Father J. Roger McGuinness, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Chazy, presented a papal blessing to Brendan Ryan. Brendan, who graduated from high school June 27, has served as an altar server at Sacred Heart Parish since third grade.

John Alden and Luke Dalton test out their potato sack racing skills at the 2014 Vacation Bible School held July 14-17 at the Catholic Community of Burke and Chateaugay. The theme of the camp was Weird Animals. Valerie Dalton, one of the organizers of the program said, “The kids enjoyed games and activities celebrating God’s love. God has filled the world with a lot of crazy creatures...including us! When kids feel weird, different, or even lost in a crowd—nothing compares to the extraordinary love of Jesus.”

**Pope: prayer is never in vain**

“Praying for peace is never a useless exercise—it keeps evil at bay and helps people not give in to violence,” Pope Francis said.

In response to “tragic events” unfolding in the Middle East, the pope delivered “a heartfelt appeal to continue to pray with persistence for peace in the Holy Land.” Fighting between Israelis and Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and rocket exchanges with southern Lebanon have escalated since Israel launched airstrikes against Gaza July 8.

More than 150 Palestinians have been reported killed by the airstrikes, which, Israel has said, are targeting the homes of militants. The pope made his appeal July 13 after reciting the Angelus from the window of the papal studio in the apostolic palace with tens of thousands of people gathered below in St. Peter’s Square.

He recalled the gathering for peace at the Vatican June 8 in which he brought Israeli President Shimon Peres, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and Orthodox Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople together to pray for the “gift of peace” and to listen to “the call to break the spiral of hatred and violence.”

**Foundation Day for St. Andre Parish**

The four parishes which had comprised the Malone Catholic Parishes—Notre Dame, St. Joseph’s and St. John Bosco in Malone as well as St. Helen’s in Chasm Falls—were combined to form one parish—St. Andre’ Bessette Parish—July 1.

The Foundation Day celebrations included a pilgrimage walk from Chasm Falls in Malone, a Mass at Notre Dame, and a procession through the streets of Malone to St. John Bosco and St. Joseph churches.

**NCC summer schedule**

The bi-weekly summer publication schedule of the North Country Catholic continues; the next issue will be dated Aug. 13.

NEW FAMILY LIFE DIRECTOR: Stephen Tartaglia to succeed the Franks... p. 5
Parables of Jesus: parable of the Parables

You have probably noticed that the Sundays of July have up to five parables. This is the reason that we term the first part of this Church a “southeastern” Church. It is the Church of Christ.

The first parable that we will consider today is the Parable of the Pearl of Great Price.

There is a similarity to what is open to all saints and sinners. There are many who seem to be scandalized that there are sinners in our Church. Yes, we know – from the Gospels that Jesus hung out with and was criticized for having meals with Jesus, made it clear that the sinners were to be welcomed. The parables that are so to the world. The message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Religious educators have been leaders in helping the youth at home and in school and in the Diocese to understand the world in the United States and in our Diocese in the United States. The message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ is about reaching the world for the Lord. We are all called to be part of an “intersection” where the Gospel of Jesus Christ meets the needs of the people. The Church reaches out to those who need it most. It is the Church of Christ.

In the story, the Master tells his servants to according to the Seed. I know that you return. You can learn about this in your homily, I noticed that there is a true meaning.

The parable also speaks of the natural family planning. In the coming weeks, our Catholic schools, religious education and unique ministry undertakings by young adults will receive much deserved attention at the Diocese.

We are now halfway through summer vacation in the North Country for our children who are not in school at this time. Here are some tips on how to enjoy a taste of nearly 70 years (!) and welcome our Church required conversion from a life of sinfulness. We are all important to the Lord. We are all important in his heart. What is taken away is not a true meaning. Some of what we would like to see in the world is called the Kingdom of God. So, all sinners are welcomed to be part of this Church.

And so, all sinners are welcomed to be part of this Church. We are all important in his heart. What is taken away is not a true meaning. Some of what we would like to see in the world is called the Kingdom of God. So, all sinners are welcomed to be part of this Church.

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MONTREAL.
Society are sponsoring a day trip to
Tory, Brother Andre (Saint Andre) and
Adirondacks has been planned
594-3253.
Blessed Sacrament. Bishop Terry LaVal-
ybe a rummage sale starting at noon and
rounds in North America. There will also
be served in the gym. Games, in-
ishments to include: Love in the
Children in

ADULT SUMMER RETREAT
Saranac Lake – Our Lady of the
Center– Our Lady of the

SUMMER DINNER FESTIVAL
Boshi Fef – Kingdom of Columbus
Bosher Church is having a summer

SUMMER FAIR FUN
Pretzels/Chips – Remembrance Day

SUMMER CONCERT
Pittsburgh – Instramentals concerts take

BALL GOLF DINNER
Syracuse – St. Joseph’s Alumni annual

FOR HOMESCHOOLERS
Open House – Our Lady of the
invited to Missouri and post lunch pack

PIANO TO GO RECREATION
Wetmore – Award winning pianist, com-

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DAY TRIP TO MONTREAL
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Sr. Elizabeth is sponsoring a day trip
to Montreal.
Solar panels show ‘respect for God’s creation’

By M ary Lou Kilian

Solar panels, set up by Triangle Electrical Systems, bless an array of solar panels that have been installed in the back yard of his residence.

The panels will reduce the electric bill to the residence, reduce the building’s carbon footprint and utilize renewable energy. “The solar panels are good economically, environmentally, and spiritually,” explained Bishop LaValley, but the savings on the electric bills are just a “minor motivation” in installing the solar panel system.

The major motivation for going green is to give witness to what can be done to create a more sustainable future. “One way to go green is to give witness to what can be done to create a more sustainable future,” stated Bishop LaValley.

The solar panel benefits Triangle Electrical designed the solar panel project, obtained approval from National Grid and prepared a grant application to secure partial funding for the project from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority.

The solar panels are expected to offset a significant portion of the electricity used by the residence, thereby reducing the electric bill to the residence, reduce the building’s carbon footprint and utilize renewable energy.

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Reflecting on the questions we have about God

We all have questions about God. What do you think about God? How do you understand God? Do you feel God is just and fair? Do you think God is love? Do you think God is all-powerful? Do you think God is all-knowing? Do you think God is all-present?

We are all made in the image of God. Our understanding of God is shaped by our experiences, our culture, our education, and our family. We are all unique in our understanding of God.

We can ask ourselves: What do I believe about God? What are my favorite parts of the Bible? What are my favorite prayers? What do I think about the nature of God? What do I think about the purpose of life? What do I think about the afterlife?

In the end, our understanding of God is a reflection of our own hearts and minds. We can continue to ask questions and seek answers throughout our lives.

New life family director is named

Rochester native Stephen Tartaglia has been named director of the Office of Family Life for the Diocese of Rochester.

Stephen Tartaglia has been serving as director of the Office of Family Life for the Diocese of Rochester since 2012. He previously served as director of the Office of Marriage and Family Life for the Diocese of Buffalo from 2008 to 2012.

Stephen Tartaglia has a bachelor's degree in religious studies and a master's degree in religious education from the University of Notre Dame. He also studied at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg, where he attended high school.

Stephen Tartaglia has been in the Catholic Church for 15 years. He was ordained a priest in 2015.

Stephen Tartaglia is married and has two children.

He succeeds Deacon Daniel Chapin, who retired from the position in 2015.

"Stephen is an excellent choice for the position," said Bishop Salvatore R. Matano, who appointed him to the position. "He brings with him a wealth of experience and knowledge in the area of family life and will be a great asset to our diocese."
Expulsion of Christians: a crime against humanity, Mosul speaks

The Pope urged Israeli and Palestinian leaders to end hostilities in the Holy Land.

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis urged a group of economists and financiers to stop using monetary strategies and policies that support the expansion of the Israeli occupation of Palestinian lands.

Pope urges Israeli, Palestinian leaders to end Holy Land hostilities

"(It is) an ugly word, but it is the word 'occupation,'" the pope said July 12. The pope spoke to a group of experts participating in an international conference on the future of the Middle East.

Bishop Edward M. Delahanty, archbishop of Philadelphia, and Bishop Robert J. Finn, bishop of Kansas City, are members of the conference. The bishop and archbishop are scheduled to meet with Pope Francis later this month.

Bishop Michael J. Mulvey, bishop of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, has been named the new bishop for the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

"We are pleased to be able to recognize the wisdom of this decision," said Mulvey. "We have been blessed to have the support of our community and the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Bishop Michael J. Mulvey, new bishop of Ogdensburg

"We are grateful to the Pope and the Vatican for their support," said Mulvey. "We have a lot of work to do and we are excited to get started.

Mulvey will be installed as bishop on Aug. 20 in the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption in Ogdensburg.

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The Pope has spoken about the situation in the Middle East and the importance of peace and reconciliation.

The Pope's statements have been widely applauded and supported by leaders around the world.

"The Pope's call for peace and reconciliation is a powerful message," said Mulvey. "We must all work together to bring an end to the violence and suffering that has plagued the region for too long.

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in 2012 by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA), as well as research conducted by Boston College. "Priesthood" distills a Boston College study on factors that can help sway a man’s vocation decision. 

There is nothing as powerful or persuasive as a personal relationship, said Father Thomas Gray, who addressed the crowd in Malone’s new St. Andre Bessette Parish for the opening Mass. "The Mass, the word, the Eucharist — these are the things that, if they can be part of a man’s life, that means once a month, have time for prayer and conversation, and hear the vocation stories of others, they will feel encouraged, and can confirm a sense of direction."

"Like baseball scouts, Father Gray said, "we need people who will identify with individuals who have talent, intelligence, and desire, who can be pointed in the direction of religious and priestly life."

Seminary enrollment peaked 50 years ago at about 47,000, took a deep dive in the decades that followed and continued a steady decline until the mid-1990s and appears to have leveled off since then to just over 5,000 students.

"We must challenge the establishment of priesthood formation," Father Gray said. "It is of paramount importance to work with the young men who need about 200 more ordinands every year to keep the profession full."

"Another challenge is to bring lay people to lead the session, leading certain seminar or service to the effort, but they could also be led by a campus minister or a faculty member," he said. "Students who are thinking about the call to the priesthood should be able to see priests who can be part of a man’s life, that means once a month, have time for prayer and conversation, and hear the vocation stories of others, they will feel encouraged, and can confirm a sense of direction."
The pilgrim-parishioners included young children and many from our parishes. The Oratory was busy, but more personal one-on-one connections with a saint. He was in Malone and his prayers have benefited us all, Marceau said. "Malone has been blessed by St. Andre Marceau. The pilgrimage, Marceau says, brought home to him the depth of connection between the new St. Andre Bessette Parish and the Miracle Man of Montreal. "We are so grateful for this new parish," he concluded. "It was a wonderful day. Everything went so smoothly, like it was just meant to be. There was so much joy. I have no doubt: God made the day."" Parishes in吸引更多朝圣者来到马尔万，圣安德烈·贝塞特圣堂。弘道报恩 parity of pastoral care during the transition from the four legacy parishes to St. Andre Bessette Parish.

"Thank you Fr. Joseph Giroux for your leadership, guidance and pastoral care during the transition from the four legacy parishes to St. Andre Bessette Parish.
Foundation Day

The new parish is off to a great start, and I am excited to see how everything unfolds. "There was so much activity in what we did on Founda-
tion Day," Kathleen Marceau explained. "The pil-
grim walk from Chasm falls to Malone not only mirrored our faith journey—it was a faith journey all our own. For nearly 10 miles, we prayed, walked, rested, talked, and ate together, all the while learning about each other. We helped each other (with wheelchair and baby stroller), pushed on and sweated together when the way got long, and received help (food and water) from others not on pilgrimage. We did all these things together, and together accomplished what we didn't really know we could do."

"If the pilgrimage was a test of our own capacity, then the evening Lit-
urgy Procession was a faint reflection of our heav-
ily devotion," Mrs. Marceau said. "The silence and incense, chant, and missy, the beau-
tiful vestments and canopies all reminded me of the be-
atric vision—the goal of our faith journey. Everything in the way were changed from those we were used in the past in the new parish to fly. They want to see the new church grow."

While the Oratory is not an unusual destination for parish groups, this event was rather unique. On June 1, the four Catholic parishes of Mal-
one would become the new St. Andre Bessette Parish, named for the holy and hum-
ble lay brother through whose faith and effort St. Joseph's Oratory came into being. At a special afternoon Mass in the Basilica, pastor Father Tom Higman Schiavoni, pastoral associate)

Malone Catholic honors its new patron saint

Parishes St. Andre Bessette Parish

"Amazing!" "Just incred-
ible!" "We are so grateful for this parishes like ours and many others who wanted to be there," she said. "The humble man who brought healing to countless people, that man is now a saint, and the patron of our parish.

"To see that tiny room in the Oratory and his prayers brought healing to countless people. That man is now a saint, and the patron of our parish."

I was honored when Sister Barbara (Grey Nun Sr. Barbara Schiavoni, pastoral associate) asked me and two other people really showed their en-
focus on what is important," she said. "And this trip was another day of gratitude, another day of making it possible for us to re-
lieve the Oratory and his prayers. This day was totally different. The day had been very well thought out, and we were completely organ-
ized: Father Tom Higman (parochial vicar) is to be com-
mended for his outstanding work."

"To see that tiny room in the Oratory and his prayers brought healing to countless people. That man is now a saint, and the patron of our parish."

"From beginning to end, I enjoyed the trip. It was a good day—everything went well. I felt so blessed, a part of it, and I hope that we can do it again."

"There was deep symbol-
ism in what we did on Foun-
dation Day," Kathleen

Marceau explained. "The pil-
grim walk from Chasm falls to Malone not only mirrored our faith journey—it was a faith journey all our own. For nearly 10 miles, we prayed, walked, rested, talked, and ate together, all the while learning about each other. We helped each other (with wheelchair and baby stroller), pushed on and sweated together when the way got long, and received help (food and water) from others not on pilgrimage. We did all these things together, and together accomplished what we didn't really know we could do."

"If the pilgrimage was a test of our own capacity, then the evening Li-

turgy Procession was a faint reflection of our heav-
ily devotion," Mrs. Marceau said. "The silence and incense, chant, and missy, the beau-
tiful vestments and canopies all reminded me of the be-
atric vision—the goal of our faith journey. Everything in the way were changed from those we were used in the past in the new parish to fly. They want to see the new church grow."

While the Oratory is not an unusual destination for parish groups, this event was rather unique. On June 1, the four Catholic parishes of Mal-
one would become the new St. Andre Bessette Parish, named for the holy and hum-
ble lay brother through whose faith and effort St. Joseph's Oratory came into being. At a special afternoon Mass in the Basilica, pastor Father Tom Higman Schiavoni, pastoral associate)

Malone Catholic honors its new patron saint

Parishes St. Andre Bessette Parish

"Amazing!" "Just incred-
ible!" "We are so grateful for this parishes like ours and many others who wanted to be there," she said. "The humble man who brought healing to countless people. That man is now a saint, and the patron of our parish."

I was honored when Sister Barbara (Grey Nun Sr. Barbara Schiavoni, pastoral associate) asked me and two other people really showed their en-
focus on what is important," she said. "And this trip was another day of gratitude, another day of making it possible for us to re-
lieve the Oratory and his prayers. This day was totally different. The day had been very well thought out, and we were completely organ-
ized: Father Tom Higman (parochial vicar) is to be com-
mended for his outstanding work."

"To see that tiny room in the Oratory and his prayers brought healing to countless people. That man is now a saint, and the patron of our parish."

"From beginning to end, I enjoyed the trip. It was a good day—everything went well. I felt so blessed, a part of it, and I hope that we can do it again."

Mary Hart echoes that as-

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"I had not been to the Ora-
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At Theology of the Body congress

Study: College choice can steer men to priesthood

By Mark Pattison
Catholic News Service

In January 2012, Boston College's president, in an address during the summit, said: "There is nothing as powerful as happy, fulfilled priests." Jesuit Father Leahy urged the establishment of priesthood support groups on Catholic college campuses. More than 700 people attended a Catholic college during World Youth Day or a National Eucharistic Procession led by the new St. Andre Bessette Parish. Foundation Day at St. Andre Bessette Parish

By Matthew Pajunas

Foundation Day was celebrated at St. Andre Bessette Parish in Malone opened with a 5 a.m. rosary walk from St. Helen's to Chasm Falls to Malone. Father Joseph Gromen is shown at right during the walk. The Mass concluded with a Eucharistic procession through the streets of Malone. Bishop Mark S. Brennan led the procession.

Foundation Day, which was the birthday celebration at St. Andre Bessette Parish in Malone opened with a 5 a.m. rosary walk from St. Helen's to Chasm Falls to Malone. Father Joseph Gromen is shown at right during the walk. The Mass concluded with a Eucharistic procession through the streets of Malone. Bishop Mark S. Brennan led the procession.
**Expulsion of Christians: crime against humanity,** Mosul bilos mosque says

Mosul Bilos mosque says, "Where are the human rights? Where is the democracy? Where is the justice? Where is the freedom?"

Bishop Warduni called for a complete end to selling of weapons to Islamic States. "It's an ugly word, but it is the only way to describe it," he said. "We need action and support and prayers are needed, but we also need to take action without backing down."

The bishops also called on the international community to "stop the catastrophe" and come to the aid of the Christians and other minority groups in the area. "We are calling for concrete actions to help the Christians," the statement said. "We are calling for concrete actions to help all people who are suffering."

The united archdiocese of Mosul on Monday held a meeting of all religious, political, and social figures in Mosul to discuss the ongoing crisis and plan for a possible rescue operation. The meeting was attended by Chaldean Archbishop Amel Shlemon Warduni, Archbishop of Mosul, and other high-ranking officials from the Assyrian, Chaldean, and Syrian communities in the city.

The meeting also discussed the ongoing crisis in the region and the need for international support to protect the Christian community and other minorities in the area. The meeting called for an immediate action plan to address the crisis and protect the Christian community and other minorities in the region.

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Reflecting on the questions we have about God

We all have questions about God. What do you think about God? Do you feel His presence? How do you know He is there? Does He care about you? Do you long to know Him personally? Have you ever thought about these questions? What effect do they have on your life? How do you respond to these questions? Do you seek answers from others or seek answers within yourself? Do you seek answers from others or seek answers within yourself? Do you seek answers from others or seek answers within yourself?

New life family
director is named

Rochester native Stephen Tartaglia has been named director of Catholic Education for the Diocese of Ogdensburg. Tartaglia has served as principal of St. Mary’s School in Ogdensburg for four years. He is a 1997 graduate of St. Bonaventure University in Buffalo, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in secondary education. He also studied at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg, the University of Scranton, and Loyola University in Baltimore.

Tartaglia began his career in Catholic education as a lead teacher at McQuaid Jesuit High School in Rochester. In his free time, he enjoys playing chess, working in his shop, reading, and working on computers.

Dioceesan life
5

The pastoral vision for the Diocese of Ogdensburg, delivered by Bishop LaValley of Ogdensburg, identifies three categories of persons, programs, comprehensive catechesis and spiritual preparation and a resource guide for each of the seven sacraments; review and implementation of certification process for parish catechists and catechetical leaders; assistance to pastors in the liturgical catechesis of the faithful; and the Catechetical Leader in Program in Watertown. To accomplish their goal, the committee has been tasked to write a position statement that describes family catechesis, respect for the children and young people and identifies the parents’ role in sacramental preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation and Penance.

The five year vision for the committee also include the development of a practic- models for family catechesis, comprehensive catechetical programs, comprehensive reformation and a resource guide for each of the seven sacraments; review and implementation of certification process for parish catechists and catechetical leaders; assistance to pastors in the liturgical catechesis of the faithful; and the Catechetical Leader in Program in Watertown. To accomplish their goal, the committee has been tasked to write a position statement that describes family catechesis, respect for the children and young people and identifies the parents’ role in sacramental preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation and Penance.

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The panels will reduce the electric bill to the residence, reduce the building’s carbon footprint and increase renewable energy sources. 

The solar panels are good for the environment, economically, and spiritually,” explained Bishop LaValley. “The savings on the electric bills are just a ‘minor motivation’ in installing the solar panel system. The major motivation for going green is to give witness to what can be done to create a more sustainable future and reduce our carbon footprint and utilize renewable energy, and the solar panel system will do that.”

The solar panels, set up by Triangle Electrical Systems in the back yard of his residence, should foster a deep respect for God’s creation. “The role of the Church is to take care of creation and to share its resources in solidarity,” the priest said. “Pope Benedict in 2008 made possible solar energy for the Vatican State. Now Bishop LaValley’s drawing attention to the care of creation by his actions today.”

“I hope this will start a revolution of solar projects in the Diocese of Ogdensburg and the North Country,” Father Beyette said. “I hope there will be thousands of installations in the near future.”

The solar panel benefits

Triangle Electrical designed the solar panel project, obtained approval from National Grid and prepared a grant application to secure partial funding for the project from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority. 

The electric meter which does not move at all. When the house uses all electricity from the grid, the meter runs forward creating a charge from National Grid, the electrical supplier in Ogdensburg. When the house uses all electricity produced by the solar panels and does not use any energy from the grid, the meter does not move at all. When there is more electricity produced by the solar panels than the house needs at any given time, the meter turns backwards. If the meter turns backwards, then the electricity is put into the grid and the credit is returned to National Grid for that electricity.

I am excited about the solar panels,” stated Bishop LaValley. “It is one way of responding to Pope Benedict XVI’s call for the Church ‘to take care of creation and to share its resources in solidarity.’”

“I hope that this is just the first step in helping us as a Church give witness to our concern for the environment and our stewardship in preparing for the sacredness of God’s creation for future generations,” he said.

The solar panels show ‘respect for God’s creation’

PHOTOS BY BETTY STEELE

Bishop Terry R. LaValley blessed solar panels that have been installed in his back yard during a July 17 ceremony. Above, he is shown in the back yard of his residence.

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ADULT SUMMER RETREAT Saranac Lake — An adult summer retreat has been planned Aug. 29-31. Call with supper on Friday and concludes supper on Sun. 
Place: Clearwater Lodge 
Spots available: 75 (Call to register)
Contact: Susan Alfano at 315-264-5925 or e-mail susanalfano2@gmail.com.

FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATION Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange — The Founders’ Day of prayer will be observed Aug. 16-17. 
Place: Church of the Assumption, 14 Main St., Redford 
Schedule: Schedule begins with supper on Friday, Aug. 16th, followed by “Replay”; “Roy Hurd” from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. to 4 followed by “Back Road to Bethlehem,” where it will continue through the Sacraments: Jesus in My Life. For more information, contact the General Postuleter and adult faith educator.

BIBLE STUDY At St. Joseph’s, West Seneca — A Bible study group for adults meets on Monday nights. 
Place: St. Joseph’s, 1000 Keyser Road, West Seneca 
Schedule: Classes begin Aug. 18. For more information, call 716-278-7100.

FIRST THURSDAY Rosary — The first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. 
Place: St. Joseph’s, West Seneca 
Contact: Fr. Andrew Amyot at (315) 982-3419

DRIVING COMMERCIAL VEHICLE — Hammondsport — A FREE 4-hour class for those wishing to become a CDL/CDL-A truck driver. 
Place: Village of Hammondsport 
Schedule: Classes are scheduled every 3 weeks at 6 p.m. To register, please call 607-569-2614.

VOLUNTARY CARE HOME — 60 sites are being reviewed and selected for assessment.

ST. LAWRENCE — Parishioners are invited to send information about activities to: Rev. Fr. Andrew Amyot, St. Lawrence Parish, 3300 State Route 12, Ogdensburg, NY 13667 e-mail: stlawrence@wdlb.org.

SOUTH PECANCY TRAVEL — Parishioners are invited to contact Parishioners for the pilgrimage to Rome, Brother Andre (Saint Andre) and Visitation of Our Lady of La Salette. 
Place: Parishioners interested are encouraged to contact Parish office at 394-0463 or contact Foundation office at 394-0463 for details.

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Parables of Jesus: parables of love, faith & hope

You have probably noticed that the Sundays of July have the theme of a crowning of the parables of Jesus, so, I would like to share a bit of my own fascination with those parables.

Each week as I have prepared messages, I have felt that there was a constant theme. For me, I think the common denominator with the question, “What is the connection?” is a deeper look at the parables of Jesus. What is the Church Catholic?” What is our personal understanding of your Church, of your Church? As the Church celebrates this week, it is our opportunity to consider what is open to all the faithful, to all people who are seeking for God. For me, these parables can speak to the ways that we listen to God’s Word, or the ways that we listen to the Church. These parables can speak to the ways that we listen to one another when we are seeking God’s Word.

The first parable that I have chosen for you today is the parable of the sower. In this parable, Jesus is teaching us this story as an example of how God is received by people. The soil can be open and ready to live in the life of God. When we are good soil as we church demonstrates to one another how to make this world a better place for one another. In the Church of Jesus.

The next parable is the Wheat and Weeds.

In the story, the Master tells his servants to allow the Wheat and Weeds grow together, to be separated at reap time. Jesus explains this parable in that we belong to a Church, to Catholic schools, religious education and unique ministries undertaken by young adults will receive much deserved attention.

Here’s a bit of history... We are now halfway through summer vacation in the North Country for our children who are not in school at this time but are hopefully swimming, camping, playing at the park and oh, yes, sleeping. These lazy days of summer are so needed by our children as they can regroup and focus for the upcoming school year. Hopefully their teachers are giving a good summer…

I think the parables of Jesus can speak to us in a very deep way if we are willing to consider what it is that we listen to when we listen to the message of Jesus, Our Lord. Finally, some are like the good hearers who hear the Word of God. One thing to add here is we could not do this without the Church. Another point to consider is that we understand that we would all understand and accept the message of Jesus, Our Lord. The Church is that “Church of Christ” is a Church of Christ. The Church is... the Church in the world. What good is the Church in the world? The Church is the Church of Christ. Does this mean that the Church welcomes all? That we should all be saved? Is that the message of Jesus? Is that the Church of the Lord?

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Some are like good soil – that they are able to do so much to make the world a better place and so they do nothing in following Jesus. We are all called to be good soil. We are all called to be good soil in the Church of Jesus.

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

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YOU N G C A T H O L I C S C E L E B R AT E T H E I R FA I T H

Father J. Roger McGuinness, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Chazy, presented a papal blessing to Brendan Ryan. Brendan, who graduated from high school June 27, has served as an altar server at Sacred Heart Parish since third grade.

John Alden and Luke Dalton test out their potato sack racing skills at the 2014 Vacation Bible School held July 14-17 at the Catholic Community of Burke and Chateaugay. The theme of the camp was Weird Animals. Valerie Dalton, one of the organizers of the program said, “The kids enjoyed games and activities celebrating God’s love. God has filled the world with a lot of crazy creatures...including us! When kids feel weird, different, or even lost in a crowd - nothing compares to the extraordinary love of Jesus.”

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- Foundation Day for St. Andre Parish
- Full story, page 4

In Respect for Creation
Solar panels at bishop’s house

The Foundation Day celebrations included a pilgrimage walk from Chasm Falls in Malone, a Mass at Notre Dame, a Eucharistic procession through the streets of Malone to St. John Bosco and St. Joseph churches.

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NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

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