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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 79 Number 18

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

AUGUST 28, 2024

YOUTH SERVERS GATHER



PHOTO BY DARCY FARGO

Youth altar servers, lectors, greeters and faith formation assistants from around the diocese gathered at Camp Guggenheim on Aug. 12 for games, talks about vocation and Mass. See additional photos on page 12.

WORKING TOGETHER



Isabella Christy, left, and Jacalyn Smith fashion clay beads at the bead bazaar in Jesus' hometown at Massena's ecumenical Vacation Bible School in early August. St. Peter's Parish in Massena participated in the Bible school along with Emmanuel Congregational United Church of Christ St. John's Episcopal and Grace United Methodist Church. This year's Vacation Bible School was themed around Jesus' hometown, Nazareth.

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

Pope: Living fruits of the spirit spreads holiness

By Hannah Brockhaus
Catholic News Agency

Pope Francis said Wednesday the person who lives with joy his anointing in the sacrament of confirmation cannot help but spread the fragrance of holiness in the Church and the world.

"We know that, unfortunately, sometimes Christians do not spread the fragrance of Christ, but the bad odor of their own sin," the pope also warned during the general audience Aug. 21, adding that "sin turns us into bad oil."

During his weekly public audience in the Vatican's Pope Paul VI Hall, Pope Francis continued a series of lessons on the Holy Spirit, focusing on the fruits of being anointed with the blessed

oil called Chrism in the sacraments of baptism and confirmation.

The audience hall brimmed over with thousands of pilgrims from around the world, some of whom held flags from their countries or waved colored bandanas, eager to catch a sight of the pope.

At the end of the meeting, before praying the "Our Father" and giving his blessing, the pontiff remembered certain countries and territories experiencing war, including Ukraine, Myanmar, South Sudan, and the North Kivu province of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

"Let us pray for peace," he said, "and let's not forget Palestine and Israel, that there will be peace there."

In his catechesis, Pope Francis recalled the baptism of Christ, when "the very Spirit descended on Jesus."

Christians, he explained, are "anointed in imitation of Christ," as St. Cyril of Jerusalem wrote in his *Mystagogical Catecheses*.

The pope recited the prayer said by the bishop when he consecrates the chrism oil on Holy Thursday: "May those formed into a temple of your majesty by the holiness infused through this anointing and by the cleansing of the stain of their first birth be made fragrant with the innocence of a life pleasing to you."

"A person who lives his anointing with joy gives fragrance to the Church, gives fragrance to the community, gives fragrance to his family," the pontiff said.

Quoting from St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians, Francis said, "the fragrance of Christ emanates from the 'fruits of the Spirit,' which are 'love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.'"

"It's beautiful to find a good person, a faithful person, a meek person, not proud," he commented.

Sin, the pope emphasized, "must not distract us from the commitment of realizing, as far as we are able and each in their own environment, this sublime vocation of being the good fragrance of Christ in the world."

"Let us ask the Holy Spirit to make us more conscious [of being] anointed, anointed by him," he concluded.

NORTH
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CATHOLIC

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'Not even something like that'

"Not interested," I said. "I don't do visual arts. Not even something like that."

I told one of my best friends that after she suggested I try something she enjoyed to keep busy at night and calm a little anxiety I was feeling.

She suggested I try an adult coloring book.

I'm not good at painting, drawing, coloring... In fact, I think it's fair to say I'm awful. I don't enjoy doing things if I can't do them well, so I just avoid anything remotely

resembling a visual art. And, to be honest, it felt a bit childish to me.

Then, one day a couple weeks ago, I was walking the aisles of a major retailer on a day when I was feeling particularly anxious about some stuff I had coming up in my life, and I saw an adult coloring book that was themed around Scripture and quotes about

faith. I knew I was likely to continue experiencing the anxiety until the cause of it was concluded, so I set

my reservations aside and bought the coloring book and some colored pencils.

The first page I colored, I tried to have an open mind, and I tried to remind myself that mistakes didn't matter. No one else would see my pages. I wasn't doing it for someone else; I was doing it for me.

Every time I moved to a new section to color, I'd repeat the Scripture line from the page - "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness" - and sort of meditate on it as I worked. It became as much about the Scripture as the col-

oring, and it really helped calm my anxiety and focus on God's grace.

I've colored on only a few pages, but I'm glad I have that coloring book on my desk if I need or want to calm myself and spend time with the word of God.

I believe God urged me, through the urgings of my friend and the random impulse to buy a coloring book, to find this way to find Him and His peace. And God reminded me yet again that I don't always know what's good for me, but He knows me better than I know myself.

So, I guess I'm interested in coloring.

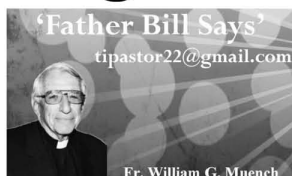


Darcy L. Fargo

Traveling with my memories

Last week, I attended the funeral of Leeward Lucia. He is the father of Bishop Lucia, the Bishop of Syracuse. I have known and been a friend of Bishop Lucia, since he was a priest of our diocese, the Diocese of Ogdensburg. His father, Mr. Lucia, lived his life and raised his family in Altona, in Clinton County. His funeral was at Holy Angel's Church in Altona.

As you know, I now live in Syracuse. Several priests from the Diocese of Syracuse traveled up to Altona to be with Bishop Lucia and his family. I found a ride to the funeral with the pastor of the parish where I live and help, Father John Manno. This journey to Mr. Lucia's funeral became for me an enjoyable trip over a large part of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. We rode over roads and through places where I was active as a priest for many years. It was rather a nostalgic tour of important places in my past.



Fr. William G. Muench

Let me tell you a little about the trip. Rather early on a Monday morning, we headed north to Watertown. Then on to Gouverneur. I had a chance to tell many stories about the place; St. James Parish in Gouverneur was my first assignment after my ordination as a priest. I remember that my pastor then was Father Joseph Bailey. I still have friends there.

Next, we passed through Dekalb Junction. I spent weeks there the summer before my last year in the seminary. I remember those days spent with Father George Wittaker, who had a profound influence on my vocation. Then on to Canton and to Potsdam, and on to Malone. I knew the route well and had many stories for each

place. I pointed out all the churches and the restaurants - all the good places I used to stop at. Then we turned east and passed through those northern parishes as we traveled on to Altona.

There were many Ogdensburg priests were there who had come to be with Bishop Lucia and his family. So, I had a great opportunity to see many priest friends - many that I had worked with but hadn't seen in quite a while. So, this was an added gift for this journey to be at Mr. Lucia's funeral. There were several younger priests there that I could meet and visit with.

Bishop LaValley was there also. He was the homilist at the Mass. He had grown up near here in Mooers Forks. I must tell you that when I meet a priest in Syracuse, he is fascinated that Bishop Lucia and Bishop LaValley were raised in families that were only a short distance from each other in Clinton County in the Dio-

cese of Ogdensburg.

Bishop LaValley spoke of Mr. Lucia's life of dedication to his family and to his Catholic parish. He was a faith-filled person; he brought his Catholic family to his children, to his son, who became a bishop. I remembered well so many dedicated individuals in the parishes of this North Country.

I continue to be so appreciative of that day I wandered through my diocese. I so enjoyed remembering the many places which were an important part of my life as a priest of this diocese. There are many other towns and places that were a part of my life in the North Country that I have not visited in a long time. I must find an excuse to travel there - even to just drive through. So, I thank God for filling up that day with such a pleasant journey though a place that I grew to love. And the final blessing was that we had to travel on back home, again going though that same route.

BISHOP'S FUND APPEAL

Youth Ministry shares faith with the future

By Anita Soltero

Director of Youth Ministry

Why donate to the Bishop's Fund? As the Director of Youth Ministry, my answer is: "to ensure the future of our Church here in the North Country." The youth are our future. Unfortunately, families today have fewer children, and some married couples choose not to have children at all. Those reasons alone make it imperative that we provide empowering opportunities for the youth we do serve to foster and deepen their faith, so they stay connected to their parishes as they grow.

Camp Guggenheim is one way we provide this opportunity for six weeks every summer. I moved to the North Country from downstate in 1993 and had been hearing about Guggenheim since I joined Holy Cross Parish in Plattsburgh back in 1994. I never really understood what all the fuss was about until I took on this position early last year.

Witnessing for myself camp staff and camp-

ers in action was one of the most exciting things I had seen in a very long time! Camp Guggenheim has a long tradition here in the Diocese of Ogdensburg of providing not just a camp experience for our youth, but a Catholic camp experience. Mass is celebrated daily, there is a reconciliation service mid-week and a closing liturgy at the end of the week. There are opportunities for adoration and other prayer experiences which our youth do not get to share on a regular basis in their home parishes. They have profound and moving spiritual experiences with their peers. Our college-age counselors were all campers themselves and return to Guggenheim to give back to the camp community all the love and support they themselves received as campers. At registration, we often see three generations of family members who were campers, grandparents, their children and grandchildren, and that is a beautiful thing.

There really is a very special feeling you get

the moment you step onto the property. The setting is just beautiful, and the facility is one of the best run camps in the local area.

We cannot provide this awesome experience without the support of the Bishop's Fund which helps provide the resources to

keep this magnificent facility in operation. I receive emails from parents thanking me for the wonderful experience their children have at camp. I speak with youth who can't wait to return year after year. They go back to their parishes filled with joy and love for Jesus and

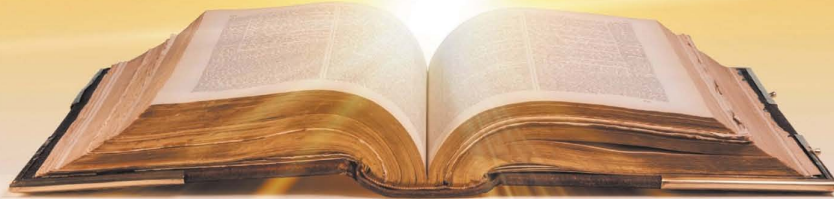
His Church. That's what we need to keep the Church alive in the Diocese of Ogdensburg, and it wouldn't happen without the Bishop's Fund.

Thank you all for your generous support. Know that your donation helps keep the Church alive and thriving here in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

LIVING STORIES OF OUR FAITH



2024 BISHOP'S FUND APPEAL



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG

www.rcdony.org/bfa

JOB OPENING

Diocesan Receptionist/Administrative Assistant

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg has an immediate opening for the full-time position of **Diocesan Receptionist/Administrative Assistant**.

The Diocesan Receptionist/Administrative Assistant greets visitors to the Bishop Brzana Building and answers the telephone for the Diocesan Offices. The position provides administrative support to the Chancellor. The Diocesan Receptionist/Administrative Assistant must possess strong interpersonal skills and good oral and written skills. Strong secretarial and computer skills are also required including knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel and Outlook. Pay Range: \$17.38/hr. to \$18.74/hr.

Submit letter of interest, resume and three professional references to: Human Resources Office

Diocese of Ogdensburg,
P.O. Box 369, Ogdensburg, NY 13669
or e-mail: ksnover@rcdony.org.

'We can do so much more together'

Massena churches hold ecumenical Vacation Bible School

By Keith Benman
Contributing writer

About 50 children and teens took part in a reality show all about Jesus in early August in Massena.

"I thought it was going to be just learning about God and stuff," said 10-year-old James Park. "But you're actually re-enacting what it was like in Jesus' time. So that kids that don't know about God can learn about him. It's still teaching me stuff I didn't know."

James had come to that conclusion by Day three of Massena's ecumenical Vacation Bible School, a summer tradition with a more than two-decade history in the community.

This year's theme for the Vacation Bible School was "Hometown Nazareth, where Jesus was a kid." It included Mary's house, a carpenter's shop, a bead bazaar, a farmer's field, rock quarry and just about everything else you would have found in Jesus' hometown.

Those were all housed in tents erected throughout Emmanuel Congregational United Church of Christ on Orvis Street. In addition

to Emmanuel Congregational, St. Peter's Parish, St. John's Episcopal and Grace United Methodist all participated in this year's ecumenical Vacation Bible School.

"My whole mantra is the kids who learn together and play together are now able to pray together," said Ann Borsellino, a former teacher at Trinity Catholic School. She was the "head farmer" helping children build pots and plant seeds at the farmer's field.

Like all the other adult leaders she was dressed in a robe and sandals as people would have worn in the time of Jesus. Those adult leaders were helped by teen volunteers in similar garb who guided each grade through Jesus' hometown. Each grade level was named for a different tribe of ancient Israel.

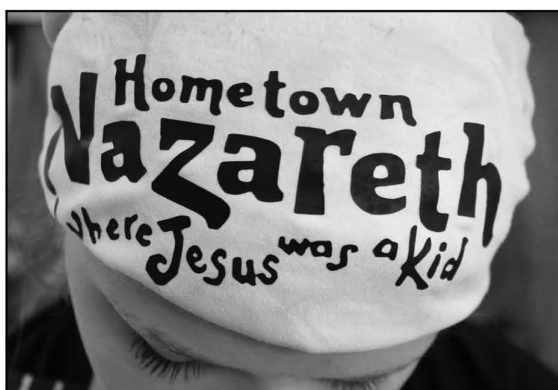
Next door to the farmer's field, 9-year-old Isabella Cristy of the tribe of Zebulun was one of those stringing clay beads at the bead bazaar. At Mary's House she had already learned how people knew early on that Jesus was something special.

"I learned they trav-



Photos by Keith Benman

(Above) Teen leader Kencie Maurer, at left, and students Ashlynn DeForge, middle, and Arizona Thrana work on pots for planting seeds at the farmer's field at Massena's ecumenical vacation bible school in early August. (Below) The bandannas worn by students left no mistake about where they had traveled in early August at Massena's ecumenical vacation bible school.



eled around to Bethlehem and Jesus was born in Bethlehem," she said. "And then later three wise men came and gave him gifts."

Adult leader Trish Murphy demonstrated for Isabella and fellow

tribe members how to create beads out of clay. And she added a lesson about faith.

"That's the thing about clay," she told them. "You can always re-form it. It's like with God, you can make mis-

takes but he'll always forgive you."

It takes months of work to produce the one-week ecumenical vacation bible school. This year, that included erecting the tents inside Emmanuel Congregational and adding realistic details to each. It's all done by volunteers from the churches. Vacation bible school leaders also have to formulate an ecumenical curriculum acceptable to all.

"You know, the basic stories about Jesus, that he was God's son, and he came so we could all have eternal life -- those are all basic eternal principles that I don't think anybody would disagree on," said Rev. Judith VanKennen, pastor at Emmanuel Congregational.

The Hometown Nazareth theme and help with the curriculum were provided by Group Publishing, a provider of youth ministry resources.

The original idea to make Massena's vacation bible school an ecumenical one was inspired by cooperative efforts undertaken over the years by the Greater Massena Ministerial Association. The association remains a force for cooperation among Christian churches in Massena.

Just last autumn, it formed "Fourth Coast Companions" to provide help for seniors in the area.

"I think we need to model for our children that we're all one in Christ," said VanKennen. "We can do so much more together."

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Funeral Mass celebrated for Leward E. Lucia

A Mass of Christian Burial for Leward E. Lucia was celebrated Aug. 12 by his son, Bishop Douglas J. Lucia, Bishop of Syracuse. Bishop Terry R. LaValley, Bishop of Ogdensburg, was the homilist.

Burial with full military honors followed in Holy Angels Cemetery.

Mr. Lucia, 96, of Altona, went home to the Lord on Thursday August 8, 2024 at CVPH Medical Center in Plattsburgh surrounded by his family.

He was born in Altona, NY on March 8, 1928, the son of Velia & Eva (Hemingway) Lucia.

He attended Altona Central School and received his GED while serving in the USAF. He married Betty K. Pepin at St. Patrick's Church in Rouses Point on October 31, 1959. She predeceased him on March 9, 2021.

He retired in 1990 from the NYSDOCCS after 36 years of service. In addition, he worked for Robert Christiansen Contractors and as a USPS Mail Carrier substitute.

He was a devoted communicant of Holy Angels Church in Altona and worked for many years at parish events. He was also a member of the Altona Fire Dept. for 17 years and VFW Post 1418 in Champlain.

He is survived by his children, David and Laurie Lucia, Bishop Douglas Lucia, Ann and Barry Chauvin, and Paul and Krista Lucia, and his grandchildren, Adam & Kathryn Lucia,



Leward E. Lucia

Nicholas & Brianna Lucia, Ashley Wahl, and Brittany Lucia; and two great-grandchildren, Kinley Lucia & Anthony Caruthers.

Surviving, as well, are his sisters, Irene Young, Marie LaValley, and Theresa Naro; along with brother-in-law, Howard Pepin; brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Kenneth and Vicki Pepin;

and sisters-in-law, Ella Lucia, Shirley Hyde, and Joan St. John, and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

In addition to his wife and parents, he was predeceased by his brother, Donald; and brothers and sisters-in-law, Roger and Hildred Lucia, Dolphus and Bessie Lucia; and sister and brother-in-law, Doris and Charles Goodrow; along with brothers-in-laws, Henry Pepin, Charles St. John, Harold Hyde, Herman LaValley, Donald Young, and Richard Naro; and sister-in-law, Patricia Pepin.

Memorial donations may be made to the Altona Fire Dept and Holy Angels Church in Altona.

THE MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST

REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY?

— PRAYER SUGGESTION —

Eternal Father,
we lift up to you these
and all the priests of the world.
Sanctify them.
Heal and guide them.
Mold them into the likeness and
holiness of your Son, Jesus,
the Eternal High Priest.
May their lives be pleasing to
you. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen

(With ecclesiastical approval)

Mass
Rosary
Fasting
Day Offering
Eucharistic Adoration
Offering of Sufferings
Divine Mercy Chaplet

Or whatever the Lord
inspires you to offer Him

September
Our Lady of Sorrows

DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG, NY						
2024						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
BISHOP TERRY R. LAVALLEY	1. REV. DONALD J. MANFRED	2. REV. LAWRENCE J. MARULLO	3. REV. MICHAEL H. MARZAN	4. MSGR. C. JOHN MCAVOY	5. REV. KEVIN D. MCEWAN	6. REV. GILBERT B. MENARD
OUR PASTOR	8. REV. RAYMOND J. MOREAU	9. REV. JOSEPH A. MORGAN	10. REV. WILLIAM G. MUENCH	11. MSGR. JOHN R. MURPHY	12. REV. STEVEN M. MURRAY	13. REV. FRANK NATALE
POPE FRANCIS	15. REV. JUDE C. NNADIBUGHAN	16. REV. KEVIN J. O'BRIEN	17. REV. JOHN KENNEDY	18. REV. AMRUTA KUMAR	19. REV. JEROME PASTORES	20. REV. TERRANCE R. PATTERSON
DECEASED PRIESTS	22. REV. CARTER G. PIERCE	23. MSGR. LEWARD J. POISSANT	24. REV. SONY G. PULICKAL	25. REV. PATRICK A. RATIGAN	26. REV. WILLIAM J. REAMER	27. REV. MARK R. REILLY
REV. NICHOLAS J. REVILLA	29. REV. CLEMENT RIMONDS	30. HGN				

For more copies contact:
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A donation to help support THE MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS will be appreciated. The Monthly Prayer Request for Priests is graciously underwritten by: Diocese of Ogdensburg, Vocations Society, www.mvocation.net

Celebrate your favorite priest in the

NCC PRIEST APPRECIATION
ISSUE

Join the North Country Catholic in honoring the special priests in your life. The NCC will be honoring our priests in the Sept. 25 issue of the paper.

Priesthood Sunday will be Sept. 29

We invite you to send a message to your pastor, spiritual advisor or priestly friend.

\$20 - a 1 column X 2 inch ad with a short message (e.g., Father Smith, we appreciate your service, from the Jones Family)

\$40 - a 2 column x 2 inch ad featuring your message, a photo or graphic design

\$135 - Quarter page ad

\$250 - Half page ad

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If you have a specific budget that is not listed we can design an ad based on that.

If you would like your ad in color please add \$25 (The North Country Catholic provides design services)

**Must be received in the NCC Office by
Sept. 16, 2024**

Please cut out the entire ad when you send in your request.

☐ **YES! I/We would like to honor a priest in the North Country Catholic**

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☐ **\$135 Quarter Page** ☐ **\$250 Half Page**
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Message as it will appear in the ad (please print)

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VIRTUAL EVENTS

FRIENDSHIP GROUP MEETING

Experience God's Healing Love! Father Shawn Monahan, OMV will guide you through Mother Ilina's "The Light of His Eyes."

Date: Aug. 29

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: Zoom

Features: Due to life's wounds, many experience a disordered self-image. Here is the book that will help set you free and open your thirsty soul to receive the torrents of God's compassion and healing. There will be time for discussion and questions.

Contact: To order the book, please visit sophia.institute.com and enter Friendship25 at the checkout to receive a 25% discount. If you haven't signed up for the Friendship Groups, here is the link: <https://mailchi.mp/sophia.institute/friendship-groups>. For more information, contact Mary Beth Bracy at mbracy@sophia.institute.com

ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN

COMPASSIONATE COMPANIONS

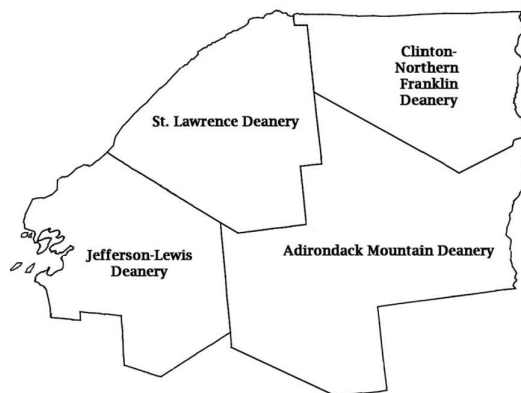
Ticonderoga - Southern Adirondack Compassionate Companions, a faith-based Age-friendly Communities Initiative, is recruiting new volunteers and has scheduled a Compassionate Companions Volunteer Training Program.

Date: Sept. 17

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

Place: Knights of Columbus Hall

Features: We are inviting new volunteers from Ticonderoga, Schroon Lake, Crown Point, and surrounding communities in southern Essex County to pioneer this new Age-friendly Communities Initiative based on the successful model of Mercy Care for the Adirondacks in the Tri-Lakes region of the Adirondacks. Compassionate Companions volunteers will help their elder neighbors stay connected to their communities and help make their lives a little easier and happier. Volunteers will learn about offering friendship and assistance



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 Wednesday before publication.

to elders in sessions on healthy aging, spirituality and aging, and community resources for elders. New volunteers will hear from experienced volunteers who find purposeful service to their elder friends to be meaningful in their own lives. Southern Adirondack Compassionate Companions will provide informal social supports to older adults, such as in-home visits, social outings, assistance with grocery shopping, or transportation to medical appointments. There is no cost for the training, but registration is required. Complimentary lunch will be provided.

Contact: To register for the training, please contact Pam Arzberger, Southern Adirondack Compassionate Companions Program Coordinator, or visit route74catholics.org. For more information, email Pam at compassionatecare83@gmail.com or call 518-547-0782.

CLINTON NORTHERN FRANKLIN

FOUNDERS DAY

Ellenburg - A warm invitation is extended to all to join us in celebrating Founders' Day at the House of Prayer.

Date: Aug. 31

Schedule: 9:30 a.m. to 10, Arrival and special music; 10 a.m. to 10:45 a.m., Guest Presentation,

"Two Blessings and a Prayer" with Sarah Anderson, OFS; 11 a.m., Mass with Bishop Terry R. LaValley; Noon, Light lunch and Ice Cream Social (donation from Stewart's Shops)

Features: On this day, we remember with love and gratitude Father Joseph Trombley, a local Diocesan priest and visionary and all the dedicated volunteers who assisted him in 'founding' this lovely site. There will be time for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, walking the grounds, and catching up with friends, neighbors, and OLA's family at large!

Contact: RSVP to 518-534-9976 or 518-594-3253 with head count. If you forget to RSVP, come anyway!

5K RUN/WALK

Plattsburgh - Heart Well Homestead is hosting a competitive and family oriented Superhero Strides 5K run / walk.

Date: Sept. 7

Place: YMCA on the Oval

Features: Race timing and logistics are provided by Adirondack Coast Events. All proceeds go to opening Heart Well Homestead, a maternity home for unhoused pregnant and postpartum women within the city of Plattsburgh.

TURKEY DINNER

Lyon Mountain - St. Bernard's & St. Edmund's will be having their annual Fall Turkey Dinner.

Date: Sept. 8

Place: Lyon Mountain American Legion

Menu: Home Cooked Turkey with all the trimmings, Coffee & Dessert

APPLEFEST

Peru - The 46th Annual St. Augustine Applefest to be held.

Date: Sept. 21

Place: St. Augustine's Church
Schedule: 10:30 a.m., Giant Craft Fair, Food Booths, Kids Activities; 11 a.m., Parade, Live Music, Chicken BBQ, Games, Bounce House, Train Ride, Raffles. Grand Raffle Drawing at 4 p.m.

TURKEY DINNER

Chazy - Sacred Heart Parish is having their Harvest Dinner.

Date: Sept. 22

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

Place: Parish Center

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

Menu: Roast turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, dressing, corn rutabaga, rolls and butter, beverage, apple or pumpkin pie.

Features: Visit our Sinners' Den Pantry for "sinfully" delicious goodies. Raffle with great prizes. Please join us! We are handicapped accessible.

Contact: For more information, 518-846-7650 or Chazypa@rcdony.org

JEFFERSON-LEWIS

HOLY HOUR AND DIVINE MERCY

Houseville - Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament and the Divine Mercy Chaplet will be observed the first Sunday of the month.

Date: Sept. 1, Oct. 6, Nov. 3, Dec. 1

Time: Following 11 a.m. Mass

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Contact: 315-348-6260

SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL DINNER

Evans Mills - The Indian River Council 7471 Knights of Colum-

bus will be having a spaghetti & meatball dinner.

Date: Sept. 14

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

Contact: For more information call 315-629-4678

SILENT AUCTION AND BBQ

Watertown - Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church is having their Annual Silent Auction and Pulled Pork BBQ Dinner.

Date: Sept. 21

Time: Doors open at 3 p.m. for raffle items and dinner will be served starting at 5 p.m.

Features: Silent Auction items to bid on, large raffle items, 50/50 raffle and much more. Pre-sale tickets will be available the week-end of Sept. 14th & 15th after all Masses.

Contact: For further information, please contact the office at 315-782-1474.

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 price of \$100 each

Features: Grand Prize, \$10,000; 2nd Prize, \$5000; 3rd Prize, \$2500; 4th Prize, \$1500, 5th Prize, \$500. 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. Per NYS Tax Law, required withholding & tax documents will be completed upon payment of prize monies.
Contact: Tickets are available by calling the church office at 315-287-0114.

ALPHA

Massena - You are invited to ALPHA.

Date: Tuesdays starting Sept. 10

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Around the diocese

Features: This is a free event.

Contact: For more information call 315-769-2469

DIOCESAN EVENTS

SSJ LAY ASSOCIATE PROGRAM

The Sisters of St. Joseph invite you to a one of their informational meetings if you are interested in learning about their Lay Associate Program.

Schedule: Sept. 7, at St. Patrick's Church in Colton at 1 p.m.; Sept. 8 at St. John XXIII Newman Center in Plattsburgh at 2:30 p.m.; Sept. 22 at St. Patrick's Church in Watertown from 2 p.m. to 4.

Features: Associates meet once a month to learn about the spirituality, the charism and mission and history of the Sisters of St. Joseph, pray together, and discuss ways to deepen one's spiritual life. This group is open to men and women.

Contact: If you are interested, please contact Sister Mary Eamon (smelyngssj@yahoo.com) or Sister Bethany srbethssj@gmail.com or call 315-782-3460.

BLUE MASS

Canton — Bishop Terry R. LaValley will celebrate the annual Blue Mass.

Date: Sept. 29

Time: 2:30 p.m.

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:

Sept. 4 — 6 p.m. — St. Peter's Church, Lowville

Sept. 9 — 10 a.m. — St. James Minor Church, Carthage

Sept. 12 — 6 p.m. — St. James Minor Church, Carthage

Place: St. Mary's Church

Features: The Blue Mass is the Church's way to offer thanksgiving to God for the dedication and sacrifices made by the men and women of Fire, EMS, Corrections, Law Enforcement, and Communications. First Responders, their families, and all the faithful are invited to attend this Sunday celebration. Uniforms are encouraged but not required.

Contact: Questions can be addressed to Father Chris Carrara, Blue Mass Committee Chair at info@rcdony.org or by phone at 315-393-2920.

PRIESTHOOD DISCERNMENT

Discernment is a call, listen with others. It is a journey of faith, traveling with companions. Are you a single Catholic man, of high school age or older, who is hearing the Lord's call to the Priesthood? You are invited to join fellow discerners and Father Howard Venette for the following gatherings.

Schedule: St. Bernard's Church, Saranac Lake Nov. 23, March 22, 2025

St. Mary's Church, Canton Sept. 21, Jan. 25, 2025, May 3, 2025

Time: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Features: Lunch will be provided at each of the church

Bishop's Public Schedule

Aug. 28 — 9:45 a.m. — Episcopal Council Meeting at Bishop's Residence followed by Lunch

5 p.m. — Bishop's Fund Appeal Reception at Martin Field Club (Formerly the Knights of Columbus Hall) in Ogdensburg

Aug. 29 — Noon — Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

Aug. 31 — 11 a.m. — Mass at Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer in Ellenburg Center followed by Lunch

4:30 p.m. — Installation Mass of Reverend Medenel Angrand of St. Mary's Church in Ticonderoga and Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Schroon Lake

locations.

Contact: Registration required, please go to www.rcdony.org/priesthooddiscernment. For more information **contact:** Father Howard Venette — hvenette@rcdony.org

FAMILY GUGGENHEIM

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

Date: 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.

MARRIAGE JUBILEE

Ogdensburg — Annual Marriage Jubilee to be held.

Date: Sept. 8

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Cathedral

Rest in Peace

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

Aug. 28 — Rev. Florent Vandenberghe, O.M.I., 1882

Aug. 29 — Rev. John J. Waters, 1921; Rev. Leo Desmet, 1926; Rev. Thomas F. Driscoll, 2003; Rev. Msgr. Robert L. Lawler, 2013

Aug. 30 — Rev. Bartholomew McLaughlin, 1914

Aug. 31 — Rev. James J. Sherry, 1890; Albert R. Plante, 2000

Sept. 1 — Rev. Michael Guth, 1864; Rev. John B. Martin, O.S.A., 1955

Sept. 2 — Rev. Timothy J. Mahoney, 1938; Msgr. Claudius Sechi, 1966; Rev. Thomas G. Votraw, 2007; Rev. Floyd J. Bleaux, 2009

Sept. 3 — Rev. David W. Driscoll, O.S.A., 1963; Rev. John S. Branche, 2003

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: 518-358-3145, 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

Environmental Stewardship

Season of Creation

Pope Francis announced that Season of Creation 2024 starting September 1 and ending on October 4, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, will focus on the theme: "To Hope and Act with Creation." Love and hope for each other and for God's creation need to be central to our Christian lives. Lord God, help all of us to continue to find love and hope more fully in our lives ahead!

Which beautiful wonders bring love, hope and/or joy to your heart? A smiling child or grandchild; waves at a beach, or clouds enhancing a sunset, seeing people or animals playing, or relaxing in outdoor space. Lord God, may we find more regularly in our lives a new sense of joy for creation and for our human family!!

All of life is a gift from our loving, generous God to be treasured. When we accept and believe that all life is a gift, we are transformed, and the way we see, and the way we act will change. As we become more engaged as a testimony to God's power, God's overflowing love and hope will more fully enter our lives so it can spill out into all of creation!

We as parishioners can join with the universal Church during this Season of Creation 2024 to help nurture hope among our family, friends, neighbors, and other communities. Our parish will be offering prayers, reflections, and example actions to enhance our hope in God and act to care for God's creation. Stay tuned. We can all make a difference. Our parish creation care team will be in touch. (A weblink <https://seasonofcreation.org/> can be included in a written statement.)

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

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Catholic leaders to attend forum on nuclear weapons

Catholic organizations at the University of Southern California (USC) and the University of New Mexico (UNM) are banding together to host a forum with policymakers and leading voices on nuclear disarmament and deterrence. The "Forum on Nuclear Strategy: Disarmament and Deterrence in a Dangerous World" is set to take place on Saturday, Sept. 7, at the University of New Mexico, led by the Endowed Chair of Roman Catholic Studies and the Religious Studies program at UNM and the Institute for Advanced Catholic Studies (IACS) of USC. The "groundbreaking" forum will discuss deterrence and disarmament approaches to nuclear weapons amid rising political rivalry between the U.S., China, and Russia, according to an Aug. 13 press release by IACS. Archbishop Emeritus Joseph Mitsuaki Takami of Nagasaki, Japan, and the bishop of San Diego, Cardinal Robert McElroy, are set to participate in the forum, as well as political leaders including the former deputy secretary-general of NATO and former U.S. undersecretary of Arms Control and International Security for the U.S. State Department, Rose Gottemoeller, and Thomas Countryman and Christopher Ford, both former U.S. assistant secretaries of state for International Security and Nonproliferation under Barack Obama and Donald Trump, respectively.

Montana is ninth state to add abortion measure to ballot

Montana on Tuesday became the ninth U.S. state to place a proposal on the November ballot that will allow voters to decide whether to enshrine abortion access in the state constitution. Ballot Issue #14, if passed, would amend the state constitution "to expressly provide a right to make and carry out decisions about one's own pregnancy, including the right to abortion," according to the secretary of state's office. The initiative would guarantee the right to abortion before fetal viability, enshrining a 1999 Montana Supreme Court ruling that held that pre-viability abortions fall under a constitutional "right to privacy." The language in the proposed amendment is similar to that being proposed in other states such as Missouri and Florida — states with strong current pro-life protections which also will place proposed constitutional amendments expanding abortion before voters Nov. 5. Abortion supporters and pro-life advocates have been battling at the ballot box in the two years since the U.S. Supreme Court's 2022 repeal of *Roe v. Wade*. Voters in Montana, South Dakota, Arizona, Nevada, Missouri, Colorado, New York, Maryland, and Florida will see abortion-related ballot measures in November. The Montana measure would "prohibit the government from denying or burdening the right to abortion before fetal viability," prohibit the government from "denying or burdening access to an abortion" when a doctor determines it is necessary to protect the woman's "life or health," and would "prevent the government from penalizing patients, healthcare providers, or anyone who assists someone in exercising their right to make and carry out voluntary decisions about their pregnancy."

Lawsuit seeks to expand Canada's euthanasia law

By Tyler Arnold
Catholic News Agency

A Canadian non-profit filed a legal challenge against the federal government, calling for an expansion of the country's euthanasia program to allow physician-assisted suicide for those suffering from mental illness.

The Constitutional challenge — filed by Dying With Dignity Canada (DWDC) — claims the Canadian government is discriminating against those who are mentally ill because suffering from mental illness is not sufficient to qualify someone for the country's euthanasia program, formally called Medical Aid in Dying (MAID).

If successful, this would mean that a person could obtain a physician-assisted suicide simply because he or she is living with a mental illness and wants to end his or her life because of suffering caused by the mental illness.

Canadian lawmakers officially legalized voluntary euthanasia in June of 2016 for those suffering from physical illnesses, diseases, or disabilities. Although people suffering from a mental illness do not currently qualify for physician-assisted suicide if their condition is solely mental illness, the government is scheduled to expand eligibility to include mental illness on March 17, 2027.

Including "mental illness" as one of the legal justifications for euthanasia in Canada has been controversial. The government initially planned to expand access to euthanasia to those with mental illnesses by 2023, but it was then delayed

to 2024 and again delayed until 2027. A parliamentary report said the government's most recent delay was because the country's health system was "not ready."

The legal challenge claims that the government delaying this expansion violates section 15 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which requires equal treatment under the law and prohibits discrimination against several protected classes, including people with mental disabilities.

"This lawsuit is an important step in recognizing that people with a mental illness deserve the same respect, access to medical services, choice, and dignity as all other people across Canada," DWDC CEO Helen Long said in a statement.

"Some individuals with a mental illness experience enduring and intolerable suffering, and that suffering needs to be recognized as equally devastating as physical suffering," Long added. "We have processes to determine whether a person is capable of making fundamental life decisions; all capable adults must be respected in their decisions and their choices honored."

Although supporters of expanding euthanasia to those who suffer from mental illness appeal to the concept of human dignity, the Catholic Church in Canada has been staunchly opposed to this interpretation of human dignity and has condemned the euthanasia program.

In May of 2023, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops sent a message to the faithful, which stated that eutha-

nasia "undermines the universal and inviolable dignity of human life and harms the building up of society." The bishops further warned that expanding euthanasia to people with disabilities "may predispose them to suicide."

"[There are] a growing number of troubling cases of people choosing MAID because of loneliness, poverty, social pressure, as well as lack of support and access to care," the bishops added. "A patient diagnosed with a terminal condition, or living in a situation of prolonged suffering must be offered whatever life-affirming relief and hope are available."

Jimmy Akin, a senior apologist at Catholic Answers, told CNA that people who have mental illness have "the same foundational dignity as all other human beings" and that "killing the patient is not a compassionate solution."

"We must alleviate their pain — including through medical means — and help them find meaning," Akin said. "The idea of killing people because they are experiencing mental problems is filled with potential to exploit the vulnerable, as many health professionals and impersonal agencies will push patients to end their lives rather than seeking genuine solutions."

Akin also warned that government officials have an economic incentive to promote euthanasia, saying "a suicide drug is cheaper than helping a person work through a difficult issue, and economic factors will lead bureaucracies to push hurting people toward death."

Orioles share love of God at Faith Night

By Francesca Pollio Fenton
Catholic News Agency

The Baltimore Orioles, a Major League Baseball team, hosted its first-ever "Faith Night" on Aug. 13. Six players — including starting pitcher Trevor Rogers and All-Star shortstop Gunnar Henderson — shared their testimonies of faith to thousands of fans after their game against the Washington Nationals.

The event included a time of worship and praise with a live performance by Reach Worship, a group from Reach Church, a nondenominational church in Newark, Delaware.

An event description released

by the MLB stated that "faith plays a big role in the Orioles clubhouse. Even though the Orioles typically play six or seven games a week, they always make time for chapel."

It also stated that after experiencing his first Faith Night in 2023 thanks to the Minnesota Twins, Henderson thought it was a great idea to bring it to Baltimore.

The infielder shared with the crowd at Camden Yards that he reads the Bible daily and it reminds him that God comes before everything, even baseball, the Baltimore Sun reported.

One testimony that particularly stood out to observers was

that of veteran catcher James McCann. He asked the crowd to close their eyes and imagine a young couple who were trying to have a family. The couple got pregnant, only to deliver a baby who was stillborn. They tried again and had another tragedy when the mother suffered extreme complications at six weeks' gestation. Doctors told her that her baby had a 1 in 4 chance of surviving and that if the baby did survive, he or she would be severely mentally or physically disabled. The young couple chose to put their faith in God and declined the offer to terminate the pregnancy.

"Open your eyes. I was that

child. From Day 1 God has been protecting me," McCann said.

Rogers, the starting pitcher of the game who was traded to the Orioles only two weeks ago from the Miami Marlins, shared with the crowd at Faith Night that he faced great uncertainty after the trade, but his faith helped him feel that he was going exactly where he needed to be.

"The timing — the first Faith Night, my first start in Baltimore, that's God [working] right there," Rogers said. "To be around such a good group of guys, such good Christian guys ... this is really fun, and I'm so happy to be here in Baltimore."

OBITUARIES

Brasher Falls — Mary Gwendolyn (Griffith Smith) Sontag, 99; Memorial Mass Aug. 23, 2024 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Canton — Frank J. White, 106; Funeral Services Aug. 22, 2024 at the Lawrence Funeral Home & Cremation Services; burial in Hermon Cemetery.

Carthage — Paul G. Denis, 79; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 24, 2024 at St. James Church; burial in St. James Cemetery.

Carthage — Mary H. (Schreck) Holliday, 101; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 17, 2024 at St. James Church; burial in St. James Cemetery.

Carthage — Richard J. Renaud, 82; Graveside Services Aug. 19, 2024 at St. James Cemetery.

Carthage — Mary Kathryn (Bockenheim) Williams, 97; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 16, 2024 at St. James Church; burial in Lowville Rural Cemetery.

Champlain — Bernice A. (Gokey) Demers, 94; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 14, 2024 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Moores.

Clayton — Jerrold C. Marshall, 89;

Funeral Mass and burial in Clayton Cemetery in October.

Clayton — James C. "JC" Wilson, 64; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 30, 2024 at St. Mary's Church.

Croghan — Gladys I. Pate, 93; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 15, 2024 at St. Stephen's Church; burial in St. Stephen's Cemetery.

Gouverneur — Frederick M. Easton, 87; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 14, 2024 at St. James Church.

Houseville — William "Bill" Tarasek, 73; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 24, 2024 at St. Hedwig's Church; burial in Martinsburg Cemetery.

Keeseville — Robert Edward LaBounty, 89; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 10, 2024 at St. John's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Keeseville — James David Spear, 80; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 17, 2024 at St. John's Church; burial in Fairview Cemetery, AuSable Forks.

Lowville — Richard C. Percoski, 84; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 14, 2024 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Lowville Rural Cemetery.

Lyon Mountain — Francis W. Kowalowski, 77; Mass of Christian

Burial Aug. 24, 2024 at St. Bernard's Church.

Malone — Alice Patricia (Maneely) Tatro, 90; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 14, 2024 at Notre Dame Church; burial in St. John Bosco Cemetery.

Massena — Anthony D. Cortese, 81; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 26, 2024 at the Church of the Sacred Heart; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena — Theresa C. (Brais) Pelletier, 104; Graveside services Aug. 14, 2024 at Calvary Cemetery.

Massena — James Plourde, 71; Funeral Services Aug. 15, 2024 at Phillips Memorial Home; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Morrisonville — Bernadette (Decosse) Trudeau, 86; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 19, 2024 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Ogdensburg — Patrick J. Deneny, 81; Graveside Services Aug. 9, 2024 at St. Mary's Cemetery.

Ogdensburg — Wallace J. Hunter, Jr., 63; Funeral Services Aug. 22, 2024 at Frary Funeral Home; burial in Flackville Cemetery, Lisbon.

Plattsburgh — Henrietta Y.

(Fortin) DeFayette, 101; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 14, 2024 at St. Peter's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Plattsburgh — Pearl (Hebert) Webber, 99; Funeral Services Aug. 18, 2024 at Brown Funeral Home.

Peru — Lula Mae (Lozier) Maggy, 107; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 9, 2024 at St. Augustine's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Port Henry — Joseph Karonhiakaron Robert Chamberlain, 53; Memorial Services at St. Patrick's Church.

Port Henry — Stanley S. Wojewodzic, 65; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 20, 2024 at St. Patrick's Church.

Port Henry — John F. "Jack" Waldron, 93; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 29, 2024 at St. Patrick's Church.

Ticonderoga — Robert T. Ledger, 94; Graveside Services Aug. 31, 2024 at Valley View Cemetery.

Ticonderoga — Constance (Booking) Denis, 80; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 24, 2024 at St. Alphonsus Church; burial in St. Alphonsus Cemetery.

Ticonderoga — Karen Ann

(Brown) Menser, 66; Funeral Services Aug. 21, 2024 at the Wilcox & Regan Funeral Home; burial in Mt. Hope Cemetery.

Tupper Lake — Lorraine (Pray) LaValley, 93; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 19, 2024 at St. Alphonsus Church; burial in St. Alphonsus Cemetery.

Watertown — Mark D. Craig, 72; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 14, 2024 at Holy Family Church.

Watertown — James A. Keohane, 94; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 19, 2024 at Holy Family Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery, Conestableville

Watertown — Judith Jarvis Perry, 81; Funeral Services Aug. 23, 2024 at Reed & Benoit Funeral Home; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Willsboro — Gordon A. Young, 90; Graveside Services Aug. 25, 2024 at Lakeview Cemetery.



SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE

The practice of religion

What is religion? What's the best religion? Whose religion is better than another's? When is there enough religion in one's life? Can you ever have too much religion? How do you judge whether you are religious or not?

Lots of questions with answers ranging from the ridiculous to the sublime. All three of our scripture readings today echo the practice of religion. The book of Deuteronomy speaks in terms of obeying the law of God: "Observe them carefully, for thus will you give evidence of your wisdom and intelligence to the nations." The psalms tell us "One who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord." James expresses: "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God and the Father is this: to care for orphans



Msgr. Robert H. Aucoin

and widows in their affliction and to keep oneself unstained by the world." When confronted about the external observances of the Jewish law, Jesus weighs in with: "You disregard God's commandment but cling to human tradition."

Amidst all these explanations of the nature of religion emerge some common, but very basic, threads. God and human beings exist. We human beings must be in relationship with him because he is in relationship with us. We live in a community of persons who each have a unique but similar relationship with God. Our relationships with others tell us that the welfare of one another must also be our concern. After all, we believe that we cannot love God if we do not love our neigh-

Sept. 1

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

READINGS

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8
James 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

bor. Sounds pretty basic, doesn't it?

The how of this very important. You may have heard spoken to you: "You must avoid sin and love God" in order to be a good Christian. Which of the two, avoiding sin or loving God is easier? Or which is better? Well, avoiding sin certainly helps us keep up appearances, and that is not bad. However, loving God places many more demands on us.

Loving God requires that we stay faithful to a dynamic, ongoing relationship. Loving God also means that we love our neighbor. Remember that love means willing the good of the other.

Avoiding evil is a min-

imum. Loving God defines a living, vibrant path of daily faith, daily life, and daily self-giving. Avoiding evil gets us into the house; loving God gives us a ticket to sit at the banquet of eternal life. Of course, both avoiding evil and loving God and neighbor are required.

So, amidst all of that, why are there various religions? An adequate response to that question would fill volumes. So, let's stick with why we should be knowledgeable Catholics. So, often we treasure our Catholic faith, our Catholic heritage, our Catholic convictions, but we lack adequate terms to express to others why we believe, what we truly believe, and why we want to be Catholic rather than something else.

No matter what our age, we need to refine and reeducate our faith. We need to become curious about our beliefs, why we believe them,

why they are true, and, indeed, what they are in the first place. We may sometimes experience weak faith. Weak bodies require nourishment. So, too, weak faith needs nourishment, nourishment which certainly comes from prayer, but also nourishment that comes from knowledge. Above all, as we learned at Mass these past weeks, the Eucharist is the food for our lives into eternal life.

As we approach September, school and learning are part of daily life even if we do not have children in school. Do something to enrich your knowledge of our religion. Learn our rich heritage.

All should never neglect the beauty and practice of our Catholic faith. In today's second reading, James says it very well: "Humbly welcome the word that has been planted in you and is able to save your souls."

Funeral celebrated for Eileen Coryea Mattoon

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Eileen Coryea Mattoon on Aug. 14 at Notre Dame Church in Malone. Burial followed in the parish cemetery.

Eileen, a resident of Malone passed away Friday, August 9, 2024 at her home surrounded by her loving family and beloved dog, Teddy, and aided by Hospice of the North Country. She was 93.

Born on May 4, 1931, in Burke, NY she was the daughter of Wellington and Florence (Morin) Besaw.

She was married to

Deacon Ronald G. Coryea on June 12, 1952, in Notre Dame Church, Malone. He predeceased her on June 8, 1995. She was then married to Deacon George L. Mattoon on August 2, 1996 at Notre Dame Church. He predeceased her on November 9, 2009.

Eileen graduated from St. Joseph's Academy, Malone. She was employed at Empsall's, JC Penny, North Country Home Health Care as a home health aide. She was a communicant of Notre Dame Church and she volunteered at Notre Dame School and Par-



Eileen Coryea Mattoon

ish and St. Vincent De Paul for over 30 years. She enjoyed her volunteer work but her true passion was raising her eight children and spending time with her

beloved grandchildren and great grandchildren.

She is survived by her eight children, Daniel (Delores) Coryea of California, Deborah (Ron) Kaufmann of Malone, David (Janis) Coryea of California, Diana Grant of Malone, Andrew (Robin) Coryea of Florida, Joanne (Danny) Dennis of Ghent, NY, Anne (John) Reynolds of Malone, Michele (Bill) Bronner of Hammond, NY; step-children, David (Dawn) Mattoon, Nancy Mattoon, Linda (Tom) Tarka, Rose (Allan) Parker, Jill (Scott) Besaw; 37 grandchildren; 61 great grandchildren;

1 great great grandchild and one on the way; siblings, Marilyn Donahue, Mary Debyah, Theresa Anthony, Frank Besaw and Donna Brownell; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Besides her husbands, she was predeceased by her parents and twin sister, Irene DeCarr.

Donations in her memory may be made to Hospice of the North Country.

Arrangements are with St. Mary-Murphy-Wilcox Funeral Home. Online condolences may be offered at www.chateau-gayfuneralhome.com.



**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

A call to mission

The Glafckes' call to missionary life was unexpected. Katie stumbled upon an article about a missionary family and felt a deep connection. "I read the article, and my heart sang because I had never encountered lay missionaries before. I didn't even know that was a possible thing," Katie recalls. This discovery ignited a desire within them to explore a life dedicated to faith and service.

Matt shared his initial hesitations. "She shows me this, and she's like, 'We could do this.' And I'm like, 'Where do you want to go? How many children do you want to take?'" The idea of leaving everything behind was daunting, yet the pull towards missionary work was undeniable. Matt's journey from skepticism to commitment highlights the transformative power of openheartedness toward God's call...

Matt and Katie met during their senior year of high school, and their very first conversation was about recent mission trips to the Dominican Republic and Ecuador. With that experience sharing the love of Christ, their missionary hearts were kindled.

The family's approach to mission work is deeply rooted in their daily interactions and the relationships they build. "We go to the people not primarily to accomplish a task, but rather to be with them, walk beside them, listen to them, and share our faith with them," says Katie. This philosophy reflects a fundamental aspect of their missionary work: it is about presence and shared humanity more than mere aid.

The experiences of the Glafcke family highlight both the blessings and the unpredictability of missionary life. Their children, too, have been profoundly affected by their experiences, growing in faith and resilience. "Our children are really the ones who pretty much drove those encounters," Matt reflects, noting how their children embraced the missionary life with eagerness and joy, often leading the way in forming connections within the communities they served.

The Glafckes' story is a testament to the power of faith in action. Their journey underscores the idea that missionary work is not just about changing others' lives but also about allowing one's own life to be transformed. "If this is what missionaries do, I want to be a missionary," their 9-year-old declared after a particularly moving family visit, encapsulating the profound impact of witnessing faith in action.

As the Glafckes continue their missionary journey, their story encourages all of us to consider how we might live out our baptismal call to mission, whether across the world or within our own communities. Their lives remind us that mission is about more than geographical location—it is about a heart open to God's call, ready to spread the joy and love of the Gospel wherever it may lead.

Article by Ines Martin and courtesy of the National Pontifical Mission Societies.

Before ordination to the diaconate in 2003, I was a lector. The lector at Mass, sometimes we call the lector a "reader," reads the first and second sections of scripture chosen for that Mass. If the psalm between the readings is not sung, the lector usually leads the congregation in a response to the psalm and reads (or sings) the strophes or stanzas.



**Deacon
Kevin Mastellon**

Let me climb out on a branch of this tree for a minute to say the person at the ambo, or podium, is a "lector" not a "lecturer." A "lecturer" teaches. He or she is usually found in a college or university. A "lector" is Latin for one who reads. At Mass we speak of the lector.

Back to the trunk of the tree.

Paul's letter to the congregation in Ephesus, an ancient city in what we now know as Turkey, includes a section about marriage and the man's and woman's role in a marriage.

Remember, this letter was written in the days of male domination in all things. I dare say an author would be careful about using some of Paul's words today.

The text, we heard it last weekend, says that the husband and wife should always "be subordinate to one another out of reverence for Christ." Well said, St. Paul.

The line in Chapter 5 of Paul's letter to the Ephesians that makes

today's reader nervous is "wives should be subordinate to their husbands in everything."

A dear friend of mine, of happy memory, used to elbow his wife of many years whenever I read that line. He would have a grin on his face that would cause his wife to roll her eyes and shake her head. I knew he was just being silly. His actions would cause me to stifle a laugh

if I looked at him, so I did not.

That couple, like most, was happily married and they loved and cared for each other very much. The reading from Paul was purposefully misinterpreted by him for the moment.

Marriage is a blessed relationship between a man and a woman. In marriage, each promise to help the other be holy and "derives its force and strength

from creation."

Bishop Terry LaValley thinks so much of the union of man and woman in marriage that he celebrates those committed to the sacrament each year by offering Mass and his thoughts during the homily. All couples celebrating their reception of the Sacrament of Marriage are invited to attend and participate September 8, 2024, at 2:30 pm at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg.

The Diocesan Office of Family Life organizes the Celebration of Marriage in conjunction with the deacon community of the Diocese. The event is free, but registration is encouraged. You can register online by entering www.rcdony.org/jubilee.

Join us in celebrating your marriage.

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

JOB OPENING

Director of Youth Ministry/Coordinator of Campus Ministry

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg is seeking a **Director of Youth Ministry/Coordinator of Campus Ministry**. The position is responsible for the planning and implementation of the diocesan youth program.

The position will also provide support, direction and motivation for campus ministers at each campus ministry location. Applicants must be a practicing Catholic. Applicants should have a Bachelor's Degree with extensive experience in the fields of religious education and faith formation, successful experience as youth minister, knowledge of current catechetical documents, familiarity with the characteristics of youth's personal, spiritual and emotional development, proven interpersonal skills and competency in administration and the use of technology. Salary: \$48,500 - \$60,000.

Submit letter of interest, resume and three professional references to: Human Resources Office
Diocese of Ogdensburg,
P.O. Box 369, Ogdensburg, NY 13669
or e-mail: ksnover@rcdony.org.

YOUTH SERVER PICNIC

Photos by Jacob Fargo & Darcy Fargo

Around 60 youth from around the Diocese gathered at Camp Guggenheim Aug. 12 to play games, hear vocation stories, eat lunch and attend Mass. The youth were also honored for their years of service to their parishes as altar servers, lectors, greeters and faith formation assistants.

