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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 79 Number 11

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

JUNE 12, 2024

CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2024



The Seton Catholic Class of 2024 will graduate from the Plattsburgh school on June 21. Meet the top grads from both Seton Catholic and Immaculate Heart Central on Page 4.

Trinity will not fully reopen

On Wednesday, June 5, it was announced that Trinity Catholic School in Massena will not open in its current configuration for the 2024-25 school year.

Facing a drastic decline in enrollment, the school is exploring the feasibility of offering only fifth and sixth grades next year as it moves toward closure. See the full story on Page 3.

INSTALLED AS LECTORS



On May 31, Bishop Terry R. LaValley installed six candidates for the permanent diaconate as lectors. The installation took place as part of the men's monthly formation at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg. Pictured with Bishop LaValley are, from left, Garry Stevens (Castorland), Nicholas Tsibulski (Massena), Francis Szczerzenie (Piseco), Gordon Burdo (Plattsburgh), James Law (Rainbow Lake) and James Kavanaugh (Clayton).

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

Pope explains the correct use of freedom

By Hannah Brockhaus
Catholic News Agency

Pope Francis said the Holy Spirit gives us the freedom to do good and to serve others – and not to do whatever we want or to exploit the weak.

Speaking in St. Peter's Square during his weekly public audience, the pope gave the second lesson in a series of catechesis on the Holy Spirit and the Church.

The June 5 encounter was centered on the Scripture passage 2 Corinthians 3:17: "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom."

"A free person, a free Christian, is the one who has the Spirit of the Lord," Francis ex-

plained. "This is a very special freedom, quite different from what is commonly understood. It is not freedom to do what one wants, but the freedom to freely do what God wants. Not freedom to do good or evil, but freedom to do good and do it freely, that is, by attraction, not compulsion."

"In other words," he continued, it is "the freedom of children, not slaves."

The pontiff also reflected on the name by which the Holy Spirit is called in the Bible, because, he said, a name is an important part of a person and how we address, distinguish, and remember him or her.

We know the third person of the Trinity by the name "Holy

Spirit," he explained, but the prophets, psalmists, Mary, Jesus, and the apostles invoked the Spirit with the name "Ruach," which means breath, wind, a puff of air."

Pope Francis said names are very important in the Bible and that they say something about the person and his origin or mission.

The name Ruach can also tell us something about the Holy Spirit, he said. "The image of the wind serves first of all to express the power of the Holy Spirit."

Jesus, the pontiff said, also associates the Spirit with freedom. "To Nicodemus, who visits him at night, Jesus solemnly says: 'The wind blows where it

wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit' (Jn 3:8)."

A characteristic of the wind is that it cannot be bottled up or put in a box, he said. "It is free."

Francis warned against the temptation "to enclose the Holy Spirit in canons, institutions, definitions."

"The Spirit creates and animates institutions, but he himself cannot be 'institutionalized,' 'objectified.' The wind blows 'where it wills,' so the Spirit distributes its gifts 'as it wills,' he said, quoting from St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

NORTH
COUNTRY
CATHOLICPO Box 326
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USPS 0039-3400**Bishop Terry
R. LaValley**
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Publish
45 issues
per year:Weekly except
skipping every
other week be-
ginning July through August
and skipping one week in
December by theDiocese 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: \$30Matters for publication
should be addressed to
PO Box 326Ogdensburg, NY 13669
and should be received byWednesday prior to
publication. Paper is
printed each Friday;
dateline is Wednesday.Member, Catholic
Press Association.**POSTMASTER:**Send address changes to
North Country Catholic,
PO Box 326
Ogdensburg, NY
13669-0326

Getting ahead of it

Seeing his big blue truck pull into the driveway as I parked on the street, I felt a sense of urgency.

I jumped out of my small SUV and moved as fast as I could down the driveway, trying to get ahead of him and give a warning to the people we were meeting, people who know me through this job.

"I'm going to apologize in advance for his behavior, but I'm pretty sure I'm about to make a lot of sense to you."

I uttered the phrase only seconds before my dad

stepped out of his truck and walked toward where I was standing, ready to help me pick up a piece of furniture that wouldn't fit in my vehicle.

**Darcy L.
Fargo**

While I inherited and learned lots of things from my mom, I'm very, very similar to my dad. I'm tall like him, most of my facial structure resembles his, and our person-

alities are similar in a lot of ways. My stubbornness and my big mouth - both my biggest assets and biggest liabilities - are most certainly traits I inherit-

ed/learned from dad.

When our similarities come up in conversation, I generally say, "I'm a chip off the old blockhead."

While we pick on each other mercilessly (a trait my whole family shares), both he and my mother have been constant examples of love, service, humor, compassion, wisdom... the list goes on and on.

I've heard it said that our fathers model the love of God, the Father and teach us to receive that love. I know there are people who don't have that experience, whose fathers weren't positive influences in their lives, but I'm

blessed to have a dad who has been and continues to be that model in my life. He constantly reflects the love of God, and - also like God - he constantly keeps me guessing as to what he'll do or say next.

As we prepare to celebrate Father's Day, I've been thanking God in a special way for my father. Please join me this week in praying for fathers, both those who are here with us and those who have passed on to eternal life, as well as all father figures, those people who share paternal love with others with or without that biological bond.

That feels urgent, too.

Questions and answers

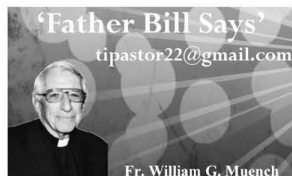
Take your questions to the Lord. Our Lord Jesus welcomes our questions. Our questions are important opportunities to learn more about our savior, Jesus Christ. I believe the Lord will lead us to find the truth. We must be patient, but the answers will come.

Our questions are like prayers. As we bring our questions to the Lord, our Lord joins us in a special way.

Lord, who should I pray for today? Lord is there something important for me to do today?

Bring your questions to the Lord. The Lord welcomes us and our questions.

I thought of this today because of the Gospel reading at today's morning Mass - a Mass I was celebrating. St. Mark's story is about a question. In this case, it is the Pharisees who question Jesus. They often brought questions to Jesus in an attempt to trap him in his



speech. In this case, the question was, "Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?"

As you may remember in those days, the Hebrew people in Israel were under the rule of the Roman invaders. So, these taxes were given to the Romans. Jesus did not want to get into a political question. His answer was carefully thought out, "Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." It is rather obvious what belonged to Caesar. Jesus extends the question in an effort that the Pharisees and his followers of all time will not forget to consider what belongs to God. You and I owe so much gratitude to our creator. We owe so much gratitude

to our Savior, the Savior who lived among us, who teaches and guides us, who died for us, who brought us to new life through his resurrection. Our gratitude must be immense. Indeed, we owe so much to our God. Jesus truly extended the original question so that it became an important message to his followers of all time.

Questions - our prayers are often simply questions. Are you listening to me, Lord? Do you realize what I am going through today, Lord?

We would like some sort of immediate indication of some sort. I truly believe that if we listen carefully, if we truly watch carefully, we will be aware that the Lord's attention is always upon us. The Lord will find a unique way of reaching out to us.

Let me share with you my personal experience. I want you to know that since my ordination, I usually take some time in

prayer - prayer filled with questions - each time I prepare a homily or a retreat talk. Lord, what do I say to these people? I smile when someone is gracious enough to congratulate me on how good a talk was. I know all too well that it was the Lord Jesus who truly inspired me to say the right thing.

Even in situations when I needed to help someone with the right words, I immediately come up with a good message. Then as I look back, I wonder how I ever came up with the right words. Of course, I know only too well. It should be obvious to me - the Lord was right there, always ready to help me.

So, I want to tell you, keep the Lord close. I know well from my own experience that he welcomes our questions and he answers them all. Our Lord never fails us. And be ready for many surprises. I have a friend who calls the Holy Spirit, the God of surprises.

Massena school will not fully reopen

If feasible, Trinity will offer only fifth and sixth grades for 2024-25 school year

For 40 years, Trinity Catholic School has shared a quality education and the love of Christ in our local Catholic parishes and in the greater Massena community. The motivation for establishing and sustaining Trinity Catholic School has been, according to the school's mission statement, "to provide a Christ-centered academic environment that nurtures educational excellence and the spiritual growth of all of our students."

In addition to educating our youth and sharing our Catholic faith, the school has served as a source of community, bringing together students, their families, alumni, volunteers, benefactors, members of our parish and members of the communities the school serves.

At the end of May, the confirmed enrollment for grades

kindergarten through six for the 2024-25 academic year was 45 students. Last fall, at the beginning of the 2023-24 school year, enrollment in those grade levels was 78. The year prior, the 2022-23 school year, the school's enrollment was 106. In just over one year, enrollment has decreased by over 60 students.

Painful and disappointing though it may be, we must acknowledge that the loss of over half the student population has made operating the school as it currently exists unsustainable. Therefore, Trinity Catholic School will not open for the 2024-25 school year as it currently operates. We continue to explore options and hope to have the resources to open in September, but only in a limited capacity. If enrollment is sufficient, we hope to

accommodate Trinity's rising fifth- and sixth-grade classes for one more year to allow those students to finish their early education at the school. We continue to communicate directly with the parents of those students to assess their intent and level of commitment, and to determine if continued, limited operation is academically and financially feasible.

"For 40 years, our school has been sustained through the grace of God with the love and ongoing collaboration of parents, students, alumni, administrators, teachers, pastors and benefactors," said Father Mark R. Reilly, pastor of St. Peter's Parish in Massena. "Their countless hours of effort, boundless generosity and sheer good will have helped create and sustain Trinity Catholic School as a source of education, faith, and human formation for our young people, their families and the

community. To one and all, we extend our deepest gratitude. The end of this chapter in Massena's Catholic educational environment does not diminishes the contributions and legacy of our school. Trinity Catholic School has been a journey of faith and love and will continue to have an impact for years to come."

"Trinity Catholic School (TCS) has been a home away from home for some of our families for generations," added school Principal Marianne Jados. "However, even those who walked through the school doors only once were instantly made to feel like part of the TCS family. Although today is a sad day, we will continue to enjoy each of the remaining days we have together. After the doors close, a new mission begins, which is to take the years we've spent at Trinity Catholic growing both academically and spiritually and boldly bring it out into the world."

Six deacon candidates installed as lectors

By Deacon Kevin Mastellon
Contributing Writer

Each of the six candidates for Permanent Deacon knelt before Bishop Terry LaValley on the last day of May 2024 as they attended Evening Prayer of the Liturgy of the Hours in the Chapel at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg with their families, as they do each month. But this event was different. Evening Prayer included their Installation as Lector at Mass.

In turn, each candidate grasped one end of a Bible while Bishop LaValley held the other end and spoke these words: "Take this book of Holy Scripture and be faithful in handing on the word of God, so that it may grow strong in the hearts of his people."

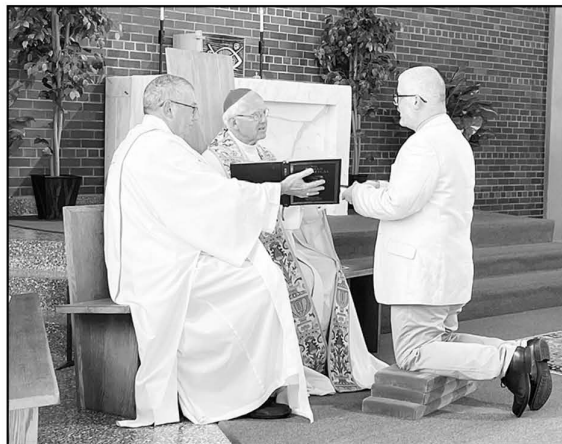


PHOTO BY FATHER BRYAN STITT

Nicholas Tsibulski of St. Peter's Parish in Massena is installed as lector by Bishop Terry R. LaValley, who was aided by Deacon Lee Trudeau, associate director of Deacon Formation. The installation was held May 31 at Wadhams Hall.

ple."

This statement is what defines the ministry of lector. The lector is to become a vehicle of the Word to help listeners at

Mass fall in love with the word of God. The role of the lector is to read, pray, and live the word they are proclaiming.

Gordon Burdo (Platts-

burgh), James Kavanaugh (Clayton), James Law (Rainbow Lake), Francis Sczerzenie (Pisco), Garry Stevens (Castorland), and Nicholas Tsibulski (Massena) will begin their final year of formation next September. They are members of the class due for ordination as Deacon in the fall of 2025.

This ceremony marks an important step toward ordination. Though they may have been lectors in their own parishes, now they encounter God's Word in a deeper sense. They proclaim the Scriptures and embrace the role of teachers of God's Word. Proclamation of the Gospel is reserved for the ordained.

The formation program for men of this diocese aspiring to the

diaconate is directed by Msgr. Robert H. Aucoin. He is assisted by Deacon Lee Trudeau.

Formation is generally a three-year program that includes men in their aspirant and candidate years. Installation as lector is followed several months later by installation as acolyte and then ordination. All the on-campus courses are taught at Wadhams Hall on one weekend a month for ten months of the year over the three years. The men in formation are also required to complete a series of courses on-line offered by the University of Notre Dame.

Another group of men from across the diocese will begin the formation for deacon program in the fall of 2024, also at Wadhams Hall.

Pearl, Conti are Seton Catholic top grads

Seton Catholic in Plattsburgh is proud to announce that Aiden Pearl will be the Class of 2024 valedictorian, while Gabriella Conti will be salutatorian.

Aiden Pearl

While at Seton, Pearl was president of the student council, vice-president of National Honor Society, a Model UN Club leader and best delegate, captain of the soccer, basketball and outdoor track teams, and a New York State Public High School Athletic Association Student-Athlete Advisory section leader.

He was a National Merit Scholarship finalist.

Pearl, the son of Elizabeth and Billie Pearl, plans to continue his education at Harvard University, where he will major in economics.

Gabriella Conti

While at Seton, Conti served as president of the National Honor Society and captain of the girls basketball team.

Conti was part of the 2023 Sectional Champion team in basketball, and she was a first team all-star in the sport.

She was awarded the National rural and



Aiden Pearl, valedictorian

Small Town Recognition Award with the College Board.

She has also participated in dance and played piano since she was 4.



Gabriella Conti, salutatorian

Conti, the daughter of Dr. Tony and Francesca Conti, plans to enter the Albany Medical College Program at Siena College in the fall.

Charlebois, Waite, Larrabee lead class at IHC



Jack Charlebois, valedictorian

Immaculate Heart Central School would like to congratulate the Class of 2024 Academic Leaders. Valedictorian: Jack Charlebois, Salutatorian: Morgan Waite, and Outstanding Vocational Student,



Morgan Waite, salutatorian

Bria Larrabee. **Jack Charlebois**, son of Daniel and Melissa Charlebois, is the Immaculate Heart Central School's Class of 2024 Valedictorian with a cumulative average of 97.29. Jack will grad-

uate with a NYS Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation. He has completed all math and science courses offered at IHC along with many AP and specialized elective courses.

Jack is the secretary/



Bria Larrabee, outstanding vocational student

treasurer of his class and a member of the National Honor Society. He has been on the honor roll all four years of high school and competed in Whiz Quiz. He has received many awards, including the

Air Force Technology Education Award, US Marines Distinguished Athlete Award, NYSSMA Award, Triple C Award, Donald and Bernice Gardner Scholarship Award, IHC

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

IHC class leaders

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Class of 1981 Scholarship Award, Sister Jeanne Baptiste Legacy Award, Lemoyne College Heights Award, Xerox Award for Innovation and Information Technology from the University of Rochester, the Rensselaer medal Award, the RIT Computing Medal and Scholarship, the Scholarship for Academic Excellence, the Clarence "Boots" Gaffney Award, the Joe Macsuga Memorial Coaches Award, the Rotary Annual Science and Math Award. He came in first place in the NYS Mathematics League at IHC. He was also awarded the Sisters of St. Joseph awards in math, science, history, and physical education. He received the Diocesan Outstanding Student Award (Bishop's Award) in both 8th and 12th grades.

When Jack is not just busy with academics, he is a dedicated member of his school and community. He ensures the American flag is properly raised and lowered every day. He is a member of Rotary Interact, which completes at least two projects every year, one that helps the school or community and one that promotes international understanding. He has also volunteered time every year with our Faith Community Service program. Jack has been on the varsity soccer team, varsity swimming team with Watertown High School, and has been on the Blue Sharks club team at the YMCA for ten years.

Jack will be attending Purdue University

for Computer Information and Network Engineering Technology. He plans to become a Network Engineer.

Morgan Waite, daughter of Corey and Jan Waite, has been named the 2024 Immaculate Heart Central Salutatorian with a cumulative grade point average of 97.07. Morgan will graduate with a NYS Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation.

Morgan is the president of the class of 2024 and has shown exemplary leadership in advocating for her classmates and planning numerous events. She was inducted into the National Honor Society in her junior year, and has been on the honor roll throughout her high school career. Her accolades include the Air Force Scholar Athlete of the Year Award, US Marine Corps Scholastic Excellence Award, NYS Scholarship for Academic Excellence, Suzanne M. Grappotte Memorial Scholarship, Clarkson Leadership Award, RIT's Innovation and Creativity Award and Scholarship, the Mary DeLosh-Smith Scholarship, the Jreck Subs Winning Attitude Award, and the Laurie Renzi Gadsden Award.

Morgan is a great supporter of our school and of the community. She has volunteered for our Faith Community Service throughout her time at IHC. She assisted our campus minister with organizing our student retreat, which earned her the Heart of Evangelization Recognition.

Morgan began skating at age 2 and became a

member of the Figure Skating Club of Watertown at age 3. She has passed her USFSA Gold Moves in the Field Test 2015, Gold Solo Free Dance 2017, Gold Canadian Skills test 2018, Gold Dance and Gold Canadian Dance 2019, and her Gold Free Style 2024. She has passed six International Ice Dances with more to come. This gives her the opportunity to coach and judge figure skating at all levels. She has been honored with the U.S. Figure Skating Graduating Seniors - Platinum Level Seniors Award.

This fall, Morgan will attend the State University of New York at Canton, where she will major in Homeland Security.

Bria Larrabee, daughter of Michael Larrabee, has been named the Vocation Leader with a cumulative grade point average of 89.32. She attended the Charles H. Bohlen Technical Center for Nursing where she has an average of 92.33. Bria will graduate with a NYS Regents Diploma.

Bria was inducted into the National Technical

Honor Society and has been on the honor roll. She has been awarded the Ellen G. Sboro Memorial Scholarship, the Friedline Cavalier Character Award, the Special Donor's Scholarship, the Mr. & Mrs. James D. St. Croix Memorial Scholarship, the Alice Jane Coughlin Memorial Scholarship, and the Margaret Wiley Memorial Health Sciences Scholarship.

Bria has found her calling in the health care profession. She has been accepted to Jefferson Community

College and looks forward to being accepted into the Nursing program. She has already passed her Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) exam and will begin working in the field this summer.

The Immaculate Heart Central School and surrounding community are extremely proud of all three students and their accomplishments. Congratulations and good luck in your future endeavors.

IHC will honor its graduates at commencement on June 22.



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Environmental Stewardship

The cruellest season

Late spring and early summer are times when new life emerges in nature. Deer are giving birth to fawns, young fox and coyote pups are venturing from the safety of their dens, recently hatched birds are beginning to exercise their wings, and bugs, tree seedling and newly sprouted wildflowers are struggling to survive.

It is a time when vast numbers of innocent forms of life will eventually succumb to the dangers of their surroundings and perish. This season of new life is also a period of death.

I have tried on two separate occasions to help a baby bird that has fallen from its nest. On both occasions, after lifting the infant and getting close to the nest, the other nestlings decided to jump from their nests in fear. Rather than saving two individuals, I had inadvertently placed six others in mortal danger on the forest floor. It is a hard lesson to learn, but the best action to take when encountering an abandon fawn or a bird that has fallen from its nest is to simply walk away.

As prolific as new life is during this season, so is death. After living very close to nature, it becomes apparent that the Creator always weaves pain, suffering, and death into his tapestries of life.

There are no words to describe the emotional pain and anguish experience by a mother who has lost a child. When watching a doe beside the lifeless carcass of its fawn recently hit by a car, it become apparent that wild creatures have the same emotions as domestic animals, like a dog confronted with the death of its owner. God saw the necessity to balance the joy of the of new life with the grief of death. At this time of year, we must especially trust in the ways of the Lord and accept the realities of nature despite their seemingly cruel ways.

By Tom Kalinowski, Alex St. Bernard's Parish, Saranac Lake

A GROWING VOICE

Being true to our faith

June is the official "Pride to our faith in both being kind month," or so society says. But what exactly does that mean, and how does it affect us?

"Pride month," for those of you who may not know, is the celebration and recognition of the LGBTQ+ community. For Catholics and many Christians, pride is difficult to handle, and can sometimes feel like an attack on our values.

So, what can we do to stay true eyes of God, and we shouldn't di-



Erin Savarie

rectly support the wrongs we see. As a friend of mine said, "Hate the sin, love the sinner."

We can love and respect those around us without having to support their ideals. In short, navigating "Pride month" as a Christian can be challenging, but it's important to uphold respect and love for all individuals while remaining true to our faith. Balancing kindness and adherence to our beliefs is possible. It's possible to show respect without endorsing ideals that conflict with our faith.

'How long is Jesus with you?'

Editor's Note: In celebration of the Eucharistic Revival, Father Bryan Stitt, director of Worship for the Diocese of Ogdensburg, will answer questions about worship, the Eucharist and related topics. To submit a question, email bstitt@rcdony.org.

From a student in First Communion Class: How long is Jesus with you after receiving Holy Communion?

Great question. Thanks for asking. To be honest,



FROM WONDERING TO WONDER IN WORSHIP

With Father Bryan Stitt, Diocesan Director of Worship

this isn't a question I had a ready answer for. I had to go to the books for this one.

It's always helpful to start in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. Paragraph 1377 reads: "The Eucharistic presence of Christ...endures as long

as the Eucharistic species subsist." Right. But what does that mean?

We know that what is bread to start with and what continues to look like bread even after consecration really and truly becomes the Body and Blood of our Lord. He's present in the Eucharist, then when we receive the Eucharist; we really receive Him. So how long is the Eucharist inside us?

Philosophers and theologians would explain that while the substance of the Eucharist is Jesus' body and blood, the accidents (the physical appearance) is still that of bread. Jesus chose to use bread to share Himself with us. So we need bread. If the Eucharist no longer looks, smells, tastes and feels like bread, His presence is no longer there. According to the biologists, that would be about 10-15 minutes after consuming the Host.

Practically speaking, make sure to take time after receiving to pray in thanksgiving for Him being with you - and don't be a jerk on your way to your car!

To Report Abuse

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact Victims Assistance Coordinator, Terrianne Yanulavich, Ph.D., LMHC, 5050 Route 374, Merrill, NY 12955; terrianneyanulavich@yahoo.com Phone: 518-358-3145, Ext. 7179 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

Rest in Peace

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

June 12 — Rev. Eugene A. Kelly, 2001; Rev. Francis J. Coryer, 2012

June 14 — Rev. Hermisdas Mayer, 1927; Rev. Thomas A. Kiley, O.S.A., 1954; Rev. William J. Deacy, O.S.A., 1960; Rev. Arthur Desrosiers, 1963; Msgr. Walter T. Cleary, 1968

June 15 — Rev. Francis C. A. Cornish, 1960

June 16 — Rev. James L. Meehan, 2004; Deacon John Dwyer, 2007

June 17 — Rev. Thomas J. Thotumkal, 1992

Protecting God's Children

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has scheduled Protecting God's Children training sessions. This required training addresses child abuse, the methods and means by which abusers commit abuse, and the five steps to prevent abuse from occurring and stop it from continuing. Pre-registration is encouraged at www.virtus.org. Upcoming sessions:

June 22 — 9 a.m. — Camp Guggenheim, Saranac Lake
June 24 — 1 p.m. — Diocesan offices, Ogdensburg

Bishop's Public Schedule

June 12-14 — United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Plenary Assembly in Louisville, Kentucky

June 16 — 11 a.m. — Confirmation at St. Peter's Parish, Massena

June 17 — Noon — Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

June 18 — 9:30 a.m. — Diocesan Department Head Meeting at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg

June 19 — Noon — Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

USCCB committee slams Biden border security order

By Tyler Arnold
Catholic News Agency

The head of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Committee on Migration denounced President Joe Biden's latest executive action on immigration, which will prevent adult migrants from entering the United States through the southern border when attempted illegal border crossings surge.

In a June 4 statement, El Paso, Texas, Bishop Mark Seitz said the referenced committee is "deeply disturbed" by the administration's actions and called them a "disregard for fundamental humanitarian protections and U.S. asylum law."

"There is a crisis of conscience at the U.S.-Mexico border," Seitz declared. "When vulnerable families seeking safety and the means for a dignified life are labeled 'invaders' or 'illegals,' terms that mask their humanity, we have strayed from the path of righteousness, succumbed to our fear of the 'other,' and forsaken the values upon which our nation was founded."

Biden's order, which went into effect on Wednesday morning, shuts down the entry of most asylum seekers coming into the country through the southern border when there is a surge in unlawful crossings. The temporary border closures apply to asylum seekers who enter the country unlawfully and subsequently request asylum but do not apply to asylum seekers who enter through an established lawful process.

The border closures kick in after the number of attempted illegal crossings reaches an average of 2,500 over the course of a seven-day period. When the number of encounters drops down to an average of 1,500 over a seven-day period, asylum seekers who enter the country unlawfully will again be permitted to claim asylum and remain in the country while their asylum status is pending.

In his statement, Seitz accused Biden of "imposing arbitrary limits on asylum access and curtailing due process." He added that the measures "will only empower and embolden those who seek to exploit the most vulnerable" and "will not sustainably reduce the increased levels of forced migration seen worldwide."

"As defenders of human life and

dignity, which we hold sacred and inviolable from the moment of conception, we cannot accept unjust conditions on the right to migrate for those fleeing life-threatening situations," the bishop continued.

Seitz said he and his colleagues are not opposed to "a country's right and responsibility to maintain its borders and regulate immigration in furtherance of the common good" but encouraged Biden "to reverse course and recommit his administration to policies that respect the human life and dignity of migrants, both within and beyond our borders."

Differing viewpoints

However, not all Catholics are in agreement with the bishop's characterization of the situation. Andrew Arthur, a Catholic, former immigration judge, and current fellow at the Center for Immigration Studies, told CNA he "must respectfully disagree" with Seitz.

Arthur told CNA that virtually every country provides humanitarian protection to refugees, and "there is no reason that any migrant coming to the Southwest border, with the exception of Mexican nationals (who file few asylum claims), need to enter the United States illegally to seek protection."

"Few of those migrants' asylum claims are ultimately granted, but nearly all are allowed to live and work here during the years that it takes those claims to wend their way through the court system," Arthur said. "That places them in direct competition for work and wages with the most needy Americans, the poor and those who have not had the benefit of a quality education in failing schools."

The executive order to prevent unlawful migrant crossings comes at a time when Biden has faced criticism for the record number of illegal border crossings during his presidency. There have been about 2 million illegal border crossings every year since Biden took office.

In a news conference on June 4, the president said "this action will help us gain control of our border and restore order into the process." He criticized Republicans who did not support a proposed border bill in February and accused them of playing politics with border security instead of trying to fix the problem.

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Pope Francis to take break in liturgical schedule this summer

Pope Francis is slowing down his liturgical schedule a bit this summer as he prepares to head out on the longest international trip of his pontificate in September. The 87-year-old pope does not have any public Masses on his schedule for eight weeks in July and August, according to the master of papal liturgical ceremonies' official schedule published this week. The pope's current calendar has him taking a break from public liturgies from July 8 to Sept. 1. Prior to that, he is expected to preside over at least three events on his liturgical schedule. Throughout his pontificate, Pope Francis has opted for a busier summer schedule than his predecessors, making international trips, creating new cardinals, establishing new Church celebrations, and famously forgoing the traditional summer retreat to the papal residence in Castel Gandolfo. Yet Francis has continued the tradition of taking the month of July off from his public audiences (with the exception of the Sunday Angelus).

Chicago priest survives shooting with minor injuries

A Catholic priest in Chicago sustained injuries after being fired upon by individuals reportedly engaged in the act of stealing catalytic converters. Father Jeremiah Lynch heard what sounded like construction work early Monday morning outside the Jesuit residence where he lives in Little Italy on Chicago's West Side. The priest reportedly "poked his head out the door" and "saw something unusual happening" in the parking lot of the residence, Kristyn Hartman, a spokeswoman for nearby St. Ignatius College Prep, told local Chicago station WLS-TV Monday. The house is located just north of the school's campus. After inquiring about the situation, the individuals opened fire on the priest. Lynch said, "Hey, what are you doing?" Hartman told the network. "And that's when they started shooting." The priest reportedly received a grazing gunshot wound to his head but was otherwise unharmed. Several bullets struck the residence.

Catholic University of America dedicates 25-acre solar array

The Catholic University of America (CUA) debuted its 25-acre solar array — one of the largest solar farms in the region — on June 3. "You have to actually do things to demonstrate your commitment [to the environment]," Robert Specter, executive vice president and treasurer of CUA, told CNA at the university's dedication ceremony. Specter emphasized the need for "demonstrable evidence" of putting the principles of *Laudato Si'* into practice. The 2015 encyclical focused on human ecology and the pontiff's vision for a solution to environmental concerns such as climate change. The 42 rows of nearly 15,000 solar panels, located on the grounds of the university's West Campus, will provide six megawatts-AC of energy to the campus, local businesses, and the community in the Brookland neighborhood of Washington, D.C.

VIRTUAL EVENTS

BROWN BAG SERIES

In preparation for the Divine Renovation Unlocked event in August, the Office of Evangelization is offering opportunities to become more familiar with the Divine Renovation process of bringing a parish from maintenance to mission.

Sessions: Option 1, Starting June 12 at Noon. We will use five short videos to introduce the principles of Divine Renovation and how they can help inspire parish renewal, form disciples, and equip us to transform our parish life. **Option 2**, Reading Divine Renovation, 9 Mondays starting June 17 at 6:30 p.m. Read and discuss the book's 7 chapters in 9 sessions. The book can be purchased online from your preferred book seller.

Place: Microsoft TEAMS (similar to ZOOM)

Contact: To register, go to www.rcdony.org/dr. For more information, contact Marika at mdonders@rcdony.org.

ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN

EDUCATIONAL FORUM

Paul Smith's - Mercy Care for the Adirondacks will hold its annual Educational Forum co-hosted by Paul Smith's College.

Date: June 18

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Theme: The 2024 Forum will focus on Creating More Livable Communities for People of All Ages.

Cost: \$25, includes lunch.

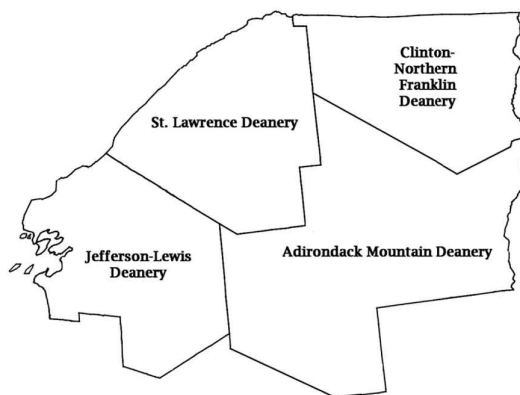
Features: Keynote presenters and panelists will discuss Climate Impact, Resilience & Restoration. Speakers will be Daniell Arigoni, Dr. Leo Bachinger and Greg Olsen.

Contact: For more information and to register go to www.adk-mercy.org or contact Karen Rodriguez, Mercy Care Project Manager at krdriguez@adkmercy.org or call her at 518-523-5685.

CLINTON NORTHERN FRANKLIN

HONORING FATHER MURRAY

Malone - The Pastoral Staff and the People of St. André Bessette



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@northcountycatholic.org.

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

Parish cordially invite you to join them in honoring, and thanking, Rev. Steven Murray upon his retirement from active ministry.

Date: June 22

Time: 4 p.m.

Place: Notre Dame Church

Features: Most Rev. Terry LaValley will preside at a farewell Mass of Thanksgiving. A reception will immediately follow at the St. André Bessette Parish Outreach Center which Father Steve founded and has led the parish's social outreach to the community. All are welcome to join the parishioners of St. André Bessette for this festive occasion of prayer, refreshment, and fellowship.

Contact: For further information, please contact the parish office, Susan Perkins, at 518-483-1300.

SUMMER FESTIVAL

Plattsburgh - Holy Cross Parish to have their summer festival.

Date: June 30

Time: 12:30 p.m. to 3:30

Place: St. Peter's Church grounds

Features: Children's games are free. New this year, arts and crafts fair. Festival Food. Big Raffle item, Zero-Turn Mower and Snowblower.

Contact: For more information call, 518-563-0730

INDOOR YARD SALE

Chazy - Sacred Heart Parish will be having their indoor yard sale.

Date: July 20

Time: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Features: We have furniture, appliances, household items, toys, books, games, dishes, collectibles, tools, holiday items, bicycles and more! We also have concessions.

Contact: For more info, contact the rectory 518-846-7650.

HEARTWELL HOMESTEAD GOLF TOURNAMENT

Plattsburgh - Heart Well Homestead to have their First Annual Golf Tournament.

Date: Aug. 24

Time: shot gun start at 12:30 p.m.

Place: The Barracks Golf Course

Features: Help us to establish this much needed home for mothers.

Contact: To register your team, sponsor a hole, volunteer or make a donation, visit www.HeartWell-Homestead.org/#events.

JEFFERSON-LEWIS

ST. JAMES FAIR

Carthage - St. James to have their 50th Annual Fair.

Date: June 20 and 21, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. and June 22, 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Features: Raffles, Amusement

rides, food and entertainment to be held each day.

Contact: For more information call the rectory at 315-493-3224

MT. CARMEL FEAST

Watertown - The 106th Annual Mt. Carmel Feast to be held.

Schedule: June 28, 5 p.m. to 10; June 29 1 p.m. to 10 and June 30, 1 p.m. to 10. Religious Procession at 5 p.m., Fireworks at 9:30 p.m.

Place: St. Anthony's Church

Features: Join us for great Italian food, rides and games. Religious procession and giant fireworks to be held on Sunday.

ST. LAWRENCE

ST. JAMES RAFFLE

Gouverneur - St. James School to have summer raffle with a chance to win \$10,000. Only 350 tickets will be sold.

Cost: Donation of \$100 each

Features: Grand Prize, \$10,000; 2nd Prize, \$5000; 3rd Prize, \$2500; 4th Prize, \$1500, 5th Prize, \$500. Plus, there will be 5 early bird drawings for \$100 each on June 30. Grand Prize drawing will be held Sept. 8 at the chicken bar-b-que being held at the school. All tickets remain in the drum and are eligible for every prize drawing.

Contact: Tickets are available by calling the church office at 315-287-0114.

DIOCESAN EVENTS

DOVS RAFFLE

The Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocation Society (DOVS) is having a Raffle that will be drawn June 20, to support promoting the culture of vocations in the Diocese. On June 20, the DOVS will be making a Pilgrimage to St. Anne's Shrine, Isle la Motte, VT to pray for vocations.

Cost: The cost of the tickets is \$5 or 5 tickets for \$20

Features: 1st Prize--\$500.; 2nd Prize--Quilt and Rocking Chair; 3rd Prize--\$50 gift card, \$25. Visa Gift Card, \$25.00 Gift Card to Walmart.

Contact: For any questions,

contact Constance Randall, connierandall47@yahoo.com (315) 783-0574.

GUGGENHEIM VOLUNTEERS

Saranac Lake - Summer Camp Volunteers needed.

Features: If you would like to volunteer at Summer Camp Guggenheim for an hour, a day or a week, please complete the Volunteer Application on our website: rcdony.org/youth/camp/volunteer-application

CAMP GUGGENHEIM

Saranac Lake - Registration is now open for Camp Guggenheim.

Schedule: Session 1: June 30 to July 3 (11-13 yrs old); Session 2: July 7 to July 12 (12-15 yrs old) \$425; Session 3: July 14 to July 19 (12-15 yrs old) \$425; Session 4: July 21 to July 26 (12-15 yrs old) \$425; Session 5: July 28 to Aug. 2 (12-15 yrs old) \$425; Session 6: Aug. 4 to Aug. 9 (16-18 yrs old) \$425

Cost: Session 1, \$200 per Camper. Session 2-6, \$425 per camper

Features: Are you ready to have a week of summer camp like no other? Located on the shores of lower Saranac Lake, Camp Guggenheim is a great place to make friends, draw closer to Christ and have fun in a natural setting.

Contact: For more information or to register go to www.rcdony.org/youth/camp

PILGRIMAGE TO ST. ANNE'S SHRINE

Isle LaMotte, VT - Knights of Columbus Councils from throughout the Diocese of Ogdensburg will participate in their 76th annual pilgrimage to St. Anne's Shrine in Isle LaMotte, Vermont.

Date: July 14

Time: Bishop Terry LaValley will celebrate Mass at 12:15 p.m.

Features: Following Mass, the Peru K of C Council will serve a luncheon on the Shrine's grounds.

Contact: For more information, please call Pilgrimage Coordinator Gordon Burdo at 518-563-2796

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

'The Chosen' season 4 is now streaming

By Francesca Pollio Fenton
Catholic News Agency

Season 4 of the hit series "The Chosen" became available for public streaming exclusively on "The Chosen" app and on the show's social media platforms beginning Sunday, June 2.

Episode 2 was released on Thursday, June 6, with ensuing episodes being released on Sundays and Thursdays over the course of four weeks.

Season 4 will be available for free on "The Chosen" app first before being released on other streaming platforms. Additional streaming and broadcast options for Season 4 viewing will be announced soon.

Dallas Jenkins, creator, director, and co-writer of the show, announced on March 10 that due to legal matters the release of the current season would be delayed.

"The Chosen" premiered in 2017 with its pilot episode, "The Shepherd." Jenkins then had the idea to create a multi-season show about Jesus and his followers. VidAngel - now Angel Studios - saw "The Shepherd" and decided to partner with Jenkins to create "The Chosen," which became the largest-ever crowdfunded television series.

Angel Studios created the pay-it-forward model, which allowed others to donate finan-

cially to fund "The Chosen," enabling others to watch it for free. However, Jenkins explained in his video announcement that of the pay-it-forward contributions, "less than half of it actually came to us. It was somewhere around 40%."

Jenkins explained further that "The Chosen" was "solely responsible for the financing of future seasons." Additionally, they had to form a company, pay more than 65 full-time employees as well as the cast, run marketing campaigns, and more.

In 2022, realizing the current model was not sustainable, "The Chosen" came to a new agreement with Angel Studios, which allowed them to shift part of their relationship to the Come and See Foundation - a nonprofit whose mission is getting "The Chosen" to the entire world and financing its production. With this agreement, new seasons of the show were released on "The Chosen" app and on Angel Studios simultaneously before anywhere else.

Shortly after the agreement, however, Angel Studios "breached our contract on multiple occasions to the extent that we believed it should be terminated, which would dissolve our relationship with Angel," Jenkins explained.

In order to solve the dispute, a

third-party arbitrator was used and on May 28 the arbitrator "comprehensively affirmed our position and agreed that the contract had been breached," Jenkins said. The relationship between "The Chosen" and Angel Studios is effectively over.

"We do not take pleasure in this and I want to thank Angel and the Harmon brothers for their extraordinary efforts in helping launch this show, but we came to the conclusion that we simply had no choice for the future of our company and this show," he expressed.

In an email response to CNA, Lori Heiselman, vice president of public relations at Angel Studios, said the company will be appealing the decision.

Despite the delay in the release of Season 4, Jenkins, the cast, and the crew continue to be hard at work filming Season 5, which will depict the events that took place during Holy Week.

"For three weeks we had over 600 people per day on set and we filmed some of the biggest moments from Holy Week," Jenkins told CNA in an interview. Some of these scenes, Jenkins shared, include the triumphal entry and the turning of the tables.

"If the content ends up as intense and passionate and exciting as the filming, this is going

to be an immensely impactful season," he said, adding: "We've had multiple scenes where the 600 extras were in the scene with us and afterwards tears just streaming down their face telling me 'My goodness just watching this is changing my life.'"

When asked if he feels any added pressure that this season depicts some of the most important and historic moments in history, Jenkins shared that since Season 1 "there's pressure to get all of this right."

"I mean Season 1 when we were just telling the story of the beginning of Jesus' ministry, I felt immense weight to get Mary Magdalene's story right," he said. "I want to honor these people that God chose to change the world and chose to be followers of Jesus here on Earth ... So, we've always felt the pressure to get it right, but at the same time I feel like God's got this."

Jenkins added that he also tries to ignore the noise - whether it be criticism or praise - and focuses on "honoring God and the Spirit and the intention of Jesus in the Gospels. And if I can do that, it doesn't matter whether it's Season 5 or Season 1, or whether we're covering Holy Week or the launch of his ministry, every word matters and getting this right matters."

Around the diocese

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

YOUTH SERVER APPRECIATION DAY

Saranac Lake - All parish youth altar servers, lectors, greeters, music/choir members, greeters, ushers and faith formation assistants and their families are invited to Youth Server Appreciation Day.

Date: Aug. 12

Time: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Place: Camp Guggenheim

Contact: Registration required by Aug 5th at rcdony.org/ya. Questions, contact Anita Soltero, Youth Director at asoltero@rcdony.org

FAMILY GUGGENHEIM

Saranac Lake - Family Guggenheim to be held with the theme "Trailblazers for Jesus."

Date: Aug. 22-25 or Oct. 11-13

Features: Yee Haw! Come join us for a rootin' tootin' good time at Family Guggenheim, a place to play and pray together as a family.

Contact: For more information and to register, go to <https://www.rcdony.org/newsevents/family-guggenheim.html>. Questions? Call Steve Tartaglia at 315-393-2920.

DIVINE RENOVATION

Lake Placid - Day long workshop

to be held to help "Unlock" your parish and help it to be fully alive and renewed.

Date: Aug. 23

Time: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Place: St. Agnes School

Features: Learn the three keys to unlocking your parish; Be equipped for mission through practical workshops and resources; Be inspired to dream of what possible for your parish. This is a joint project of St. Agnes is Lake Placid, St. Peter's in Massena, and the Diocesan Office of the New Evangelization.

Contact: For more information contact the Office of Evangeliza-

tion at mdonders@rcdony.org or Gin Shaw at renewal@stagnesp.org

WOMEN'S HEALING RETREAT

Ogdensburg - Our Lady of the Rosary Healing retreat to be held for women.

Date: Oct. 10 - 13

Place: Wadhams Hall

Features: The retreat is open to 45 women over the age of 18. Presenters from the John Paul II Healing Center. Priests in residence will be Father Joseph Giroux and Father Albert Hauser.

Contact: For more information and registration, please visit the

diocese website at www.rcdony.org/ourlady. If you would like to send a donation to help defray the cost of the retreat, please mail a check to Mr. Bill Seymour, Wadhams Hall, 6866 State Highway 37 Ogdensburg, NY 13669. The committee extends their thanks and gratitude for your prayers and support.



SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE

Cultivating growth

June 16

**Eleventh Sunday
of Ordinary Time**

READINGS
Ezekiel 17:22-24
2 Corinthians 5:6-10
Mark 4:26-34

You may read about people who invest a little bit of money in a stock and how that stock grows in value over the year. For example, if you bought 100 shares of Golden Arches in 1965, that value has grown exponentially over the years. But then, look at Christianity. There was a single Jesus along with 12 disciples, some of whom were not too bright. Now, there are about 1.39 billion Catholics.



**Msgr. Robert
H. Aucoin**

That example can help us understand the notion of growth. I unfortunately am gifted with a black thumb and am seldom successful at growing. Watching something grow is fascinating. We see buds that eventually

become leaves. We see light green on an evergreen, and eventually the light green darkens as the limbs grow.

In the gospel Jesus speaks a parable about a small seed growing into the largest of plants. But what makes small seeds grow? The answer is simple: attention. Attention to the earth; attention to the quality of the seed; attention to the watering and feeding; attention to details.

You realize that children require the same amount of attention. You care for them; watch them to ensure nothing injurious happens; feed them the right food so that they grow properly. The list is endless.

But for children to grow, there is even more. Actually, for the growth of people there is even more. Beyond physical growth, spiritual growth is necessary. Spiritual growth cannot happen unless the seed is planted and nurtured. God works every day in our lives.

God works in us. However, and this is a huge however, we need to be fertile soil. We need to make room for him in our lives. We need to make sure that the weeds in our lives are removed, especially those

weeds that may look good but are weeds, nonetheless.

Sometimes, too, you need to water and fertilize the lives of someone in your life. Your spouse may be a lazy Catholic; your children may have put church on hold or at least on the back burner; your relative who always was a church-going Catholic has become lukewarm especially after her own kids have grown, and she no longer feels compelled to do the "Catholic thing." Even in our post-pandemic world, so many Catholics have transitioned from fervent to tepid to cold. At these moments, when the person no longer hears the inner invitations from God, you need to be God's human voice cultivating that needed growth.

You may say something like: "Well, they are big people now and have to make their own choices." That's true. But, if a spouse is driving recklessly or if a child seems lost or desolate, or if a relative is making a bad health decision, do we not often intervene or speak up and try to point the person in the right direction. Just as you may be a voice of awareness or conscience, so too perhaps you could be God's voice calling the other person to spiritual growth and maturity.

Spiritual growth does not happen all by itself. Divine intervention supplemented by human intervention can make assure spiritual growth. Make sure that you tend to your spiritual growth and the spiritual growth of those whom you love.

CALLED TO SERVE

Thoughts on *Jesus Thirsts*

Why do so many baptized Catholics of my generation and younger not believe the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament?

We came away from the movie, *Jesus Thirsts*, with that question.

Why is it we believe Jesus is present, body, blood, soul and divinity in the Eucharist but others, a lot of others, do not?

Jesus Thirsts, the movie, was the idea of Deacon Steve Greco. Greco is director of evangelization and faith formation of the Diocese of Orange, California. He is also the founder and president of Spirit Filled Hearts Ministry, a group that spreads the Good News of the Gospels through evangelization.

Director Tim Moriarty brought together a group of folks in the movie for their knowledge of scripture and the Church. Their explanation of the Eucharist, from the creation of man and woman to today, offered compelling testimony to the real presence.

Greco, Moriarty and others were motivated to produce the film by a 2019 Pew Research survey that found only one-third of U.S. Catholics believe in transubstantiation. That is the moment during the Mass, at the consecration, when bread and wine become the body and blood of Christ. The conversion is an act of God completed through the priest. The body and blood of

Christ still appear to be bread and wine, but the substance has changed. It has changed to the real presence.

Moriarty told EWTN "this film is a presentation of the Catholic worldview, a vision. It does not just engage the head of the viewer; it also engages the heart and the senses."

I was particularly struck by the Emmaus scene. Two disciples of Christ walking home and consoling each other in the wake of the persecution and death of the man they followed. Jesus joins them on the walk, but the two disciples do not recognize

their resurrected Jesus.

Jesus instructs them, captivates them by sharing all they knew from scripture and explains how those events forecast, even prepared us



**Deacon
Kevin Mastellon**

for Jesus' death and resurrection. At supper, he breaks bread and offers a cup of wine to them. "Their eyes were opened," and now they understood the real presence.

It is a wonderful 90 minutes followed by the short video produced by the Knights of Columbus about the apparition of our Blessed Mother to Juan Diego in Tepeyac Mexico in 1531. Together, they offer

the viewer a deep understanding of the Eucharist and the knowledge to defend the real presence as we evangelize those who do not believe.

By the way, we were surprised to see a priest from the Diocese of Ogdensburg in the movie. One of the scenes is of a Eucharistic procession in Auriesville, New York, last summer. Father Bryan Stitt, pastor of St. Mary's in Canton, was carrying the Monstrance bearing Christ in procession.

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
Sister Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ, Director

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

Celebrating Pentecost, confirmation

Bora Bora is a small volcanic island that is part of French Polynesia in the central South Pacific Ocean. It is part of the Archdiocese of Papeete, which covers many islands spread out over the area.

The Catholic community of the parish of Saint Pier Celestino in Bora Bora lived three intense days. The occasion was the celebration of the sacrament of Confirmation on May 19. The Mass and confirmation celebrated by the Archbishop of Papeete Jean Pierre Cottanceau, SS.CC., in the church of Saint Pier Celestino in Bora Bora were broadcast live on video by Radio Bora Bora through Facebook. The archbishop was accompanied by Father Sandro Lafranconi, parish priest of the Society of African Missions (SMA).

"Eleven confirmations during the solemn celebration of the Pentecost Mass: 10 young people between 13 and 15 years old and an adult parishioner who was able to realize her long-cherished wish of finding her place in the parish family," wrote Father Lafranconi. "The event was especially significant because, due to the enormous distances - the archdiocese of Papeete alone is as large as Europe - the archbishop had not visited the parishioners of the Catholic church of Bora Bora for four years. On the other hand, when you are bishop of the largest diocese of Holy Mother Church, it is already a blessing to have him for three days and moreover on the occasion of Pentecost, which this year also coincided with the feast of the patron saint which the calendar commemorates on May 19."

"The liturgical celebration, animated by songs and participation, continued with an important gathering around a lunch of traditional dishes patiently cooked in the Tahitian oven: a bed of red-hot volcanic stones on which the dishes are placed. They will cook while everything remains buried for several hours before being served. Everything was intended to highlight the importance of an event capable of recreating unity and participation worthy of Pentecost," concludes the missionary.

Article from FIDES missionary news service of the Pontifical Mission Societies.

OBITUARIES

Coopersville — June Matott, 92; Mass of Christian Burial June 7, 2024 at St. Joseph's Church.

Evans Mills — JoAnn S. Kirk, 76; Services to be held at a later date at St. Mary's.

Lake Placid — Joseph C. Briggs, 44; Mass of Christian Burial June 8, 2024 at St. Agnes Church.

Lowville — Ellyn Curry Losada, 65; Funeral Services to be held at Iseneker Funeral Home, Inc. at a later date.

Lowville — Margaret (Higby) Northrup, 88; Private burial in West Lowville Rural Cemetery.

Lowville — Kathleen A. (Thisse) Stevens, 81; Mass of Christian Burial Jun 5, 2024 at St. Peter's Church; burial in St. Stephen's Cemetery, Croghan.

Morrisonville — Jean M. (Gokey) Duquette, 84; Mass of Christian Burial June 3, 2024 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

Ogdensburg — Richard W. Amo, 92; Mass of Christian Burial June 5, 2024 at St. Mary's Cathedral.

Ogdensburg — Anne B. (Moore) Binion, 90; Mass of Christian Burial July 8, 2024 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Oswegatchie Mausoleum.

Ogdensburg — Randall F. Brasard, 64; Funeral Services June 3, 2024 at Frary Funeral Home; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Ogdensburg — Bryant W. Sandburg, 87; Mass of Christian Burial June 6, 2024 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Schroon Lake — Joseph "Gary" Garrett Williford, 70; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 9, 2024

at Our Lady of Lourdes Church; burial in Severance Cemetery.

Ticonderoga — Gordon E. "Sonny" Wallace; Graveside services June 14, 2024 at Mt. Hope Cemetery.

Tupper Lake — Joseph M. Bombard, 58; Mass of Christian Burial June 10, 2024 at St. Alphonsus

Church.

Tupper Lake — Donald W. Donah, 88; Mass of Christian Burial at St. Alphonsus Church.

Tupper Lake — Jean Ann (Gionet) Donah, 86; Mass of Christian Burial May 31, 2024 at St. Alphonsus Church.

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50th Annual ST. JAMES FAIR

State Street • Carthage

June 20th, 21st & 22nd

Thursday and Friday 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Saturday 12:00 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Games of Chance

**Black Jack *Big Six Wheel *Pull Tabs*

RAFFLE - Prizes: 2 First - \$500 * Sellers of 1st Prizes: \$50 each * 10 Second Prizes - \$100 each
\$1 per Ticket • 6 for \$5 • 12 for \$10 • 18 for \$15
\$\$\$ Drawing Saturday June 22nd \$\$\$

Entertainment:
The Patti Stanford Band,
10th Mtn Division Band,
Reptiles Forever, DJ's, and much more!

Ontario Amusement Rides

Every day wrist bands will be available for just \$20 for 4 hours of unlimited rides!
Thurs: 5pm- 9pm, Fri: 5pm-9pm, Sat: 12pm-4pm & 5pm-9pm

FOOD

Italian ~ Lebanese ~ American ~ Polish

•Beer & Wine Tent •Bob's Burgers •Ice Cream •Clams •Salt Potatoes •Fried Dough
Special Priced Meals for Children Saturday 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

2024 Respect Life Grants

By Colleen Miner
Respect Life Office

Thank you to all those who donated to the Respect Life second collection taken up in churches the third

weekend in January. The collection total was \$60,358. Special thanks go to the parishes who collected more than \$1,000: Plattsburgh \$4,441, Watertown (Blessed Sacrament) \$3,685, Ogdensburg \$2,834, Lowville \$2,166, Saranac Lake \$2,161, Massena \$1,973, Malone \$1,935, Carthage \$1,656, Croghan \$1,451, Potsdam

\$1,228, Ellenburg \$1,210, Ticonderoga \$1,138, Canton \$1,135, Clayton \$1,116. Your generosity enabled 14 grant applications to be fulfilled.

Five Gabriel Projects - Potsdam, Brasher Falls, Massena, Plattsburgh and Ogdensburg - received grants.

Other direct service ministries who received grants are Plattsburgh Pregnancy Center (six months rent), Plattsburgh Birthright and Watertown Walk-in with Moms in Need (outreach services), Malone Catholic Charities (Childbirth/Parenting program).

Educational efforts receiving grants included Liferight of Watertown (tv ads, oratorical contest, newsletter), Light of Truth Radio (Human Sexuality & Life Issues series, Loving Authentically seminar), Natural Family Planning (Awareness week

materials) and Family Life Office, Life Giving Wounds (divorce ministry materials).

The one new grant recipient was Heart Well Homestead in Plattsburgh, a new maternity home.

Special thanks to Respect Life committee members: Father Martin Cline, Stephen Tartaglia, Angelo and Suzanne Pietropaoli, John and Colleen Miner and to Bishop Terry R. LaValley, who approved the board suggestions.

Thanks to all those who work to promote the sanctity of human life. Please continue to pray for all those faced with an unplanned pregnancy, suffering after the loss of their child and those struggling to care for the elderly, sick or dying.

Please also pray for guidance for those who make the laws that protect the vulnerable.



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