

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Lake Placid parish measures engagement | PAGE 3

Seal of confession under attack? State bills draw criticism | PAGE 6

The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 77 Number 42

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

MARCH 15, 2023

Bishop's Fund Appeal hits goal

With gratitude, Bishop LaValley is pleased to announce that with generous contributions from over 6,680 households the 2022 Bishop's Fund Appeal has reached its goal of \$1.3 million.

Bishop commented: "I join my prayers of gratitude with those of the many individuals and families of our North Country who have benefited from the generosity of our donors. Our donors truly understand what it means to be *Together in Faith*."

FULL STORY, PAGE 5

PROFESSION OF FAITH & OATH OF FIDELITY



PHOTO COURTESY OF PONTIFICAL COLLEGE JOSEPHINUM

In preparation for ordination to the priesthood, Josephinum seminarians in their final year of study in the School of Theology, including Diocese of Ogdensburg seminarian Deacon Lukas Gruber, made the Profession of Faith and took the Oath of Fidelity in the presence of Father Steven Beseau, rector/president. Candidates for ordination pledge to remain faithful to the teachings of the Church and swear to be faithful teachers of the Gospel.

FROM ONE ST. PATRICK'S TO ANOTHER



After 10 years in storage, the altar of repose from the closed St. Patrick's Church in Hogsburg has found new life at St. Patrick's Church in Brasher Falls.

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

Pope: Every baptized person is part of mission

By Deborah Castellano Lubov
Vatican News Service

Every baptized person plays our own unique role in the Church's mission.

Pope Francis stressed this during his Wednesday General Audience in the Vatican, as he continued his series of catecheses on apostolic zeal, this week considering the ecclesial aspect of evangelization.

The proclamation of the Gospel, the Holy Father stressed, is not the task of isolated individuals, but a communal service to the Church's apostolic faith,

which "must be passed down in its integrity to every generation."

Zeal for spreading the Gospel, he said, is inseparable from this ecclesial dimension, which, he explained, protects the Christian message from distortion and from accommodating to worldly interests and ways of thinking.

The Vatican II Decree on the Church's Missionary Activity, the Pope recalled, presents all evangelization as having its source God Our Father's immense love, which was poured out on the world through the missions of the Son and the Holy Spirit, and prolonged in the Church's mis-

sion of proclaiming this saving love to all the ends of the earth.

Missionary Disciples

As "missionary disciples," Pope Francis insisted, all the baptized are called to imitate the self-sacrificing love of Christ.

He said the faithful are called to bear creative and convincing witness to the truth of His word and its reconciling power, not only for individuals, but for the life of our entire human family.

"The apostolic zeal of each missionary disciple," the Pope stressed, is so important "because in the pilgrim and evangelizing People of God there are no

active and passive subjects."

Returning to his words in his Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* on proclaiming the Gospel in today's world, the Pope reassured, "All the baptized, whatever their position in the Church or their level of instruction in the faith, are agents of evangelization."

Quoting the decree *Ad Gentes* on the Church's mission, the Pope reiterated that this task "is one and the same everywhere and in every condition, even though it may be carried out differently according to circumstances."

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R. LAVALLEY**
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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 andadditional 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's that season

It occurred to me as I was in my car, exiting the parking lot after going through the drive-thru of a chain coffee shop: It's prayer season.

Yes, I know it's Lent, and that is an especially prayerful season, but that's not what I mean in this case.

As I approached the exit to the parking lot, there were very large snowbanks on either side. I couldn't see the road in either direction. I had to inch forward very slowly, hoping

there wasn't another vehicle rapidly approaching. By the time I could see both directions of traffic clearly, my Jeep was well into the lane of travel.

**Darcy L.
Fargo**

It's a situation I'm pretty sure most of us have encountered at some point in the North Country.

When it happens to me, I say a quick prayer asking God to protect me and any other driver who happens to be approaching. It's

been happening to me regularly over the last few

weeks, so it's been a pretty prayerful season.

I sometimes beat myself up over the fact that I struggle with the kinds of prayers I convince myself are "real prayer," generally anything that requires prolonged focus – the rosary, Adoration with no formal prayers, journaling or reading, and similar prayer practices. While I try to cultivate those practices, especially in Lent, my mind wanders rapidly and frequently.

I see the benefit of those attempts, and I keep trying. I would love to be the kind of person who could focus

exclusively on the Lord for an hour, but my brain simply doesn't work that way.

My parking lot prayer reminded me, though, that I'm blessed to find God in little moments throughout each day. Sometimes it's quick prayers. Sometimes it's stopping and just feeling awe at and gratitude for the awesomeness of God's creation. Sometimes it's enjoying silence for just a few minutes and listening to what God has to say.

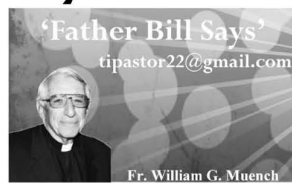
Sometimes it's God reminding me how beautiful these little moments can be as I'm pulling out of a parking lot.

Ready to walk with Jesus

Today, I would like to join with you and walk with you as you move along this road of Lent. By now, we are all pretty much immersed in the Lenten Spirit with our prayers, the Scriptures and some mortification. Here we are in the middle of Lent. By now we should have our goals determined. Lent is about opening in love our hearts and souls. We are ready to walk with Jesus during those events of Holy Week, which is coming up soon. We say each year that Holy Week is the holiest week of the year. During Holy Week, we immerse ourselves in the sufferings of Jesus. We celebrate the Lord Jesus in his saving mystery, remembering how he saved us as he endured the outrage and pain leading to this crucifixion. Then we celebrate his resurrection.

May these events strengthen our dedication so that we can stand with our Lord today.

As Lenten pilgrims, there are so many Lenten practices that keep us focused on our goal of being prepared to be a part of the

**Fr. William G. Muench**

Lord's Holy Week. I encourage you to try the Stations of the Cross. This devotion leads us along the road to Golgotha, reminding us of just how much the Lord Jesus suffered for us, and it leads us to be fully dedicated disciples of the Lord. We are told that there were no disciples walking with Jesus that day. May we fill that task as today's disciples. The stations keep us close to the Lord as we see clearly his sufferings. May we walk with Jesus as his friends.

Today, I also encourage you to participate in the celebration of the Holy Mass on some weekdays, also. Each time we participate at Mass, we know that the Lord unites himself with us in a special way through the unique sacraments of the Holy Eucharist. The reception of Holy Communion transforms us with

a new and loving dedication that comes from our uniting ourselves with the Lord who suffered so much for us. The Church calls these celebrations a rebirth; we again celebrate and dedicate ourselves, renewing our baptism in the Lord.

I love the practices of Lent. It is truly a special time in our Church year. So here is one more for you: I want to encourage you today to find some time for silence. Not a long time, maybe just five minutes, with the Lord in silence, just silence – no prayers, no books, no music – just the quiet of being in the presence of the Lord who we know longs to be with us in love. We have only to listen.

I like to think of silence as a prayer of calmness. You and I live in a busy, noisy world. A time of silence is a perfect opportunity to open our hearts in love in the presence of the Lord. The Gospels teach us that the Lord longs to come and be with us in all his glory, just as he transfigured himself with Peter, James and John on the mountain. I

want to encourage you to take just five minutes each day to find a place and be in silence with the Lord. Find five minutes each day during these last few weeks of Lent. Remember, the Lord will always have a message for you so listen.

I would like to offer a few words on silence from my favorite saint, Catherine Doherty. She wrote this: "Silence is the highest form of communication, but we're not use to it. We don't think of it, in fact we bypass it. Silence demands discipline. Even more, silence must be the fruit of love. Without love, silence is not pleasant – it is aggressive and hostile. But when it comes out of a heart filled with love, then silence is the highest form of communication."

Whenever there is loving communicative silence, there is God. So, take the time each day to be with the Lord in silence. I would like to encourage you also to write down the message that the Lord brings to you during your time of silence. Each day the Lord has a message for you. Make a journal for yourself.

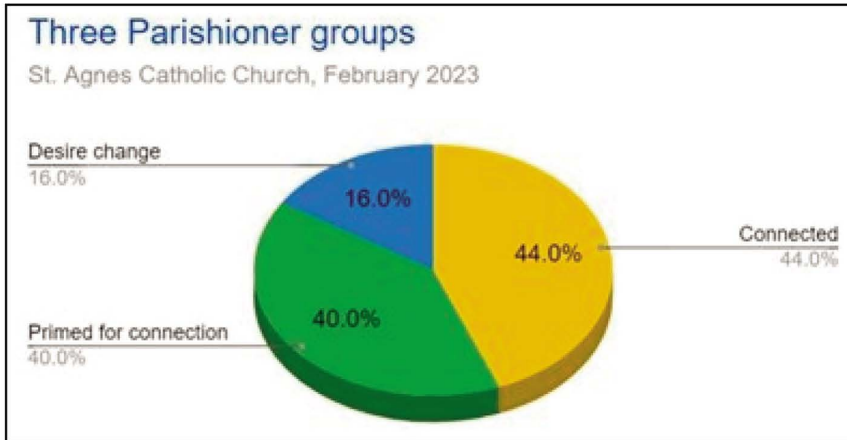
Survey shows engagement at St. Agnes

LAKE PLACID – St. Agnes Catholic Church in Lake Placid recently conducted the Gallup Parish Engagement Survey, and the results are in! The survey was taken during Mass using a dedicated internet address, and every regular parishioner 18 years or older was asked to answer the 25 questions.

Paper copies were made available for those who were unable to take the survey on their phone or tablet.

The confidential responses were then analyzed by the Gallup Faith database, and the results provide a baseline of data from which action plans for the future of the parish will be made.

Gallup distinguishes three distinct groups within parishes in terms of engagement and provides the results including how they compare to Catholics nationwide. The overall data for St.



Agnes show that 84% of parishioners feel very positive about the parish, as compared with only 78% in parishes nationwide.

According to the survey results, 44% of St. Agnes parishioners can be described as loyal, with a strong emotional connection to our parish. This group is more spiritually committed, more likely to invite others to parish events and give more,

both financially and of their time. Most Catholic parishes typically have only 30% in this group.

Additionally, 40% of our parishioners also have a positive view of St. Agnes parish and attend regularly. This group, however, feel connected more socially rather than spiritually to the parish. They give moderately and may do some volunteering. The average for this middle group is 48% for

Catholic parishes nationwide.

A mere 16% of the St. Agnes congregation appear in a category that includes two types of parishioners. The first are those who attend Mass occasionally, if at all, and the second are those who attend regularly but are not happy with the parish. Most Catholic parishes na-

tionwide have 22% of their parishioners in this group.

So, clearly St. Agnes is doing a lot of things well, and as the responses to each individual survey question are analyzed, a clear picture of the areas that need to be improved will emerge.

In the coming weeks, parishioners will be invited to attend a presentation of the results of the survey and to join task groups that will examine the responses in more detail to determine what the numbers suggest.

They will also be invited to contribute to planning strategies to help all parishioners feel more engaged utilizing the Gallup Member Engagement materials. Stay tuned! It's an exciting time to be at St. Agnes!

What is a Foster Grandparent?

Foster Grandparents are role models, mentors, and friends to children with exceptional needs. The program provides a way for volunteers age 55 and over to stay active by serving children and youth in their communities. They are placed in a classroom setting with a child or children who are in need of emotional support, development of basic learning skills, friendship, companionship, encouragement, individual attention, and unhurried help. The program currently has 40 volunteers and serves more than 100 kids per year.

The Foster Grandparent Program is hosted by the Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Ogdensburg and supported by AmeriCorps Seniors, a federally funded agency responsible for building volunteer based programs for over 50 years and counting.



Sometimes when you get to be my age, you wake up and say what good am I and along came the Foster Grandparent Program that keeps me going! *
Roy Foote
age 83
Foster Grandparent

Volunteers Needed



Am I Qualified to be a Foster Grandparent?

All you need to join is the ability to give the kind of comfort and love that sets a child on the path toward a successful future. If you're 55 or older and want to share your experience and compassion, you have what it takes to be a Foster Grandparent.

You'll also receive a small bi-weekly, non-taxable stipend that cannot be held against any current benefits you may already have as well as paid mileage for your travel. Additionally, you receive paid holidays, vacations, sick and personal leave.



Want more info about how to get started?

Contact Melissa Howard,
Volunteer Coordinator

PHONE:
(518)359-7688

EMAIL:
mhoward@cathcharities.org

80 Park Street, Suite 2
PO Box 701
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(Left) More than 2,000 pounds of material, including a supporting structure, was restored and in the reconstruction of the altar of repose once housed in St. Patrick's Church in Hogansburg. (Above) The altar of repose at St. Patrick's in Brasher Falls used to house a mosaic cross and resurrected Jesus.

From one St. Patrick's to another

By Darcy Fargo
Editor

BRASHER FALLS – After a decade in storage, the altar of repose from a now-closed church has new life in a church with the same name.

According to Father Shane M. Lynch, pastor of Parish of the Visitation and St. Raymond in Norfolk, St. Andrew's Church in Norwood, and St. Patrick's Church in

Brasher Falls, the altar of repose formerly housed in St. Patrick's Church in Hogansburg is now installed in St. Patrick's Church in Brasher Falls.

"It's been sitting in a garage for 10 years," said Father Lynch.

Father Martin E. Cline was the last pastor to serve in the Hogansburg church. His connections to the St. Patrick's in Brasher Falls led to the initial development of the idea to move the

altar of repose from the closed church to Brasher Falls.

"(Father Cline) is from Brasher, and both churches have St. Patrick as their patrons," said Father Lynch.

Though the altar of repose was transported 10 years ago, the initial plan was to keep it in storage until the next renovation of the interior of St. Patrick's in Brasher Falls.

"Our parish council

knew it was in the garage," Father Lynch said. "If there was any interior work in that church, it was going to be included in that work. Interior work is a ways off, though."

The altar of repose was going to need a new home, though, as the rectory and garage at St. Patrick's in Brasher Falls are being sold.

"Talking with our council last fall, we discussed the altar of repose and whether or not we wanted to get it put in," the pastor said. "The consensus was 'absolutely.' I got the proposals together and the cost, and I brought that to the council, and they approved it."

One of the major challenges in getting the altar of repose installed in its new home was finding a contractor who could handle the work.

"We had a contractor out of Georgia who had initially removed it and crated it and brought it to St. Patrick's (in Brasher Falls)," Father Lynch said. "We looked

for local options, but there weren't any. We reached out to that company from Georgia, and they did the work installing it."

Because of the altar of repose's age and because it had been in storage after transportation, some work was needed to restore it.

"They repaired a few chips and cracks," Father Lynch said. "And they got it all cleaned and polished and put together. It's roughly 2,000 pounds of material."

The larger altar of repose also displaced a mosaic cross with a resurrected Jesus that was previously in the sanctuary.

"It wasn't in conformity with liturgical norms," Father Lynch said. "With permission from the bishop, we removed that cross."

Father Lynch said he was pleased with the finished installation.

"It looks nice in there," he said. "And it's nice that it's not just sitting in a garage."

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Bishop's Fund Appeal meets goal

With gratitude, Bishop LaValley is pleased to announce that with generous contributions from over 6,680 households the 2022 Bishop's Fund Appeal has reached its goal of \$1.3 million.

Bishop commented: "I join my prayers of gratitude with those of the many individuals and families of our North Country who have benefited from the generosity of our donors. Our donors truly understand what it means to be *Together in Faith*."

Their support has a far-reaching impact through the ministries and programs of the annual Bishop's Fund Appeal. I also wish to extend my deep appreciation to our pastors whose continued strong leadership and personal sacrifice supports this critical appeal each year."

As of March 9, 2023, the Bishop's Fund Appeal has collected \$1,300,316.25 in gifts received with \$60,210.98 remaining in promised pledges.

The Bishop's Fund Appeal, through the generosity of so many, continues to provide the following programs and ministries of the Diocese of Ogdensburg: Education of Seminarians; Family Life Ministry; Natural Family Planning; Respect Life Ministry; Formation for Ministry Program; Of-



Together in Faith was the theme of the 2022 Bishop's Fund Appeal. The appeal reached its goal of \$1.3 million.

fice of the New Evangelization; Continuing Education and Formation of Priests; Priests' Graduate Studies; Vocations; Permanent Deacons; Deacon Formation; Tuition Assistance Program; Campus Ministry Program; Matching Gifts to Catholic Schools; Department of Faith Formation; Youth Ministry; Young Adult Ministry; Guggenheim Center; Department of Worship and the Bishop's Good Samaritan Fund.

Any funds received over this year's goal will provide emergency grants to individuals and families through the Bishop's Good Samaritan Fund.

During the course of the year, many families and individuals reach out to their pastor for help with unexpected emergencies such as illnesses in the family, loss of homes to fire and flooding and job loss. The pas-

tor, on behalf of their parishioner or community member requests Bishop LaValley's assistance to help the person or family in need.

The Bishop's Good Samaritan Fund also provides assistance to food pantries, soup kitchens and snack pack programs so that they may continue to help families in need.

If you have made a pledge to the 2022-2023 Bishop's Fund Appeal, you are encouraged to complete your pledge before June 15, 2023.

If you have not made a gift or wish to make an additional gift, donations can be mailed to: The Bishop's Fund Appeal, PO Box 150, Ogdensburg, NY 13669 or made online at <https://www.rcdony.org/bfa.html#donate>

Bishop's Public Schedule

March 15 – Noon – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral followed by a Luncheon with the Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocation Society Officers at Bishop's Residence

March 16 – Noon – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

March 18 – 11 a.m. – Mass and Celebration of Saint Joseph's Day at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse in Watertown

March 19 – 10:30 a.m. – Mass at the Parish of the Visitation and St. Raymond in Norfolk followed by the Knights of Columbus Annual Bishop's Burse Dinner at the Father Amyot Parish Hall at Noon

March 20 – Noon – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral
March 21 – Noon – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

March 22 – 10:30 a.m. – Council of Priests Meeting at Bishop's Residence

Rest in Peace

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

March 15 – Rev. Charles J. McMorro, 1898; Rev. Howard G. Goiser, 1984

March 16 – Rev. William A. MacDermott, 1913; Msgr. Noel V. Zimmerman, 1994

March 17 – Rev. Michael Froc, O.M.I., 1905; Rev. Francis X. Parisian, 1955

March 18 – Rev. Joseph Murtagh, 1928

March 19 – Rev. Andronique Blaignier, 1958; Msgr. Thomas J. Robillard, 2009

March 20 – Most Rev. Joseph H. Conroy, 1939

To Report Abuse

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact **Victims Assistance Coordinator**, Terriane Yanulavich, Ph.D., LMHC, 5050 Route 374, Merrill, NY 12955; terrianeyanulavich@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 Service** at 800-276-1562 or www.ReportBishopAbuse.org.

Environmental Stewardship

'Hold the ice' to help the earth

The ice placed in drinks has become invisible. Most of us are fairly unaware of the ice since it's so "normal" for it to be there. But do we need it?

It takes a huge amount of energy to make ice from water, just as it takes a huge amount of energy to melt the surrounding snow and ice at this time of year so that grass, flowers, and trees can begin to grow again.

How much energy? In order to go from water to ice, energy has to be extracted so that the water molecules can line up (oxygen side to hydrogen side) and bond to form a solid.

For a liter of water with a mass of 1 kg (2.2 lb) at 0°C to become ice at 0°C (so no change in temperature, just changing from liquid to solid), the hidden or latent energy that must be extracted is 333,500 Joules, or 0.09 kilowatt-hours. It doesn't seem like much, but it's enough energy to lift that liter 21 miles! Yes, 21 miles! And that is a single liter of water. Commercial ice makers can convert 500 pounds (225 kg) of water to ice each day. And there's one of these inside every restaurant, fast-food joint, and convenience store. That's a lot of our energy going into ice. And any ice left in the cup is that energy wasted.

The drinks we usually put the ice in are mostly already refrigerated, so they don't need to be cooled, we're just used to ice. Try going without the ice and see if you notice. The bonus is you'll get more of the drink!

While you're ditching the ice, also ditch the straw and lid. They can't be recycled. And if you have an ice maker in your fridge at home, it adds 12 to 20% to its energy use. Go back to manual ice trays and compare your energy bills to see savings.

By Aileen A. O'Donoghue
Diocesan Laudato
S' Committee
St. Mary's Parish, Potsdam

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:

March 21 – 6 p.m. – Immaculate Heart Central, Watertown

Seal of Confession under attack? Delaware, Vermont bills draw Catholic criticism

By Kevin J. Jones
Catholic News Agency

Two state legislatures are considering ending any legal protections for a priest who learns about sexual abuse in the confessional. In response, Catholic leaders warned that the laws are unconstitutional, put priests in legal jeopardy, and endanger confidentiality with penitents.

Delaware's House Bill 74 is among the proposals to end clergy protections in mandatory sexual abuse reporting laws.

"This act abrogates the privilege between priest and penitent in a sacramental confession relating to child abuse and neglect," says the bill summary on the Delaware General Assembly's website. "It requires priests to report child abuse and neglect or to give or accept evidence in a judicial proceeding relating to child abuse or neglect."

The legislation prompted criticism from the Catholic Diocese of Wilmington.

"The sacrament of confession and its seal of confession is a fundamental aspect of the Church's sacramental theology and practice. It is nonnegotiable," the Wilmington Diocese said March 6. "No Catholic priest or bishop would ever break the seal of confession under any circumstances."

"The Diocese of Wilmington considers the protection of the vulnerable to be one of the most important aims of public policy," the diocese continued. "However, this legislation would not advance that vital objective."

The requirement would be "nearly impossible to meet" for Catholic clergy because almost all sacramental confessions are anonymous.

"It would be a clear violation of the First Amendment for the government to interfere in this most sacred and ancient practice of our faith," said the diocese, which voiced concerns about infringement on the rights of other faith communities.

Canon law characterizes the seal of sacramental confession as "inviolable." It says it is "absolutely forbidden for a confessor to betray in any way a penitent in words or in any manner and for any reason."

Breaking this seal incurs an automatic excommunication that only the pope can pardon, the Wilmington Diocese said. Delaware law already requires priests to be mandatory reporters of suspected abuse, and internal diocese policy re-

quires priests to report suspected child abuse to civil authorities.

In Vermont, Bishop Christopher Coyne of Burlington appeared before the Senate Judiciary Committee on March 3 to oppose Bill S. 16. The bill would fully eliminate clergy protection from the abuse reporting law if reporting abuse would violate a privilege or disclose confidential communication.

According to Coyne, the legislation "crosses a constitutionally protected element of our religious faith: the right to worship as we see fit."

"There is no question that protecting children is essential and criminals must be held accountable for their crimes. But disregarding fundamental religious rights is unnecessary," he said.

The exemption to the current law is "very narrow," according to Coyne. No office conversations or counseling sessions are privileged. He characterized confession as "a moment of worship in which the penitent seeks God's mercy."

Coyne said all clergy and lay employees of the Burlington Diocese are mandatory reporters. Anyone who works for the diocese or diocesan parishes must have a criminal background check and training to recognize signs of abuse.

"The priest has a sacred duty to maintain the secrecy of sacramental confession," he said. "The sacramental seal of confession is the worldwide law of the Catholic Church, not just the diocese. No bishop has the authority to change this."

"Requiring clergy to report child abuse learned during a penitential communication would infringe upon our First Amendment rights," said the bishop. "Not just the rights of myself and the clergy but the rights of all of the Catholics in the state of Vermont and the rights of any other faith community that has that kind of a privileged penitential communication."

Other states are considering similar legislation.

In Kansas, State Sen. Tom Holland, D-Baldwin City, introduced S.B. 87, which would require ordained ministers in the state to report suspected physical, sexual, or emotional abuse and neglect of children. Failure to report would mean a misdemeanor charge.

Though his 2019 bill on the same topic contained an exemption for the penitential privilege, his 2023 legislation does not, the Topeka-Capital Journal reported in January.

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

UK Parliament makes prayer near abortion facilities illegal

(CNA) – Britain's House of Commons approved legislation Tuesday to create "buffer zones" around abortion facilities that would prohibit a wide range of behavior, including silent prayer. An amendment to exempt prayer and consensual conversation was voted down by lawmakers, who added the buffer zones to the Public Order Bill. "Today's vote marks a watershed moment for fundamental rights and freedoms in our country," Jeremiah Igunnubole, legal counsel for the ADF UK legal group, said. "Parliament chose to endorse censorship and criminalize peaceful activities such as silent prayer and consensual conversation. Today it's abortion. Tomorrow it could be another contested matter of political debate."

China requires faithful to register for worship services

(CNA) – A human rights group active in China is reporting that religious believers in a populous Chinese province are now required to register on a government app in order to attend worship services. ChinaAid, a U.S.-based Christian charity, reported March 6 that the religious department of the provincial government of Henan is rolling out a system whereby all believers must make online reservations before attending services in churches, mosques or temples. The reservations are made through an app called "Smart Religion" developed by the Ethnic and Religious Affairs Commission of Henan Province. According to ChinaAid, applicants must fill in personal information, including their name, phone number, government ID number, permanent residence, occupation, and date of birth before they can make a reservation. ChinaAid said the development and roll-out of the app is part of the communist government's efforts to "strictly manage religion in a comprehensive way," in part by gathering data about religious believers. The group also expressed concern that the introduction of this barrier will turn people away from the practice of religion.

Notre Dame cathedral to open in December 2024

(CNA) – Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, whose spire and roof were destroyed by an April 15, 2019, fire, is expected to be rebuilt within the five-year deadline set by the French government. As confirmed by the head of the construction site, French Army Gen. Jean-Louis Georgelin, in an interview with the Associated Press, the faithful and tourists should have access to the site again by the end of 2024. Reconstruction work began some 24 months after the tragic incident occurred, with the first phase consisting of cleaning and securing the site, involving more than 200 different companies. Although the beloved cathedral will not be ready for the Olympic Games to be held in the French capital in July and August 2024, it should have regained its former shape by then, with the reconstruction phase of its emblematic spire to begin in April.

ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN

COFFEE AND CATHOLICISM

Wells – A Coffee and Catholicism series will include brunch and watching and discussing Word on Fire's Catholicism series.

Date: Saturdays (except for Holy Saturday) through May 13

Time: 9 a.m. to 10

Place: St. Ann's rectory

Features: We will enjoy brunch as we view and discuss Word on Fire's Catholicism series. Parents of small children are not discouraged from attending! We will have toys and books set up for little ones.

Contact: For more information, please call 757-817-4700.

CLINTON NORTHERN FRANKLIN

LENTEN FISH FRY

Plattsburgh – Holy Cross Parish to have a Lenten Fish Fry hosted by the K of C Council #255.

Date: Fridays Feb 24 to March 31

Time: 4:30 p.m. to 6:30

Place: Parish Center behind OLV only

Menu: Alternating weeks of Cod and Haddock. Fries, Cole Slaw, Drink and dessert.

Contact: For more information call 518-563-0730

LENTEN TAIZÉ PRAYER

Plattsburgh – Gather around the cross for prayer this Lent!

Date: March 28

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: St. John's Church

Features: Taizé Prayer includes song, silence and scripture in an atmosphere of reflection. The music is simple, with brief refrains repeated in the manner of the mantra of the Eastern Church or the rosary of the Western Church.

FISH FRY

Chazy – Sacred Heart Church to have a Fish Fry.

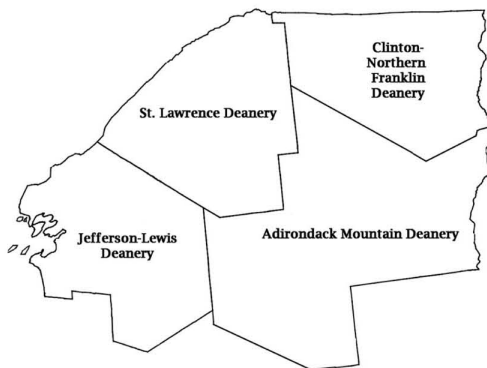
Date: March 31

Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7:30

Place: Parish Center

Cost: Adults, \$15; Children 5-12, \$9; All take-outs, \$15

Menu: Fried Perch, Homemade



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

e-mail news@northcountrycatholic.org.

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

Macaroni and Cheese, French Fries, Cole Slaw, rolls, beverage and dessert.

Contact: For more info, contact Noreen at the rectory 518-846-7650 or email sacredheart@west-elcom.com

PALM SUNDAY BRUNCH

Altona – Palm Sunday Brunch to be held for St. Ann's and Holy Angels.

Date: April 2

Time: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Place: Holy Angels Hall

Cost: Adults, \$15, Children 6-12, \$8; under 5, Free

Menu: Baked Ham, Sausage Links, Biscuits with Sausage and Gravy, French Toast & Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Golden Fried Potatoes, Homemade Sweet Muffins, Pulled Pork on a Roll, Macaroni Salad, Baked Beans, Coffee, Tea, Juice or Milk.

Features: Bake Sale, Basket Raffle and 50/50.

RITE OF CONSECRATION

Plattsburgh - The Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley cordially invites you to a special Mass where Mary Beth Bracy will be admitted in the Rite of Consecration, to a Life of Virginity Living in the World.

Date: April 16

Time: 11:15 a.m.

Place: St. Peter's Church

Features: A reception will immediately follow the Mass in the Emmaus Room. The Mass may be viewed at www.rcdony.org/live-mass.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Plattsburgh – Divine Mercy services to be held.

Date: April 16

Place: St. Peter's Church

Schedule: 2 p.m. Adoration begins; 2 p.m. to 2:30 Confession in chapel; 3 p.m. Singing of the chaplet, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Contact: For more information

Contact: Holy Cross Parish 518-563-0730

JEFFERSON-LEWIS

PRE-SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Watertown – St. John Bosco Pre-school program to have open enrollment.

Date: March 20 for current IHC Families and April 3 for the public

Features: Must be 4 by Dec. 1

Contact: For more information visit www.ihschool.org or call 315-788-4670 ext. 1

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Watertown – Immaculate Heart Central to have Kindergarten Registration and screening for the 2023-24 school year.

Date: March 22

Time: By Appointment only

Contact: Call 315-788-7011 to set up a time.

BOTTLE DRIVE

Watertown – Immaculate Heart Central to have a bottle drive.

Date: March 25

Time: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Place: IHC High School

SOCIAL MEDIA – THE PATHWAY TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Watertown – Panel Discussion to be held addressing trends regarding Human Trafficking.

Date: March 26

Time: 1:30 p.m. to 3

Place: The Children's Home of Jefferson County Dining Hall.

Features: The Sisters of St. Joseph Social Justice Committee in collaboration with The Alliance for a Better Community, The Victim's Assistance Center/Safe Harbor and local law enforcement and schools invite all to attend a panel discussion addressing recent trends regarding Human Trafficking, statistics from community surveys and advice for parents and caregivers to help safeguard our children. Light Refreshments will be served. Event is FREE and open to the public.

Contact: For more information please call Sister Bethany Fitzgerald, (315) 782-3460

WOMEN'S PRAYER AND HEALING RETREAT

Watertown – The Department of Faith Formation will be having a Women's Prayer and Healing retreat.

Date: March 31

Time: 6:30 p.m. to 8:30

Place: Sisters of St. Joseph

Hearthside Room

Cost: \$20

Features: The retreat will be run by Sister Mary Michael Fox, OP, a member of the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia in Nashville.

Contact: To register go to, www.rcdony.org/healingretreat

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: April 2

Time: Following 11 a.m. Mass

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Contact: 315-348-6260

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

Watertown – The Divine Mercy Novena will begin with a brief background of the devotion and by praying the Chaplet in the church to begin the 9-day Novena. Therefore, the Novena must be prayed everyday for the following 8 days until Divine Mercy Sunday.

Date: April 7

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Patrick's Church

Contact: call Judy Boulton at 315-783-7349 or Kim Tyler at 315-486-4542, or by visiting www.thedivinemercy.org

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Carthage – The Knights of Columbus hosts a monthly Pancake Breakfast to benefit Augustinian Academy.

Date: April 9

Time: 8 a.m. to Noon

Place: St. James Community Room

Cost: Adults, \$9; Seniors, \$7; Children under 10, \$4; Family of 4 or more, \$27

Menu: Pancakes, French Toast, Sausage, Baked Goods, Juice, and Coffee

Contact: For more information call 315-493-3224.

SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL DINNER

Evans Mills – The Indian River Council 7471 Knights of Columbus will be having a spaghetti & meatball dinner.

Date: April 15

Time: 4 p.m. to 7

Place: St. Mary's Parish Center

Cost: Adults, \$9; Seniors, \$8; Children 12 and under, \$5; under 5, Free; Quart of sauce, \$6

Contact: For more information call 315-629-4678

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Watertown – St. Patrick's Church will host a Divine Mercy Sunday

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Celebration.

Date: April 16**Time:** 3 p.m.

Features: There will be Adoration, Singing of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, confession & a procession. You may bring a Divine Mercy picture to be blessed. Refreshments to follow.

Contact: For more information call Judy Boulton at 315-783-7349 or Kim Tyler at 315-486-4542, or by visiting www.thedivinemercy.org

ST. LAWRENCE

LENTEN FISH FRY

Gouverneur – Lenten Fish Fry to be held every Friday during Lent.

Date: Fridays in Lent**Time:** 4:30 p.m.**Place:** St. James School

Cost: Adults, \$12; Children under 5, Free

Features: Dine in or take-out

Contact: Local deliveries available by calling 315-287-0130

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Norwood – Stations of the Cross to be held with reflection.

Date: Wednesdays during Lent.**Time:** 6 p.m.**Place:** St. Andrew's Church

BINGO

Canton – The Knights of Columbus will have BINGO.

Dates: March 20, 27

Time: Doors open at 4:30 p.m., first game is at 7 p.m.

Place: K of C Hall

Features: Bring a friend or your family. Snack bar available.

IHC MYSTERY PLAYERS

Heuvelton – One of the most beautiful Lenten traditions is the

Stations of the Cross. The Immaculate Heart Central High School Mystery Players from Watertown will present a creative play entitled *The Way of the Cross*.

Date: March 19**Time:** 7:30 p.m.**Place:** St. Raphael's Church

Features: IHC Mystery Players bring the Way of the Cross to a modern level with special lighting, music, pantomime and paraliturgical readings. Please note: Small children may be frightened due to the nature of the play.

Contact: For more information contact Father O'Brien 315-344-2383 or kobrien@rcdony.org

ALPHA

Massena – You are invited to ALPHA.

Date: Tuesdays starting April 4**Time:** 6 p.m. to 8:30**Place:** St. Mary's Social Hall

Contact: Parish office at 315-769-2469 or go to massenacatholics.com for info or to register.

MONTHLY BRUNCH

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

Date: April 10**Time:** 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**Place:** Fr. Amyot Parish Center

Cost: 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

MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT

Massena - The Vocation Office and the Office of Youth Ministry is

sponsoring a Middle School Retreat (Grades 6-8) in the St. Lawrence/Franklin region of the Diocese.

Date: March 22**Time:** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**Place:** St. Mary's Social Hall

Features: Retreat will guide young women and men to prayerfully consider God's plan for their lives. Open to students in grades 6-8 in the Catholic schools and public schools. This is a Retreat Day for the students and is considered a legal excused absence.

Contact: Contact your pastor, Catholic school principal, or Religious Education Coordinator for a registration form.

CHRISM MASS

Ogdensburg - All the faithful of the Diocese of Ogdensburg are invited to join Bishop LaValley in the annual Renewal of Priestly Commitment, the Blessing of the Holy Oils, and the consecration of the Sacred Chrism for use in all the churches of our Diocese.

Date: March 30**Time:** 11 a.m.**Place:** St. Mary's Cathedral

Features: This ritual symbolizes that we are one family in Christ. The Chrism Mass will also be livestreamed at <https://www.rcdony.org/livemass>.

DAY OF REFLECTION

Ogdensburg – The Department of Faith Formation will host a Day of Reflection.

Date: April 1**Time:** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.**Place:** Wadhams Hall

Cost: \$30, lunch is included
Features: Sister Mary Michael Fox, OP, a member of the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia in Nashville will present "Blessed, Broken, Given: Living Eucharistia!"

Contact: To Register go to www.rcdony.org/dayofreflection

YOUTH RALLY

Lake Placid – "We are Jesus in the World" Youth Rally to be held for Middle and High school age students.

Date: April 22

Time: 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. with Mass to follow at St. Agnes Church

Place: High Peaks Resort

Cost: \$35, includes full day pass, lunch, snacks, games and giveaways.

Features: A presentation from Monet Souza and a bouncing concert from Catholic recording artist, Joe Melendrez. Closing Mass will be offered by Bishop Terry R. LaValley.

Contact: To register please go to www.rcdony.org/youth/rally If you have any questions please contact Jeannie Grizzuto at the Youth Office, 315-393-2920.

LOVING AUTHENTICALLY

All are invited to attend this free seminar, Loving Authentically: Sex, Happiness and Catholic Teaching designed to deepen our understanding of how Church doctrine on sexual morality connects with our happiness.

Schedule: Two different times and locations to attend. April 22, 2023 at St. Bernard's Saranac Lake 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; May 20, 2023 at St. Mary's Ticonderoga 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Features: Program will be a showing of "Unprotected: A Pope, the Pill, and the Perils of Sexual Chaos." With Q & A led by Natural Family Planning Directors, Angelo and Suzanne Pietropaoli and Catholic Theologian, Maura Harden Fehlner, Ph.D. Lunch will be provided.

Contact: to register go www.rcdony.org/lovingauthentically. For more information contact Stephen Tartaglia at 315-393-2920 or startaglia@rcdony.org

RACHEL'S VINEYARD

Saranac Lake – Rachel's Vineyard After Abortion Healing Retreat to be held.

Date: May 26 to 28, Memorial Day Weekend

Place: Guggenheim Lodge

Features: If you or friend are hurting after abortion loss, please consider attending a Rachel's Vineyard healing retreat. You

aren't alone, help is available.

Contact: Registration is online at www.rcdony.org/pro-life or by contacting the Respect life office at cmminer@rcdony.org. A list of retreat locations outside of our diocese is available at: www.rachelsvineyard.org.

GUGGENHEIM SUMMER CAMP

2023 registration is open. New this year is a mini session for youth 11-13 years old along with the annual sleepaway camp weeks for ages 11 to 18.

Dates: The season starts July 5th and ends Aug. 11th.

Cost: Mini session is \$200 and the weeklong sessions is \$425 per camper. Meals and accommodations are included in the registration fee.

Features: There are so many fun things to do at camp! Like arts and crafts, Project Adventure, Liturgy, rappelling, hiking, basketball, or soccer. Guggenheim has its very own beach where you can swim, tool around on our watercrafts and play watersports. Evenings at camp are packed with fun activities like bonfire time, a dance, outdoor movies, and camp-wide games.

Contact: To sign up for camp please visit: www.rcdony.org/youth/camp or call, Jeannie Grizzuto at 315-393-2290 ext. 1413

FAMILY GUGGENHEIM

Saranac Lake – Family Guggenheim registration is open.

Schedule: Aug. 17-20; Aug. 24-27; Oct. 6-8

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, laughing and praying together. Celebrate Christ's presence in your lives!

Contact: For more information and to register, go to www.rcdony.org/family-life/fg.html or contact Steve Tartaglia at 315-393-2920, startaglia@rcdony.org.

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Chris Rock likens abortion to hiring hitman

By Tyler Arnold
Catholic News Agency

Award-winning comedian Chris Rock compared paying for an abortion to hiring a hitman during a new Netflix special, echoing rhetoric used by Pope Francis, who has made that comparison in the past.

During his March 4 special, "Chris Rock: Selective Outrage," the comedian, who is known for courting controversy, turned to an issue that most celebrities won't touch: abortion.

"There's a part of me that's pro-life," he said, before using humor to remind the audience that abortion "is killing a baby."

"I believe women should have the right to kill babies," Rock said. "That's right, I'm on your side. I believe you should have the right to kill as many babies as you want. Kill them all, I don't give a [expletive]. But let's not get it twisted, it is killing a baby."

Rock further compared the process of obtaining an abortion to the process of obtaining a hitman.

"Whenever I pay for an abortion, I request a dead baby," Rock said. "Sometimes I call up a doctor like a hitman: 'Is it done?'"

Rock reassured the audience that "I am absolutely pro-choice" because "I want my daughters to live in a

world where they have complete control of their bodies."

He then showed in no uncertain terms that abortion means taking the life of a human being.

"I think women should have the right to kill a baby until he's 4 years old," Rock said. "I think you should be able to kill a baby until you get that first report card."

The comparison between getting an abortion and hiring a hitman is one that Pope Francis has used on more than one occasion to criticize abortion.

"Is it right to take a human life to solve a problem?" Pope Francis rhetorically asked an audience in St. Peter's Square on Oct. 10, 2018. "It's like hiring a hitman. Violence and the rejection of life are born from fear."

Pope Francis used the analogy again in an interview with Reuters on July 2, 2022.

"I ask: 'Is it licit, is it right, to eliminate a human life to resolve a problem?'" the pontiff said. "It's a human life — that's science. The moral question is whether it is right to take a human life

to solve a problem. Indeed, is it right to hire a hitman to solve a problem?"

Abortion became a more contentious issue in American politics after

the Supreme Court in June 2022 ruled in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* that states could enact laws that restrict or outlaw abortion. About a dozen

states have banned abortion in most cases, four states added more restrictions to abortion, and some states are in ongoing legal battles over abortion policy.



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can happen when we
*Gather at the Table.***

NORTH COUNTRY
CATHOLIC
WEEKLY NEWSPAPER FOR THE DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG

The *NCC* shares stories of individuals, couples and families who love the Lord and do great things in His service here in the North Country. The newspaper shares information about events and happenings around the diocese and helps us learn about opportunities to further connect and grow in faith and love of the Lord. Through the *North Country Catholic*, Bishop LaValley communicates with Catholics around the diocese as we move forward together in this journey of faith, guided by the One we encounter at the Sacred Table, Jesus Christ.

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- Call our office at 315-608-7556



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SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

To see clearly, we need Jesus' healing

We're at the half-way point in Lent. Two weeks ago, we were told to "Listen up!" This week, the readings tell us to get rid of the darkness and to learn to see as God sees.

As Father Richard Rohr says in one of his books, "Because humans do not see their own

truth very well, they do not read reality very well either." As a result of straining away through the darkness, we make many foolish and destructive choices. We're like a person who fails to turn the light on when entering a room. As a result, we knock over tables and chairs

March 19

Fourth Sunday of Lent

READINGS

1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41

rather than seeing how to use them.

In the first reading,

God sends Samuel to go to the house of Jesse in Jerusalem to anoint that son whom God has chosen to succeed Saul as King. God warns Samuel, "Do not judge from his appearance or from his lofty stature, because I have rejected him. Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance, but the Lord looks into the heart." Eventually, Samuel finds the least likely son, David, and anoints him King.

If we are to really see clearly, we need to let Jesus heal us of our blindness as He did the man born blind in today's Gospel. Even though Jesus was right in front of him, the blind man couldn't see him until Jesus removed the scales from his eyes and restored his sight. Only later, after much harassing from the narrow-minded Pharisees, was

he able to really see spiritually and see Jesus as the Son of God. It was all possible when he saw through the lens of the Holy Spirit.

We are invited to celebrate this Sunday with joy, because through our baptism and confirmation, we have been invited to live in the light and to act with the power of that light. In the second reading from St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians, we read, "You were once in darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth."

Through our Lenten discipline, God will remove the darkness in our lives, and help us to respond in faith and love to the Truth about ourselves and our world. Then we will see as God sees!



Monsignor Paul E. Whitmore

REVEAL Christ's LOVE



The Catholic Relief Services Collection is your opportunity to improve the lives of the most vulnerable people around the world and here in the United States. Your support funds organizations that aid travelers, people affected by war and natural disasters, others whose work or unique cultural circumstances require special pastoral support, and migrants and refugees displaced by conflict, persecution, or political instability.

One example is the people of South Sudan, which became an independent country in 2011 when its people overwhelmingly elected to separate from Sudan, making it the world's newest widely recognized sovereign state.

Clashes between rival ethnic groups then resulted in a civil war that lasted from 2013 through 2020, with millions fleeing to neighboring countries. Nearly one million South Sudanese refugees now shelter in neighboring Uganda, with many located in the Bidi Bidi refugee camp in northern Uganda. For Jimmy Luete, his wife, Jackie, and their daughter, Stella, Bidi Bidi has been home since they fled the war in 2016. Catholic Relief Services—through a comprehensive program of home building, training in hygiene practices, and leadership development—

has helped Jimmy become a leading advocate for refugee families in need.

When you contribute to The Catholic Relief Services Collection, you not only

strengthen programs that meet the immediate material needs of refugee families like Jimmy's, but you also empower and train future leaders who work to build peace and stability in their homelands.

Your Donations Help Our Brothers and Sisters . . . In the United States

Feed Jesus' hunger in suffering refugees . . . through the **USCCB Department of Migration and Refugee Services (MRS)**.

Offer legal assistance to Jesus in struggling immigrants . . . through the **Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC)**.

Reach out to comfort Jesus' loneliness in isolated workers . . . through the pastoral work of the **USCCB Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church**.

And Around the World

Give water to quench Jesus' thirst in the people of Syria and Niger . . . through the humanitarian work of **Catholic Relief Services (CRS)**.

Advocate on behalf of Jesus in the poor and marginalized . . . through the public policy work of the **USCCB Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development**.

Send aid to Jesus in the victims of natural disaster . . . through the **Holy Father's Relief Fund**.



The Catholic Relief Services Collection 2021

Grants	Amount	Percentage
USCCB Migration & Refugee Services	\$1,356,112	34.68%
Holy Father's Relief Fund	\$1,000,000	25.57%
USCCB Cultural Diversity in the Church*	\$608,032	15.55%
USCCB International Justice & Peace	\$545,524	13.95%
USCCB Justice, Peace & Human Development Education & Outreach	\$140,893	3.60%
Administration		
Promotion & Education Costs	\$184,672	4.72%
Administrative Expenses	\$74,932	1.92%



* USCCB Cultural Diversity in the Church includes Pastoral Care of Migrants, Refugees & Travelers (\$397,474) and Asian & Pacific Island Affairs (\$210,558).



The Catholic Relief Services Collection

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Collection Weekend: March 18 & 19

Editor's Note: No 'Called to Serve' column this week

The 'Called to Serve' column authored by Deacon Kevin Mastellon is on a planned two-week vacation. The column will return in the March 29 edition.

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Sr. Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ, Director

622 Washington St., Ogdensburg, NY 13669

(315) 393-2920; fax 1-866-314-7296

mbrett@rcdony.org

'How God loves us'

Dear North Country Catholic reader,

I invite you to ponder the words: "How God loves us!" My pondering reminded me that in times of worry and fear, trial and suffering, we may feel like crying out, as Jesus did on the Cross: "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?" Still, during our darkness, we remember the gift of God's boundless love, and we remember that God did not abandon His beloved Son but raised Him from death to glory. God does not abandon us.

During Lent, you can extend this message of hope to those in great need around our world in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, Latin America and Europe. Our baptism into the Catholic faith teaches us that Lent is a time to sacrifice. It is a time to be a witness to our Lord by giving joyfully and reaching out and loving the poor and needy. This Lent, live out your Baptismal call to be Missionary and "witness" to the Lord; turn your heart and mind to Him through prayer, fasting and sacrifice.

I ask that you prayerfully consider the legacy of the Pontifical Mission Societies' foundress Blessed Pauline Jaricot. Born in Lyon in 1799, as the French Revolution was ending, she had a first-hand knowledge of violence and terror. A woman of deep faith and with a missionary heart, she understood at an early age that with daily prayer and regular contributions, she could bring the Gospel to millions despite being unable to travel to the Pope's Missions. She organized circles of women to offer prayer and weekly sacrifice for the young and growing Church in a distant land – the United States of America. What has the Church that she helped to grow here in America meant to you?

The money needed to support those serving in the Pope's missions – and help build the Church where it is young and struggling – comes from loving Catholics like you. Thank you for supporting our missionaries. Please be assured of my prayers for you and your family. May this season of reflection, sacrifice, and preparation settle your mind, still your heart, and deepen your faith.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Sr. Mary Ellen

Sister Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ
Diocesan Director

OBITUARIES

AuSable Forks – Janice (Moquin) McDonald, 87; Mass of Christian Burial March 10, 2023 at Holy Name Church.

Brasher Falls – John M. Keenan, 68; Mass of Christian Burial March 7, 2023 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Carthage – Jon David Burns, 81; Private Services to be held.

Carthage – Diana R. (Cassoni) Hutchins, 79; Mass of Christian Burial March 11, 2023 at St. James Church; burial in St. James Cemetery.

Champlain – Alice M. (Sebukaty) Lockwood, 96; Mass of Christian Burial March 3, 2023 at St. Mary's Church.

Keeseville – Arlene Theresa Rugan Dague, 92; Mass of Christian Burial March 11, 2023 at Immaculate Conception Church; burial in St. John's Cemetery.

Lake Placid – Mary (Kinville) Mayberry, 78; Mass of Christian Burial March 11, 2023 at St. Agnes Church; burial in St. Agnes Cemetery.

Lowville – Barbara Ann (Stuhler) Evans, 94; Mass of Christian Burial May 5, 2023 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Lowville Rural Cemetery.

Lowville – Theresa (Myers) Woodhouse, 91; Funeral Services March 10, 2023 at Iseneker Funeral Home, Inc.

Malone – Dorothy Theresa (Gonyea) Allen, 94; Private Services to be held.

Malone – Carol Lee (Ashline) Soulier, 87; Mass of Christian Burial March 13, 2023 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Massena – Ann Doyle Richards, 86; Memorial Mass March 13,

2023 at Church of the Sacred Heart,

Morrisonville – Mary Elizabeth (Wood) Milne, 93; Mass of Christian Burial March 11, 2023 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Chateaugay.

Ogdensburg – Patricia Jean Downs, 54; Funeral Services March 6, 2023 at Frary Funeral Home.

Plattsburgh – Phyllis Ann Nadeau, 79; Mass of Christian Burial March 9, 2023 at St. Peter's Church.

Saranac Lake – George L. Reynolds, 69; Funeral Services March 19, 2023 at Bloomingdale Fire Station.

Saranac Lake – Bethyl Mae (Goodman) Fountain, 83; Mass of Christian Burial at St. Bernard's Church.

Saranac Lake – Susanne (Burman) Wright, 81; Mass of Christian

Burial March 9, 2023 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in Union Cemetery, Vermontville.

Ticonderoga – Thomas J. Burroughs, 57; Funeral Services March 8, 2023 at the Wilcox & Regan Funeral Home.

Watertown – Peter C. Brierton, 85; Funeral Services March 10, 2023 at D.L. Calarco Funeral Home, Inc.; burial in Black River Cemetery.

Watertown – Anne M. (DeMarco) Randall, 99; Private Services to be held; burial in Calvary cemetery.

Watertown – Robert Carson Storie, 94; Mass of Christian Burial March 9, 2023 at St. Anthony's Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Willboro – Allan R. Giancola, 80; Graveside Services March 9, 2023 at Calvary Cemetery.

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PRINCIPAL
For the School Year 2023-2024
Effective July 1, 2023

Applicants should:

- A Master's degree in Education and/or Education Administration and Supervision;
- Be a practicing Catholic;
- Successful experience(s) in a Catholic school;
- Give evidence of administrative leadership skills in the areas of Catholic identity, instructional evaluation, management, promotion and maintenance of an effective learning environment and public relations.

Applicants should send a cover letter expressing their suitability for the position, resume, a completed application (available at www.rcdony.org/catholicschools), transcripts and three letters of recommendation attesting to the candidate's proven administrative ability and one letter of recommendation attesting to the person's adherence to the Catholic Church, no later than May 1, 2023 to:

Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, SSJ,
Superintendent of Schools
100 Elizabeth Street
PO Box 369
Ogdensburg, NY 13669

News Briefs

Scholarship available for high school seniors

The Mater Dei College Foundation offers a scholarship to Catholics who are in their senior year of high school, reside in the Diocese of Ogdensburg and are planning to attend a Catholic college or university in the fall. For an application, email Valerie Mathews, scholarship chair, at vmathews@rcdony.org. Application deadline is June 1.

Sisters of St. Joseph Foundation grant application cycle is open

In the spirit of their charisma, the Sisters of St.

Joseph Foundation supports initiatives that foster service to the 'dear neighbor.' Its goal is to assist in developing leadership and advancing initiatives related to the corporal and spiritual works of mercy in diocesan, parish and church related programs. Applications may be submitted during March and April. Grants will be a maximum of \$4,000. Applications may be obtained by contacting Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, SSJ at 1425 Washington Street, Watertown, NY 13601 or by email at SSJFoundationChairperson@gmail.com



SUPPORT THE WORKS OF THE
HOLY FATHER THROUGH THE

Peter's Pence Collection

*Be a sign of
mercy.*

When Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022, a humanitarian crisis began for Ukrainians, whose lives were shattered by the violence of war. Many left their homes in eastern cities in Ukraine for cities in the west, such as Lviv, farther from the most intense fighting. From the beginning of the war, the Holy Father pleaded for an end to the violence and expressed his love and concern for the Ukrainian people who were its victims. In solidarity with the victims of war, the papal almoner, Cardinal Konrad Krajewski, made two visits to Ukraine in March 2022. He first visited the cities of Rivne and Zhovka and other regions directly affected by the early conflict. He returned to Ukraine to celebrate Mass in the cathedral in Lviv and to deliver an ambulance donated by the Holy Father to the Center for Mother and Child Health to assist children displaced by the war.

The Holy Father's charitable outreach to victims of war, migrants and refugees, and the poor affected by illness and natural disasters is supported by contributions to the Peter's Pence Collection. When you participate in the collection, you join Catholics across the globe in supporting the pope's mission of mercy as well as the activities of the Holy See's dicasteries that assist his ministry.

Support for such papal efforts is rooted in the scriptural message to take care of the poor and expresses unity with

the Holy Father in two ways: through the ongoing activities of the Holy See and through the charitable works of the Holy Father on behalf of those most in need.

How You Can Help

PRAY

Pray for the Holy Father, for those he reaches out to serve in compassion, and for the ongoing activities of the Holy See, all of which benefit from the Peter's Pence Collection.

SHARE

Share this bulletin insert with anyone who might be interested.

GIVE

Give generously to this collection as a sign of mercy to those who suffer around the globe and in support of the ongoing work of the Holy See. By doing so, you help build up the Church so that it will continue to minister to all for generations to come.

For more information on Peter's Pence, please visit the Vatican's Peter's Pence website: <https://www.obolodisanzpietro.va/en/cos-e-l-obolo.html> (English) or <https://www.obolodisanzpietro.va/es/cos-e-l-obolo.html> (español).



Peter's Pence Collection | Office of National Collections | www.usccb.org/nationalcollections
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Collection Weekend: March 18 & 19

SEMINARIANS SIGN OATH



(Above) Diocese of Ogdensburg seminarian Carter Pierce signs the Oath of Fidelity at Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland on Feb. 26. (Below) Diocese of Ogdensburg seminarian Douglas Schirmer signs the Oath of Fidelity at Mount St. Mary's Seminary. Both men are scheduled to be ordained as deacons later this year.



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change