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out in the world, the Church in the North Country.

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The Pontifical Mission Societies of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, Inc.

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of the Diocese of Ogdensburg,
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Ogdensburg, NY 13669-0326

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**Community Events**

**Eucharistic Adoration**
- **Hamilton Center**
  - **Time:** Sunday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
  - **Features:** The office has materials on Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction.
  - **Contact:** 315-348-6260.

**Adventure Program**
- **St. Ann's Parish House**
  - **Theme:** Share the joy of your faith.
  - **Features:** Acquire a new Catholic Center of Prayer book.
  - **Contact:** 315-566-6229.

**Liturgy Meeting**
- **Waterloo**
  - **Time:** December 23 and 30
  - **Features:** In the Waterloo Diocese, we reflect on our faith and respond to the needs of our communities.
  - **Contact:** 315-793-2466.

**Special Events**

**The Christmas Wafer or Oplatek**
- **Time:** 7 p.m. concluding with Benediction
  - **Features:** The Christmas Wafer or Oplatek is available.
  - **Contact:** 315-793-2466.

**Family Christmas Prayer**
- **Time:** Tuesday afternoons
  - **Features:** A gathering of those who invite family and friends to an evening of prayer.
  - **Contact:** Karen Smith at 518-566-6229.

**PILGRIMAGE TO SPAIN**
- **Time:** December 11, 2012
  - **Included:** Roundtrip Air from NYC, First Class Hotel Meals, All Entrance Fees, English-speaking Guide, and more!
  - **Contact:** Marie Lou R.F. Menefee, 412 Cornelia Street, Plattsburgh, NY 12901. Make a note on your calendar.

**From Year of Faith to Life of Faith**
- **Time:** December 12, 2012
  - **Features:** The challenges that lay ahead, but we know, too, the wonderful possibilities we have to grow as a Church, to be inspired by the life of the Church in other times.

**Tributes to Honor**
- **The Diocese of North Country Catholic will feature at least one tribute about the Papal Blessing Week held in the public square.**

The Office of the Bishop of the Diocese of North Country Catholic in the Mohawk Valley has prepared this special tribute to the faithful who were in St. Peter's church.
Don't let the title fool you. “Frozen” (Disney) is bursting with enough warmth and charm to defrost even the hardest Grinchy heart.

Loosely based on the Hans Christian Anderson fairy tale “The Snow Queen,” this 3-D animated musical is good-natured, overwhelmingly wholesome fare with something for everyone: Broadway-style show tunes, thrilling adventure, gorgeous visuals, cute-as-a-button characters, and a nice message about the enduring bonds of family.

There are even a few respectful religious overtones likely to please believers. “Frozen” is a tale of two princesses: Elsa (voice of Idina Menzel) and Anna (voice of Kristen Bell). Anna is fun-loving and spirited, while Elsa, destined to be queen of the mythical kingdom of Arendelle, is reserved, harboring a deep secret.

Elsa, it seems, was born with the power to create ice and snow at will. This gift was great fun at playtime when she was a youngster. At least, that is, until Elsa nearly killed Anna in a freak accident. The king (voice of Maurice LaMarche) then decreed Elsa must be hidden away for her own safety, and the palace closed to all outsiders.

Eventually, the princesses become orphans and coronation day arrives for Elsa. The new queen is burdened by fears of a disaster; Anna, by contrast, revels in the overdue arrival of an open-door policy.

At the coronation ball, Anna falls fast for Hans (voice of Santino Fontana), a visiting prince, and after a spirited song-and-dance number, they announce their engagement. Queen Elsa won’t give her blessing — the two have just met, after all — and the sisters quarrel. Elsa accidentally unleashes her powers and throws Arendelle into a deep freeze.

For everyone’s welfare, Elsa retreats to the forest, entombing herself in a mountaintop ice palace. Anna, the fearless optimist, follows her, desperate to help her sibling and undo the eternal winter.

“The film contains a few mildly perilous situations and a bit of slightly gross humor. The Catholic News Service classification is A-I — general patronage. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.”

Share Christmas greetings....

FROZEN

SOURCE: Catholic News Service

Frolicade offers quality, affordable New York State-sponsored health insurance to children and adults of all ages, and at all stages of life.

To learn more, call Frolicade today at 1-888-FRILADELPHIA (1-888-374-5235). We are a product of United Healthcare. United Healthcare provides administrative services for Frolicade. United Healthcare is a registered mark of UnitedHealthcare Group Inc.

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For more information about Frolicade and Family Health Plus, call UnitedHealthcare at 1-866-455-2647 or visit UnitedHealthcare.com. To learn more about Family Health Plus, call 1-800-FAMILY-7.
The joy that fills this Sun-
day's liturgy is the
closest we have to
Christmas itself.

We're always
shocked to see the
celebrant process
into the Mass this
week dressed in
rose-colored vest-
ments. Today's En-
trance antiphon
proclaims, “Rejoice
in the Lord always;
again I say, Rejoice.
The Lord is near”.

In the old days,
the words were in Latin:
“Gaudete, iterum dico vobis,
‘Gaudete’…” And so, this
Sunday is still called
“Gaudete Sunday”.

The whole message is
one of hope. But, we say,
we don't feel like joy.
Even Christmas
shopping is more
hectic than it used
to be.

In any case, it’s
very different from
the real deep,
serenity that we
look for in vain in
the world around
us.

When in prayer, we let go and
let God’s Spirit do the work
of flooding our souls with
His light.

We're still climbing the
mountain of the Lord as we
resolved to do two weeks
ago. It’s when we pray and
meditate each day that we
find patience.

In this Sunday’s Gospel,
Jesus assures us that the
Father sent John the Baptist
as a messenger to prepare
His way. And Jesus praises John as the greatest
of the prophets, dressed as
a prophet in rough clothing.
His message is meant to
shrink our fears and bolster
our hope. It inspires us with
joy.

Sin and darkness fled
when the Son of God was
born in Bethlehem. Of
course, people can and do
close their eyes to the light,
and choose to live without
His Light.

Only when we refuse to
repent of our sin and hang
on to the darkness can we
have reason to fear.

Now the blind see, the
deaf hear, the dead are
raised, and the poor have
the Good News preached to
them!

John in prison must have
been filled with joy at Jesus’
testimony about Himself.

The celebrant has good
reason for rose-colored
vestments today.

The liturgy of this Sunday
looks forward to a future
time of peace that Jesus has
promised we will experi-
ence!

Let's carry that thought
with us all week.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

DEC. 15

Third Sunday of Advent

James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11

Rejoice in the Lord always... again I say rejoice!

Third Sunday of Advent

READINGS

Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10

James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, Rejoice. The Lord is near.

We're always
shocked to see the
celebrant process
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week dressed in
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proclaims, “Rejoice
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again I say, Rejoice.
The Lord is near”.

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the real deep,
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Vocal ensemble to present Lessons & Carols

The programs will take place Dec. 11 at St. Peter’s Church in Plattsburg and Dec. 22, at St. Agnes Church in Lake Placid.

NAVE, under the musical direction of Anne M. Reay, is a mixed chamber choir focusing on amateur singers that performs chamber music from a variety of periods and styles. The programs will highlight amateur singers that perform chamber music from a variety of periods and styles.

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Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Notes to the Financial Statements - June 30, 2013

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Every year at this time, the Diocesan Fiscal Office provides you with the opportunity to review the financial condition of your Church. I am pleased to present for your consideration the financial Statement of the Diocese of Ogdenburg, for the July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013 Fiscal Year.

It is clear that the Catholic Church in the North Country continues to be blessed with individuals and families who support the Church in its mission.

The faithful of our Church sacrifice so very much in order to ensure that the mission of Christ continues with vigor and joy. Pope Francis reminds us, by word and example, of our obligation to serve all our brothers and sisters. The selfless giving of one of our people is a reflection of how seriously we take the Holy Father’s words and witness.

I continue to be blessed with expert assistance from our Diocesan Fiscal Office, Michael Tooley, and his very capable staff in the managing of the Church’s financial affairs. They carefully safeguard all that has been entrusted to us. Our Fiscal Office provides prompt, professional support to our parishes and other missions enabling us all to be good stewards of the gifts with which we have been entrusted. I am ever grateful for their support and effort provided by the members of the Development Committee, the Finance Committee, and the Diocesan Investment Committee.

Should you have any questions about the report, please don’t hesitate to contact the Fiscal Office.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValle

Bishop of Ogdenburg

The Diocese endorses the Six Principles of Good Stewardship listed below which are one basis for the financial decisions we have made:

1. The preservation and restoration of the endowment fund.
2. The purpose of the endowment and the stewardship fund.
3. General and specific endowment objectives.
4. Flexible means of investment or deficit.
5. The required total return from雯ere and the appreciation of tax benefits.
6. Transfer of ownership of the institution.

In addition, the financial statements of the Diocese are prepared in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and in compliance with the Diocesan Diocesan Flow of Funds reports.

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NOTE 1 - ENDOWMENTS

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Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

2012-2013 Audited Financial Statements

Independent Auditor’s Report

Dioecnal Fiscal Office Staff
Serving the fiscal needs of the Diocese of Ogdensburg
Web site: www.rcby.org/fiscalservices

Kim Snover
Director Human Resources

Peggy Garrison
Senior Diocesan Accountant

Michael J. Tooley
Diocesan Fiscal Officer

Karen Ruddy
Diocesan Accountant

Heather Ladouceur
Fiscal Office Assistant

Vince Toulin
Parish Administrative Services Coordinator

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Notes to the Financial Statements - June 30, 2013

The table below presents financial information from the comprehensive financial statements (unaudited) and those financial statements have been audited. The amount of financial information from the comprehensive financial statements is based on the audited financial statements. The amount of financial information from the comprehensive financial statements is based on the audited financial statements.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

The following table presents the financial statements from the comprehensive financial statements (unaudited) and those financial statements have been audited.

Note 1 - Restricted Net Assets

Restricted net assets at June 30, 2013 and 2012 are as follows:

Supervising Auditor for the Diocese of Ogdensburg

October 25, 2013
Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg
Comparative Financial Statements
June 30, 2013 and 2012

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

NOTE 17 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The fair value of financial instruments as of June 30, 2013 and 2012 consisted of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>June 30, 2013</th>
<th>June 30, 2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fair Value (Carrying Value)</td>
<td>$1,106,446</td>
<td>$1,106,446</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$1,106,446</td>
<td>$1,106,446</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The fair values of financial instruments were determined using Level 3 inputs. The Level 3 inputs consist of unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity. These inputs reflect management's assumptions about the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. In the absence of observable inputs, these inputs are based on management's best estimate of the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. These inputs include the following:

- Unrealized gains (losses) on investments
- Accrued interest receivable
- Cash equivalents
- Deferred compensation
- Pension funds
- Other benefits contributions
- Other liabilities
- Prepaid expenses
- Notes payable
- Accounts payable

The carrying amounts of the financial instruments approximate their fair values due to the short-term nature of these instruments. The carrying amounts of short-term and long-term borrowings approximate their fair values due to the variable interest rate on these instruments.

NOTE 18 - PENSION RECOGNITION PLAN (Continued)

The net periodic pension cost for the years ended June 30, 2013, 2012, and 2011 was $203,504, $54,619, and $52,079, respectively.

The net periodic benefit cost for the years ended June 30, 2013, 2012, and 2011 was $203,504, $54,619, and $52,079, respectively.
Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic
Diocece of Ogdensburg

II. FINANCIAL REPORTS
North Country Catholic

Dec. 11, 2013

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic
Diocece of Ogdensburg

Statements of Activities
For the year ended
June 30, 2013

REVENUES, GAINS, AND OTHER SUPPORT:

Revenues
1,116,492
979,997
1,084,000

Unrestricted
1,116,492
979,997
1,084,000

Restricted
0
0

Temporarily Restricted
0
0

Unrestricted
1,116,492
979,997
1,084,000

Restricted
0
0

Temporarily Restricted
0
0

Total
1,116,492
979,997
1,084,000

Temporarily Restricted
0
0

Total
1,116,492
979,997
1,084,000

Expenses:

General
456,997
391,145
408,000

Program:

Salaries and Wages
1,081,587
935,385
964,000

Salaries and Wages
1,081,587
935,385
964,000

Consulting
1,154
1,000

Other
1,000
1,000

Total
1,082,741
936,385
964,000

Change in Net Assets
(17,317)
(21,394)
(36,000)

Unrestricted
(17,317)
(21,394)
(36,000)

Restricted
0
0

Temporarily Restricted
0
0

Total
(17,317)
(21,394)
(36,000)

CHANGES IN NET ASSETS:

Change in Endowment Fund
(18,978)
(23,164)
(38,800)

Net Assets - End of Year
(23,935)
(37,254)
(48,000)

Note 10 - Diocesan Trust Fund

The Diocesan Trust Fund is a real estate fund established by the Diocese for the support of parishes and other business expenses of the Diocese. The fund is described in detail in note 11. The Diocesan Trust Fund Bank was $2,012,375 and $2,124,991, respectively, as of June 30, 2013 and 2012.

Note 11 - Diocesan Gift Annuity Payout

The Diocesan Gift Annuity Fund is a real estate fund established by the Diocese for the support of parishes and other business expenses of the Diocese. The fund is described in detail in note 11. The Diocesan Gift Annuity Fund Bank was $2,012,375 and $2,124,991, respectively, as of June 30, 2013 and 2012.

Note 12 - Lay Employees' Retirement Trust

The Lay Employees' Retirement Trust is a real estate fund established by the Diocese for the support of parishes and other business expenses of the Diocese. The fund is described in detail in note 11. The Lay Employees' Retirement Trust Bank was $2,012,375 and $2,124,991, respectively, as of June 30, 2013 and 2012.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Members of the Diocesan Finance Council

Bishop Terry R. LaValley
Deacon Kevin T. Mastellon
Rev. Joseph A. Morgan
Rev. Kevin J. O'Brien
Rev. Msgr. Robert H. Auxon
Mr. Gary Bennett
Ms. Barbara Criss
Ms. Michelle N. Davey
Rev. Christopher Carrara, V.F.
Mr. John Knox
Sister Jennifer Votruba

Financial Reports
North Country Catholic
Dec. 11, 2013

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic
Diocece of Ogdensburg

Notes to the Financial Statements
June 30, 2013

The financial statements of the Diocese of Ogdensburg are on the trustees of the Diocese. The Diocese is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The Diocese has engaged the accounting firm of the financial statements. The Diocese is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The Diocese has engaged the accounting firm of the financial statements.
### Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

#### Notes to the Financial Statements - June 30, 2013

**Note 9 - General Insurance Plan (Continued)**

The schedule below summarizes the benefit structure for each level of coverage:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coverage Level</th>
<th>Self-Insurance</th>
<th>Maximum Coverage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Risk, Property, Casualty, and Auto Physical Damage</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$10,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worker's Compensation</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Liability, Surety, and Surety Bonds</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note 20 - Financial Statements for Classified Entities**

**Note 21 - New York State Disability Insurance**

The Schedule for New York State Disability Insurance benefits is provided by the New York State Disability Insurance Program, as administered by the New York State Department of Health. The benefits are based on the employee's salary and the number of years of service with the entity. The program is funded through contributions from the employers and employees, with the specific contribution rates determined by the New York State Department of Health.

**Note 22 - New York State Unemployment Compensation**

The Schedule for the New York State Unemployment Compensation Program is provided by the New York State Department of Labor. The program provides benefits to employees who lose their jobs through no fault of their own and meets certain eligibility requirements.

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### Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

#### Comparative Statements of Cash Flows

For the years ended June 30, 2013 and 2012

**Cash Flows from Operating Activities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Net Income</th>
<th>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$1,345,613</td>
<td>$787,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$1,392,419</td>
<td>$815,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Adjustments to Reconcile Changes in Net Assets to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Change in Accounts Receivable</td>
<td>$312,843</td>
<td>$287,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Other Assets and Liabilities</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
<td>$115,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Accounts Payable</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
<td>$55,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Deferred Revenues</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>$18,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Income Tax Payable</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$9,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Other Liabilities</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Deferred Revenues</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Net Income</td>
<td>$1,345,613</td>
<td>$1,392,419</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cash Flows from Investing Activities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Net Income</th>
<th>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$1,345,613</td>
<td>$787,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$1,392,419</td>
<td>$815,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cash Flows from Financing Activities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Net Income</th>
<th>Cash Flows from Financing Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$1,345,613</td>
<td>$787,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$1,392,419</td>
<td>$815,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Net Income</th>
<th>Cash Flows from Financing Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$1,345,613</td>
<td>$787,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$1,392,419</td>
<td>$815,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cash and Cash Equivalents - End of Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Net Income</th>
<th>Cash Flows from Financing Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$1,345,613</td>
<td>$787,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$1,392,419</td>
<td>$815,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Pinto, Mucenski, Hooper, Van House & Co.

Certified Public Accountants
Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Comparative Schedules of Program and Other Expenses
For the years ended June 30, 2013 and 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FINANCIAL REPORTS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DECEMBER 11, 2013</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See Auditors' Report
Pinto, Muscenski, Hooper, Van House & Co.
Certified Public Accountants

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg
Notes to the Financial Statements - June 30, 2013

1. **NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

   Initially in this section, open captions refer to financial statements included in this report, and in all notes to financial statements included in this report, the term "Office" means the Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg, unless the context otherwise requires. Changes in accounting estimates are reflected in the financial statements in the period in which the change occurs.

   **Extraordinary Items**

   Extraordinary items represent gains or losses that are unusual, infrequent, or not recurring in nature and not expected to recur in the foreseeable future, and if an item is expected to recur, it is reported as a normal part of operations. Changes in accounting estimates that are not adjustments to abnormal items are not considered to be extraordinary items.

   **Contributions and Receipts**

   Contributions and receipts are generally reported at the amounts received or paid. Contributions and receipts from other organizations that are not classified in the Office’s operating revenue plus extraordinary items are classified in operating revenue plus extraordinary items in the Statement of Financial Position. Contributions and receipts from related organizations are classified in operating revenue plus extraordinary items. Contributions and receipts from unrelated organizations that are not classified in the Office’s operating revenue plus extraordinary items are classified in the Office’s operating revenue plus extraordinary items in the Statement of Financial Position.

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   Contributions and receipts are generally reported at the amounts received or paid. Contributions and receipts from other organizations that are not classified in the Office’s operating revenue plus extraordinary items are classified in operating revenue plus extraordinary items in the Statement of Financial Position. Contributions and receipts from related organizations are classified in operating revenue plus extraordinary items. Contributions and receipts from unrelated organizations that are not classified in the Office’s operating revenue plus extraordinary items are classified in the Office’s operating revenue plus extraordinary items in the Statement of Financial Position.

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   **Contributions and Receipts**

   Contributions and receipts are generally reported at the amounts received or paid. Contributions and receipts from other organizations that are not classified in the Office’s operating revenue plus extraordinary items are classified in operating revenue plus extraordinary items in the Statement of Financial Position. Contributions and receipts from related organizations are classified in operating revenue plus extraordinary items. Contributions and receipts from unrelated organizations that are not classified in the Office’s operating revenue plus extraordinary items are classified in the Office’s operating revenue plus extraordinary items in the Statement of Financial Position.
Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdenburg
Comparative Schedules of Program and Other Expenses
For the years ended June 30, 2013 and 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>General Administration</th>
<th>Other Expenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$364,987</td>
<td>$18,134</td>
<td>$28,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$358,202</td>
<td>$19,277</td>
<td>$28,150</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Note 1**

**Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

**Depreciation**

Depreciation is provided on buildings and equipment on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets as follows:

- Buildings: 20 years
- Equipment: 5 years

**Note 2**

**Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

**Contributions and Receipts**

Contributions received are generally available for unrestricted use unless restricted by the donor. Receipts are recorded net of any donor-imposed restrictions.
Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Notes to the Financial Statements - June 30, 2013

NOTE 9 - GENERAL INSURANCE PLAN (Continued)

The table below summarizes the benefit structures for each line of coverage:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coverage</th>
<th>Minimum Coverage</th>
<th>Maximum Coverage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Risk</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefit for Dependents</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The maximum amount payable per incident is $150,000.

NOTE 10 - INVESTMENTS

Investments are carried at fair value at June 30, 2013 and 2012. The changes in fair value are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Fair Value</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash &amp; Short-Term Investments</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE 14 - FINANCIAL REPORTS

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Comparative Statements of Cash Flows
For the years ended June 30, 2013 and 2012

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Net Income</th>
<th>$1,235,613</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$1,235,613</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$1,235,613</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ADJUSTMENTS TO RECONCILE CHANGES IN NET ASSETS TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Line of Business</th>
<th>Adjustments</th>
<th>Change in Net Assets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Realized and Unrealized Gain/Loss on Investments</td>
<td>$(2,129,257)</td>
<td>$(200,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Value of Shareholders' Equity (Deficit)</td>
<td>$(1,462)</td>
<td>$(1,462)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease in Accrued Payables</td>
<td>$(800)</td>
<td>$(800)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Proceeds from Sale of Investments</th>
<th>$70,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$70,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$70,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Proceeds from New Authorization</th>
<th>$188,129</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$188,129</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$188,129</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Increase (Decrease)</th>
<th>$241,280</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$241,280</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$241,280</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - END OF YEAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Ending Balance</th>
<th>$2,136,181</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$2,136,181</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$2,136,181</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Pinto, Mcensen, Hooper, Van House & Co.
Certified Public Accountants
Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

**Statements of Activities**

For the year ended June 30, 2013

For the year ended June 30, 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenues, Grants, and Other Support:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diocesan Contributions</td>
<td>11,340,616</td>
<td>7,830,229</td>
<td>11,745,209</td>
<td>7,697,181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parish Contributions</td>
<td>1,023,759</td>
<td>909,828</td>
<td>1,076,272</td>
<td>960,109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diocesan Services</td>
<td>1,496,047</td>
<td>3,600,381</td>
<td>1,429,358</td>
<td>2,931,094</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charitable Contributions</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenues, Grants, and Other Support</td>
<td>13,000,372</td>
<td>12,652,638</td>
<td>16,240,943</td>
<td>14,928,475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Administrative Expenses</td>
<td>5,233,855</td>
<td>4,797,524</td>
<td>6,185,392</td>
<td>5,352,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diocesan Services</td>
<td>1,058,752</td>
<td>1,058,752</td>
<td>2,117,506</td>
<td>989,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>6,292,607</td>
<td>5,856,276</td>
<td>8,302,898</td>
<td>6,341,945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Net Assets</td>
<td>6,707,765</td>
<td>6,796,362</td>
<td>7,938,045</td>
<td>8,586,530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets - Begin of Year</td>
<td>20,023,868</td>
<td>23,346,038</td>
<td>27,962,883</td>
<td>36,449,413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets - End of Year</td>
<td>26,731,633</td>
<td>26,142,400</td>
<td>35,900,928</td>
<td>45,035,943</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note 1 - Diocesan Trust Fund**

The Diocesan Trust Fund is a financial fund employed for the investment of diocesan and other similar Diocesan investment of the Diocese, parishes, and related entities. The fund is designed to be invested and grows in value over time as the Diocesan Trust Fund - a portion of the Diocesan Trust Fund balance was $28,238,771 and $21,249,361, respectively.

Total dividends paid from the Diocesan Trust Fund for the year ended June 30, 2013 and 2012 were $131,781 and $103,805, respectively.

The value per share of the investment currently reported based on the number of shares outstanding as at June 30, 2013 and 2012 were $28,876 and $22,096, respectively.

**Note 2 - Charitable Gift Annuity Payable**

The Diocese purchased a group of New York State Tax-exempt Charitable Gift Annuity contracts. This contract provides a monthly income to the recipient for a specified period of time.

**Note 3 - Lay Employees' Retirement Trust**

The Lay Employees' Retirement Trust is a certified multiemployer defined benefit plan which includes employees of the Diocese, parishes where Diocesan services are provided, and other related nonprofit entities.

**Note 4 - Liquid Asset Statement**

The liquidity of the Fund as of June 30, 2013 was $28,238,771 and $21,249,361, respectively.

**Note 5 - Net Assets**

The net assets available for use under this program are reported at their fair market value.

## Members of the Diocesan Finance Council

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Notes to the Financial Statements - June 30, 2013

NOTE 1 - LAY EMPLOYEES’ RETIREMENT TRUST (Continued)

The plan does have a non-qualified plan which covers all single

NOTE 11 - PRIESTS’ RETIREMENT PLAN

The Handbook of the Diocese of Ogdensburg’s priests and

NOTE 17 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The fair value of financial instruments, such as loans

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Comparative Statements of Financial Position

June 30, 2013 and 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>June 30, 2013</th>
<th>June 30, 2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and Cash Equivalents</td>
<td>$3,145,181</td>
<td>$2,941,651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>126,158</td>
<td>156,505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Interest Receivable</td>
<td>181,887</td>
<td>195,646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due from Lay Employees’ Retirement Obligation</td>
<td>366,646</td>
<td>385,130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid Expenses</td>
<td>79,990</td>
<td>82,167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments at Fair Value</td>
<td>59,093,649</td>
<td>51,544,682</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Investments</td>
<td>313,244</td>
<td>287,413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Revalued - Mortgage</td>
<td>389,093</td>
<td>312,244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans Receivable - Par Value and Accruals</td>
<td>2,895,138</td>
<td>2,541,764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Allowance for Losses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property, Plant and Equipment, net of accumulated depreciation</td>
<td>2,207,766</td>
<td>2,189,445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted Assets</td>
<td>23,847,471</td>
<td>22,066,533</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL ASSETS</td>
<td>$94,766,397</td>
<td>$93,810,146</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES</th>
<th>June 30, 2013</th>
<th>June 30, 2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>$566,258</td>
<td>$256,297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Compensation</td>
<td>103,003</td>
<td>100,887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Compensation</td>
<td>280,990</td>
<td>298,109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Revenue</td>
<td>411,015</td>
<td>377,879</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes Receivable</td>
<td>185,200</td>
<td>545,369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposits Payable</td>
<td>10,546,684</td>
<td>11,517,311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disclose Trust Fund</td>
<td>20,568,719</td>
<td>18,520,991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stewardship Fund</td>
<td>1,385,331</td>
<td>1,407,452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stewardship Fund - Collected</td>
<td>514,949</td>
<td>10,135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquired Pension Obligations</td>
<td>770,439</td>
<td>71,492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lay Employees’ Retirement Obligation</td>
<td>23,847,471</td>
<td>22,066,533</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL LIABILITIES</td>
<td>$88,772,086</td>
<td>$87,033,862</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NET ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NET ASSETS</th>
<th>June 30, 2013</th>
<th>June 30, 2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrecognized</td>
<td>$3,903,300</td>
<td>$3,001,558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unearned</td>
<td>9,172,800</td>
<td>8,852,604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Unrestricted</td>
<td>$12,900,000</td>
<td>$11,854,057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily Restricted</td>
<td>12,289,190</td>
<td>11,616,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently Restricted</td>
<td>1,285,010</td>
<td>1,280,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL NET ASSETS</td>
<td>$26,276,690</td>
<td>$24,750,022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</th>
<th>June 30, 2013</th>
<th>June 30, 2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrecognized</td>
<td>$9,806,397</td>
<td>$9,810,146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unearned</td>
<td>9,172,800</td>
<td>8,852,604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Unrestricted</td>
<td>$18,979,197</td>
<td>$18,662,746</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily Restricted</td>
<td>12,289,190</td>
<td>11,616,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently Restricted</td>
<td>1,285,010</td>
<td>1,280,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL NET ASSETS</td>
<td>$32,553,597</td>
<td>$33,509,702</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Pinto, Mucenski, Hooper, Van House & Co.
Certified Public Accountants
Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

2012-2013 Audited Financial Statements

Independent Auditor’s Report

Dioecesan Fiscal Office Staff

Serving the fiscal needs of the Diocese of Ogdensburg

Web site: www.rcdony.org/fiscalservices

Kim Snover
Director Human Resources

Peggy Garrison
Senior Diocesan Accountant

Michael J. Tooly
Diocesan Fiscal Officer

Karen Ruddy
Diocesan Accountant

Heather Ladouceur
Fiscal Office Assistant

Vince Thouin
Parish Administrative Services Coordinator

October 25, 2013

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT

New Regional Tony L. LaRiccia
Bishop of the Diocese of Ogdensburg

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg ("the Diocese") which in general consist of the following:

- Diocesan Office
- Parishes
- Diocesan Ministries
- Educational Institutions
- Social Services

The Diocese's fiscal year ends on June 30 of each year. We express an opinion on the accompanying financial statements of the Diocese based on our audit. Our responsibility for the audit included performing procedures to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. The standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by theDiocese, as well as evaluating the overall financial presentation of the Diocese. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to in above paragraph (b), in all material respects, state the financial position of the Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg as of June 30, 2012 and 2013, and the changes in its net assets for the years then ended, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of giving an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The Schedule of Program and Other Expense in Pages 33 and 34 presents the amounts of additional analyses, and we are not a required part of the Federal Audits𫓹, but our work includes examining on a test basis evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in these schedules.

This report does not form part of the financial statements. However, our audit work was performed in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. We have no additional procedures to perform in relation to the Schedule of Program and Other Expense.

Note 18 – Restricted Net Assets

The above note provides additional information about net assets reported as unrestricted in the note above. It includes information about the predominant use of these net assets, and the restrictions placed on their disposal. The amounts for all amounts are presented. The amounts for the years then ended are presented. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects to the financial statements as a whole.

Note 19 – Unrestricted Net Assets

The amounts presented in this note provide additional information about the net assets reported as unrestricted in the note above. The amounts for all amounts are presented. The amounts for the years then ended are presented. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects to the financial statements as a whole.

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Notes to the Financial Statements—June 30, 2013

The above note presents additional information about the financial statements of the Diocese. The amounts presented in this note provide additional information about the financial statements of the Diocese. The amounts for all amounts are presented. The amounts for the years then ended are presented. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects to the financial statements as a whole.
Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Notes to the Financial Statements - June 30, 2013

Changes in revenues and expenses are shown in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2013 Unaudited</th>
<th>2012 Unaudited</th>
<th>2012 Audited</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Changes in revenues and expenses</td>
<td>$37,914,776</td>
<td>$37,631,108</td>
<td>$36,568,272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increases in revenue</td>
<td>$17,661,702</td>
<td>$17,427,014</td>
<td>$16,354,742</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decreases in expenses</td>
<td>($40,777,498)</td>
<td>($40,266,048)</td>
<td>($39,909,504)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changes in revenues and expenses</td>
<td>($22,862,722)</td>
<td>($22,635,940)</td>
<td>($23,341,232)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE 18 - ENDOWMENTS

The Diocese endowments consist of 18 individual funds established for various purposes, of which 16 funds are being accumulated by contributions.

At December 31, 2012, the diocesan funds comprised of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2012 Unaudited</th>
<th>2012 Audited</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Endowment fund</td>
<td>$7,835,306</td>
<td>$7,375,695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted fund</td>
<td>$12,070,974</td>
<td>$11,588,458</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted fund</td>
<td>$6,568,740</td>
<td>$6,015,356</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE 19 - INVESTMENTS

The Diocese invests funds in various securities, primarily in short-term certificates of deposit, mortgage bonds, and money market funds.

The fair value of invested securities is determined by reference to their market prices.

The Diocese has no significant concentrations of investment risk.

The Diocese does not make investments in any single company or industry.

NOTE 20 - COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

The Diocese has outstanding obligations including future minimum lease payments, capital leases, and other commitments.

The Diocese is also subject to various legal proceedings.

The Diocese has not recorded any liabilities or disclosed contingencies.

NOTE 21 - CONTINGENCIES

There are no significant legal proceedings or claims against the Diocese.

NOTE 22 - RECLASSIFICATION

Certain amounts in the 2012 financial statements have been reclassified to conform with the presentation in the current year.

endorsement

The Diocese endowments consist of 18 individual funds established for a variety of purposes, of which 16 funds are being accumulated by contributions. As required by generally accepted accounting principles, net unrestricted endowments are accumulated for use in support of the Diocese's long-term needs and are reported separately on the balance sheet as a source of Diocese resources.

A. General:

Endowments are assets held in trust for the benefit of individuals or organizations specified by the donor. The donor may designate a specific purpose for which the funds may be used, or they may be used for general purposes.

B. Reporting:

Endowments are reported on the financial statements as a separate class of financial resources.

C. Accounting:

Endowments are accounted for on the accrual basis of accounting. They are reported at fair value, which is generally determined by reference to their market prices.

The Diocese has no significant concentrations of investment risk.

The Diocese does not make investments in any single company or industry.

The Diocese has no significant legal proceedings or claims against the Diocese.

The Diocese has not recorded any liabilities or disclosed contingencies.

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Vocal ensemble to present Festival of Lessons & Carols

 performances to be held Dec. 21 at St. Peter’s in Plattsburgh and Dec. 22 at St. Agnes in Lake Placid.

The Northern Adirondack Vocal Ensemble (NAVE) will present a Festival of Lessons and Carols, a service of lessons and carols, and hymns and other music that celebrates the Christmas season, along with community readings from the Book of Isaiah. This has been a long-standing Christmas tradition in the region.

The programs will take place Dec. 11, 7-7:30 p.m. at St. Peter’s Church in Plattsburgh; Dec. 12, 7 p.m., at St. Agnes Church in Lake Placid.

NAVE, under the musical direction of Andrew M. Benware, is a chamber choir of semi-professional, accomplished amateur singers that perform classical choral music from a variety of periods and styles ranging from early to late periods.

Mr. Benware teaches summer graduate courses at Ithaca College School of Music and serves as Lecturer in the field of conducting, musical theater preparation, music fundamentals, and conducted the Summer Graduate Choir and Band. He pre- sents both conducting and the College of New Rochelle, and previously instructed at the Peru Middle/High School. He also served as a sabbatical leave position at SUNY Potsdam where he has taught vocal pedagogy.

Mr. Benware has been a member of the inaugural and subsequent faculties of the College at the former Adirondack Summer Music Festival, an intensive col- lege music preparatory program for students who have been selected by the Festival Board of Directors.

He is a native of northern New York State and has served several years as a public school music teacher, both as Director of Instrumental Music at Saranac Lake High School and as Director of Choirs at the Peru Middle/High School.

About the conductor

In his homily, the pope said that the best present in life is encountering Christ and the journey of life is truly a faith story. He added: ‘beginning Advent for the faithful, the pope said, to ‘look for Jesus and to prepare to receive him,’”

He said Encounter is not a one-time event, ‘we encounter him every day,’ he said.

However, some people, es- tablished in faith, ‘can do more than that, he said. ‘But, you know, the people Jesus would have most of all be the biggest sinners.’

While those who believed the need for sin would admonish Jesus for keeping such people with sinners, Jesus would tell them, ‘I have come not to call the righteous but those who need repentance,’ he said.

The pope apologized to Palestinian children for any in- cidents caused by his ‘personal’ visit to the holy land of Israel, ‘a sacred land to the Jewish people, to the Christians and to Muslims.”

‘In my heart, I’m sorry,’ he said.

Some news media said a booted-up police presence was in place to pro- vide more affordable security for the pope’s visit. The pope later met with some of the activists who were protesting outside the Vatican’s main gate in St. Peter’s Square. "I heard it's also known as the ‘sacrament of atonement’ because it’s often the last time people have to make it,” he said.

Concluding Advent for the faithful, the pope said, to ‘look for Jesus and to prepare to receive him,’”

He said: ‘Begin the Advent of the Year of Faith by remaining faithful to the Commandments, to the Sacraments, to the Holy Spirit and the sacredness of life. These are not just a living faith, but a faith that will change our lives.”

In his homily, the pope added: ‘Beginning Advent for the faithful, the pope said, to ‘look for Jesus and to prepare to receive him,”

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The joy that fills this Sunday's liturgy is the closest we have to Christmas itself. We're always shocked to see the celebrant process into the Mass this week dressed in rose-colored vestments. Today's Entrance antiphon proclaims, "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, Rejoice. The Lord is near." In the old days, the words were in Latin: "Gaudete, iterum dico vobis, 'Gaudete'..." And so, this Sunday is still called "Gaudete Sunday." The whole message is one of hope. But, we say, we don't feel like joy. Even Christmas shopping is more hectic than it used to be. In any case, we're always shocked to see the real deep, serene joy that we look for in vain in the world around us. In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus assures us that the Father sent John the Baptist as a messenger to prepare His way. And Jesus prays John as the greatest of the prophets, dressed as a monk in rough clothing. His message is meant to shrink our fears and bolster our hopes. It inspires us with inner peace and sin and darkness flee when the Son of God was born in Bethlehem. Of course, people can and do choose to live without His Light. Only when we refuse to repent of our sin and hang on to the darkness can we have reason to fear. When John in prison sends emissaries to Jesus to ask if He is really the Messiah, Jesus sends back the answer that He himself is the fulfillment of all John's prophecies. Now the blind see, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the Good News preached to them! John in prison must have been filled with joy at Jesus' testimony about Himself. The celebrant has good reason for rose-colored vestments today. The liturgy of this Sunday looks forward to a future time of peace that Jesus has promised we will experience! Let's carry that thought with us all week. Our READERS WRITE Thank you, Deacon Sean Henry Laymon, our guest at parish, St. Mary's in Marcellus, on Sunday, Dec. 1, as we discussed how being prepared and flexible is how that message was important to parents, as we begin the season of Advent. As parents of four, you absolutely hit the mark with your message. Yes, Deacon, we would feel more deeply if we knew we would lose our last day on earth and were to排行的时机重要得多. 我们必须在每一天善待他人，对他人说好话，因为这是我们向那些正在准备自己的工作的人表示敬意的方式。我们相信，只要我们敞开心扉，准备让上帝的生活充满我们的生活！我们说这句话是说你是一个了不起的主教。——肖恩·道恩·威瑟斯

Scott & Doreen Wilson Louisville

The parishioners of St. Mary's Church, Potsdam, St. Patrick's Church, Canton, extend their gratitude to Monsignor Paul E. Whitmore for all his efforts on our behalf. His enthusiasm and dedication to moving us forward to become a true Christian family shows in all that he does.
Don’t let the title fool you, “Frozen” (Disney) is bursting with enough warmth and charm to defrost even the hardest Grinchy heart.

Loosely based on the Hans Christian Anderson fairy tale “The Snow Queen,” this 3-D animated musical is good-natured, overwhelmingly wholesome fare with something for everyone: Broadway-style show tunes, thrilling adventure, gorgeous visuals, cute-as-a-button characters, and a nice message about the enduring bonds of family.

There are even a few respectful religious overtones likely to please believers.

“Frozen” is a tale of two princesses: Elsa (voice of Idina Menzel) and Anna (voice of Kristen Bell). Anna is fun-loving and spirited, while Elsa, destined to be queen of the mythical kingdom of Arendelle, is reserved, harboring a deep secret.

Elsa, it seems, was born with the power to create ice and snow at will. This gift was great fun at playtime when she was a youngster. At least, that is, until Elsa nearly killed Anna in a freak accident. The king (voice of Maurice LaMarche) then decreed Elsa must be hidden away for her own safety, and the palace closed to all outsiders.

Eventually, the princesses become orphans and coronation day arrives for Elsa. The new queen is burdened by fears of a disaster; Anna, by contrast, revels in the overdue arrival of an open-door policy.

At the coronation ball, Anna falls fast for Hans (voice of Santino Fontana), a visiting prince, and after a spirited song-and-dance number, they announce their engagement.

Queen Elsa won’t give her blessing—the two have just met, after all—and the sisters quarrel. Elsa accidentally unleashes her powers and throws Arendelle into a deep freeze.

For everyone’s welfare, Elsa retreats to the forest, entombing herself in a mountaintop ice palace. Anna, the fearless optimist, follows her, desperate to help her sibling and undo the eternal winter.

“Frozen” contains a few mildly perilous situations and a bit of slightly gross humor.

The Catholic News Service classification is A-I — general patronage. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.
From Year of Faith to Life of Faith

The challenge of the Year of Faith is to bring those who have been on the fringe of faith back into the Church, to those who are lost in the world and have wandered away from faith. This year is about engagement and reaching out to others to increase their understanding of the Church and the joy of the faith. The Year of Faith is not just about the Church being number one, but also about the Church living the joy of faith in everyday life.

READER RESPONSE

The Year of Faith has been an opportunity for the Church to reflect on its mission and identity. It has been a time to pray for the Church and for its members to come together to face the challenges of the world. The Year of Faith has been a time of growth and renewal for the Church and for the faithful who have been involved in the Year of Faith.

Rejoice, keep faith, hear the voice of the Church, and live the joy of faith in everyday life.
Thank you to some unsung heroes!

Father Bill Says.

This past week of Advent affords a perfect time to reflect on the gift of God's love in our lives. Catholics in our diocesan family come together to celebrate and give thanks for the many gifts we often take for granted.

The bulk of this issue is dedicated to sharing brief messages from our Diocesan Financial Investment Committee and our annual DIOCAN LENTEN APPEAL.

As Bishop LaValley notes, the appeal is another page of facts and figures that we all need to consider. The church is not a private club, but a faith community of students, servants and stewards of the church.

A PASTOR’S PERSPECTIVE

Accepting pope’s challenge to be joyful

The pope has challenged us all - you and me - to see this Christmas season as a joyful one.

I have the luxury of living with people who are joyful! We, the editors of North Country Catholic, are joyful! Ours is a joyful diocese!

This week’s FCC of North Country Catholic includes a message from our Diocesan Investment Committee and our annual DIOCAN LENTEN APPEAL.

As Bishop LaValley notes, this is another page of facts and figures that we need to consider. The church is not a private club, but a faith community of students, servants and stewards of the church.

The appeal is the responsibility of everyone in the diocese. It is the church’s responsibility to be good stewards of God’s gifts.

Thank you for your support of our diocesan newspaper, North Country Catholic.
Mary Ellen Linsley

Christmas artwork contest

From the Director’s Desk

Sister Mary Ellen Brett, DDS
Diocesan Mission Director

Announcing the 2013-2014 Missionary Childhood Association (MCA) Christmas Artwork Contest

Photography, drawing, painting or any other artwork is accepted. Artwork may be created by children in grades Pre-K to 8th grade. It can be on any medium. The contest is open to young Catholics in grades K-8. All artwork must be received at the Pontifical Mission Societies of the United States (www.pmsus.org) by January 31, 2014.

Twenty-four winners will be selected in this competition; their artwork will appear as posters on our website for www.MCAkids.org during Advent and displayed at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. during Advent and Christmas 2014.

One grand-prize winner will be selected and his or her artwork will appear as the official Christmas artwork for the Pontifical Mission Societies of the United States and the Pontifical Missionary Childhood Association.

The contest is open to young Catholics in grades K-8. All artwork must be received by January 31, 2014.

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In his first extensive piece of writing as pontiff, Pope Francis lays out vision for evangelical church