

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Funeral Mass celebrated for Sister Ronald Marie Hax | PAGE 6

Court blocks transgender mandate | PAGE 10

The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 77 Number 20

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

SEPTEMBER 21, 2022

Discussing the Fruits of the Spirit

It was all about the Fruits of the Spirit as Joshua Danis, author and national director for Alpha Catholic Context, spoke at St. Mary's in Ticonderoga on Sept. 12.

Danis wrote "Living the Fruit of the Spirit: How God's Grace Can Transform Your World."

He spoke in Ticonderoga about how we can live the Fruits of the Spirit to "participate with the Holy Spirit to become more spiritually attractive to others."

FULL STORY, PAGE 7

MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE JUBILEE



JESSE SOVIE/NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

Bishop Terry R. LaValley celebrated the Marriage & Consecrated Life Jubilee Mass on Sept. 11 at St. Mary's Cathedral. Read Bishop LaValley's homily on Page 3. See additional coverage on pages 4, 5 & 9.

ON PEYTON'S PATH



Stations of the Cross from St. John the Evangelist Church in LaFargeville are now located on Peyton's Path, a wooded path at Siena College honoring Peyton Morse, a firefighter and LaFargeville native who died in March of 2021.

FULL STORY, PAGE 8

Pope urges world leaders to 'work for peace'

NUR-SULTAN, Kazakhstan (CNS) – Speaking on behalf of dozens of religious leaders, Pope Francis called on world leaders to put an end to violence and bloodshed and instead strive for peace.

"We plead with you, in the name of God and for the good of humanity: work for peace, not weapons," the pope said Sept. 15, the final day of the Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions in Nur-Sultan and the final day of his three-day visit to Kazakhstan.

"Only by serving the cause of peace, will you make a name for yourselves in the annals of history," he said.

The pope joined the 80 religious leaders and hundreds of delegates participating in the interreligious

meeting at the Palace of Independence for the reading of the congress' final declaration.

The declaration, read by Anglican Bishop Jo Bailey Wells of Dorking, England, expressed the leaders' belief that "extremism, radicalism, terrorism and all other forms of violence and wars, whatever their goals, have nothing to do with true religion and must be rejected in the strongest possible terms."

"We call upon world leaders to abandon all aggressive and destructive rhetoric which leads to destabilization of the world, and to cease from conflict and bloodshed in all corners of our world," the leaders said. And they called upon "religious leaders and prominent

political figures from different parts of the world to tirelessly develop dialogue in the name of friendship, solidarity and peaceful coexistence."

Addressing congress participants, Pope Francis said that after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in the United States, a collective response was needed to counter the "incendiary atmosphere" caused by religious extremism that "threatened to turn religion into a grounds for conflict."

However, "pseudo-religious terrorism, extremism, radicalism and nationalism, dressed up in religious garb, nonetheless continue to foment fears and concerns about religion," he said.

The congress' declaration reaffirms that religious extremism,

radicalism and terrorism "have nothing to do with the authentic spirit of religion and must be rejected in the most decisive terms possible," he said.

And, he said, "since the Almighty has created all people equal, regardless of their religious, ethnic or social origin, we are agreed that mutual respect and understanding should be considered essential and indispensable in religious teaching."

At the same time, the pope said, governments must not exclude the voice of those who adhere to religion but must guarantee that the rights of believers, including to speak publicly, "must be protected, always and everywhere."

NORTH
COUNTRY
CATHOLICBox 326
Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669
USPS 0039-3400**BISHOP TERRY
R. LAVALLEY**
President**REV. JOSEPH A. MORGAN**

Vice President

JAMES D. CROWLEY

Secretary-Treasurer

DARCY L. FARGO

Editor &

Communications Director



Publish 45 issues per year: Weekly except skipping every other week beginning July through Aug. and skipping one week in Dec. by the Diocese of Ogdensburg. 622 Washington Street, Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669.

Editorial Office:
622 Washington Street,
Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669.**Telephone:**
(315) 608-7556**E-mail:**
news@northcountry
catholic.org**Entered at the
Post Office:**
Ogdensburg, NY
13669 and
additional mailing offices as
Periodical Postage.**Subscription:**
For one year:
In-Diocese Rate: \$27
Outside of Diocese Rate: \$30

Matters for publication should be addressed to PO Box 326 Ogdensburg, NY 13669 and should be received by Thursday prior to publication. Paper is printed each Monday; dateline is Wednesday. Member, Catholic Press Association.

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to North Country Catholic, PO Box 326 Ogdensburg, NY 13669-0326

It stuck with me

I can't think of an event that's stuck in my brain as much as this one has, especially one I didn't attend.

Last week, a path lined with Stations of the Cross was dedicated and blessed at Siena College in Loudonville. The path, Peyton's Path, honors the memory of Peyton Morse, who died in March 2021 after suffering a medical emergency during train-

ing at the New York State Academy of Fire Science (see the full story on Page 8).

**Darcy L.
Fargo**

In addition to a sign honoring Morse, the path includes Stations of the Cross that were formerly located in St. John the Evangelist Church in LaFargeville, a church that closed in 2021.

While I wasn't able to make the trip to Loudonville for the dedication and blessing, I've thought that event a lot this week.

I'm sure part of why the story stuck with me is because I think about what Peyton's family has been through since his injury and passing. I'm fairly sure losing a child is every parent's nightmare. I pray for the Morse family.

More than that, though, I keep coming back to fact that the blessing and dedication event was all about resurrection.

Peyton's Path is a resurrection of sorts for the Stations of the Cross from St. John the Evangelist Church. From the

loss of life in the church building, the stations are experiencing new life, now in a location where the students and employees of Siena College, as well as visitors and residents of the surrounding communities, can reflect on them and pray with them.

More than that, though, it's our belief in the resurrection of our savior and the gift of eternal life he secured for us that assures us Peyton isn't just gone forever. It brings us hope that we'll be with him again.

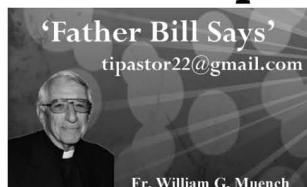
That also sticks with me.

The lost sheep and prodigal son

Recently, as you may remember, the Gospel reading for a Sunday Mass was St. Luke's remembrance of Jesus telling his parables of the Lost Sheep and the parable of the Prodigal Son. Personally, these are my favorites of Jesus' parables. Today I would like to remember again with you some things about these wonderful parables.

I would like to start by reminding you that these are parables – stories Jesus told. This did not really happen. Each parable was a clever story that Jesus used to teach a lesson. In this case, the Pharisees and scribes were criticizing Jesus. They complained, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So, Jesus decides to tell these parables in order to teach his message. First, the story of the Lost Sheep. Jesus teaches the Pharisees, scribes and all of us that God is a rather unique shepherd. He is willing to leave the ninety-nine sheep and go searching for that one lost sheep. Personally, I remember a time when I did not care for this parable. I won-

**Fr. William G. Muench**

dered why God would leave us righteous ones and go searching for that one lost sheep. However, in time I began to realize that too many times I was the lost sheep. I became grateful that my Good Shepherd would never give up searching for me, the lost sheep, and lead me back in love and forgiveness. In addition, this was an important story that I now often tell some of the lost sheep that I have gotten to know as a pastor.

At the same time in this Gospel reading, Jesus tells the story of the prodigal son. You see, I have often been that prodigal son. You know Jesus' parable of the prodigal son. A man has two sons. The younger son breaks his father's heart. He asks his father for his inheritance now while he is young. In Jesus' story, this younger son promptly goes through his inheritance, and he ends up

on difficult times with no money. So, the story tells us, he decides to return to his father and home to ask to be a hired worker.

Now here is where Jesus' story takes an interesting turn. In Jesus' story, the father sees the kid coming down the road heading home, and the father does not wait for the son to get there and explain his intentions. The father runs down the road to meet his son and celebrates his return home.

I don't know about you, but I suspect if I were telling the story, it would be rather different. I would imagine the father being annoyed. He would probably demand the prodigal to begin with a confession and a plea for help. In this case, the father would want the kid to suffer.

But we know that in Jesus' story, the father is Jesus' image of God – the loving, compassionate, forgiving God. Jesus tells us in the story that God continues to welcome us when we are the repentant prodigal coming to seek forgiveness. Our God is that Good Shepherd, that compassionate, welcoming father, who welcomes us like

the prodigal was welcomed in Jesus' story.

You will remember that Jesus tells us about the older son in the story: He becomes angry when he learns that his father welcomed the prodigal with a celebration. I know that today there are some who think that the father is much too easy on the prodigal. In his story, Jesus demonstrates for us that God, our Father, is compassionate and forgiving.

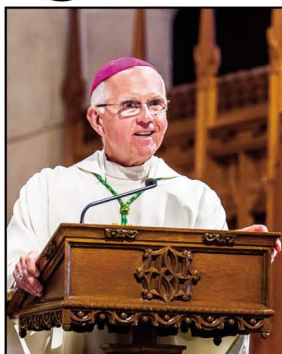
The Lord Jesus tells us with his parables that our God is loving and forgiving. His message to today's prodigals is the same as he dramatizes in these parables for those who return to the Lord seeking forgiveness and peace today. God reaches out rejoicing when we return seeking God's forgiveness: "this son of mine was dead and has come to life again, he was lost and has been found."

The message of our Church is just like Jesus describes in his parable: "There will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance."

FOLLOW ME

‘Taking a risk to go into the depths’

Editor’s Note: The following is Bishop Terry R. LaValley’s homily delivered at the Marriage & Consecrated Life Jubilee on Sept. 11.



JESSE SOVIE/NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC
Bishop Terry R. LaValley delivers his homily at the Marriage & Religious Jubilee Mass. The celebration was held on Sept. 11 in St. Mary’s Cathedral.

This Sunday’s Gospel Parable of the Prodigal Son is like a kaleidoscope: it offers countless beautiful insights into what it means to follow Christ. No matter how many times we hear this familiar story, we can walk away with new insights, even on an occasion such as today’s Jubilee celebration. One of the insights from this parable that we can often overlook with great danger as “practicing Catholics” is the peril of living our faith only on the surface, of not letting it penetrate the depths of our hearts.

Today’s Gospel story teaches us that it is possible to live “in the Father’s house” without really getting to know the Father. The younger son didn’t really know his father. He didn’t know how much his father loved him and how eagerly his father wanted to bequeath him prosperity and joy. As a result, he paid his father a colossal insult by demanding his share of the inheritance while his father was still alive. It was a way of saying that his father would be of more use to him dead than alive. He was self-centered, hard-hearted.

The older son was not much better. On the surface, he seemed to do everything right, but he had no idea about how much his father cared for him, and so he resented the celebration at this brother’s return. His heart, too, had no room for His Father’s love. He, too, was self-absorbed, hard-

hearted. Although they had lived their entire lives under the same roof, the two brothers had never opened their hearts to their father; they had closed themselves into the petty little world of feeding their selfish desires.

We can do the same, you know – spending our whole lives as “practicing” Catholics, going through life with the right motions and looking great on the outside, but not opening our hearts to the Father, not getting to know Him on a personal, intimate level. Oh, we say the Our Father, God knows how many times, but do we pray it?

I was recently listening to a report on BBC that dealt with climate change and its effect on the Great Barrier Reef off the coast of Australia. It reminded me that a few years ago, two of our priests accomplished a feat that they had hoped to do for a long time: scuba diving at the Great Barrier Reef in the Coral Sea. This led me to reflect on an image that I’ve used at other times and perhaps you’ve heard me mention it before: the difference between snor-

keling and scuba diving. We can live our Catholic faith on the surface, meeting obligations like going to Mass, but not really engaging in the faith life of the parish or desiring to learn more about our faith. It’s like snorkelers – seeing the beauty of God’s creation from the surface, as far as the length of the snorkeling tube allows. But to experience the truly remarkable wonders of what the deep of the water has to offer, one needs to go scuba diving. The richness of the two experiences cannot be compared.

Now, it means taking a risk to go into the depths. One priest came back and showed me close-up photos of him within arm’s reach of sharks in the deep. (Sometimes, I would just as soon not know what my priests are up to!) But, you know, opening ourselves to God is also a risky way to live our lives. We make ourselves vulnerable. We must trust. If we don’t, we could easily end up separated from the Father for good, ending up eating corn husks, missing out on the joyful celebration of the Father’s love.

Clearly, you who have been faithful for so many years to the Lord’s call to be holy, living your lives as consecrated religious or as husband and wife, you know what it means to make yourselves vulnerable, trusting in God and sacrificing for the sake of others. We cannot live out our vocations faithfully by merely snorkeling. We are so blessed – you have not lived your Catholic faith on the surface. You have entered into a fulfilling Christian vocation because you possess a tender, open heart.

You know that doing the

minimum to get by feeds a superficial faith that cannot provide the nutrients for a healthy relationship with the Lord. Because many have not risked going into the deep, we now have generations who do not know, and sadly, many do not care to know the Father. So many hearts are hardened today. Life-long commitments are hard to come by. Gosh, it’s a real corker if I am just a snorkeler.

This Jubilee Mass is an occasion for us to thank

Almighty God for your faithfulness, for your witness to living the faith deeply. This is a time for us, as a family of faith, to ask our Lord to strengthen our relationship with the Father and continue to pray for our society that tragically ignores God. Congratulations to our jubilarians and to all who have responded to the Lord’s call to follow Him into the deep.

May God be praised... forever may God be praised!

WIN

A 2022 Subaru Forester*





*Or \$15,000 Cash

Drawing Sunday, October 9, 2022

Tickets \$20 each or 6 for \$100

Your support of our annual car raffle helps make possible a wonderful school year for 115 students! Thank you!

SAINT AGNES SCHOOL

Buy tickets here: www.winthisauto.com

To order tickets by mail, please complete form and enclose with your check made payable to:

ST. AGNES CHURCH
169 Hillcrest Ave.
Lake Placid, NY 12946

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Tickets _____ Amount of check \$ _____

Winner need not be present to win.

Married couples honored at Jubilee Mass

The Marriage & Consecrated Life Jubilee Mass honored married couples celebrating anniversaries and consecrated religious who have reached milestone anniversaries of their consecration.

Julbilarians included Sister Maurice Black, a Sister of St. Joseph, for 75 years; Sister Mary Paul Blank and Sister Cathleen Moore, both Sisters of St. Joseph, for 65 years; and Sister Sahayarani Selvaraj, a Sister of the Cross of Chavanod, for 25 years. Biographies and photos of the celebrating sisters will be included in a future edition.

The following married couples were honored at the Mass:

June & Andrew (Stan) Fiacco
St. Peter's Parish, Massena – 73 years

Donald J. & Marlene C. Sabin
St. Alphonsus Church, Tupper Lake – 70 years

Walter & Rita Rae Laurin
St. Mary's Church, Champlain – 70 years

Helen & Ned Hackett
St. Mary's Cathedral Parish, Ogdensburg – 70 years

Joseph & Mary Ellen Denoncourt
St. Mary's Cathedral Parish, Ogdensburg – 69 years

Roy & Carol Garrant
Holy Cross, Plattsburgh – 68 years

Allen & L. Jane Rishe
St. Mary's Cathedral Parish, Ogdensburg – 68 years

William & Veronica LaBombard
St. Mary's Church, Champlain – 65 years

Larry & Jennettie Rocker
St. John the Baptist, Madrid – 65 years

Raymond & Janice Bouissey
St. Francis of Assisi Church, Constable – 65 years

James & Judith Kelley
St. Peter's Parish, Massena – 62 years

Robert & Mary Baker
Sacred Heart Church, Champlain – 61 years

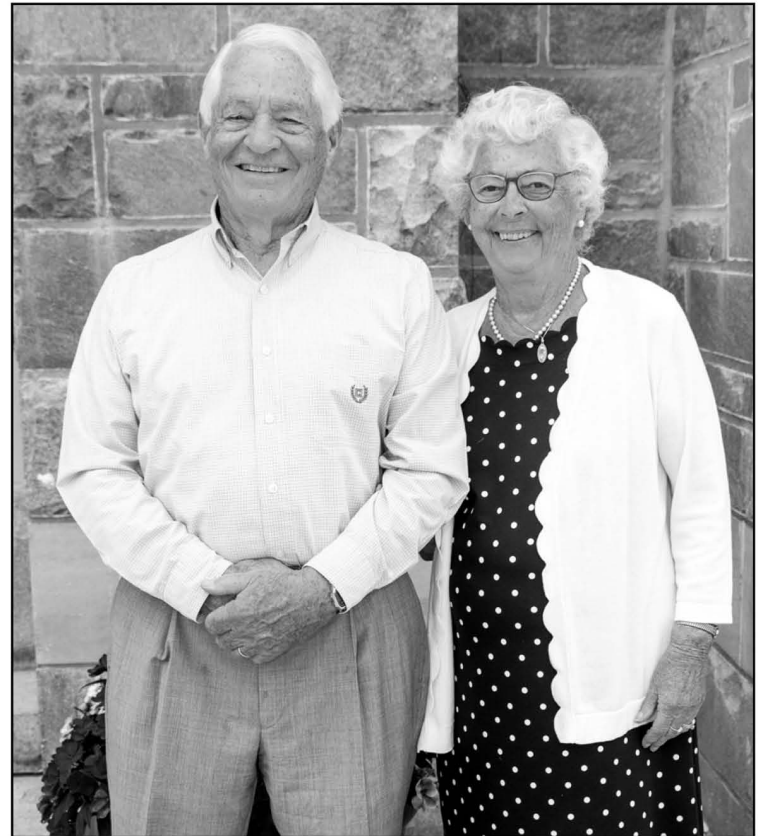
Elbridge E. & Joan P. Randall
St. Mary's Church, Potsdam – 60 years

Francis & Glenda Youmell
St. Mary's Church, Brushton – 60 years

Carl & Rita Thesier
St. James Minor Church, Carthage – 60 years

William & Dorothy Gracey
St. Stephen's Church, Croghan – 60 years

Rene & Barbara Hart
St. Peter's Parish, Massena – 57 years



JESSE SOVIE/NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

Ned and Helen Hackett, parishioners of St. Mary's Cathedral Parish in Ogdensburg, were one of four couples at the Marriage & Consecrated Life Jubilee celebrating 70 or more years of marriage. Additional photos from the Jubilee Mass can be found on Page 9.

James & Margaret Lester
St. Francis of Assisi Church, Constable – 54 years

Bruce & Patricia Lynch
Blessed Sacrament Parish (Holy Family), Watertown – 54 years

William & Janet Leary,
Saint Mary's Cathedral Parish, Ogdensburg – 53 years

Deacon Kevin & Kathleen Mastellon
Blessed Sacrament Parish, Watertown – 52 years

Daniel & Linda Fay
St. Mary's Church, Canton – 50 years

Celebrating anniversaries

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Kevin & Cheryl Pray
Roman Catholic Community of Keeseville, Keeseville – 50 years

Edward & Mary Ellen Wallace
St. Mary's Church, Clayton – 50 years

Richard & Maria Schueler
St. Mary's Church, Clayton – 50 years

Richard & Jean Doell
St. James Major Church, Lake Pleasant – 50 years

Larry & Theresa Crowe
St. Raphael's Church, Heuvelton – 46 years

Charles A. & Janet R. Burns
St. Mary's Church, Clayton – 45 years

Ricky & Priscilla Souza-Laurin
Sacred Heart Church, Chazy – 45 years

JB & Wanda Kavanaugh
St. Mary's Church, Clayton – 45 years

Michael & Angela Morley
St. Mary's Cathedral Parish, Ogdensburg – 42 years

Curtis & Myra Pitcher
St. Mary's Cathedral Parish, Ogdensburg – 41 years

John & Joyce Pignone
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Watertown – 35 years

Dennis & Karetta Olshfski
St. Mary's Church, Evans Mills – 34 years

Deacon Robert & Melissa Uttendorfsky
The Catholic Community of St Peter's, St Mary's, & St Hedwig's,
Lowville – 33 years

Tim & Emily Currier
St. Peter's Parish, Massena – 30 years

James & Margaret Page
Holy Cross Parish, Plattsburgh – 30 years

Lawrence & Valerie Mathews
Ss. Philip & James Church, Lisbon – 29 years

Edward & Theresa Queal
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church, Watertown – 29 years

Darian & Sarah Sinclair
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church, Watertown – 26 years

Forrest & Michelle Hays
St. Mary's Church, Canton – 25 years

Antun & Andrea Husinec
St. Mary's Church, Canton – 25 years

Charles & Susan Gibbs
St. James Minor Church, Carthage – 25 years

Stephen & Christina Tartaglia
St. Mary's Church, Canton – 20 years

Scott & Susan Quinell
St. Mary's Church, Canton – 20 years

Jimmy & Robin Law
St. Bernard's, Saranac Lake – 12 years

Jesse & Stacey Sovie
St. Mary's Cathedral Parish, Ogdensburg – 5 years

Brandon & Mary Kathleen Olley
St. James Minor Church, Carthage, 2 years



Catholic news from around the world and the Diocese of Ogdensburg delivered to your home with a subscription to the *North Country Catholic*

Visit our website at www.northcountrycatholic.org to pay by Credit Card for immediate delivery.

OR Send this coupon with payment to:
North Country Catholic

PO Box 106, Canajoharie, New York, 13317

Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery when mailing in your renewal

Inside Diocese \$27 Name _____
 Outside Diocese \$30 Address _____
 New Subscription
 Renewal City _____ State ____ Zip _____
I want to be a Patron:
 \$35 \$50 Parish _____
 \$100 \$250 Please send my subscription to my e-mail address:

Happy 39th Anniversary Fr. Patrick Ratigan!



September 23rd marks 39 years of being a First Rate example of living a life of faith and spiritual leadership.
Thank you Fr. Ratigan!

~Jimmy and Robin Law

Environmental Stewardship

Living the daily challenges of Laudata Si'

At this time in human history, we are mindful that the survival of our planet and the well-being of humanity if threatened. Let us pray for each other at this time that we may live the vision and values of Pope Francis' encyclical On Care for Our Common Home. In particular, we pray for greater attention to social justice, climate justice and intergenerational justice.

Pope Francis inspires us by reminding us that we can all do something to solve the world's problems, that each of us have a role to play, using our gifts and talents. He tells us to never underestimate the power of small actions, those things we do in our daily lives in our homes, schools, parishes to try to live more sustainably, to walk more gently on this earth.

Where do I begin? Everything begins with a personal choice! Think about daily activities. For example, how many lights do I need to read a book? Can I wait for a full load before I do laundry or run a dish washer? Do I throw away paper or recycle it? In a Family or Community setting: Have you ever considered an energy audit for your home? Can the thermostat go down a notch and still be comfortable? What goes in the trash that could go in the Recycle Bin? Be sure to find out what your refuse company will take before you put it in! On the Macro-Level: What policies are being implemented in your community, in the state, and in the federal government that will protect the environment for all? Raise your voice against expansion of fossil fuel projects; encourage and participate in alternative energy projects that use wind and solar power. Join groups that push for action and protect the environment where you live! Take time to reflect on the beauty of God's Creation and pray for its protection. For more resources, see Season of Creation 2021.

Mass of Christian Burial celebrated for Sister Ronald Marie Hax

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Sister Ronald Marie Hax, a Sister of St. Joseph, on September 14 at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse.

Burial was in Glenwood Cemetery.

Sister Ronald Marie died September 11, 2022 at

the Motherhouse in Watertown. She was 74.

Sister Ronald was the daughter of Howard Hax and Elizabeth Moore Hax. Her parents predeceased her.

She was a graduate of Alexandria Central School, Alexandria Bay. She then graduated from SUNY Canton with a degree in Business Administration. Sister Ronald Marie entered the Sisters

of St. Joseph on September 7, 1968. She received the habit on June 20, 1969, and made her final profession on August 23, 1975.

Sister Ronald Marie received her bachelor's degree from Villa Maria College in Erie, Pennsylvania, and her masters degree from Niagara University in Niagara Falls, New York.

Sister Ronald Marie taught in Sacred Heart School, Watertown, Bishop Smith School, Malone, St. Augustine's School, Peru, St. Agnes School, Lake Placid, Augustinian Academy, Carthage, Holy Family School, Watertown and in St. Joseph's School, Massena, and she was a teacher and principal at St. James School, Gouverneur, and teacher at St. Mary's School, Ticonderoga.

Sister Ronald Marie re-

turned to a prayer apostolate at the Motherhouse in 2014.

Sister Ronald Marie is survived by her brother, Ronald, and sister-in-law, Cindy, and by her brother-in-law Thurmond Hazelton. She is also survived by nieces and nephews.

Besides her parents, she is predeceased by her sister Linda Hazelton.

Sister Ronald Marie enjoyed her family cottage on Lake Millsite in Redwood. She loved swimming and canoeing. Her favorite baseball team was the Atlanta Braves.

Memorial donations may be made to the Sisters of St. Joseph, 1425 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601. Online condolences may be posted at cummingfuneral.com.

Arrangements are with Cummings Funeral Service, Inc., Watertown.

Protecting God's Children

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has scheduled sessions for Protecting God's Children for Adults.

Pre-registration online is required.

Participants may preregister at www.virtus.org.

Upcoming sessions:

Sept. 28 – 6 p.m., Immaculate Heart Central, Watertown

Oct. 25 – 9 a.m., St. Joseph's Community Outreach Center, Plattsburgh

Rest in Peace

This week marks the anniversary of the deaths of the following clergymen who have served in the Diocese of Ogdensburg

Sept. 21 – Rev. M. Stanton, 1908; Rev. M. J. Geraghty, O.S.A., 1914; Rev. Michael J. Brown, 1917; Rev. Wilbert LeBeau, 1953

Sept. 22 – Rev. John McDermott, 1870; Rev. Pierre L'Esperance, M.S.C., 1942; Msgr. John Michael Hogan, 1951

Sept. 23 – Rev. P. Phillips, 1872; Rev. Marcel Dupont, M.S.C., 1982

Sept. 24 – Rev. John Talbot Smith, 1923; Rev. Leo Staves, O.M.I., 1994; Rev. Jude Belisle, 1994; Deacon Reginald F. Merrill, 2005

Sept. 25 – Rev. Frederick P. Shue, 1989

Sept. 26 – Rev. Francis Van Compenhandt, 1880; Rev. Stephen Royet, M.S.C., 1933; Rev. Michael F. Gallivan, 1939; Rev. Joseph Ludger Desjardins, 1941; Rev. Earl Mayo, 1994; Msgr. Francis A. White, 2007

Bishop's Public Schedule

Sept. 21 – 8 a.m. – NYS Catholic Conference Board of Bishops Meeting in Douglaston

Sept. 23 – 5 p.m. – Annual Knight of the Year Banquet at Martin Field Club in Ogdensburg

Sept. 24 – 4 p.m. – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

Sept. 25 – 8 a.m. – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

2:30 p.m. – Blue Mass at St. Mary's Church in Clayton

Sept. 26 – Noon – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

Sept. 28 – 10:30 a.m. – Council of Priests Meeting at Holy Ghost Parish Center in Tupper Lake

To Report Abuse

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact **Victims**

Assistance Coordinator, Terri-
anne Yanulavich, Ph.D., LMHC, 5050
Route 374, Merrill, NY 12955; [annyanulavich@yahoo.com](mailto:terri-
annyanulavich@yahoo.com)

Phone: 518-651-2267 days; 518-
569-0612 evenings; or Father
Christopher Carrara, the Episcopal
Vicar for Clergy;

ccarrara@rcdony.org Phone: 315-
393-2920 ext. 1340. If you have a
complaint of suspected sexual
abuse or related misconduct by the
bishops, contact the **Catholic
Bishop Abuse Reporting Serv-
ice** at 800-276-1562 or
www.ReportBishopAbuse.org.

MONASTERY CARD SHOP
Cards for All Occasions

Mass Enrollments for your living & deceased loved ones.

Precious Blood Monastery
OPEN: 9 AM - 5 PM
SATURDAY 9 AM - 12 PM
400 PRATT ST., WATERTOWN
315-788-1669
www.sisterspreciousblood.org

BARSTOW



*"Family owned dealership serving the
North Country for over 56 years!"*

For more information, visit our Website
at: www.barstowmotors.com

MARKET ST., POTSDAM, NY • (315) 265-8800

Speaker explores Fruits of the Spirit

By Darcy Fargo
Editor

TICONDEROGA – It was all about the Fruits of the Spirit as Joshua Danis, author and national director for Alpha Catholic Context, spoke at St. Mary's in Ticonderoga on Sept. 12.

Danis, who holds degrees in theology and philosophy, grew up in Plattsburgh and Burlington. He wrote "Living the Fruit of the Spirit: How God's Grace Can Transform Your World."

Danis spoke in Ticonderoga about how we can live the Fruits of the Spirit to "participate with the Holy Spirit to become more spiritually attractive to others."

Danis said he spent a lot of time praying and reflecting on the Fruits of the Spirit before writing and speaking about the topic and the Scripture from Galatians in which they are revealed.

"St. Paul talks about grace taking root in our life and having impact on us," Danis said. "He talked about it as fruits – fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, patience, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. It says, 'against these, there is no law.' I thought about it. I chewed on it... Against these, there is no law. These fruits are not forbidden fruits like in the Garden of Eden. Adam and Eve look at this fruit, and they hunger for it. They see it's desirable. If that fruit is something for which they hungered and desired, and it didn't work out. These other fruits Paul gives to us, don't we instinctively hunger for and desire those things, as well?"



DARCY FARGO/NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

Joshua Danis, author and national director for Alpha Catholic Context, discussed how to use the Fruits of the Spirit to "participate with the Holy Spirit to become more spiritually attractive to others," in a presentation at St. Mary's in Ticonderoga on Sept. 12.

Danis noted that the Fruits are essential in growing closer to the Lord.

"It's possible to come to Mass every day and do it with the right heart and not grow closer to God," he said. "You can do good deeds and not necessarily grow in holiness or grow closer to God. I think it's impossible to grow in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, patience, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control without growing in love, growing in holiness and growing closer to God."

Danis said he hears from many people about their children, spouses, siblings, family and friends who have fallen away from faith and ask-

ing what they can do to bring them to Christ.

"For some people, getting an expert to explain it or going to some talk may be the answer, but it's not how it's going to work for most of us," he said. "There's no greater witness to the joy of the Gospel than cooperating with the grace of the Holy Spirit to live these gifts."

While time constraints prevented him from discussing all of the fruits, Danis delved into several Fruits of the Spirit, including love.

"The challenge is when you come across the person who might be difficult to love," he said. "We have to remember how important and loved each person is to God and open up to the idea that

we can have a tiny sliver of the love God has for that person."

Danis also noted that his favorite of the fruits is joy.

"It's a paradox to me that we have perhaps the greatest possible news in any conceivable world – an all-loving God who came to live among us, died for our sins, rose from the dead and invited us into eternal life," he said. "Yet how often do we see Christians not exhibiting joy or exhibiting the exact opposite of joy?"

While Danis noted that we all experience suffering and trials, joy is still possible.

"Hope is the key to developing the fruit of joy," he said. "You can't make

it happen. It's not a fake-it-till-you-make-it thing. If you choose hope, eventually the Holy Spirit will give you joy. Hope is the confidence that things are going to get better. It's confidence in eternity."

Discussing peace, Danis said "there is no magic trick."

"They key to peace is serenity," he said. "If we look at the sources of our anxieties, fears and frustrations and say to the Lord, 'I give them to you; I surrender,' we can finally have peace."

Danis also suggested a path to patience.

"If there's a key to patience, it's context," he said. "It's about perspective and getting more of the story."

"As a six year old, every single thing is the most important thing in life. With age, we learn that not every single thing is hugely important. Experience gives you more context."

Like love, Danis noted kindness can be difficult.

"Kindness is falling in love with people, but not in a weird way," he said. "Every person you encounter is beautiful in the eyes of God. If you can fall in love with that beauty just a little bit and see past your frustrations, maybe it can inspire us to root for the other person and inspire us to want the best for them. That brings us to being kind to them."

Danis expounds further on his applications of the Fruits of the Spirit in his book, "Living the Fruit of the Spirit: How God's Grace Can Transform Your World."

The book is available through Word Among Us Press and on popular book-selling websites.



GAYLE FRANK FOR THE NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

Members of the Morse family, Bishop Terry R. LaValley, Father Christopher C. Carrara, Father Arthur J. LaBaff, Father Larry Anderson, OFM, and representatives of St. Mary's in Clayton attended the dedication and blessing of Peyton's Path and Stations of the Cross at Siena College.



'Peyton's Path,' Stations honor Peyton Morse

Loudonville – Members of the Morse family were joined by Bishop Terry R. LaValley and representatives of the diocese and St. Mary's Church in Clayton for the dedication of Siena College's Peyton's Path and Stations of the Cross in memory of Peyton Morse, who died in March of 2021.

"Peyton Morse '21 was a beloved member of the Siena College community," the event program

noted. "He lived his life in dedication to the Franciscan spirit to serve others as a firefighter. Peyton lost his life in the line of duty on March 12, 2021, nine days after suffering a medical emergency during training at the New York State Academy of Fire Science.

"Peyton's home parish, St. John the Evangelist in LaFargeville, New York, closed in June of 2021. In memory and honor of

Peyton they gifted their Stations of the Cross to Siena College."

The college noted that the donation of the Stations of the Cross, coupled with a donation from a member of the Siena College Class of 1964, John T. Leonard, enabled it to create Peyton's Path.

"Like St. Francis, who found God within nature, Peyton also found peace and joy in the outdoors,"

said Father Larry Anderson, O.F.M., Siena's chaplain. "Peyton was a man of faith, and no stranger to the chapel or the Grotto."

According to a release from Siena College, the path will join the campus' existing chapel and Grotto as places of prayer, quiet and reflection for the Siena community and the larger Capital Region.

The path meanders through the woods alongside other outdoor recreation areas. Wood and glass cases with LED lighting were designed and built by Siena carpenters to house the fourteen stations that commemorate Jesus Christ's last day on earth as a man. A stone bench at each station provides a quiet place to pause and reflect, the college said.

NEWS BRIEFS

Adirondack, Franklin deaneries combine

After prayer and consultation with the Council of Priests, Bishop Terry R. LaValley combined the Adirondack and Franklin deaneries to establish the Adirondack-Franklin Deanery. Father John R. Yonkovic will serve as vicar forane for the new deanery.

Liferight plans events, public service announcements

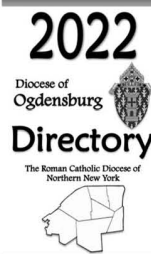
Beginning on September 24, Watertown Liferight will participate in the national "40 days for Life" campaign. Pro-Life people will be standing across the street from Planned Parenthood offering prayer from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. for 40 days to draw attention to the fact that they are the number one abortion provider. This is a peaceful prayerful gathering. Partici-

pants will hold signs supporting moms and their unborn children.

On October 1, Liferight has once more reserved the Public Square in downtown Watertown to witness to the sanctity of all human life, born and unborn. A Life Chain will take place on the Square from 1 to 3 p.m. Participants will stand along the periphery of the square holding signs that promote support for unborn children and their expectant moms. Last year's event was very well attended. Liferight hopes for even more support this year.

Also, Liferight has arranged for public service spots to air on local television during September and October. There will be some 2,300 30 second TV spots featuring Dr. Ben Carson.

2022 Diocesan Directories reduced price!



SALE
\$5.00
each

The Official 2022 Directory of the Diocese of Ogdensburg includes detailed information about parishes, schools and other Catholic organizations.

Please note that changes have not been made to this version

Order online at
www.northcountrycatholic.org
or call our office at
315-608-7556
to order yours today!

MARRIAGE & CONSECRATED LIFE JUBILEE

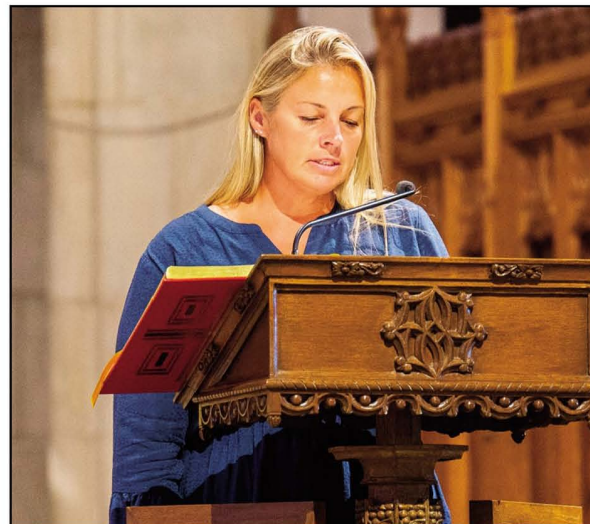
Photos by Jesse Sovie



Sister Sahayarani Selvaraj, a Sister of the Cross of Chavanod, Sister Mary Paul Blank, a Sister of St. Joseph, and Sister Cathleen Moore, a Sister of St. Joseph celebrated jubilees at the Mass. Sister Mary Maurice Black, a Sister of St. Joseph, was also honored as a jubilarian but was unable to attend the Mass. Profiles of the jubilarians will be in a future edition.



Sister Sahayarani Selvaraj, a Sister of the Cross of Chavanod, celebrated 25 years in consecrated life and served as a lector at the Mass.



Michelle Hays, who was celebrating 25 years with her husband, Forrest Hays, served as a lector during the Jubilee Mass.



North Country singers and instrumentalists provided music for the Mass.



Walter and Rita Rae Laurin of Champlain celebrated 70 years of marriage.

Court blocks transgender mandate

NEW ORLEANS (CNS) – A unanimous ruling by the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans blocking the Biden administration's transgender mandate "is a major victory for conscience rights and compassionate medical care in America," said the attorney who represented the plaintiffs in the case.

"Doctors cannot do their jobs and comply with the Hippocratic oath if the government requires them to perform harmful, irreversible procedures against their conscience and medical expertise," said Joseph Davis, counsel at Becket, a Washington-based religious liberty law firm.

Davis made the remarks about the court's Aug. 26 ruling perma-

nently blocking a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services mandate that would have forced doctors and hospitals to perform gender-transition procedures on their patients even if this violated their conscience and medical judgment.

On Aug. 4, the 5th Circuit heard oral arguments in the case, Franciscan Alliance v. Becerra, which was brought by a Catholic health care network and a group of nearly 19,000 health care professionals.

"Franciscan Alliance and the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration seek to carry on Jesus Christ's healing ministry by providing the best possible care to every person who comes through

our doors," said Sister Petra Nielsen, a Sister of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration, who is a member of the Franciscan Alliance's corporate board.

"We are simply asking the courts to let us keep caring for all our patients with joy and compassion – as we've done for over 145 years," she said in a statement released by Becket ahead of the oral arguments.

In an Aug. 26 statement, Davis said: "For years, our clients have provided excellent medical care to all patients who need it. Today's ruling ensures that these doctors and hospitals may continue to do this critical work in accordance with their conscience and professional medical judg-

ment."

The 5th Circuit affirmed the lower court's order "permanently enjoining (HHS) from requiring Franciscan Alliance to perform gender-reassignment surgeries or abortions in violation of its sincerely held religious beliefs."

The government argued it should get more chances to show why it needed religious health care providers to participate in such gender-transition procedures, but the court said other cases showed that permanent protection "was appropriate – including, ironically, cases brought by the ACLU, who had intervened in (the case) to support the government," Becket said in a release about the ruling.

Curia reform stresses service to bishops

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Pope Francis' reform of the Roman Curia emphasizes work in the Vatican as a service not only to the pope, but also to dioceses and eparchies and bishops and bishops' conferences around the world.

"The Roman Curia is not set between the pope and the bishops, but is at the service of both," the pope wrote in "Praedicate Evangelium" (Preach the Gospel), his apostolic constitution reforming the Curia.

The work of the Curia, he said, is "organically related to the College of Bishops and individual bishops, as well as to episcopal conferences and their regional and continental groupings, and the hierarchical structures of the Eastern churches. All these are of great pastoral benefit as expressions of the affective and effective communion existing among the bishops."

The practical impact of the pope's words became clear in early September when he announced that he had given the Latin American bishops' council greater responsibility for a

papal fund previously controlled by the Curia and when the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development announced a radical restructuring of its office.

The national and regional conferences of bishops blossomed after the Second Vatican Council, but their stature and influence – at least in the eyes of top Vatican officials – began shrinking in the late 1990s, when St. John Paul II and his closest aides tried to rein in their perceived power over the authority and ministry of a local bishop for his diocese.

In 1998, St. John Paul issued an apostolic letter, "Apostolos Suos" on the theological and juridical nature of bishops' conferences. Telling conferences they could issue statements on doctrinal and moral issues only if approved unanimously by conference members, the letter was seen by many observers as a caution against conferences growing too large and appearing to usurp the authority of individual bishops.

But from the beginning

of his pontificate, Pope Francis has given a higher profile to bishops' conferences and their teaching authority.

Papal encyclicals and apostolic exhortations repeatedly cite passages from the Bible, from the teaching of previous popes and from ecumenical councils like Vatican II. Pope Benedict XVI's major documents also included early church theologians, ancient philosophers and contemporary thinkers, but not a statement of a national bishops' conference.

But Pope Francis, in his 2013 apostolic exhortation, "The Joy of the Gospel," cited the statements of six bishops' conferences: the United States, France, Brazil, the Philippines, Congo and India. He also drew heavily on the work of the Latin American bishops' council, known as CELAM, particularly its Aparecida Document, which – as archbishop of Buenos Aires – he was in charge of drafting.

The citations were a concrete sign of the collaboration he said is essential to

his ministry as pope.

The Second Vatican Council affirmed that "episcopal conferences are in a position to contribute in many and fruitful ways to the concrete realization of the collegial spirit," Pope Francis wrote in that 2013 document. "Yet this desire has not been fully realized, since a juridical status of episcopal conferences which would see them as subjects of specific attributions, including genuine doctrinal authority, has not yet been sufficiently elaborated."

His 2015 document, "Laudato Si', on Care for Our Common Home," gave papal status to the teaching of more than a dozen bishops' conferences on the ethical and moral importance of protecting the environment.

But also, in the name of "healthy decentralization," he has made changes to the Code of Canon Law and to standard Vatican procedures to grant greater authority to individual bishops, bishops' conferences and synods of bishops of the Eastern Catholic churches in approving liturgical transla-

tions, setting up interdiocesan seminaries, drafting programs for the formation of priests and publishing national catechisms.

Pope Francis' document reforming the Curia said that with the church embracing "a multitude of peoples, languages and cultures," it has "an immense store of successful experiences regarding evangelization." One role of the Curia, he said, is to gather the wisdom, experiences and best practices of individual dioceses, bishops' conferences or Eastern synods of bishops and share them with others.

Announcing its new structure Sept. 14, the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development said, "Our mandate is to help and support the Holy Father and the bishops throughout the world; here we mean regional and national bishops' conferences and the hierarchical structures of the Eastern churches, individual bishops and patriarchs, offices dealing with issues of integral human development issues."

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

West Virginia bishop, pro-life leaders applaud abortion ban

WHEELING, W.Va. (CNS) – Bishop Mark E. Brennan of Wheeling-Charleston and pro-life leaders of West Virginia lauded the state Legislature for passing an abortion ban Sept. 13. The bill banning most abortions in the state, with some exceptions, now waits for Gov. Jim Justice's signature. H.B. 302 was passed by the Senate 22-7 and by the House of Delegates 78-17. "The action taken by our elected officials to provide greater legal protection for the unborn is an important step in fostering a sincere culture of life in the Mountain State," Bishop Brennan said in a statement. "It is clear that work remains to be done to soften hearts and create a society that values and protects every human life," the bishop continued. "It is clear that it will take time to heal the personal and societal scars from abortion permitted for so long under the Roe regime." He prayed that as a state, "we continue to move toward these moral and just ends." On Sept. 16, the governor announced he had signed the measure into law. "I've done exactly what I said I would do – I've signed it," Justice, a Republican, told reporters.

Pakistani bishops say they need more help after flooding

WASHINGTON (CNS) – Three bishops of Pakistan dioceses most affected by recent deadly monsoon flooding appealed for more funding for emergency food, repairing damaged homes and providing medical needs for the worst-hit victims in their provinces. The South Asian country has been hit hard by record floods caused by monsoon rains and glacial melting since the rainy season started this summer. But Archbishop Benny Travas of Karachi, Bishop Samson Shukardin of Hyderabad and Bishop Khalid Rehmat of Quetta also praised the generosity of local citizens and international aid groups during a virtual news conference hosted by the pontifical foundation Aid to the Church in Need Sept. 15. Pakistani Christians, a minority, are mostly impoverished. Bishop Rehmat described his sprawling province of Balochistan as all but cut off, because main roads connecting to major provinces and cities such as Punjab and Karachi have been flooded and bridges broken. "We have received very little help from the government, but local people, they are helping us... but it is not enough." As of Sept. 15, Pakistan's disaster management office reported more than 1,500 people dead since floods started in June.

Archaeological digs uncover Catholic artifacts

PORTLAND, Ore. (CNS) – Oregon's rich Catholic history begins a few miles north in what was then Oregon Country and now is Washington state. Archaeological digs at Fort Vancouver, Washington, have uncovered a trove of Catholic artifacts from the earliest days of the church in the Pacific Northwest, including a crucifix, rosary beads and a Miraculous Medal, all from the 1840s. The finds are remarkable, said Meagan Huff, curator at the Fort Vancouver National Historical Site. "Most items found underground that are part of the archaeological record are things that were discarded, for example, broken dishes or leftover bones from a meal," she told the Catholic Sentinel, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Portland. "But these religious items were precious to their owners and are more likely to have been carefully kept and lost accidentally, making them rarer finds." All the same, the finds didn't surprise Huff. "Religion has been such an important part of people's lives," she said. Fort Vancouver also boasts other precious Catholic artifacts, including a papal bull, a crucifix and reliquary from Pope Gregory XVI.

Senate delays vote to codify same-sex marriage into law

WASHINGTON (CNS) – The U.S. Senate Sept. 15 delayed a vote on a bill to codify same-sex marriage in federal law until after the midterm elections.

Catholic and other faith leaders opposed to the measure, titled the Respect for Marriage Act, said if it became law, it would jeopardize the religious freedom of millions of Americans "who have sincerely held beliefs" about traditional marriage.

The U.S. House passed the bill July 19 with a large, bipartisan vote of 267-157.

According to The Hill news outlet, the Senate vote delay was announced after a bipartisan group of negotiators decided to give more time to consider "an amendment designed to respond to the concerns of GOP lawmakers who feared the legislation could put churches and other religious institutions at legal risk if Congress voted to codify same-sex marriage rights."

Backers of the bill said the measure already includes language that protects the right of religious institutions or religious business owners to oppose same-sex marriage, but supporters of an amendment said it needs to be more clear.

Another amendment would make clear that marriage is between two people and would not open the door to legalizing polygamy, as some critics of the bill said it will.

Ahead of the House vote, the chairmen of two U.S. bishops' committees urged a vote against the measure.

They also called for a "no vote" on the Right To Contraception Act, which would establish a right in federal law for individuals to obtain and use contraceptives. The House passed that bill July 21.

"It is not lost on us that these bills come in apparent response to the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, which returned to the people the right to protect preborn children and their mothers from abortion," said Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone of San Francisco and Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore.

The prelates, who issued the joint letter, are the chairmen, respectively, of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' committees on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth and on Pro-life Activities.

Regarding the Respect for Marriage Act, H.R. 8404, they wrote: "People who experience same-sex attraction should be treated with the same respect and compassion as anyone, on account of their human dignity, and never be subject to unjust discrimina-

tion. It was never discrimination, however, to simply maintain that an inherent aspect of the definition of marriage itself is the complementarity between the two sexes."

"Marriage as a lifelong, exclusive union of one man and one woman, and open to new life, is not just a religious ideal – it is, on the whole, what is best for society in a concrete sense, especially for children," they continued. "The health and socioeconomic benefits of stable family life with a mother and a father are well-established, as are the positive outcomes for children raised in such a home."

After the Supreme Court's 2015 decision in *Obergefell v. Hodges*, legalizing same-sex marriage, now-retired Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, stated as the USCCB president at the time: "The law has a duty to support every child's basic right to be raised, where possible, by his or her married mother and father in a stable home."

"Same-sex civil marriage has further diminished that fulfillment of that right, both directly and indirectly as – like contraception – it disassociates marriage and sexual actions from the responsibilities of childbearing," Archbishops Cordileone and Lori said.

"This, in turn, reinforces existing negative dynamics in our society that have already done so much damage, such as with respect to fatherlessness."

They added, "Since marriage redefinition, governments continue to threaten the conscience and religious freedom of individuals such as wedding vendors, and entities such as foster care providers, who seek to serve their communities without being punished for their long-standing and well-founded beliefs."

Regarding the Right to Contraception Act, H.R. 8373, Archbishops Cordileone and Lori pointed out what they called "extreme and dangerous policy changes" in the bill.

Among other provisions, they said, it "would dramatically alter the landscape of informed consent laws and conscience protections around contraception, including abortion-causing drugs."

If it becomes law, it also "would render invalid informed consent laws, waiting periods, and other federal and state laws and regulations applicable to patients, including minors, with respect to sterilization and contraceptives, including emergency contraception and contraceptives that can cause early abortions," they said.

ADIRONDACK-FRANKLIN

100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Saranac Lake - This fall, St. Bernard's School will celebrate our 100th Anniversary!

Date: Sept. 23 to 25

Schedule: On Friday evening we will have dinner at The Hotel Saranac, Saturday will be our annual Golf Tournament, and on Sunday we will have a reception after 10am Mass and school tours.

Features: Our school began as a one room schoolhouse in the fall of 1922, and we have been providing the families of Saranac Lake a quality Catholic education ever since. In all these events we will have opportunities to look back at the school throughout the years, connect with other alums, and meet current staff, parents, and students.

Contact: Please email: principal@st-bernardsschool.org, call: 518-891-2830, or use the QR code to RSVP to any of these events or for more information.

HARVEST DINNER

Chateaugay - The Catholic Community of Burke and Chateaugay to have their 41st Annual Harvest Dinner.

Date: Oct. 2

Time: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Place: St. Patrick's Church, Take-out only

Features: \$14 per meal
Menu: Roast Beef, potatoes, carrots, coleslaw and roll. Apple and pumpkin pie for dessert donated by the Brainardsville Bakery.

Contact: Call to reserve the Rectory Office at 518-497-6673 or Monique Dwyer at 518-651-0144

DEVOTION AND HOLY HOUR

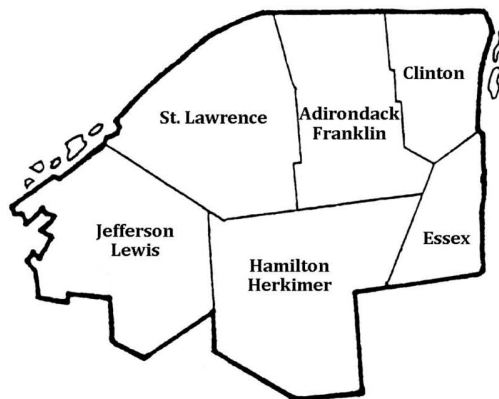
St. Regis Falls - All are invited to the monthly first Saturday Devotion and Holy Hour for Vocations.

Date: First Saturday of the Month

Time: Following the 4:30 anticipated Mass

Place: St. Ann's Church

Features: Prayer after Mass, Night Prayer, Prayer for All Souls and the Holy Souls, Novena in Honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, The Reparation Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary with private meditation on the 15 Mysteries of the Rosary, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament reposed in the Tabernacle, and Prayers for the Holy Father and his intentions.



The North Country Catholic welcomes contributions to "Around the Diocese."

Parishioners are invited to send information about activities to:

North Country Catholic, PO Box 326,
Ogdensburg, NY 13669; fax, 1-866-314-7296;
e-mail news@northcountrycatholic.org.

Items must be received in the NCC office by the Thursday before publication.

CLINTON

HARVEST DINNER

Chazy - Sacred Heart Church will host a take-out Harvest Dinner.

Date: Sept. 25

Time: 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Place: Parish Center, 8 Hall Street

Menu: Roast turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, dressing, turnip, corn, cole slaw, cranberry sauce, rolls butter and dessert.

Features: Treats will also be available for purchase, and raffle tickets will be available with many prizes to be won.

Cost: All dinners are \$14.

HARVEST DINNER

Ellenburg Center - Catholic Daughters Court Little Rose #1300 will hold their Harvest Dinner and Big Ticket Raffle.

Date: Sept. 25

Time: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Raffle drawing at 4:30 p.m.)

Place: St. Edmund's Church Hall

Features: Adults, \$12; Children 6-12, \$6; under 5, Free

HARVEST DINNER

Altona - Holy Angels to have their harvest dinner.

Date: Oct. 16

Time: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Place: Holy Angels Hall

Features: Adults, \$14; Children 6-12, \$7; under 5, Free

Menu: Roast Beef, mashed potatoes, squash, carrots, corn, coleslaw, apple crisp, pumpkin crunch and drink.

Features: Take-out available. There

will also be a Chinese suction and baskets of different themes.

HOUSE SITTERS

Ellenburg Center - Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer is looking for many Volunteer "House Sitters".

Time: The responsibility is to arrive by 10 a.m. on your chosen day(s) and remain on premises until 4 p.m. to welcome visitors.

Features: Lunch and snack items on hand along with tea, coffee, soda, and bottled water. Training will be provided on the history of the House of Prayer, its mission, and the various ways to carry out this gentle ministry of hospitality for those seeking time in a home of Mary to listen to our Lord, browse in the library, or visit the "Gift Shop". Flexible schedule (and hours) are fine.

Contact: If interested in volunteering for one day a month, or week, or more, please call Sarah Anderson at 518-534-9976.

JEFFERSON-LEWIS

HOLY HOUR AND DIVINE MERCY

Houseville - A Holy Hour of Adoration with the Divine Mercy Chaplet will be observed the first Sunday of the month.

Date: Oct. 2

Time: Following 11 a.m. Mass

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Contact: 315-348-6260

SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL DINNER

Evans Mills - The Indian River Knights of Columbus 7471 will be having a spaghetti and meatball dinner.

Date: Oct. 8

Time: 4 p.m. to 7

Place: St. Mary's Parish Center

Features: Adults, \$9; Seniors, \$8; Children under 12, \$5; under 5, Free; Sauce, \$6 per quart

CLM EVENT

Watertown - The Jefferson-Lewis Deanery CLM Association to present "A Journey of Conversion".

Date: Oct. 20

Time: Mass at 5:30 p.m., dinner and presentation immediately to follow.

Place: St. Anthony's Church

Features: \$15 per person

Features: The presentation titled A Journey of Conversion will begin with a RCIA ministry introduction by Tony Marra of the Blessed Sacrament Parish and will then feature Kathy Falge and Allyssa Francis who have recently entered the Catholic Church via the RCIA process.

Contact: Registers at www.rcdony.org/clm-event (be sure to select the correct event as there are two events for the month of October).

ST. LAWRENCE

HOLY HOUR

Canton - Holy Hour for Vocations to be held.

Date: Every Tuesday

Time: 4:10 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Church

Features: Holy hour followed by Mass at 5:15 p.m. and confessions at 5:45 p.m.

ROSARY FOR LIFE

Canton - Rosary for life to be held.

Date: Every Saturday

Time: 4:25 p.m. preceding the 5 p.m. Vigil Mass

Place: St. Mary's Church

ROSARY WITH DEVOTIONS

Ogdensburg - The Legion of Mary will pray the rosary with devotions for First Saturday.

Date: Oct. 1

Time: 8 a.m.

Place: Notre Dame Church, Ogdensburg

Features: Rosary with devotions

FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY

Massena - Sacred Heart Church to have first Saturday Rosary Devotion.

Date: Oct. 1

Time: 3:15 p.m.

Features: First Saturday Rosary Devotion to OUR Lady of Fatima. Confes-

sions will be available. Saturday Vigil Mass at 4 p.m.

MONTHLY BRUNCH

Norfolk - Parish of the Visitation and St. Raymond's will have their monthly Knights of Columbus Brunch.

Date: Oct. 9 (Second Sunday of each month)

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 11:30

Place: Fr. Amyot Parish Center

Features: Adults, \$10; under 12, \$5; under 5, Free; Omelets, add \$3; Take-outs available

Contact: For more information contact Grand Knight Gil Gonther 315-212-5166.

DIOCESAN EVENTS

CLM EVENT

Massena - The St. Lawrence, Franklin and Adirondack Deaneries CLM Association to present a "Clergy Perspective on the 150th Diocesan Anniversary".

Date: Oct. 12

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Social Hall

Features: \$20

Features: Clergy perspective on the 150th diocesan anniversary from different generations of priests, Father John Downs, Father Mark Reilly, and one more newly ordained priest.

Contact: Register at: rcdony.org/clm-event Be sure to choose the correct CLM event when registering. There are two events from different deaneries going on during the month of October.

BLUE MASS

Clayton - Bishop Terry R. LaValley cordially invites all Police, Corrections, Fire and EMS Personnel to the Diocese of Ogdensburg Blue Mass.

Date: Sept. 25

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Church

Features: The entire Northern New York Community is invited to join in prayer for the safety and well being of all first responders and public safety personnel.

Contact: For more information contact Fr. Chris Carrara, 315-605-1039, ccarrara@rcdony.org

YOUTH LEADERSHIP RETREAT

Saranac Lake - Youth Leadership retreat to be held for teens in grades 9 to 12.

Date: Sept. 30 check in at 6 p.m. to Oct. 2 at 10 a.m.

Place: Guggenheim Center

Features: \$95, includes dorm and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Filmmaker tried to show Mother Teresa's spirit

WASHINGTON (CNS) – A new documentary about St. Teresa of Kolkata, produced by the Knights of Columbus, aims to show how her mission and spirit continues in the work of her order, the Missionaries of Charity.

"Mother Teresa: No Greater Love," directed by Emmy award-winning filmmaker, David Naglieri, was shown at the Vatican Sept. 2 and had its American premiere Sept. 11 at the St. John Paul II National Shrine in Washington. On Oct. 3-4, the film will be shown in about 900 theaters as part of Fathom Events' Saints series.

Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly told the audience that the film intends to reach a younger audience that might not be as familiar with the work of the saint who died 25 years ago.

He also said Pope Francis praised the film in a letter.

The papal letter of Aug. 25 says: "Thank you for promoting this type of initiative that helps, in a creative manner, to make accessi-

ble the zeal for evangelization, especially for the young generations promoting the desire to follow the Lord who loved us first."

The Washington screening capped a weekend of events dedicated to the saint, including a special Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and the dedication of the Mother Teresa Institute in Washington, designed "to preserve, protect, promote, and develop the authentic legacy of St. Teresa of Kolkata to the church and to the world." The institute will offer resources to scholars and researchers.

During the Mass, which marked the 25th anniversary of the death of Mother Teresa, Washington Cardinal Wilton D. Gregory encouraged the faithful to look to the holy woman as a role model and "continue to fill up what she left undone in serving and loving the poor."

"While we admire her work and extraordinary example of love,

mere admiration is not enough when it comes to saints who inspire our lives," Cardinal Gregory said. "St. Teresa was a woman of uncanny abilities, and she used all the gifts that God gave her for others. Her example must spur us all on to emulate God's Mercy in caring for those whose lives continue to be at risk."

The cardinal noted that Mother Teresa "has not been exempted from criticism in our contemporary world that always needs some how to find fault in even the most generous and loving individuals."

"St. Teresa herself would be the very first to acknowledge that there was so much more that she could and would have loved to have done to care for God's poor," Cardinal Gregory said. "Becoming a saint does not mean that a person has done everything perfectly – just that they did everything that they did do heroically and generously."

In a panel discussion about the

new documentary after its screening, Naglieri said the process of filming new interviews and finding footage for the new documentary took 11 months and was "very much the work of the Holy Spirit."

The particular challenge was that there's not much vintage film footage of Mother Teresa available. She was not a seeker of personal publicity and didn't become well-known until British journalist Malcolm Muggeridge made a 1969 documentary, "Something Beautiful for God," about Mother Teresa's work beginning in 1948 in India serving the physical and spiritual needs of "the poorest of the poor."

Public fascination with this practitioner of "radical poverty" developed instantly and built for the rest of her life. Mother Teresa, born in North Macedonia in 1910, went on to win the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 and was elevated to sainthood by Pope Francis on Sept. 4, 2016.

Around the diocese

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Features: During this overnight youth retreat we invite high school age teens an opportunity to learn skills for Christian leadership and ministry in a series of workshops and practical applications. The following skill points will be covered: Christian Leadership, Communication Skills, Group Dynamics, Decision Making and, Planning skills.

Contact: To register go to rcdony.org/leadership or contact Jeanne Grizzuto – jgrizzuto@rcdony.org – 315-393-2920 ext. 1413 with any questions.

FALL RETREAT FOR ADULTS

Saranac Lake – Fall retreat for adults to be held. Come away and rest awhile with the Lord amid the beauties of Fall in the Adirondack Mountains.

Date: Sept. 30 to Oct. 2

Place: Guggenheim Lodge
Theme: "Meeting God in the Mountains and Valleys of Life."

Speaker: Sister Bethany Fitzgerald, SSI, Faith Formation Educator; Fr. Paul

Kelly will be celebrant for Mass on Saturday afternoon.

Features: Suggested offering is \$150

Contact: For more information contact 315-212-6592 or srbethssj@gmail.com

CHRIST IS HERE:

COME ENCOUNTER HIM

Presentation to be held for an opportunity to understand how Christ draws us to Himself through all things in this world! Event to be held on 2 different days at 6 different locations total.

Schedule: Oct. 1 at St. Mary's School Hall, Massena; St. Peter's Church, Lowville; St. Elizabeth's Church, Elizabethtown. Oct 15 at St. Mary's Parish Center, Brushton; Dostie Hall in Watertown; Emmaus Room, St. Peter's Church, Plattsburgh

Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Features: All are welcome to attend this event presented by the Diocese of Ogdensburg Department of Education. This is an in-person event only. Attendees must bring their own lunch. It is free to attend and you're encouraged

to bring a friend.

Contact: To register go to: www.rcdony.org/christ

LIFECHAIN

The 35th year of the National Lifechain to be held.

Date: Oct. 2

Schedule: Potsdam across from Roxy Theatre, 2 p.m. to 3; Plattsburgh at Smithfield Blvd, 2:30 p.m. to 3:30; Saranac Lake at Bandshell Park along River Street, 2:30 p.m. to 3:30

Features: Life Chains form nationwide to make a public, prayerful, peaceful stand for life. We stand for life rain or shine. Signs provided. Bring a friend.

Contact: More information and a listing of all locations at www.lifechain.org

WOMEN'S HEALING RETREAT

The St. Andre Bessette Sisters of Malone is sponsoring a Healing Retreat for 30 women of the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Date: Oct. 6 to Oct. 9

Place: Wadhams Hall, Ogdensburg

Features: \$250 per person and includes accommodations and all meals.

Features: Women must be age 18 or older to attend. The purpose of the Healing Retreat is to 'make more room within, for God', allowing His love and mercy to heal as He desires. Bishop LaValley, Fr. Bryan Stitt, Sister Kelly and Sister Grace Capuchin Sister of Nazareth, and Dave McClow will be presiding and presenting. All are welcome to join the SABS in praying the 54 Day Rosary Novena beginning August 15 ending on October 7 – Feast Day of Our Lady of the Rosary, for the healing of all those who attend as well as for each and every person who offered prayers, time, treasure and talent for this very blessed event.

Contact: For more information and registration visit the Diocese of Ogdensburg website at www.rcdony.org

FAMILY GUGGENHEIM

Saranac Lake – Online registration is now open for Family Guggenheim.

Date: Session 3 Oct. 7-9

Place: Guggenheim

Features: Visit

www.rcdony.org/family-life/fg for more information

Features: Family Guggenheim welcomes families of all dimensions to come enjoy a special weekend in the beauty of the Adirondacks. Expect fun family workshops and activities that will have you working and laughing together. Celebrate Christ's presence in your lives through liturgy (often outside) and special prayer services. Take time for great outdoor activities like paddle boat rides, beach volleyball, and hiking. You are never too young or too old to enjoy being family at Camp Guggenheim!

Contact: For more information, please contact Steve Tartaglia at 315-393-2920 or startaglia@rcdony.org



SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Greed and a bit of cleverness

There are several themes in this Sunday's readings.

The theme in the first reading from Amos concerns greed.

One of my father's favorite ways of describing his growing up on a farm was this: "We were poor, but we didn't know it!" In other words, his family knew the difference between "wants" and "needs". While Americans live on a comfort scale well above the Third World, there is growing concern that the gulf between the "haves" and the "have nots" in our country has grown to the



Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore

point of alarm. Greed for profit has seriously injured the rights of workers. If we are on the wrong track, then Catholic social teaching would suggest that we change direction.

How does God judge greed? The prophet Amos, while speaking in the eighth century B.C., might just as well be voicing God's judgment on our present-day society. It is just not acceptable to Him! In fact, greed seems to be one of those sins which anger God the most. It's a question of good stewardship. When

September 18

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

READINGS

Amos 8:4-7

1 Timothy 2:1-8

Luke 16:1-13

greed rules our lives, we make decisions that often deprive the poor.

Although the story in today's Gospel about the unjust steward who is about to be fired is somewhat confusing, the main lesson is very clear: "The children of this world are more prudent in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light." How come? Because this steward, seeing he is about to be fired, re-

duces the debts of all his master's debtors. In so doing, he makes his master look good, and makes friends of those debtors he had cheated by giving back to them by using his own commission! Even though he lost his job, he neatly provides for his future state of unemployment. He was a very clever man.

God so wishes that his followers, in spreading the Kingdom, would imitate the cleverness of the worldly! One saintly medieval commentator, Cornelius a Lapide, suggests that we, His sinful, struggling disciples, would show some cleverness in securing our salvation. How? By praying

earnestly every day for our brothers and sisters in purgatory, so that when we die and are in that place of purification ourselves, those for whom our prayers have earned Heaven may return the favor and beseech the Lord to shorten our stay there and bring us immediately to eternal joy. That, according to a Lapide, is the meaning of "Make friends for yourselves of the mammon of dishonest wealth, so that when it fails, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings."

In these present days of so many starving families, we can help them by generous giving. Perhaps they will in turn pray for us!

CALLED TO SERVE

Where did we put the ornament?

We received our White House Christmas Ornament in the mail today. Kathy and I get the ornament every year from the White House Historical Association.

The Association started marketing an "official" ornament in 1981 as a fund raiser and has been selling ornaments for your Christmas tree ever since.

The ornament is unique each year. The first one was "Angel in Flight," which depicted a copper weathervane inspired by those atop many historic American buildings. Mount Vernon and Independence Hall come to mind.

The Official 2022 White House Christmas Ornament represents the cher-

ished White House tradition of displaying a gingerbread house each holiday in the State Dining Room.

This one, in fact all the ornaments in the series, are cool. We have them all. We display them each year separate from the Christmas tree because there are so many.

The ornament of the year is revealed in the summer before Christmas. When you order one, they run around \$25, it arrives promptly. Like the 2022 ornament we received today.

Here's the rub...every year I go through the exercise of deciding where I should store the ornament, so it doesn't get lost before Christmas?

Logic says put it with the other White House Ornaments but phooey on that.

One year I stored the ornament so well we have not found it to this day. It has become a joke in our family...I might ask my daughter, "you didn't happen to come across the 1987 Christmas ornament when you were cleaning your music studio, did you?"

I bought a replacement. Our working theory is that we (notice I cleverly said "we" not "I") we inadvertently placed the package in the trash. Regardless, it will never

come back.

But the ornament is an object...a thing...lost but replaceable. It is not a soul.



Deacon
Kevin Mastellon

St. Paul told us in a letter he wrote to St. Timothy that Jesus came into the world to save souls...to save men and women who have become lost, have become sinners.

The Gospel a couple of weeks ago was filled with Jesus telling us the

same thing through the parables of the lost sheep, the lost coin and the prodigal son.

And yet, so many of us still have difficulty believing in God's infinite

mercy.

God does not judge like we do. He created us and loves us infinitely. Like the merciful Father in the prodigal son story, he is always looking for us to return to him even after we have fallen.

I learned a lesson from the lost ornament. This year the pretty ornament will find a home with the other 40 ornaments.

Now I'll continue the work of making sure my soul is ready for a permanent residence with Jesus and will not suddenly get lost.

Deacon Kevin Mastellon ministers in Watertown. He is the Director of Permanent Deacons for the Diocese of Ogdensburg.



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

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

Sr. Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ, Director
622 Washington St., Ogdensburg, NY 13669
(315) 393-2920; fax 1-866-314-7296
mbrett@rcdony.org

One of the family

This week we will share some updates from the Lenity Project regarding their many programs in Quito, Ecuador. Lenity Project is one of the organizations that is supported through our yearly Missionary Cooperative Appeal.

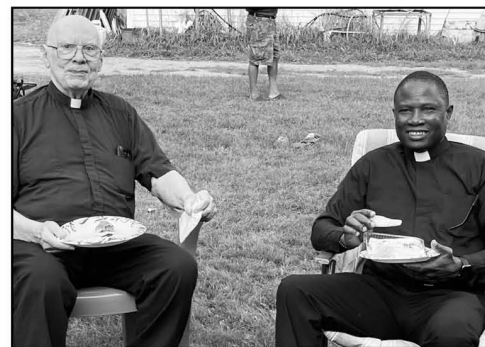
Dear Folks, Joyous greetings from the Working Families Foundation (WFF) here in New York, down in Virginia, and in Quito, Ecuador. From all three sites we look up and down and around the globe and see a huge variety of good works going on. It's obvious that Jesus's life in us is very much alive and well.

It's Dark and raining a lot, even hailing around the WFF here in South Quito. But we can blind ourselves to the cloudy atmosphere because our population of new members at the Foundation is growing steadily. Of course, we're all a bit "crowded" in the old school we're renting until we become rich big property owners. Our growing population is good news because it means that word is getting around that we can be trusted to infiltrate the ranks of the poor with programs of help that demand their participation in the struggle for their own prosperity. We are really on the way. We can feel God's providence in the shower of your generosity! We want you to get and wear badges that say: "Proud to be benefactors of WFF through Lenity." – Father John Halligan, S.J.

Wow! I don't know about you, but this summer seems to have flown by in the blink of an eye. Soon the leaves will be turning, and the glorious colors of Fall will take our breath away. The beauty of the array of colors and reflections on the waterways raise one's spirits. You all raise our spirits with your continued generous support of our Foundation in Quito. In Quito they don't have any change in the seasons, but their spirits get raised knowing that you are helping them help themselves. Thank you from all our families in Quito. – Madre Cindy

To be added to our mailing list or to learn more please feel free to contact us at amichael@rcdony.org. More information can also be found at our website www.rcdony.org/mission. And as always, please remember "The Society for the Propagation of the Faith" when writing or changing your will.

FOOD & FUN



(left) Father Medenel Angrand, sacramental minister at St. Mary's of the Fort in Fort Covington, enjoys a game of cornhole at the annual parish bonfire. (Above) Father Angrand enjoys picnic lunch with Father John J. Looby. The event included a cookout, games, music by the St. Mary's choir, a bonfire and smores.

OBITUARIES

Altona – Estherine (Burdo) M. King, 90; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 10, 2022 at Holy Angels Church; burial in Ellenburg Town Mausoleum.

AuSable Forks – John Pattno, 80; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 12, 2022 at Holy Name Church; burial in Holy Name Cemetery.

Brownville – Rose (Frazzitta) Sliwa, 89; Memorial Services Sept. 17, 2022 at Immaculate Conception Church.

Brushton – Marie M. (Bivin) Reil, 84; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 12, 2022 at St. Mary's Church.

Constableville – Phyllis (Szur) Szewczyk, 95; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 17, 2022 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery, West Leyden.

Evans Mills – Noreen (Kenna) Carnevale, 85; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 16, 2022 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Gouverneur – Carolyn (Tyler) Pistolesi, 72; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 15, 2022 at St. James Church; burial in New St. James Cemetery.

Malone – Jeannette Anne (McElwain) Mitchell, 77; Funeral Services Sept. 17, 2022 at Frary Funeral Home; burial in St. Augustine's Cemetery.

Malone – Robert N. Recore, 93; Funeral Services Sept. 10, 2022 at Frary Funeral Home; burial in St. John Bosco Cemetery.

Massena – Marilyn (Conant) DeCelles, 86; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 13, 2022 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena – David Dominic Zappia, 72; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 15, 2022 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Mineville – Anna C. Myers, 93; Memorial Mass to be held in June 2023; burial in Port Henry Union Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Thomas F. Crabbe, 55; Mass of Christian Burial held Sept. 20, 2022 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Donald "Red" A. Ross, 94; Funeral Services Sept. 16, 2022 at the Fox & Murray Funeral Home; burial in Foxwood memorial Park.

Rouses Point – Virginia M. (Legnard) Guay, 83; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 1, 2022 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Sackets Harbor – Alice M. (Leimberger) Powell, 76; Memorial Mass Sept. 24, 2022 at St. Andrews Church.

Ticonderoga – Dean F. Deso, 92; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 15, 2022 at St. Mary's Church.

Watertown – Janet C. (Fitzgerald) Zapf, 88; Mass of Christian Burial to be held in 2023 at St. Anthony's Church.

Mercy Care volunteers honored for service

Lake Placid – On September 8, Sister Catherine Cummings, Mercy Care’s mission director, welcomed all to Mercy Care’s Annual Friendship Picnic. Sister Catherine opened the celebration by saying, “We express our gratitude to our kind and compassionate Volunteers, Parish Nurses, and Caregiver Friends.”

Sister Catherine introduced Melissa Eisinger, Mercy Care’s board president, to present Mercy Care’s Volunteer Recognition Awards.

Eisinger remarked, “We host Mercy Care’s Friendship Picnic each year to celebrate older adults in our community and to honor and recognize the extraordinary gifts of friendship, kindness, and assistance given to their elder neighbors by Mercy Care Volunteers. The Board is most

grateful to our Volunteers for making Mercy Care’s mission possible.”

Volunteer of the Year – Jill Zagrobelny
Presentation of the Catherine McAuley Medallion

Jill Zagrobelny of Saranac Lake was awarded the Catherine McAuley Medallion presented to the Volunteer who has served for two or more years, has given outstanding service, and exemplifies the values of Mercy Care. Catherine McAuley founded the Sisters of Mercy in Ireland in 1831. She reached out with courage and love to people in need of her time as we strive to reach out to our elder neighbors in need in our time.

Jill exemplifies what Catherine McAuley taught us about mercy and compassion as she serves elders in our community.

Over 100 Hours of Volun-

teer Service

Mercy Care remains deeply grateful to all of our volunteers, with some contributing over 100 hours this past year to enhance the lives of their elder friends and caregivers. Volunteers with over 100 hours were recognized and included Paul Guerrette, Alanna Fox, Darlene Donnelly, Sr. Denise Wilke, and Martha Holmes

Five, Ten, and 15 Year Service Awards

Mercy Care honored those who have given five, ten, and 15 years of volunteer service with Mercy Care and included: Five-year Pins were awarded to: Alanna Fox, Martha Holmes, Bob Gardner, Jacci Gardner, Michelle Dunworth, Judy Meagher, George Morawetz, Kathy Strack, Paul Cassot, and Ed Cassot. Ten-year Pins were awarded to Linda Jones,

RN, Kathy Lamb, RN, Claire Thayer, Mary Welch, Rip Allen, and Susanne Praeger. Fifteen-year Pins were awarded to Sheila Venezia, Sr. Denise Wilke, and Barbara Erickson, to whom we are especially grateful.

Sarah Kane, Mercy Care’s Elder Care Manager, presented Mercy Care’s special awards.

Margie Gallagher - Appreciation Award

Since becoming a Friendship Volunteer in 2019, Margie has assisted multiple elders and participated in new projects, initiatives, and trainings with enthusiasm and compassion. Margie exemplifies Catherine McAuley’s spirit as she reaches out to share her courage and love with those in need.

Catherine Johnston - Novice Volunteer of the Year

Since becoming a friend-

ship volunteer in the fall of 2021, Cathy has demonstrated outstanding dedication, commitment, and caring companionship to her elder neighbors.

Alanna Fox - Caring Heart Award

A Caring Heart takes time to listen, reaches out to help in times of need, and positively impacts the community. In her role as a Friendship Volunteer for the past 5 years, Alanna exemplifies what it means to care.

Roger Gorham - World of Difference Award

The World of Difference Award was awarded to Roger Gorham for his compassionate, dependable, and responsive care to elders in our community. Roger has been a Mercy Care Friendship Volunteer since 2011 and has assisted countless elders in our tri-lakes communities.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC Diocese of Ogdensburg

150 YEARS: Together IN Faith

Bishop's Fund Appeal 2022

Please use my/our gift to continue the good works of our Church and help support the ministries of the Diocese.

Gift

- \$1,000
- \$800
- \$400
- \$200
- \$100
- Other _____

4 Pledge Payments

- \$250
- \$200
- \$100
- \$50
- \$25

Gift/Pledge Total \$ _____
Amount Enclosed \$ _____
Balance \$ _____



OR Please charge my credit card for \$ _____

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date ____/____/____

Signature: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please Print
Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Parish: _____ Parish City/Town: _____



Visit us on the web at:
www.rcdony.org/bfa

Clip and Mail to:
The Bishop's Fund Appeal
PO Box 150
Ogdensburg, NY 13669