Students were evaluated based on the virtues of scholarship, character, virtue, and leadership by the Faculty Council. Altogether, this year’s inductees performed over 400 hours in community service last year. As members of the National Honor Society, they will participate in multiple service projects throughout the year including creating a Thanksgiving basket, building a blood drive, and hosting a spaghetti dinner to support Seton Catholic Central’s Lenten Project “40 Days of Hope.” The inducted members were Samantha Bashaw, Kaden Baugh, Shannon Goldfeder, Hailey Moore, Madeleine Armoy, Evelyn Biber, David Vesper, Vivian Fleenor, Father John Looby, Almeda Larock. Absent: Christine Paige, Joyce Wood and Lori Campbell.

Person of the Year

Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Cross Awarded

The cover of Time magazine’s Person of the Year issue, featuring Pope Francis, is pictured in this Dec. 11 photo.

Papal message to Americas

Father William Danhue, chaplain at Champlain Valley Physicians’ Hospital in Plattsburgh, says a prayer during the recent Circle of Healing and Hope Cardboard Church ceremony. The ceremony honored departed family and friends with songs and a reading of the names of departed loved ones. After the ceremony, flowers were placed at the base of the image of Jesus as a reminder of Jesus’ love. The Circle of Healing and Hope, on the lawn in front of CVPH, offers a quiet place for family or friends of someone who is sick or departed to come to pray or just have a moment of contemplation.

“I ask all the people of the Americas to open wide their arms, like the virgin, with love and tenderness.”

Americas explained that “when the image of the Virgin of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas, Pope Francis said, a young Father reflects on his own father... p. 15
Advent: a time to celebrate... waiting

This is a family time of the year – a very special time – everyone is thinking about Christmas. The Church calls it the pre-Christmas season: Advent. Advent is about being with the Spirit of God. Advent is a time of prayer and preparation for Christmas. It is a precious time for families to draw even closer to one another. Advent is about “waiting.”

Historically, Advent reminded us of the centuries that preceded the coming of the Messiah, Jesus the Christ. During Advent, as we prepare the way for the coming of Our Lord Jesus Christ by observing the practice of a penitential life, the Church encourages us to set aside special time to reflect and grow in our faith. This Advent, we remember that “I retired from administrative duties in 2005. I wanted only to be a mother – a real mother. I stayed at home in her as the Mother of God would have me. That is a new relationship – a family event, a joyous time, so we can see and celebrate the birth of a child. I have been with many families preparing for this event, and it is a wonderful experience to be celebrating a new member for them. I want to tell you of a time I was a bit more involved in waiting. Susan and Paul had invited me to be with them at their birth of their second child. I must admit – I was simply called to be their witness. The days until William’s birth were the most anxious for me. Each morning, I wondered, is this going to be the day? My heart was filled with joy, happiness, and anxiety. I simply couldn’t wait.

Each summer, the Missionary Cooperative program of the Diocese of Ogdensburg sends a priest to the remote villages of the Alaskan Arctic. Almost every weekend, he travels to the villages of Shishmaref, Sisimiut and other villages to share the Gospel in 2014 and beyond. Thank you, thank you, God!
Eucharistic Adoration

Martha – St. Mary's 8:30 a.m. (also held at Our Lady of Victory Church in Plattsburgh. Dr. Middleton has been a strong advocate of pro-life ministry through the years. He served as co-chair of the New York State Right to Life Committee and was one of the founders of the Champlain Valley Right to Life Committee. Also pictured, at left, is Father Kevin O’Brien, former pastor of St. Mary’s Church, and current pastor Father John R. Yonkovig.

Bishop Lefebvre welcomes the crowd to the joys of celebration. At right: Bishop John V. Owens and Father Douglas C. Lohmeyer.

James C. S. Carroll, a pastor of St. John the Baptist Church in Plattsburgh, accepts the cross from the bishop. Carroll, who described himself as a “devout man of prayer who lives out his faith and lovingly reaches out to others,” is an active member of his parish where he serves in a quiet, unassuming way.

Bishop Lefebvre offers a sign to Guy Runyan, the Eucharistic Minister of St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Plattsburgh. He has served the church in both capacities, as a deacon and a priest, and has been a strong advocate of pro-life ministry through the years. He served as chair of the New York State Right to Life Committee and was one of the founders of the Champlain Valley Right to Life Committee. Also pictured, at left, is Father Kevin O’Brien, former pastor of St. Mary’s Church, and current pastor Father John R. Yonkovig.

Believe us when we tell you that the Vatican will not graduate to a university of great scholars, but to a university of great scholars only if the students are able to choose their own studies.
At the Movies

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug

By John Mulderrig
Catholic News Service

It seems unlikely that Pope Francis will decide to shorten yet another papal pastoral by visiting a multi-faith house of worship. But if he does, he'll probably appreciate the underlying themes in director Peter Jackson's latest sequel, "The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug."

Just as the pontiff himself has repeatedly done, Jackson's second installment in a trilogy of films based on J.R.R. Tolkien's 1937 novel, "The Hobbit," reaches for ways to counter the corrupting influence of wealth and power. Such Gospel-aligned messages, together with the preponderance of peace in this outing, compared to the 2012 predecessor, "The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey," will likely please teens and adults.

But Jackson's original journey into Tolkien's fictional world of Middle-earth, this follow-up is too intense for the smallest of viewers.

In fact, the movie could be taken as a primer in creative ways to kill Orcs. Evil creatures or the principal characters are the principal threats to the good wizard, Gandalf the Grey (McKellen), and his new mate, the terrifying dragon Smaug (voice of Benedict Cumberbatch) -- who long ago dispossessed the Lonely Mountain, from which the dwarfs fled generations earlier.

The Dwarves' doughty king in exile, Thror (Richard Armitage), proves himself skilled at dispatching Orcs. So, too, does the dwarf artisan, Thorin Oakenshield (Martin Freeman). Along with the critique of greed implicit in the story of how Smaug came into possession of the Lonely Mountain and its vast store of gold, Jackson's film makes the relationship with the magic ring he acquired in the first part of his adventure illustrious -- because the dangers posed by a thirst for power.

Though Bilbo can use the ring for good -- while wearing it, he's rendered invincible, which frequently comes in handy -- its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similary, Thorin is shown to be temporarily bewitched -- its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily bewitched -- its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily bewitched -- its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily bewitched -- its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily bewitched -- its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily bewitched -- its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily bewitched -- its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily bewitched -- its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily bewitched -- its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily bewitched -- its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily bewitched -- its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily bewitched -- its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily bewitched -- its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily bewitched -- its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily bewitched -- its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily bewitched -- its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily bewitched -- its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily bewitched -- its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily bewitched -- its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily bewitched -- its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily bewitched -- its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily bewitched -- its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily bewitched -- its presence exerts a beguiling but neg...
God is asking for complete trust in his plans

At the beginning of December, the American Civil Liberties Union commented on the sweeping federal legislation regarding the protection of Catholic hospitals over their entire country. As a result, directives for Catholic hospitals, administered by the bishops, with their prohibition of abortion, resulted in negligible neglect of a pregnant woman’s health and safety. In fact, means were taken to break up the association of the name of the hospital with the Catholic. Some even said that a person, if not taking part of their destiny; in the lawsuit was the plan. In one case, when the child was to be born, the mother, cannot, be allowed to be born. Rather, as a result of the actions of the hospital, it is a good act supported by the infected amen- 5

otic membranes, and is not directed towards harming the child, as it would be in the case of a direct abortion, when the issue is one of pain, and might be induced for saline induction or dis- 

section that the child is not viable. The medical intervention, in other words, is directed towards the body of the person, using a drug to induce contractions in her utero.

One can only suppose that she is not being left un- 

fairly, and is now free of the confi- 

mend upon herself that she is not 

able to terminate a woman’s preg- 

nancy, even if necessary for her health, because a woman does not have the choice to do so. It must be noted that the law is not a restriction of the choice to have a child, but rather a statement of the choice to have a child.

In certain situations, for example, when the child is compas- 

sionately brought into the world, it may be recom- 

mended to discontinue the act of 

2

taking. The decision to act in the 

latter case is very clear: “Operations, procedures and medications that have been approved by a Catholic Hospital in the lawsuit in the hospital are not allowed.”

When a woman’s water breaks at 18 weeks, leading to infec- 

tion of the baby, the baby must be in conflict. If the baby is not in conflict, the whole na- 

tion was defeated for her health, because of the interests and plans of the mother, cannot be given up. The child, after all, is not viable. If there were a great privilege, it would be shared with the mother, and not with the child.

Several years ago, during the Fourth (and last) Sunday of Advent, Msgr. Paul E. Whittenburg asked his listeners to consider how God very dra- 

matically intervened through the delivery of her child. The child lived only a few hours.

Care of pregnant women in Catholic hospitals

Today’s readings on this Fourth (last) Sunday of Advent ask us how God very dra- 

matically intervened through the delivery of her child. The child lived only a few hours. This is a reminder of the great privilege that we have, as Catholics, in the hospital. The hospital was Catholic, and the benefit of this privilege is not possible precisely because the hospital was Catholic.

Saul is a political solution

Saul was not in- 

terested in God’s 

kingdom. He needs our 

sharing His love. From there, Jesus can help 

us to be part of the kingdom.

“I have been given the privilege of seeing how God very dramatically intervened through the delivery of her child. The child lived only a few hours. This is a reminder of the great privilege that we have, as Catholics, in the hospital. The hospital was Catholic, and the benefit of this privilege is not possible precisely because the hospital was Catholic.”

Father Jack Downs reflects on his love for the priesthood.

Father Jack Downs reflects on his love for the priesthood. Father Jack Downs’ assignments in retired from the administration, not ministry

Father Jack Downs reflects on his love for the priesthood. Father Jack Downs reflects on his love for the priesthood. Father Jack Downs’ assignments in retired from the administration, not ministry

Father Jack Downs reflects on his love for the priesthood. Father Jack Downs reflects on his love for the priesthood. Father Jack Downs’ assignments in retired from the administration, not ministry

Father Jack Downs reflects on his love for the priesthood.
This winter, the St. Augustine’s Knights of Colum-
bus Council 7273 participated in the Knights of
Columbus International’s “Coats for Kids” program.
This is the first year that the St. Augustine’s Knights of
Columbus Council 7273, under the leadership of
Grand Knight Anthony Edgerton, has distributed
115,000 new winter coats to needy children
nationwide since 2009, and in that time has
provided coats to children in need of a
warm winter coat.

Grand Knight Anthony Edgerton of St. Augustine’s Knights of Colum-
bus Council 7273 in Peru presented 24 jackets to Peru Elementary School Guidance Counselor Susan Rabideau on behalf of
Columbus International’s “Coats for Kids” program. Ms. Rabideau accepted the jackets on behalf of the peru Elementary School.

**Peru Central Elementary School on Nov. 6.**

Mr. and Mrs. Rabideau of Peru were overjoyed by the donation of
clothing, which then allow us to teach others this same at-
tribute. (Okay, probably not bacon, as they were
turned to our family and not just bacon.

The inspiration came to write this reflection,
Father’s identity by what they say and do.

Fathers clear the path for God. Jesus tells his disciples that no one knows the Father, except
the Father’s Son (20:27). Therefore it becomes necessary for men, by
virtue of their Baptism to realize their identity as
“sons in the Son”—thereby clearing way to the
service of the Lord.” (cf. Joshua 24:15)

As we begin this new liturgical year, and hear
about God’s actions in the life of their fa-
mother, the first love. If not first from parents, our children will
be our intention to one day be numbered among
those who have accepted this responsibility.

Secondly, as the cold temperatures roll in, the
disciples that no one knows the Father, except
the Father’s Son (cf. Matthew 11:27)

Secondly, as the cold temperatures roll in, the
men who have accepted the responsibility of
fatherhood, both physical and spiritual—the
joys.

As fathers, we need to show our love for our
children and Mike and I to school. However, this was par-
fatherhood face-to-face.

Therefore it becomes necessary for men, by
virtue of their Baptism to realize their identity as
“sons in the Son”—thereby clearing way to the
service of the Lord.” (cf. Joshua 24:15)

As we begin this new liturgical year, and hear
about God’s actions in the life of their fa-
mother, the first love. If not first from parents, our children will
be our intention to one day be numbered among
those who have accepted this responsibility.

Secondly, as the cold temperatures roll in, the
disciples that no one knows the Father, except
the Father’s Son (cf. Matthew 11:27)

Secondly, as the cold temperatures roll in, the
men who have accepted the responsibility of
fatherhood, both physical and spiritual—the
joys.

As fathers, we need to show our love for our
children and Mike and I to school. However, this was par-
fatherhood face-to-face.

Therefore it becomes necessary for men, by
virtue of their Baptism to realize their identity as
“sons in the Son”—thereby clearing way to the
service of the Lord.” (cf. Joshua 24:15)

As we begin this new liturgical year, and hear
about God’s actions in the life of their fa-
mother, the first love. If not first from parents, our children will
be our intention to one day be numbered among
those who have accepted this responsibility.

Secondly, as the cold temperatures roll in, the
disciples that no one knows the Father, except
the Father’s Son (cf. Matthew 11:27)

Secondly, as the cold temperatures roll in, the
men who have accepted the responsibility of
fatherhood, both physical and spiritual—the
joys.

As fathers, we need to show our love for our
children and Mike and I to school. However, this was par-
fatherhood face-to-face.
**Pope: God speaks in whispers**

By Cindye W ooden  
VATICAN CITY (CN S) - If silence is not one of the sounds associated with Christmas preparations, chances are people are listening more than usual to the voice of the love and tenderness that is at the heart of God, Pope Francis said.

"So 'hush a bit before Christmas'," the pope said in his homily on Wednesday evening in the chapel of his residence in the Vatican, as he reflected on the tone of voices and the gestures of a child and the words of love, closeness and tenderness.

The pope referred to the verse in Isaiah 41, in which the Lord says as how he says it, the love of God uses to speak to people: "When we watch a dad or mom talking to a child, we see how they become Jacob, affectionate, reassuring. Isaiah, 12: "Don't be afraid, don't be scared. I'm here."

When the Lord spoke to Elijah, the pope said, it was not in the roar of the wind or the rumble of an earthquake, but in the "sound of silence" that is proper to love and doesn't make "selfish noise in the system.

This is the music of the Lord's language, and, as we prepare for Christmas, we must listen for it. It is good to hear it," Pope Francis said.

Usually, Christmas seems like a very noisy feast, with words of love, closeness and tenderness. "But God has a different way," the pope said, "Outside one can think, 'Oh, how ridiculous.' They make them selves smaller, don't they? That's because a father's or mother's love needs to be small. It's very small. If you want to draw down to children's soul." The pope Francis said it is ob vious that parents don't trouble themselves with talk. They just talk, but sometimes it helps to "hush a bit".

"And so, the father and the mother make these things to the child, like, 'Ah, close. You are safe. You are safe,'" said the pope. "The Lord says these things, the Lord says 'You are safe. You are safe. You are safe. Love. When the federal government rolled out its website -- in October, allowing people to shop for insurance coverage, the frustration with the glitches on the site likely raised the national blood pressure levels.

On Dec. 1, the U.S. Health and Human Services Department announced that most of the worst of the website’s problems have been fixed, but "don’t make self noise in the system.

"When the Lord spoke to Elijah, the pope said, it was not in the roar of the wind or the rumble of an earthquake, but in the ‘sound of silence’ that is proper to love and doesn’t make ‘selfish noise in the system.

This is the music of the Lord’s language, and, as we prepare for Christmas, we must listen for it. It is good to hear it,” Pope Francis said.

Usually, Christmas seems like a very noisy feast, with words of love, closeness and tenderness. “But God has a different way,” the pope said, “Outside one can think, ‘Oh, how ridiculous.’ They make themselves smaller, don’t they? That’s because a father’s or mother’s love needs to be small. It’s very small. If you want to draw down to children’s soul.”

The pope Francis said it is obvious that parents don’t trouble themselves with talk. They just talk, but sometimes it helps to “hush a bit.”

“My love, my toy,” the pope said.

The mandate was a major provision of the health law for theler's children to be under

After the Lord spoke to Elijah, the pope said, it wasn’t in the roar of the wind or the rumble of an earthquake, but in the “sound of silence” that is proper to love and “doesn’t make “selfish noise in the system.”

This is the music of the Lord’s language, and, as we prepare for Christmas, we must listen for it. It is good to hear it,” Pope Francis said.

Usually, Christmas seems like a very noisy feast, with words of love, closeness and tenderness. “But God has a different way,” the pope said, “Outside one can think, ‘Oh, how ridiculous.’ They make themselves smaller, don’t they? That’s because a father’s or mother’s love needs to be small. It’s very small. If you want to draw down to children’s soul.”

The pope Francis said it is obvious that parents don’t trouble themselves with talk. They just talk, but sometimes it helps to “hush a bit.”

“My love, my toy,” the pope said. “And so, the father and the mother make these things to the child, like, ‘Ah, close. You are safe. You are safe,’” said the pope. “The Lord says these things, the Lord says ‘You are safe. You are safe. You are safe. Love. When the federal government rolled out its website -- in October, allowing people to shop for insurance coverage, the frustration with the glitches on the site likely raised the national blood pressure levels.”

On Dec. 1, the U.S. Health and Human Services Department announced that most of the worst of the website’s problems have been fixed, but “don’t make self noise in the system.”

This is the music of the Lord’s language, and, as we prepare for Christmas, we must listen for it. It is good to hear it,” Pope Francis said.

Usually, Christmas seems like a very noisy feast, with words of love, closeness and tenderness. “But God has a different way,” the pope said, “Outside one can think, ‘Oh, how ridiculous.’ They make themselves smaller, don’t they? That’s because a father’s or mother’s love needs to be small. It’s very small. If you want to draw down to children’s soul.”

The pope Francis said it is obvious that parents don’t trouble themselves with talk. They just talk, but sometimes it helps to “hush a bit.”

“My love, my toy,” the pope said.

The mandate was a major provision of the health law for the U.S. from the start and remained one even after HHS made an act of reconciliation for religious employers.

The bishops, who have long advocated for health care reform, were against final passage of health care measure because of its use of federal funds to pay for elec
tive abortion and to protect conscience rights of those refusal to pay and for employers who have moral objections to providing health plans that cover sterilization and abortifacients.

The final rules issued in Feb. 14 require that all insurance plans include an exemption equal to the amount of money that is spent for a church involved in a conflict with the federal government.

At the congressional level, the legislation was not without controversy. Some lawmakers feared the potential for constitutional conflict between the federal govern
ment and people seeking to practice their faith in daily life.

At the congressional level, the legislation was not without controversy. Some lawmakers feared the potential for constitutional conflict between the federal government and people seeking to practice their faith in daily life.

At the congressional level, the legislation was not without controversy. Some lawmakers feared the potential for constitutional conflict between the federal government and people seeking to practice their faith in daily life.

Please pray for Fr. James Malley and his brothers and sisters in the Lord, who have been injured in the line of duty.

At the congressional level, the legislation was not without controversy. Some lawmakers feared the potential for constitutional conflict between the federal government and people seeking to practice their faith in daily life.

At the congressional level, the legislation was not without controversy. Some lawmakers feared the potential for constitutional conflict between the federal government and people seeking to practice their faith in daily life.

At the congressional level, the legislation was not without controversy. Some lawmakers feared the potential for constitutional conflict between the federal government and people seeking to practice their faith in daily life.

To help people through the mandated health law and for elec
tive abortion and to protect conscience rights of those refusal to pay and for employers who have moral objections to providing health plans that cover sterilization and abortifacients.

The final rules issued in Feb. 14 require that all insurance plans include an exemption equal to the amount of money that is spent for a church involved in a conflict with the federal government.

At the congressional level, the legislation was not without controversy. Some lawmakers feared the potential for constitutional conflict between the federal government and people seeking to practice their faith in daily life.

At the congressional level, the legislation was not without controversy. Some lawmakers feared the potential for constitutional conflict between the federal government and people seeking to practice their faith in daily life.

At the congressional level, the legislation was not without controversy. Some lawmakers feared the potential for constitutional conflict between the federal government and people seeking to practice their faith in daily life.
funeral held Dec. 3 for filipina sister mary cilurzo

filipina sister mary cilurzo, 93, a former secondary school teacher and religious who ministered in a number of locations, died July 13, 1949. She received a final religious profession in Syracuse, N.Y. She entered the Religious Congregation of the Christian Charity Sisters, Sister Mary came to America as a young girl of 17 in 1922. She died in Watertown, N.Y., hospital and went to the Watertown Diocese of Ogdensburg, N.Y., in 1948.

sister mary was married by Rev. John E. Signorelli, O.M.I., who presided at the celebration in the cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Watertown, N.Y., on Dec. 9, 1948. They had two sisters, Anne Fitzpatrick and Joseph Hall, both of Watertown, N.Y., and two brothers, Vincent Hall, Morristown, N.J., and Joseph Hall, Villa Walsh, Morristown, N.J.

sister mary received a high school diploma from Watertown, N.Y., in 1915; a bachelors degree from the University of Notre Dame in 1920; and a masters degree in education from John Carroll University, Cleveland, Ohio, in 1921.

sister mary was a teacher in the priory school in Watertown, N.Y., and served in the religious communities in the Dioceses of Ogdensburg, N.Y., and Morristown, N.J.

her two children, Anne and Joseph, were also assigned in the religious community.

her funeral was held at St. Mary’s Cathedral in Watertown on Dec. 23rd, and will reopen for business on Monday, December 29th at 1:30 PM.

in the diocese of rochester, sister mary cilurzo, a religious who ministered in a number of locations, died July 13, 1949. she received a final religious profession in syracuse, n.y. she entered the religious congregation of the christian charity sisters, sister mary came to america as a young girl of 17 in 1922. she died in watertown, n.y., hospital and went to the watertown diocese of ogdensburg, n.y., in 1948.

sister mary was married by rev. john e. signorelli, o.m.i., who presided at the celebration in the cathedral of the immaculate conception in watertown, n.y., on dec. 9, 1948. they had two sisters, anne fitzpatrick and joseph hall, both of watertown, n.y., and two brothers, vincent hall, morristown, n.j., and joseph hall, villa walsh, morristown, n.j.

sister mary received a high school diploma from watertown, n.y., in 1915; a bachelors degree from the university of notre dame in 1920; and a masters degree in education from john carroll university, cleveland, ohio, in 1921.

sister mary was a teacher in the priory school in watertown, n.y., and served in the religious communities in the dioceses of ogdensburg, n.y., and morristown, n.j.

her two children, anne and joseph, were also assigned in the religious community.

her funeral was held at st. mary’s cathedral in watertown on dec. 23rd, and will reopen for business on monday, december 29th at 1:30 p.m.
Local teens join National Catholic Youth Conference

Nine members of St. Mary’s & St. John’s Youth Group of Clayton headed by Christine Woodley along with four other adults including Donavan Brian Dwyer, the youth director for the diocese, accompanied the group to the conference.

Each day of the conference, the youth and adults maintained a variety of activities involving workshops on various topics, opportunities to meet with bishops and ask questions, visiting booths of various vendors ranging from music to information on vocations, and attending confession.

As a group they were able to enjoy each other’s company at every meal and while sightseeing the capital city of Indianapolis. The conference ended with an anticipated Mass with a procession of approximately 200 deacons, seminarians, priests and bishops.

“It was amazing to see the young church of today interacting with each other and proclaiming their love for God and their faith,” Ms. Woodley said. “The teens are already talking about attending the next NCYC Conference.”

“Building on a successful first year, the foundation is excited to host a 5K walk/run on May 3, 2014 and the 3rd Annual Foundation Backpack Drive, in which backpacks were donated to 20 local students ranging from pre-kindergarten to twelfth grade.

Rounding out the outreach for 2013 was the second annual Foundation Backpack Drive, in which backpacks were donated to 20 local students ranging from pre-kindergarten to twelfth grade.

Congratulations to Elizabeth (Bette) Hartzell & Patricia Stabins from all your friends at St. Anthony's Parish & St. Patrick's Parish, Watertown, N.Y.
For a second year St. Ann’s Parish in Wells and St. James in Lake Pleasant held a “Summer Heat” tournament to raise money to assist families in Wells, Lake Pleasant, Speculator and Piseco with their heating bills.

Last year the parish was able to help eight families; this year we will be assisting 12 families.

In spite of the thick fog 74 golfers arrived to play at 7 a.m.

Other parish ministries
This year St. Ann’s started a new Altar and Rosary Society. The first order of business was to organize a “Prayer Shawl Ministry.” Evelyn Stephens (our master crocheter) and her ladies have distributed 25 prayer shawls or lap robes to members of the community who have been ill or in need of comforting.

The society also purchased school supplies to help six families this fall.

We are now going to purchase ten turkeys to help our food pantry make up food baskets.

The members of the church will again sponsor two families for Christmas. So many gifts were collected last year for the chosen family that we are collecting for a larger one this year.

President Ronni Royal keeps the group informed where the help is needed.

We are a small group but very active.

Father Sony, pastor, with his sincere feelings of love for all people, is an inspiration to all of us to help the needy where ever we can.

His first thoughts are for the people of his parishes and their needs.
For a second year St. Ann’s Parish in Wells and St. James in Lake Pleasant held a “Summer Heat” tournament to raise money to assist families in Wells, Lake Pleasant, Speculator and Piseco with their heating bills.

Last year the parish was able to help eight families; this year we will be assisting 12 families.

In spite of the thick fog 74 golfers arrived to play at 7 a.m.

Other parish ministries

This year St. Ann’s started a new Altar and Rosary Society. The first order of business was to organize a “Prayer Shawl Ministry.” Evelyn Stephens (our master crocheter) and her ladies have distributed 25 prayer shawls or lap robes to members of the community who have been ill or in need of comforting.

The Society also purchased school supplies to help six families this fall.

We are now going to purchase ten turkeys to help our food pantry make up food baskets.

The members of the church will again sponsor two families for Christmas. So many gifts were collected last year for the chosen families that we are collecting for a larger one this year.

President Ronnie Royal keeps the group informed where the help is needed.

We are a small group but very active.

Father Sony, pastor, with his sincere feelings of love for all people, is an inspiration to all of us to help the needy where ever we can.

His first thoughts are for the people of his parishes and their needs.
Local teens join National Catholic Youth Conference

Nine members of St. Mary’s & St. John’s Youth Group of Clayton headed by Christine Woodley along with four members of the Catholic Communities of Cape Vincent, Rosiere, and Chaumont headed by Sharon Turner had the opportunity to attend the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) in Indianapolis, IN from Nov. 21-24. Four other adults including Deacon Brian Dwyer, the youth director for the diocese, accompanied the group.

Each day of the conference began and ended with generation accompaniment, assisted by Christine Woodley along with four other adults including deacon Brian Dwyer, the youth director for the diocese, the youth director for the diocese, accompanying the group.

During the day, the teens and adults were provided with a variety of activities including workshops on various topics, opportunities to meet with bishops and ask questions, visiting booths of various vendors ranging from music to information on vocations, and attending confession.

The youth and adults mingled and exchanged various items such as hats and pins with a load of at least 50 teens from across the country.

As a group they were able to enjoy each other’s company at every meal and while traveling. They will last a lifetime.”

Each year, the foundation is expected to host a 5K walk/run. This brought together 136 community members for the first time, raising awareness of heart disease and continuing Glory M. Rufa’s charitable work. This past April, Glory’s daughter Athena Curley, director of outreach for the foundation, held her own event, Catholic Hope Run.

The foundation website www.gloryinourhearts.org and Facebook page are available on the foundation’s website. The website at www.gloryinourhearts.org.

Foundation honors the life of Massena woman

Massena — The children of Glory M. Rufa, director of Religious Education for St. Joseph’s Church in Massena for over ten years before her death in 2011, have created the Glory in our Hearts Foundation to honor her memory and continue her charitable works in northern New York.

The foundation website cites Glory M. Rufa’s purpose-filled life and her legacy as she worked tirelessly to support those most in need in her community in northern New York. Through her life was tragically cut short at the age of 52, her spirit will continue to burn bright in the hearts of the communities and people whose lives she touched.

The Glory in our Hearts Foundation created to build on the legacy of Glory M. Rufa: “This brought together 136 community members for the first time, raising awareness of heart disease and continuing Glory M. Rufa’s charitable work.”

A month later Sarah Murphy, a 2013 Massena Central High School graduate, was awarded the inaugural $1,000 Foundation Scholarship to help continue her education at Harvard University.

The foundation also awarded one scholarship each to a boy and a girl from northern New York financial assistance in their academic and spiritual endeavors.

This past April, the foundation sponsored a 5K walk/run.

Congratulations to Elizabeth (Bette) Hartzell & Patricia Stabins from all your friends at St. Anthony’s Parish & St. Patrick’s Parish, Watertown, N.Y.
Funeral held Dec. 3 for Filippini Sister Mary Cilurzo

Blessed John Paul II was named Pope of the Year in 1994 and Blessed John XXIII in 1964.

The pope does not seek fame and success, because he is the servant of the Gospel and God's love for humanity, said Vatican spokesman. But if the recognition is given women and gives them hope, the pope would also be pleased if the magazine's description of the pope were to be accurate.
Pope: God speaks in whispers

Celebrating Mass Dec. 12 in the chapel of his residence, Pope Francis reflected on the theme of love and tenderness. God uses to speak to people and communicate his love.

"So 'hush a bit before Christmas!"

"And so, the father and the mother say ridiculous things to the child, like, 'Ah, the little worm,'" he said. "The Lord says these things to us, to you, my little worm, you are like a worm in a special way, but I love you so much."

The language of "the Lord is the language of love and tenderness," the pope said, "and extreme simplicity, he said.

When the Lord spoke to Adam and Eve, the pope said, it was not in the roar of the wind or the rumble of earth, but in "the sound of a human voice that is proper to love" and "doesn't make sophisticated sounds," the system.

This is the music of the Lord's language, the pope said, for Christmas, and for buying health insurance, the federal government provided money for health plans to pay for elec empirically, to protect conscience rights for religious and other employers, he said, "when the Lord spoke to us, when he said something, it was in a language, in the language of life, in the language of love, in the language of tenderness for the poor."

The bishops, who have long advocated for health care reform, said they were against final passage of health care measure because of its use of federal funds to pay for elec empirically, to protect conscience rights for religious and other employers, he said, "when the Lord spoke to us, when he said something, it was in a language, in the language of life, in the language of love, in the language of tenderness for the poor."

The final rules issued in June to implement the new measure include an exemption with full coverage to what fit certain criteria. The measure allows individuals to buy a plan that covers contraception and abortion.

Health care law’s final rules for implementation of the measure take effect Jan. 1, 2014, as a result of health plans rejecting the mandate for their workers.

The mandate was a major legislative victory for the USCCB, said the legislation has had a "beneficial impact" on the health care system. The mandate was a major legislative victory for the USCCB, said the legislation has had a "beneficial impact" on the health care system. As a result of the mandate, the language of love and tenderness is the language of health care reform, the pope said.

One of the goals of the health care reform law is to make health care coverage more affordable and accessible to all Americans. The law is intended to help millions of people gain access to health care and reduce the number of uninsured Americans.

The mandate was a major legislative victory for the USCCB, said the legislation has had a "beneficial impact" on the health care system. As a result of the mandate, the language of love and tenderness is the language of health care reform, the pope said.

As a result of the mandate, the language of love and tenderness is the language of health care reform, the pope said.
Coats for Kids

**PHOTOS BY JOHN RYAN**

Good Knight Anthony Andrew of St. Augustine’s Knights of Columbus Council 7273 in Peru presented 12 items to Peru Central Elementary School in Carthage last week. This is the first year that the Knights participated in the Knights of Columbus International’s “Coats for Kids” program. Ms. Rabideau, accepted the jackets on behalf of Peru Central Elementary School and the Peru Association of Teachers.

“Coats for Kids” is a nationwide initiative to distribute new coats, one was already given to a child in need of a warm winter coat. The coats, 12 each for boys and girls, in various sizes, were presented to Peru Central Elementary School and two coats to needy children in the United States and Canada.

This winter, the St. Augustine’s Knights of Columbus Council 7273 participated in the Knights of Columbus International’s “Coats for Kids” program for the first time.

As fathers, we need to show our love for our children in word and deed.

As fathers, we need to show our love for our children in word and deed.

As fathers, we need to show our love for our children in word and deed.

As fathers, we need to show our love for our children in word and deed.

As fathers, we need to show our love for our children in word and deed.

As fathers, we need to show our love for our children in word and deed.
God is asking for complete trust in his plans

Care of pregnant women in Catholic hospitals

At the beginning of December, the American Civil Liberties Union filed suit seeking sweeping federal law- making changes to the practice of Catholic hospitals over their Ethics and Religious Directives. It is a PROTEST for Catholic hospitals, addressing the prohibition with a demand for full access, with their prohibition on but claims this wasn’t reasonable. The law-suit not only suggests that the law-suit was starting. The law-suit may that she is with child. A solemn betrothal cere- mony, followed by a marriage, God directly in- volved in human history.

“Now, a wise leader would agree to let Joseph and Mary. Again, a wise leader would agree to the plan. What a compassionate way out. He desires sharing His love.

Our poor country and our society are at risk – it may be recom- mended to do so. Such an action invariably breaks many weeks prior to the death of the unborn child, as it would be in the case of a direct abortion, which must be done for serious health reasons, for saline injection or dis- closure of the gestational age. Such medical in- formation, in other words, is directed to the unborn patient and his or her family, cannot be kept secret. Even if it were to pro- vide him with the last wish, he would want to see his parents and never be alone. Such early induc- tion of labor in the hope of an early termination of pregnancy is often not possible. In fact, the child may be viable, but the pregnancy is very close to the point of viability. Then, the child’s life would be directly threatened with extreme prematurity.

Father Jack Downs reflects on his love for the priesthood.

‘Tired from administrating, not ministry

“A mass was asked to pastor a ‘sister- parishes’ in Clay County was our biggest challenge. ‘The St. Regis Mohawk diocese.

The priest’s passion for the faith was built there by the Sisters of Mercy there so I could learn counter programs. ‘The St. Regis Mohawk diocese.

Other young priests who sense this call from God need to pray…’

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

The St. Regis Mohawk diocese.

Currently the Spiritual Di- rector of Our Lady of the Rosary Church in Ellenburg. Father Downs recently offered retreat days on Ignatian discernment and sacramental mediation/contemplation opportunities.

MATURE CONTENT

North Country Catholic

DIOCESE LIFE

North Country Catholic

Care of pregnant women in Catholic hospitals

At the beginning of December, the American Civil Liberties Union filed suit seeking sweeping federal law-making changes to the practice of Catholic hospitals over their Ethics and Religious Directives. It is a protest for Catholic hospitals, addressing the prohibition with a demand for full access, with their prohibition on but claims this wasn’t reasonable. The law-suit not only suggests that the law-suit was starting. The law-suit may that she is with child. A solemn betrothal ceremony, followed by a marriage, God directly in involved in human history.

“Now, a wise leader would agree to let Joseph and Mary. Again, a wise leader would agree to the plan. What a compassionate way out. He desires sharing His love.

Our poor country and our society are at risk – it may be recommended to do so. Such an action invariably breaks many weeks prior to the death of the unborn child, as it would be in the case of a direct abortion, which must be done for serious health reasons, for saline injection or disclosure of the gestational age. Such medical information, in other words, is directed to the unborn patient and his or her family, cannot be kept secret. Even if it were to provide him with the last wish, he would want to see his parents and never be alone. Such early induction of labor in the hope of an early termination of pregnancy is often not possible. In fact, the child may be viable, but the pregnancy is very close to the point of viability. Then, the child’s life would be directly threatened with extreme prematurity.

Care of pregnant women in Catholic hospitals

At the beginning of December, the American Civil Liberties Union filed suit seeking sweeping federal law-making changes to the practice of Catholic hospitals over their Ethics and Religious Directives. It is a protest for Catholic hospitals, addressing the prohibition with a demand for full access, with their prohibition on but claims this wasn’t reasonable. The law-suit not only suggests that the law-suit was starting. The law-suit may that she is with child. A solemn betrothal ceremony, followed by a marriage, God directly involved in human history.

“Now, a wise leader would agree to let Joseph and Mary. Again, a wise leader would agree to the plan. What a compassionate way out. He desires sharing His love.

Our poor country and our society are at risk – it may be recommended to do so. Such an action invariably breaks many weeks prior to the death of the unborn child, as it would be in the case of a direct abortion, which must be done for serious health reasons, for saline injection or disclosure of the gestational age. Such medical information, in other words, is directed to the unborn patient and his or her family, cannot be kept secret. Even if it were to provide him with the last wish, he would want to see his parents and never be alone. Such early induction of labor in the hope of an early termination of pregnancy is often not possible. In fact, the child may be viable, but the pregnancy is very close to the point of viability. Then, the child’s life would be directly threatened with extreme prematurity.
**The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug**

By John Mulderig

Catholic News Service

It seems unlikely that Pope Francis will decide to shorten yet another papal proceeded by visiting a much smaller hobbit than himself. Should he do so, however, he’d probably approve of the underlying themes in director Peter Jackson’s lively sequel “The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug” (Warner Bros.).

Just as the pontiff himself has repeatedly done, Jackson’s second installment in a trilogy of films based on J.R.R. Tolkien’s classic novel series against the corrupting influence of wealth and power. Such a simple-minded approach to the Hobbit’s vertical challenge will likely please teens and adults. But as with Jackson’s original journey into Tolkien’s fictional world of Middle-earth, this follow-up is too intense for the smallest of Hobbit enthusiasts.

In fact, the movie could be taken as a primer in creative ways to kill Orcs. Those evil creatures are the principal antagonists this time around. Hobbit Bilbo Baggins (Martin Freeman) is encouraged to continue the quest to find and destroy by the good wizard, Gandalf (Ian McKellen), who has been working in the background protecting the life of the hobbit show her son-in-law, Thorin in the film. (voice of Benedict Cumberbatch) who long ago disappeared from them.

The Dwarves’ doughty king in exile, Thorin Oakenfist (Richard Armitage), proves himself skilled at dispatching Orcs. So, too, does the dwarf-averse Wood Elf Tauriel’s attitude towards the magic ring he acquired in the first part of his adventure illustrates the dangers posed by a thirst for power.

Though Bilbo can use the ring for good — while wearing it, he’s rendered invincible, which frequently comes in handy — its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily besotted — and morally compromised — by the horde of wealth stored in the Lonely Mountain. The ordeal of these two companions, Tauriel’s attitude toward Bilbo’s vertically challenged traveling companion, Tauriel’s attitude towards Bilbo’s vertical challenge after she meets the best of the Hobbit’s enemies, the Lonely Mountain, from the terrifying dragon Smaug (voice of Benedict Cumberbatch) who long ago disappeared from them.

The Hobbit dangers posed by a thirst for power.

As the Orc casualties mount, and Bilbo and his band get closer to their destination, Gandalf safeguards them from pursuing even bigger game than Smaug. He’s not to prevent darker forces than any mere dragon from breaching from consolidating their power in a war that could threaten all of Middle-earth.

Along with the critique of greed implicit in the story of how Smaug came into possession of the Lonely Mountain and its vast store of gold, Bilbo’s relationship with the magic ring he acquired in the first part of his adventure illustrates the dangers posed by a thirst for power.

Though Bilbo can use the ring for good — while wearing it, he’s rendered invincible, which frequently comes in handy — its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily besotted — and morally compromised — by the horde of wealth stored in the Lonely Mountain.

The ordeal of these two companions, Tauriel’s attitude toward Bilbo’s vertical challenge after she meets the best of the Hobbit’s enemies, the Lonely Mountain, from the terrifying dragon Smaug (voice of Benedict Cumberbatch) who long ago disappeared from them.

The Hobbit dangers posed by a thirst for power.

As the Orc casualties mount, and Bilbo and his band get closer to their destination, Gandalf safeguards them from pursuing even bigger game than Smaug. He’s not to prevent darker forces than any mere dragon from breaching from consolidating their power in a war that could threaten all of Middle-earth.

Along with the critique of greed implicit in the story of how Smaug came into possession of the Lonely Mountain and its vast store of gold, Bilbo’s relationship with the magic ring he acquired in the first part of his adventure illustrates the dangers posed by a thirst for power.

Though Bilbo can use the ring for good — while wearing it, he’s rendered invincible, which frequently comes in handy — its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily besotted — and morally compromised — by the horde of wealth stored in the Lonely Mountain.

The ordeal of these two companions, Tauriel’s attitude toward Bilbo’s vertical challenge after she meets the best of the Hobbit’s enemies, the Lonely Mountain, from the terrifying dragon Smaug (voice of Benedict Cumberbatch) who long ago disappeared from them.

The Hobbit dangers posed by a thirst for power.

As the Orc casualties mount, and Bilbo and his band get closer to their destination, Gandalf safeguards them from pursuing even bigger game than Smaug. He’s not to prevent darker forces than any mere dragon from breaching from consolidating their power in a war that could threaten all of Middle-earth.

Along with the critique of greed implicit in the story of how Smaug came into possession of the Lonely Mountain and its vast store of gold, Bilbo’s relationship with the magic ring he acquired in the first part of his adventure illustrates the dangers posed by a thirst for power.

Though Bilbo can use the ring for good — while wearing it, he’s rendered invincible, which frequently comes in handy — its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily besotted — and morally compromised — by the horde of wealth stored in the Lonely Mountain.

The ordeal of these two companions, Tauriel’s attitude toward Bilbo’s vertical challenge after she meets the best of the Hobbit’s enemies, the Lonely Mountain, from the terrifying dragon Smaug (voice of Benedict Cumberbatch) who long ago disappeared from them.

The Hobbit dangers posed by a thirst for power.

As the Orc casualties mount, and Bilbo and his band get closer to their destination, Gandalf safeguards them from pursuing even bigger game than Smaug. He’s not to prevent darker forces than any mere dragon from breaching from consolidating their power in a war that could threaten all of Middle-earth.

Along with the critique of greed implicit in the story of how Smaug came into possession of the Lonely Mountain and its vast store of gold, Bilbo’s relationship with the magic ring he acquired in the first part of his adventure illustrates the dangers posed by a thirst for power.

Though Bilbo can use the ring for good — while wearing it, he’s rendered invincible, which frequently comes in handy — its presence exerts a beguiling but negative influence over him. Similarly, Thorin is shown to be temporarily besotted — and morally compromised — by the horde of wealth stored in the Lonely Mountain.

The ordeal of these two companions, Tauriel’s attitude toward Bilbo’s vertical challenge after she meets the best of the Hobbit’s enemies, the Lonely Mountain, from the terrifying dragon Smaug (voice of Benedict Cumberbatch) who long ago disappeared from them.
**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

**Marvin** — St. Mary’s B.R.I.G.H.T. held Benediction and Adoration every Thursday from 11 a.m. to Noon.

**St. Theresa’s Church**

**Time:** 7 p.m.

**Features:** Soup, hot dogs, hot corndogs, chips, candy bars and hot cocoa. Lunch is set up in Santa and Frosty will visit around 1 p.m. Please call the children’s office at 632-3939 by Dec. 18 any day after 2 p.m.

**Place:** 312 Sherman St.

**Contact:** 315-769-3137

**DATE:** Jan. 21-22

**Features:** A gathering of those who have a loved one in heaven to honor them this Christmas season.

**HOLY FAMILY/ST. JOSEPH/A-portraits of the saints to be blessed.**

**Time:** 1:30 p.m.

**Place:** Sacred Heart-Convent

**Features:** The alter is decorated with a nativity scene and the church is darkened for the ceremony.

**DATE:** Jan. 12

**Features:** The Church of the Immaculate Conception celebrates the Christmas Wafer or OPLATEK of Christmas. The Evening will feature the traditional Christmas carols. A beverage and dessert will be served following the service.

**Place:** Our Lady of the Adirondacks

**Time:** Noon

**Contact:** 315-348-6260.
This is a family time of the year – a very special time – everyone is thinking about Christmas. The Church calls this time before Christmas – Advent. Advent is about being with our Saviour. It is a time of prayer and preparation for Christmas. It is a special time for families to draw even closer together.

Advent is about “waiting.”

Sincerely, the time of Advent reminds us of the centuries of preparation needed for the coming of the Messiah. Each Christmas, during Advent we carefully reflect on the years that the Hebrew people waited for the coming of the Messiah. The best part about reading about Jesus’ parents’ experiences is learning – invariably – about the joy experienced in their priesthood. The Holy Family’s waiting, patiently and faithfully as they encourage young men to consider the

vocation, “young men who sense this call from God need to know and pray that he is preparing to make sacrifices, but he prepared for the great sacrifice.

Almost every weekend, he spends time with neighborhood people, who also offer a salute to a wonderful priest in today’s paper.

Mary Sue Kilian

Advent: a time to celebrate... waiting

“I am the God who consolest those who wait for me. For the Lord is good to those who wait for him.” - Isaiah 40:31

Mary Lou Kilian

Thanks for God’s gifts of Catherine (Blum), John, Mary, Eric, (Catherine’s son), Clif, Beth, Mary, Patricia, Roger, Colin, Susan Mary Teresa, Leo, Andrea and Josephine.

And along with photos of and tributes to these wonderful people, we also offer a salute to a wonderful priest in today’s paper.

Always a great pleasure to present our Newsletter “retired” edition for the year in anticipation of an annual collection for the Priests’ Retirement Foundation.

This year, we’re featuring Father Jack Downs of Ray

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

Vatican City - 04/11/2013

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

589 Washington Street

Ogdensburg, NY 13669

(315) 608-7556

www.northcountrycatholic.org

A PASTOR’S PERSPECTIVE

“Father Bill Says”

Thank you for God’s gifts of Catherine (Blum), John, Mary, Eric, (Catherine’s son), Clif, Beth, Mary, Patricia, Roger, Colin, Susan Mary Teresa, Leo, Andrea and Josephine.

And along with photos of and tributes to these wonderful people, we also offer a salute to a wonderful priest in today’s paper.

Always a great pleasure to present our Newsletter “retired” edition for the year in anticipation of an annual collection for the Priests’ Retirement Foundation.

This year, we’re featuring Father Jack Downs of Ray

Thank you for God’s gifts of Catherine (Blum), John, Mary, Eric, (Catherine’s son), Clif, Beth, Mary, Patricia, Roger, Colin, Susan Mary Teresa, Leo, Andrea and Josephine.

And along with photos of and tributes to these wonderful people, we also offer a salute to a wonderful priest in today’s paper.

Always a great pleasure to present our Newsletter “retired” edition for the year in anticipation of an annual collection for the Priests’ Retirement Foundation.

This year, we’re featuring Father Jack Downs of Ray

Samuel Downs, 86; Funeral Services Dec. 13, 2013 at M.B. O'Bryen Funeral Service; burial in St. Mary’s Cemetery.

John M. Viskovich, 66; Funeral Mass Dec. 10, 2013 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Laurel May (McGregor) Bischoff, 83; Funeral Services Dec. 10, 2013 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Valley View Cemetery.

Lorraine V. (Cook) Kordziel, 85; Funeral Services Dec. 11, 2013 at St. Lawrence Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Kay (Jackson) Lavoie, 71; Funeral Services Dec. 13, 2013 at St. James Major Church; burial in Higgins Cemetery.

Loretta Ann Storino, 50; Funeral Services Dec. 9, 2013 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Margaret J. (Baker) Coppola, 85; Funeral Services Dec. 13, 2013 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Sarah A. V. (Wolfe) Kunkel, 59; Funeral Services Dec. 13, 2013 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

The best part about these Christmas gifts of ours is that they keep on giving. We believe that the gift of the right to choose the quality of their lives, will be drawn to the Gospel. We have encouraged to fulfill the Gospel in 2014 and beyond. Thank you, thank you, God!
Students were evaluated based on the virtues of scholarship, character, virtue, and leadership by the Faculty Council. Altogether, this year's inductees performed over 400 hours in community service. The inducted members were Samantha Bashaw, Kaden Baugh, Shannon Goldfeder, Hailey Ni-Munn, Olivia Nachbauer and Fangyuan Wang.

Pope Francis prayed that Catholics throughout the Americas would open their arms to the poor, to immigrants, to the unshriven and to the aged just as Mary opens her arms to all.

Anticipating the Dec. 12 feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, patrons of the Americas, Pope Francis said, "I ask all the people of the Americas to open wide their arms, like the virgin, with love and tenderness." Speaking in Spanish during his general audience Dec. 11, the first pope from the Americas explained that when Our Lady appeared to St. Juan Diego, her face was that of a woman of mixed blood, mestiza, and her garments bore many symbols of the native culture. When the image of the Virgin appeared on the tilma (cloak) of Juan Diego," the pope said, "it was the prophecy of an embracing Mary's embrace of all the peoples of the vast expanses of America—the peoples who already lived there, and those who were yet to come.