Pope: learn from families

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Society and the church have much to learn from the family and, in fact, the bond between the church and the family is "indissoluble," Pope Francis said.

Families bring needed values and a humanizing spirit to society and, when they mirror God’s love for all, they teach the church how it should relate to all people, including the "imperfect," the pope said Oct. 7 during his weekly general audience.

While members of the Synod of Bishops on the family were meeting in small groups, Pope Francis held his audience with an estimated 30,000 people in St. Peter’s Square. He asked them to accompany the synod with their prayers.

While the Catholic Church insists that governments and the economy need families and have an obligation to give them greater support, Pope Francis said, the church itself recognizes that it, too, must have a "family spirit."

Using the Gospel story of Jesus telling the disciples he would make them "fishers of men," Pope Francis said, "a new kind of net is needed for this. "We can say that today families are the most important net for the mission of Peter and the church," the pope said.

Diocese in compliance with charter

Elaine Seymour, charter compliance coordinator for the Diocese of Ogdensburg, reported that "12 years after the promulgation of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, the Diocese of Ogdensburg continues to be in full compliance with the 17-point document, according to a recently completed on-site audit."

StoneBridge Business Partners of Rochester, arrived in the diocese Sept. 14 and conducted a three day on-site audit for the July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015 year.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

2015 Caritas dinner set

Two couples from Ogdensburg will be honored at Oct. 28 Catholic Charities event.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

2015 Caritas dinner set

Two couples from Ogdensburg will be honored at Oct. 28 Catholic Charities event.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

AT THE PRAYER RALLY

PHOTO SUPPLIED
Bishop Terry R. LaValley leads the rosary in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament at the Knights of Columbus Diocesan Prayer Rally held Oct. 4, at St. Mary’s Church in Canton. More photos on page 4.

FACES OF FACE: In support of life, at parishes and schools, pages 6 & 15
Welcome, Caroline Margaret!

As the pope, synod bishops and Catholics around the world were buzzing about the family this past week, our family experienced the indescribable joy of watching ours grow... by six pounds and nine ounces.

A week before her due date, Caroline Margaret Killian, burst into the world and pushed this Grammy right over the moon.

There's always talk about miracles when a baby is born, but the greatest miracle must be the amount of love that such a tiny creature can engender in the hearts of a family.

In the months before she was born, I knew her mommy and daddy wondered how they could possibly love a second child as much as their first born son. Their love for Patrick, after all, filled every molecule of their being.

And now they know that — miraculously — their love just expands beyond measure.

It's nourished throughout these challenging early days as Patrick gives his baby a kiss, as Jillian cuddles with both of her little ones and as Jonathan takes care of them all.

When Pope Francis said in his weekly audience that “society and the church have much to learn from the family,” I immediately thought about this young family of ours.

Infants bring joy to a home but they also bring sleepless nights, countless anxieties, thousands of tears (and not just from the baby!) I think that young parents like Jon and Jill "mirror God's love" more than just about anybody.

Day after day they give everything they have to care for the children knowing that they’ll get little in return. (Well except for baby hugs which are, in fact, quite priceless.)

Year after year, the challenges of raising these children will only grow as will their determination to insure that Patrick and Caroline become good and loving and faithful people.

And while I say the world could learn a lot from young families, Jonathan just might point to an example from a higher branch of the family tree.

Growing up near his grandparents, Jon and his brother and sister were witnesses to a love that survived six decades, for better or for worse, in sickness and in health, until their deaths just six weeks apart from each other.

These are people, they could tell Pope Francis, who had much to teach society and the church about family. And they did.

And, how blessed we all were as the family connection was cemented in the moment we knew that Caroline was coming; her arrival was confirmed on the very day we said goodbye to her great-grandfather, new life giving enormous comfort on the saddest of days. Coincidence? I don’t think so!

A PASTOR’S PERSPECTIVE

Understanding our church as family

Family — our Catholic Church is considering seriously the whole notion of family.

Pope Francis spoke often about family during his visit to the United States. In his homily at the World Meeting Of Families in Philadelphia he emphasized often the Church’s concern for the whole idea of family. His hopes are that the Church will be a source of help and strength and love for all families. For us, Catholics, there is nothing more important than the family.

Today, many of the Church’s Bishops are meeting in Synod with Pope Francis — a Synod on the Family. There are many lay married couples there also for these discussions. We are all anxious to learn of the statements and the decisions of the Synod. The Synod will concern itself with the Catholic Church’s opportunities to be of help and support to all families. For us, Catholics family begins with our reverence for the Holy Family — Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Our Savior chose to come among us as one of us in this world in a family. This

Fr. William G. Maechich

places a great deal of reverence to all families for all times. Let us start by understanding our Catholic Church as a family. Every time, we gather for Mass, we do so as a family. So, the first thing each of us should do at Mass is to look around to notice who is present. This is our family at this Mass, whether it is the small group at our parish Church or the thousands at a Papal Mass.

As family, we should begin each Mass by praying for all who are there and we should expect them to pray for us. If there are any strangers in our parish Church at a Mass — a visitor of some sort — we want them to know that at this Mass they are part of our family. We are praying for them; we ask them to pray for us.

By the way, as a parish family at Mass, we are united in prayer with all those in the parish — those who are with us at this Mass — and those who are not. So, as a parish family — we remember in a special way, the sick, the needy, the lonely of the parish. We remember those of the whole parish family, even those who have decided to separate themselves from the Catholic Church.

The challenge as Catholics is to make each Mass more like a family with each parish more of a family. As a pastor, I have joined with many parishes in that adventure of making a parish a family. I have also noticed, many other pastors, priests friends, who have accomplished so much in making their parish a family with a spirit of concern for each other, a happy spirit of parish life and friendship.

This kind of parish brings peace and love to all the families of the parish. There is a unique spiritual closeness of God’s love and peace for each family. However, there is al way the challenge for each family to make their house into a home.

I enjoy watching the HGTV channel with its many programs of people redoing houses to meet their family desires. There are other programs when the people are shown two different buildings and possible redoing some things — and they are to choose between them.

People put a lot of effort and money into building a good house and one can understand why. But perhaps there is a danger of forgetting the more important thing — building a home, which is a family of love. The atmosphere in the home is far more important than the quality and quantity of the furnishings. The atmosphere is determined by the quality of the relationships.

The family is very fragile in our times. It is under many stresses and difficulties. Yet, in spite of everything, many parents make enormous sacrifices for their children. All such parents can draw inspiration from the example of Mary and Joseph.
Diocese's policies found to comply with charter

OGdensburg - Elaine Seymour, charter compliance coordinator for the Diocese of Ogdens­burg, reported that "12 years after the promulgation of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, the Diocese of Ogdens­burg continues to be in full compliance with the 17-point document, according to a recently completed on­site audit."

StoneBridge Business Partners of Rochester, arrived in the diocese Sept. 14 and conducted a three day on-site audit for the July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015 year.

Auditors visit the diocese every three years to provide information and guidance that can be useful to the bishop.

"Compliance with the articles of the Charter has a greater significance than simply passing an audit," Mrs. Seymour said.

For protection of children

"Compliance reflects the Church's embrace of promises made by the bishops to protect the young and vulnerable and to facilitate the healing of victims of clergy sex abuse," she said.

Bishop LaValley expressed his gratitude to all diocesan staff, priests, parish personnel, and Catholic School educators for their "diligent attentiveness in providing safe environments in our parishes and schools."

The auditors met with Bishop LaValley, Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, safe environment coordinator, members of the diocesan review board, the victims assistance coordinator, and other diocesan representatives who oversee the implementation of the Charter on a daily basis.

The auditors also visited St. Mary's Cathedral, Trinity Catholic School and Sacred Heart School in Massena, St. Andre Bessette Parish in Malone and St. Mary's Parish in Canton.

Ogdensburg couples to be honored at Caritas dinner

OGdensburg - Catholic Charities Annual Caritas Dinner will take place Oct. 28 at the Gran­View Restaurant in Ogdens­burg.

Each year, Bishop Terry LaValley and the Board of Trustees, presents two prestigious awards. This year the Caritas Award recipients are John and Jane Pinkerton of Ogdensburg. The President's Award recipients are Tim (T.J.) and Jeannine McLellan of Ogdensburg.

Both awards are given to individuals, couples or groups who champion the building of compassionate and caring communities. Understanding that charity implies justice challenges government officials, human service workers and business men and women to serve their community.

John Pinkerton, in his work as Ogdensburg City Manager, has witnessed to the integrity that can exist in government. Jane Pinkerton, in her position at St. Mary's Cathedral and her past work on the Catholic Charities staff proves that compassion and caring changes lives.

Jeannine and T.J. McLellan, as successful business persons, professionals and the co-founders of Northern Physical Therapy, make it clear that leaders who see their role as servants can educate and motivate others to reach out to their neighbors in need.

Two daughters, three sons and four grandsons along with John and Jane make up the immediate Pinkerton family.

A daughter and two sons along with T.J. and Jeannine make up the immediate McLellan family. Both families are members of St. Mary's Cathedral Parish.

Their parish and the community have benefitted from the generosity and involvement of the Pinkertons and the McLellans.

John Pinkerton serves or has served on the Ogdensburg Boys and Girls Club Board, the Chamber of Commerce, St. Joseph's Nursing Home Board, Ogdensburg Growth Fund, and the Kiwanis.

John taught religious education for 12 years. He served on the school council and the Bishop Conroy School of Religion Board.

Jane Pinkerton has taught religious education, the Red Cross Babysitting training and worked with the Ogdensburg Command Performance. Jane is also a kidney donor.

Tim and Jeannine McLellan's mission remains to help the people of the North Country improve their overall health and well-being by achieving their rehabilitation and fitness goals, no matter what their current needs and abilities.

Tim and Jeanine contributed to over 200 different events/organizations in the North Country in 2014. Jeanine serves on the North Country Savings Bank Board of Trustees, the Frederic Remington Art Museum Board of Trustees and as manager for the St. Lawrence Steel Hockey team. Tim is a member of the Ogdensburg Lion's Club, the Knights of Columbus and serves as a trainer for the St. Lawrence Steel Hockey team.

"No doubt, our community benefits from the presence, the commitment and the generosity of Jeanine, T.J., John and Jane," said Daughter of Charity Sister Donna Franklin, diocesan director of Catholic Charities.

The evening begins with a cash bar at 5:30 pm and dinner at 6 pm. The cost is $40 per person.

Reservations, which are required, may be made by calling Catholic Charities at: (315) 393-2255, by Oct. 21.

All funds raised through this event are used to provide counseling and critical needs services to individuals and families in our community. No administrative expenses are paid for with these funds.
Bishop Terry R. LaValley invites you to join him for our annual

Harvest Mass of Thanksgiving
dedicated to farmers and their co-workers.

Sunday, October 25, 2015
2:00 p.m.
St. Stephen’s Church
Croghan, New York

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever.
(Ps. 118)
Dear Director: I’d like to share my blessings with the poor for the sake of the Gospel, so I’m enclosing a sacrifice for the missions. Please pray for my intentions:

Enclosed is my sacrifice in the amount of $__________________________

Name ___________________________ Address ___________________________ City __________ State _______ Zip _______

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith · Diocese of Ogdensburg
622 Washington St · PO Box 369 · Ogdensburg, NY 13669
Tel: (315)-393-2920 · Fax 1-866-314-7296
website: www.rcdony.org/mission office
Email: mryan@rcdony.org
Sister Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ, Director
Molly M. Ryan, Secretary, Bookkeeper

Please remember The Society for the Propagation of the Faith when writing or changing your will.
OCTOBER IS RESPECT LIFE MONTH

STANDING UP FOR LIFE

Pro-lifers across the diocese show their conviction.

Sue and Greg Peck took part in the annual Life Chain in Saranac Lake Oct. 4 along Lake Flower. The event is a prayerful, peaceful protest against abortion held each year on Respect Life Sunday. Other Life Chains in the diocese were held in Willsboro, Plattsburgh and Potsdam.

Father Patrick Ratigan, pastor of St. Bernard’s in Saranac Lake, joined the Oct. 4 Life Chain in the village.

Champlain Valley Right to Life has been promoting the pro-life spirit by placing billboard messages on highway sites around the North Country. The above billboard will appear on Route 22 south from Beekmantown and near Plattsburgh between Ashley Road and Burke Road beginning Nov. 19. Contributions to assist with this project may be sent to: Ms. Rosa Salinas, 3 Fort Brown Drive, Apt. 103, Plattsburgh, NY 12903; write for Billboard Fund on the memo line of the check. (Note: the contributions are not tax-deductible.)

Parishioners of St. Philip of Jesus Church in Willsboro gathered for the third National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children at Calvary Cemetery Sept. 12.
OCTOBER IS RESPECT LIFE MONTH

PHOTO BY ZACK LEADER
Father Thomas Higman, parochial vicar of St. Bernard’s in Saranac Lake, joined fellow pro-lifers in silent witness for life at the 2015 Life Chain in Saranac Lake Oct. 4

OUR READERS WRITE

Celebrating life in creation

The weekend of September 18-20, a diverse group of Catholics from across the Diocese met with Sr. Bethany Fitzgerald, SSJ to experience the love of Creator through nature.

This weekend retreat, “Wonders of Creation - Finding Jesus in the Heart of the Universe,” was a grace-filled opportunity to meet God in His creation through hiking, canoeing, presentations and prayer.

Guggenheim Lodge on Saranac Lake was the setting for our prayer, presentations, wonderful meals, and many opportunities for sharing with each other.

Paul Hetzler, a seasoned arborist and horticulture and natural resource educator at Cornell University Cooperative Extension in St. Lawrence County, is an extraordinary woodman, and he guided us through Henry’s Woods in Lake Placid.

Father Paul Kelly celebrated a spirit-filled Eucharist with us on Saturday afternoon, during which we first discussed Pope Francis’ newest encyclical, “Laudato Si.”

Sunday brought further exploration of God’s creation through contemplative prayer, in and out of the Lake, and through the beginning of a discussion by the retreatants on the richness of the Encyclical.

I am personally grateful to have had the opportunity to participate in this retreat and to grow in my faith through the experience of God’s love manifested in our beautiful earth.

I am also grateful for the caring people who participated with me and for the work we have begun - to address environmental issues as expressed in the Encyclical.

MICHELE MEYERS CANTON

Visit our website
www.northcountrycatholic.org

- Read Bishop LaValley’s columns
- Search archived papers
- View diocesan events and much more
- Find us on Facebook!

GO GREEN!
Receive the NCC in your e-mail every Monday where ever you are in the world, E-mail claward@dioogdensburg.org to sign up today.
Bishop’s Fund supports Natural Family Planning

By Suzanne Pietropaoli
Diocesan Natural Family Director

The World Meeting of Families has just ended; the Synod on the Family has just begun. Here in the Diocese of Ogdensburg, families are now the focus of a diocesan priority, and they have long been the special concern of the Family Life Department and its member offices.

Accompanying couples as they live out their commitment to God and to one another is an extraordinary privilege.

Among these is the Natural Family Planning Office, whose work includes proposing God’s plan for sex, love, and marriage—and offering instruction in NFP to couples who choose to embrace this path of discipleship.

Wendy and Austin came to NFP class several years ago, shortly after their wedding. At Pre Cana, they had heard about Natural Family Planning for the first time, and it started them thinking. What, they wondered, if there really were a way to approach fertility as something natural and good—in stead of fearing it and taking potentially dangerous drugs to “control” it, or resorting to surgery to remove it altogether? What would their relationship be like without contraception?

In the end, it was Austin who persuaded Wendy to check out NFP classes. “I love Wendy more than my life,” he explained, “and I could not let her keep swallowing chemicals to prevent pregnancy. There had to be a better way, and I was determined to find it.” Because she loved Austin, Wendy agreed to come to classes, though she was skeptical at first.

What the couple found was an eye-opening educational experience. As Wendy recalls, “Like most people in our generation, we had been through high school biology and health classes, where sex was treated like any other bodily function. The same message we came away with was: ‘Do whatever you want, just don’t get pregnant!’ But we had no idea of the real wonder and beauty of sex, of fertility and conception. Natural Family Planning helped us understand this, and it helped us to appreciate one another in a whole new way.”

This husband and wife, like so many others, were awed by the beauty of God’s design, and were amazed by the precision and perfection of reproductive physiology. They were quick to learn that fertility can be readily understood and its signs reliably interpreted. They were quick to process and apply this information, which has empowered them to effectively plan their family without drugs, devices, or surgery.

But NFP is not merely about avoiding pregnancy; it is also about achieving pregnancy and increasing a couple’s appreciation for the gift of children. It is about building a family. “When we weren’t ready for a baby, NFP worked perfectly,” Wendy explains. “Then, when we were ready to conceive, NFP also worked perfectly. For both of us, knowing I was fertile and asking God to bless us with a baby—that is an indescribable experience!”

Wendy and Austin continue to use NFP, and to be open with each other about God’s plan for their family. They currently have three children, and remain open to having another child—or two. They are quick to explain that living this way of life and love has enriched their relationship in unexpected ways, and has made them more open to God and more deliberate about prayer, sacraments, and service. This couple has discovered that, in fact, God’s way works: not because it is easy, but because it is good for marriage and good for the family.

Accompanying couples like Wendy and Austin as they live out their commitment to God and to one another is an extraordinary privilege.

We in the NFP Office are privileged to participate in this beautiful marriage-building work, and are very grateful to all whose generosity to the Bishop’s Fund makes it possible.

Environmental Stewardship

Why Plant a Tree?

Recently a group of children at Trinity Catholic School were observed placing plastic bags on several branches of a large maple tree in their school yard. When asked what they were doing it, the students explained that they were conducting a science project.

After observing and measuring the water in the bags over a period of time, these sixth graders learned that trees produce lots of water each day. They also give off oxygen that we need to breathe, and they help to purify the air.

So these students gave me two reasons for planting a tree:

(1) It provides much needed moisture for all living beings.

(2) It acts as the ‘lungs of the earth’ to help cleanse our air from pollution.

There is another reason for me to want to plant a tree. It has many lessons to teach me about life. Its very beauty celebrates the beauty of God!

During these lovely autumn days, just gazing at their many colors can take away my breath.

Recently I learned that it takes more energy for a tree to produce red leaves in the fall, and the scientists really don’t know why they expend that extra energy to do that?

Perhaps God just wants to “Wow” us! Tasting the many fruits and nuts that the trees share, all creatures, reminds me of God’s incredible generosity and reminds me of His calling to do the same with all that He has bestowed on me.

Planting a tree then can be not only for its beauty but for its capacity to benefit all of Creation. The season of fall, arbors tell us, is a great time to plant a tree.

When space doesn’t permit us to plant one, we can make a contribution to an organization that plants trees in one’s name.

Bishop’s Schedule

Oct. 16 – 17 – “Celebrate Christ” at the Crown Plaza in Lake Placid

Oct. 17 – 4 p.m., Mass at St. Brendan’s Church in Keene
5:30 p.m., Mass at St. Agnes Church in Lake Placid

Oct. 18 – 11 a.m., Diocesan Scouting Mass at St. Alphonsus Church in Tupper Lake

Oct. 19 – 4 p.m., Pontifical College Josephinum Board Retreat in Columbus, OH

Oct. 20 – Pontifical College Josephinum Board of Trustees Meeting in Columbus, OH

Protecting God’s Children

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has scheduled sessions for Protecting God’s Children for Adults. Pre-registration online is required in order to participate. Participants may preregister at www.virtus.org by selecting the registration button and following the directions. All employees and volunteers who participate in church-sponsored activities with minors are required to participate. Further information is available from Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, 315-393-2920, ext.1440

Upcoming sessions:
Oct. 14 – 6 p.m., St. Augustine’s Church, North Bangor
Oct. 14 – 6:30 p.m., St. James Church, Gouverneur
Oct. 19 – 6:30 p.m., St. Stephen’s Church, Crogan
Oct. 20 – 5:30 p.m., Trinity Catholic School, Massena

To Report Abuse

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

Victims Assistance Coordinator, Terrianne Yanulavich, Adult & Youth Counseling Services of Northern New York, 413 Ryan Road, Churubusco, NY, 12923; e-mail: terrianneyanulavich@yahoo.com; Phone: 518-483-3261; or Father James Seymour, Episcopal Vicar for Families, 483-3261; or Deacon James O’Mara, 483-3261; or Father James Haffey, 1918; Sister Ellen Donahue, 315-393-2920, ext.1440

Rest in Peace

This week marks the anniversary of the deaths of the following clergymen men who have served in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.
Oct. 17 – Rev. Antoine Anselm Thomas, 1900; Rev.athanase Marion, O.M.I., 1935

Oct. 14, 2015

Attention Snowbirds:

Going South for the Winter

Notify our office so you don’t miss a single issue of the North Country Catholic! Call (315) 608-7556 with your winter address.
Missions are those “particular undertakings by which the heralds of the Gospel, sent out by the Church and going forth into the whole world, carry out the task of preaching the Gospel and planting the Church among peoples or groups who do not yet believe in Christ. . . . The proper purpose of this missionary activity is evangelization” (Ad Gentes, no. 6).

Making A World Of Difference
A gift of $10 is a month’s support to provide bicycles for more than 40 full and part time catechists in Mali. A gift of $25 would be a month’s support for a young woman preparing to serve as a Religious Sister. $60 is enough to provide a month’s education for a seminarian in a mission diocese. $100 helps buy 36 Bibles, print 10,000 leaflets with the Christian message, and conduct a faith formation program for 100 people in Tanjore in South India.

Mission Support
Mission Sunday $73,399.15
Legacies $5,000.00
Memberships $350.00
Unrestricted Gifts $3,574.00
Lenten Appeal $6,843.00
Christmas Appeal $3,495.00

The Special Funds
Missionary Project of the Diocese of Ogdensburg $39,390.92
Missionary Cooperation Plan $72,056.64
Announced Mass Offerings $36,129.12
Unannounced Mass Offerings $2,060.32

Each year, about one half of the parishes take up the Missionary Projects of the Diocese of Ogdensburg (MPDo) Collection, while the other half takes up the Missionary Cooperation Appeal, in the following year the collections are reversed.

St. Peter Apostle Appeal
$5510.48 was given by our people to the Society of St. Peter the Apostle to educate native priests and novices for mission areas.

The 2015 World Mission Sunday takes place in the context of the Year of Consecrated Life, which provides a further stimulus for prayer and reflection. For if every baptized person is called to bear witness to the Lord Jesus by proclaiming the faith received as a gift, this is especially so for each consecrated man and woman. There is a clear connection between consecrated life and mission.

The desire to follow Jesus closely, which led to the emergence of consecrated life in the Church, responds to his call to take up the cross and follow him, to imitate his dedication to the Father and his service and love, to lose our life so as to gain it. Since Christ’s entire existence had a missionary character, so too, all those who follow him closely must possess this missionary quality.

Holy Childhood Association Funds for School Year 2014-2015
School Totals $4,901.44
Religious Education Totals $860.05
HCA TOTALS $5761.49

2014 Summary of Funds
Propagation of the Faith $215,028.84
Summary of Expenses $49,219.07

Notice
This report covers the fiscal year of Jan. 1, 2014 to Dec. 31, 2014; with the exception of the Missionary Childhood, which covers September 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

The Pontifical Mission Societies of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, Inc.
Sr. Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ, Diocesan Director
Molly M. Ryan, Secretary/Bookkeeper
PO Box 369
Ogdensburg, New York 13669

Visit Our Updated Mission Office Website:
www.rcdony.org/missionoffice

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parish</th>
<th>Mission Sunday</th>
<th>Missionary Cooperation Plan</th>
<th>Missionary Projects of the Diocese of Ogdensburg (MPDO)</th>
<th>Number of Families</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adams</td>
<td>842.58</td>
<td>427</td>
<td>700</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>749</td>
<td>79/winter; 207/summer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community of Alexandria</td>
<td>818</td>
<td>451</td>
<td>441</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afton</td>
<td>443</td>
<td>873</td>
<td>310</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>152</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AuSable Forks/Black Brook</td>
<td>650.21</td>
<td>1225.5</td>
<td>350</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilmington</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>65</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black River</td>
<td>474</td>
<td>414</td>
<td>132</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defieriet</td>
<td>148.5</td>
<td>135.75</td>
<td>54</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brothern Falls</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>1917.31</td>
<td>511</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Lawrence</td>
<td>117</td>
<td></td>
<td>117</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brownsville/Dexter</td>
<td>1151.25</td>
<td>1218</td>
<td>537</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brantton</td>
<td>1293</td>
<td>1255.65</td>
<td>370</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Banger</td>
<td>468</td>
<td>436</td>
<td>178</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colden</td>
<td>950.1</td>
<td>1309.37</td>
<td>300</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canton</td>
<td>1545.56</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>661</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cape Vincent / Chaumont / Rosiere</td>
<td>648</td>
<td>1113</td>
<td>340</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carthage</td>
<td>2221</td>
<td>1643.45</td>
<td>945</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copenhagen</td>
<td>434</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>176</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Champlain</td>
<td>497</td>
<td></td>
<td>700</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chateaugay</td>
<td>878</td>
<td>1265.02</td>
<td>403</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burke</td>
<td>205</td>
<td></td>
<td>205</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chazy</td>
<td>649.55</td>
<td>1038.08</td>
<td>420</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clayton</td>
<td>1377.75</td>
<td>1936.91</td>
<td>535</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LaFargeville</td>
<td>203.05</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>113</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cohort</td>
<td>918</td>
<td>916</td>
<td>182</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constable/Westville</td>
<td>458</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>160</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Leyden</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>109</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cropghan</td>
<td>1511</td>
<td>1107</td>
<td>552</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Derenmore</td>
<td>852</td>
<td>939.86</td>
<td>538</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redford</td>
<td>457</td>
<td>734</td>
<td>977</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabethtown</td>
<td>498</td>
<td>583</td>
<td>150</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westport</td>
<td>268</td>
<td>463</td>
<td>90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellenburg</td>
<td>554.5</td>
<td>1285</td>
<td>287</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evans Mills, Theresa</td>
<td>313.35</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>103</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>75</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Covington</td>
<td>539.65</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>130</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hogansburg - SP</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td>174</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bombay</td>
<td>473</td>
<td></td>
<td>170</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gouverneur</td>
<td>585</td>
<td></td>
<td>585</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edwards</td>
<td>70</td>
<td></td>
<td>70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heuvelton</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>370.06</td>
<td>240</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisbon</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>190</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Lake</td>
<td>862</td>
<td>1369</td>
<td>130</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Mountain Lake</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>487.35</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roseville Community</td>
<td>1028</td>
<td>1354</td>
<td>719</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Placid</td>
<td>1405.25</td>
<td>5232.45</td>
<td>500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keene</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>993.27</td>
<td>130</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Pleasant, Speculator</td>
<td>438</td>
<td>947</td>
<td>265</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wells</td>
<td>444</td>
<td>492</td>
<td>266</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisville</td>
<td>1444.75</td>
<td>1429.42</td>
<td>777</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glenfield</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>216</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Houseville</td>
<td>330</td>
<td></td>
<td>44</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyon Mt</td>
<td>718</td>
<td>2078.4</td>
<td>340</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTALS**

- **Mission Sunday** and **Mission Coop Appeal 2014** collections are calculated using the dates of our Fiscal Year (Jan. – Dec. 2014).
- **Missionary Projects of the Diocese of Ogdensburg Appeal 2014** is calculated using the dates of Jul. 2014 Dec. 2014. The Diocese is split in half between Mission Coop and Missionary Projects for the Diocese of Ogdensburg Appeals. These totals do not reflect any 2014 payments that were received in the Mission Office after January 1, 2015 for the purpose of our annual financial review/audit.
- It is also possible that some amounts represent combined totals amongst parish groupings. Parish listings are as of September 2014.
Missionary Childhood Association

“...reminding Catholics of their vocation to be missionaries and encouraging participation in the Church’s Mission to bring the “Good News” of Jesus to the world.”

CATHOLIC SCHOOL GIFTS TO THE MISSIONARY CHILDHOOD ASSOCIATION
September 1, 2014- August 30, 2015 (School Year)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parish and Religious Education Center</th>
<th>Gifts to the Missionary Childhood Association</th>
<th>September 1, 2014 – August 30, 2015 (School Year)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parish</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Copenhagen - St. Mary’s Church</td>
<td>$146.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croghan - St. Francis Center</td>
<td>$196.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heuvelton - St. Raphael’s Church</td>
<td>$25.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massena - St. Mary’s/St. Joseph’s</td>
<td>$28.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ogdensburg - St. Mary’s Cathedral</td>
<td>$229.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rouses Point - St. Patrick’s Church</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saranac Lake - St. Bernard’s Church</td>
<td>$109.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watertown - St. Anthony’s Church</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watertown - Holy Family Church</td>
<td>$50.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
<td><strong>$860.05</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* These totals do not reflect those donations that were mailed directly to National Office by individual Parish Religious Education Programs.

IHC faculty and staff together enjoy the benefits of their stuff animal drive for local children.

Parish and Religious Education Center Gifts to the Missionary Childhood Association September 1, 2014 – August 30, 2015 (School Year)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parish</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>AUSABLE FORKS-Holy Name School</strong></td>
<td><strong>$382.85</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CANTON-St. Mary’s School</strong></td>
<td><strong>$158.20</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CARTHAGE-Augustinian Academy</strong></td>
<td><strong>$622.70</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GOUVERNEUR-St. James School</strong></td>
<td><strong>$177.02</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LAKE PLACID - St. Agnes School</strong></td>
<td><strong>$90.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MALONE–Holy Family School</strong></td>
<td><strong>$485.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MASSENA-Trinity Catholic School</strong></td>
<td><strong>$300.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PLATTSBURGH-Seton Academy Elem School</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1839.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WATERTOWN- IHC Elem School</strong></td>
<td><strong>$846.67</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4901.44</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* These totals do not reflect those donations that were mailed directly to National Office by the individual schools.

Immaculate Hearth Central School students shown pitching in at car wash fundraiser to raise funds.
As the first week of the Synod of Bishops on the family comes to an end

‘God’s mercy, forgiveness are good news for all’

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - The heart of the Synod of Bishops on the family is the challenge of discerning ways to reach out with God’s mercy to people, who might not be perfect, and to help them move closer to perfection, said Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl of Washington.

The first step, the cardinal said, is to “recognize what the human condition is and that we are all caught up in it -- that’s what the fall was all about and that’s what Jesus’ death on the cross was all about. We do live in an imperfect world and each one of us is imperfect, but we also have the salvific grace of God at work in each one of us.”

Cardinal Wuerl, speaking to Catholic News Service Oct. 9, said it was important for the synod members to show people around the world both that the church still believes firmly that marriage and family are blessings, but also that church leaders know there are challenges raised by society and by the individuals themselves.

“I think it’s good for people to hear that their shepherds recognize that they are struggling, that it isn’t as easy as it sounds in the catechism,” he said. “At the same time, God’s grace is at work in our lives.”

Many at the synod, he said, are echoing Pope Francis’ call, “Go out. Meet people.

The church has an obligation to meet people where they are, encounter them where they are. Not to scold them, but to accompany them on the faith journey.”

I think it’s good for people to hear that their shepherds recognize that they are struggling, that it isn’t as easy as it sounds in the catechism
Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl of Washington, DC

Cardinal Wuerl said he is always touched by the pope’s addition of a reminder that if you accompany them, maybe both of you will get closer to Jesus.”

The key to the pastoral care of families — both the strong and the weak — is Pope Francis’ call to go out and to encounter, the cardinal said.

“Now when you encounter someone, you have to do that with respect,” he said. “Does that mean acceptance of their lifestyle? Not necessarily. But you have to respect them for who they are. And then you begin to walk with them, trying to understand where they are while also inviting them to draw closer to Christ.

“I think that’s what this pope asks us to do: respect people,” he said. “You don’t have to approve what they’re doing, but if you are going to walk with them, you have to do so with a sense of respect.”

Speaking after hearing the reports of all the synod’s small working groups, Cardinal Wuerl said one common thread was that while the church needs to recognize “all of the problems that marriage is facing today, we also need to weave into that the witness, the testimony of all those people who are living successful family life, who are living successful marriages.”

But if the synod does not speak openly and honestly about the challenges, he said, nobody will listen to the rest of what the synod has to say.

While people do not need a “fervorino” - a pious pep talk - “admitting, recognizing and seeing the problems has to be balanced with encouragement that not everybody is succumbing to the problem.”

After listening to the small group reports, synod members — including Cardinal Wuerl — began talking about what the church brings to the reality of the family.

The third section of the synod’s work will deal with what the church’s pastoral response should be, the cardinal said, “and that’s where the challenge of this synod will be and that’s where this synod will be different from past synods because we have been asked to take a look at practical, pastoral responses.”

At the same time, God’s grace is at work in our lives

In his speech to the synod, the cardinal said, “One of the things I touched on was the need to remember a two-fold element: that the fullness of the teaching and the mercy, God’s mercy, as we try to live that teaching, are both elements of the faith. They are both essential and intrinsically related elements of the faith.”

The church always has presented its teaching and called people to live it fully, he said. At the same time, the church always has said, “When you fail, here’s confession. And when you’re struggling, here’s absolution. The thing to do is to get up and keep trying.”

“That’s the beauty of our faith,” he said.

Some people who are living the faith more closely may be tempted to feel neglected or even annoyed, Cardinal Wuerl admitted. Jesus knew those people, too.

In the Gospels, he said, “the Good Shepherd goes out after the one lost sheep. In the parable of the prodigal son, the older son is encouraged by the father to be loving and forgiving so that the one who has been away is welcomed back.”

“Remember, Jesus also used the parable about a man going out and hiring people at different hours,” but paying them all the same, Cardinal Wuerl said. When people complained, the landowner said, “Are you annoyed with me because I’m generous?”

“Yes, there could be a temptation to say, ‘Look, I’ve struggled in the heat of the sun all day and what reward do I get? Heaven. And this person comes along at the end of the day and what reward does he or she get? Heaven,’” the cardinal said.

“What we need to say is, ’Isn’t it a blessing that Jesus died on the cross so that all of us could have heaven?’” Cardinal Wuerl said.
Bishop calls Catholic men to get off sidelines, step 'into the breach'

By Tony Gutiérrez
Catholic News Service

PHOENIX (CNS) - Catholic men must reclaim and live the virtue of Christian masculinity, Phoenix Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted says in his newly released apostolic exhortation, "Into the Breach."

Addressing Catholic men in the diocese -- "my spiritual sons" as the bishop calls them -- he charges them to be prepared for spiritual battle for their souls and the souls of their families is aimed.

The name of the exhortation is taken from a passage from the Book of Ezekiel: "And I sought for a man among them who should build up the wall and stand in the breach before me for the land."

Citing statistics about the decreasing involvement in parish life and participation in the sacraments, the bishop notes that "while we know that Christ welcomes back every repentant sinner, the truth is that large numbers of Catholic men are failing to keep the promises they made at their children's baptisms -- promises to bring them to Christ and to raise them in the faith of the church."

In defining what it means to be a Catholic man, Bishop Olmsted says that Jesus, fully God and fully man, is the perfection of masculinity. "Only in Jesus Christ can we find the highest display of masculine virtue and strength that we need in our personal lives and in society itself."

Bishop Olmsted offers the saints as models of masculinity, recommending male saints such as St. Joseph, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Thomas More, Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati and others as examples.

Bishop Olmsted then asks:

How does a Catholic man love? He describes the types of masculine love: as friend, husband and father. Stressing the importance of men finding a "band of brothers" to join in Christian fraternity, he offers examples in the diocesan men's conferences, Knights of Columbus, That Man Is You program and Cur­silho movement.

"We see that Jesus called his disciples to himself in such a way that they would form deep bonds of friendship and brotherhood," Bishop Olmsted says. "I am convinced that if men will seek true brotherhood, the adversities we face today will solidify bands of brothers who will be lauded in heaven!" adds the bishop.

Regarding how a man loves as a husband, he challenges young men to prepare for marriage before meeting their future brides. "Such training in sacrifice is to love your bride before you meet her, so that you may one day say, 'Before I knew you, I was faithful to you.'"

Speaking to those called to be husbands, he reminds them of St. Paul's exhortation for husbands to love their wives as Christ loves the church. "This is the glory, men! Called to marriage, you are called to be as Christ to your bride."

"We need to see masculine chastity for what it is, whereas too often, this virtue is seen in negative light, as something weak," adds the bishop. "Chastity is strength and a rejection of slavery to the passions. Christians have always believed that chastity, whether in marriage or celibacy, is a freedom from the enslavement to sin and our passions."

Tackling the sins of pornography and masturbation, he says that while the culture wrongly encourages these "narcissistic" habits, they do nothing more than teach men to use others.

"Think of pornography as just as serious and no less grave than adultery," he says. To attempt to love another person while engaging in this practiced narcissism, without being transformed by mercy, will surely bring grave harm.

"When considering the contexts of temptations, we are able to invite God to send his grace, says the bishop, adding that in the sacrament of confirmation is found "superabundant grace and support."

"Through building purity of heart, men, you will not only see God in the women in your lives but also in yourselves, also the 'image of God!' Even if the darkness seems insurmountable, Christ never abandons us."

Moving into the final section of his exhortation, Bishop Olmsted notes that the number of children born to unmarried homes has increased 700 percent since 1950, adding that there are those in the culture who don't see fatherlessness as a problem.

"Do not be fooled by those voices wishing to erase all distinctions between mothers and fathers, ignoring the complementarity that is inherent in creation itself," he says. "Step up and lovingly, patiently take up your God-given role as protector, provider and spiritual leader of your home."

"A father's role as spiritual head of the family must never be understood or undertaken as domination over others, but only as a loving leadership and a gentle guidance for those in your care," he said.

"Fatherhood, whether in a family or through the priesthood, reflects imperfectly the fatherhood of God, Bishop Olmsted says."

Pope's remarks seen as a road map of urgent actions for U.N. to take

UNITED NATIONS (CNS) -- In the warm afterglow of Pope Francis’s Sept. 25 address to the General Assembly, veteran United Nations observers drew a starkly candid road map of urgent actions that the world body must take to achieve its security agenda. Speakers at an Oct. 7 side event hosted by the Holy See’s permanent observer to the U.N. said the organization’s top priorities must be nuclear disarmament and the protection of civilians in conflict areas. Archbishop Bernardino Auza, the Vatican’s ambassador to the U.N., said Pope Francis described “an urgent need to work for a world free of nuclear weapons, in full application of the nonproliferation treaty, in letter and spirit, with the goal of a complete prohibition of these weapons. Nuclear deterrence and the threat of mutually assured destruction cannot be the basis for an ethics of fraternity and peaceful coexistence.” Pope Francis said in an earlier message to an international conference in Vienna. The pope said it is immoral to possess nuclear weapons, because deterrence rests on the willingness to use them, panelists said.

California bishops disappointed assisted suicide measure is law

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (CNS) -- California’s bishops expressed disappointment with Gov. Jerry Brown’s Oct. 5 signing of a measure legalizing physician-assisted suicide in the state, saying the law “stands in direct contradiction to providing compassionate, quality care for those facing a terminal illness. This bill does nothing to validate the lives of the vulnerable,” said the California Catholic Conference, the public policy arm of the state’s bishops, in a statement soon after Brown’s action. The conference added that the legislation “isn’t compassion” and does not support or promote the common good. “As Catholic bishops in California, we join hands with the disability rights groups, physicians, other health care professionals and advocates for the elderly in opposing physician-assisted suicide as the wrong way to advance the human dignity for those facing a terminal illness,” the conference said. The prelates also pointed out that the 48 Catholic hospitals in California “provide excellent palliative care services as all medical facilities for terminally ill patients should but often do not.”

Prison visit should have broad impact, says sister who teaches there

PHILADELPHIA (CNS) -- A woman religious who teaches a course at the Philadelphia prison Pope Francis visited Sept. 27 believes the pope’s outreach to prisoners will have an impact on the criminal justice system in America. "He’ll be aware of the injustices that may occur in the prison system," and his presence will raise public awareness about prison systems around the country, said Mercy Sister Elizabeth Linehan, a professor of philosophy at Jesuit-run St. Joseph’s University in Philadelphia. "He’s aware of the United States’ reputation as ‘the great incarcerator,’ with our country having a higher percentage of our population in prison than any other country’s proportion," she added. She also said she hopes the pope’s visit to the Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility will bring to light such injustices as men not convicted of a crime yet serving prison time while they await trial, and some others imprisoned without having bail set.
AUTUMN IN THE NORTH COUNTRY

FACES OF FAITH

Bishop Terry R. LaValley visited with mothers of Augustinian Academy students from military families following the first Friday Mass at St. James Catholic Church in Carthage Oct. 2. Pictured, from left, are Gina Finn, Sarah Bilotta, St. Joseph Sister Annunciata Collins, principal; Katie Clarkson, Bishop LaValley, Tracy Bannister, Elizabeth Reichert and Father Donald Robinson, pastor.

Deacon Brian Dwyer blesses Ava Carr’s pet as her classmates look on during the celebration of the Feast of St. Francis at Holy Family School in Malone.

Allison Rosenbaum, right, guidance counselor at Seton Catholic School in Plattsburgh, presents Seton senior, Hailey Moore with a certificate in recognition of her Commendation as a 2016 National Merit Scholarship Program Recipient.

Bishop Terry R. LaValley met with the Council of Consecrated Life at his home Sept. 12. The delegates of congregations serving in the Diocese of Ogdensburg are, front, from left, St. Joseph Sister Norma Bryant, Bishop LaValley and Servite Sister Juliana Fitzpatrick; back, Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, episcopal delegate, Sister Maria Flavia D’Costa, a Sister of the Cross of Chavanod; Ursuline Sister Sheila Murphy, Grey Nun Sister Joan McElwain, St. Joseph Sister Annunciata Collins, Dominican Sister Elizabeth Menard, Mercy Sister Janet Peters, St. Joseph Sister Jennifer Votraw and Sister Bernadette Duchearme, a Sister of Charity of St. Louis.
SCROLL THROUGH THE PAGES OF THE NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC
to read the October 14, 2015 edition.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

A message on service for Mission Sunday

Our readings on this Mission Sunday convey a clear message about service. Jesus came to this earth as a servant. Six hundred years before, Isaiah had foretold that one day God would send a Suffering Servant to give His life for the salvation of all humankind. He would be a light for all nations. He would be a “missionary servant.”

In the recent visit of Pope Francis to Cuba and the United States, we saw Christ’s Vicar as a missionary servant in word and in action. The earnestness of his message and the welcoming smile of his body language spoke volumes to us.

He urged all of us to become evangelists, welcoming all into Christ’s Church. In the Gospel, Jesus tries to prepare the disciples for His suffering and death. They had other ideas, though, and even as Jesus was predicting what would happen soon, they were not listening. In Mark’s Gospel, the two “sons of thunder”, James and John, make a bid for a power position in Jesus’ new kingdom. They’re eager and too confident as they ask the Master for the choice seats next to His Throne! Jesus doesn’t get angry with them. After Jesus assures them that seating arrangements will be made by God the Father, he quietly asks them if they’re prepared to drink the bitter cup He is about to drink. James and John must have looked at each other in some embarrassment and confusion before they reply, “We can!”

Now the other disciples are angry and resentful at James’ and John’s attempt to pull one over on them. Obviously, they’re looking for power and prestige just as much as the two brothers.

Sadly, Jesus realizes that none of them understand, so he emphatically and clearly sets the rules for Christian discipleship.

There is to be no “fording” it over one another! Whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all, for the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Pope Francis, the chief apostle in today’s Church, urges us on this Mission Sunday to pray and give financial support for our missionaries at home and abroad who are bringing many to faith through the example of their lives of sacrifice and service.

RESPECT LIFE

Help stop assisted suicide in NY: now’s the time!

By Kathleen M. Gallagher
Director of Pro-Life Activities,
New York State Catholic Conference

JJ Hanson is a fighter. A Hudson Valley native, JJ joined the Marine Corps after college, served his country in Iraq, and later became active in politics. He knows a thing or two about battles.

Now he is in the fight of his life. Still in his 30s and the married father of a young son, JJ was diagnosed in May of 2014 with Grade 4 Glioblastoma. That’s the same terminal brain cancer that afflicted Brittany Maynard, the young Californian woman who took her life last year after becoming a national advocate for assisted suicide.

JJ understands her pain, her fears, her suffering.

But JJ sees a different role for himself in his time of trial. Like I said, JJ is a fighter. He has been through surgeries, chemotherapy, and radiation treatments. He knows the odds are still against him.

But he also knows that his life is a gift, and he cherishes it. He fights for his life, he fights for his family, and he fights for cutting edge clinical research that is crucial to finding a cure for this terrible disease.

And he is bringing his fight to Albany.

On Saturday, November 7, JJ Hanson will be one of several inspirational speakers at a training conference to help Catholics understand physician-assisted suicide and what we can do to make sure it does not come to New York State.

Since the highly-publicized death of Ms. Maynard, advocates in favor of assisted suicide have been working overtime to legalize the practice in numerous states.

Their bill in California was rushed through a special legislative session and signed into law by Governor Brown on October 5. We must not let that happen in our state.

In New York, two different but equally dangerous bills have been introduced, and a lawsuit has been filed, all in attempt to overturn New York’s current ban on assisted suicide.

The stakes are high—literally life and death— and the debate will begin in earnest in January when the 2016 NYS Legislative Session begins. We must be prepared!

The November 7 conference, at St. Pius X Parish Hall in Loudonville, also features a family practitioner who will explain why the medical community has always opposed doctor-assisted suicide and an attorney who will break down the suicide legislation to reveal the loopholes and lack of safeguards for vulnerable people.

Sister M. Peter Lillian Di Maria, a Carmelite Sister for the Aged and Infirm from Germantown, New York, will cap off the conference. Sister Peter is the Director of the Avila Institute of Gerontology, where she educates people about palliative care, comfort and compassion at the end of life, allowing natural death with true dignity.

Recognizing the importance of this critical issue, Albany Bishop Edward Scharfenberger will welcome participants to the conference and offer a special blessing.

Please come be a part of this important and timely training. Registration is $10, and includes lunch and all materials. You can register on-line at www.nyscatholic.org/registration or by calling the Catholic Conference at 518-434-6195.
The Martian

By John Mulderig
Catholic News Service

Though the compelling sci-fi epic "The Martian" (Fox) is an unusually long movie, what viewers of faith may cherish most about this masterful adventure is a single line of dialogue in the form of a three-word prayer.

Brief as it is, this one utterance - made all the more eloquent by the apparently casual tone in which it's pronounced - represents a ringing affirmation of belief in divine assistance.

Few have ever needed the aid of providence more than the character who delivers this line, astronaut Mark Watney (Matt Damon).

Because, by the time he offers his short plea to God, Mark is alone on the surface of Mars, more than 30 million miles away from home. The film's opening scenes recount the series of unexpected occurrences that led to Mark's terrifying plight. The botanist on a NASA mission to the Red Planet - "The Martian" is set in a version of the near future where such journeys are more or less routine - Mark, like his colleagues, was forced to abandon his work on short notice due to the sudden arrival of a fierce windstorm that threatened to destroy their rocket.

As they all scrambled to depart, Mark was struck by flying debris and swept out of sight in the tempest, leaving his crewmates, led by conscientious Commander Melissa Lewis (Jessica Chastain), with no time to mount a rescue attempt.

Back on Earth, NASA director Teddy Sanders (Jeff Daniels) delivered the bad news to the public, officially announcing Mark's death.

Though Mark is, of course, alive - albeit wounded - his chances for long-term survival are bleak. He has only limited supplies of food, water and power - and no means of communicating with anyone.

As it charts Mark's desperate struggle to turn his situation around, director Ridley Scott's screen version of Andy Weir's novel skillfully uses its protagonist's dread-inspiring predicament to examine fundamental aspects of the human spirit: courage and ingenuity, the fear of isolation and the yearning for solidarity.

Along the way, screenwriter Drew Goddard's script touches on religion only once more - and again just in passing. Yet the picture's respectful, if incidental, treatment of the subject continues to draw power from its own understatement.

The screenplay's faith-affirming overtones also register as all the more pointed given the science-celebrating context which surrounds them - a setting in which such views might mistakenly be thought to be out of place.

Based on the fine quality of its values, at least some parents may consider "The Martian" acceptable for older teens - the elements of potential concern listed below notwithstanding. The film contains some medical gore and occasional crude and crass language.

The Catholic News Service classification is A-III - adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 - parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

Media 'gets' and media 'hits' during papal visit

By Mark Pattison
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) - Just as Pope Francis got what he wanted from his apostolic journey to the United States in a close-up view of American Catholicism at its most compassionate and energetic, so too did the media covering Pope Francis largely get what they sought in covering his six-day September visit in the form of larger audiences.

Cable news audiences jumped as Pope Francis made his way to Washington, New York and Philadelphia.

Over-the-air and cable news organizations sent their top talent to cover the pope and to anchor the coverage in the three cities. They nearly had to. With the amount of time needed for Secret Service clearance, journalists assigned to a pool could cover just one papal event each day unless some news organization was lucky enough to have a reporter, photographer or videographer embedded with the papal entourage coming from Rome, with a stop in Cuba before arriving in the United States.

CNN, which has been an also-ran in the ratings compared to the Fox News Channel for more than a decade, actually topped Fox on a couple of days with its papal coverage.

MSNBC, which has been badly trailing in third place in the cable news ratings race, also saw ratings spikes with its coverage. MSNBC unveiled a new focus on breaking news that coincided with the papal visit. It also reintroduced viewers to Brian Williams, a Catholic who had been suspended for six months by MSNBC's parent, NBC News, for fabricating and embellishing news accounts in his past on-scene reporting. MSNBC's papal coverage topped CNN and Fox News' numbers a couple of times during daytime hours, and its numbers were MSNBC's second-best of the year, trailing behind only its coverage of the Supreme Court decision on same-sex marriage.

TVNewser, a blog created by Mediabistro and now part of its sister site, Adweek, not only counted how many ratings eggs were in each cable news nest, it did its own share of clucking when writer Chris Ariens commented on openly gay CBS and Cooking Channel host and "The Good Wife" guest star Mo Rocca "delivering" one of the readings during the Sept. 25 Mass at Madison Square Garden in New York City.

"His mother is Colombian, and very proud," Ariens said. "Rocca's appearance was a hit on social media."

Social media did not play into most mainstream news coverage of Pope Francis' visit, according to a study conducted by the Pew Research Center and issued Oct. 7. Of the 507 stories it researched, only 60 of them, or 12 percent, made any reference to social networking in them -- and of those, 83 percent made references to Twitter. Those numbers belied the sea of cellphone cameras that lined pope-mobile routes and church aisles alike as Pope Francis was making his way to, or into, an event. Some bishops themselves were not immune to the cellphone-photo-of-the-pope phenomenon. Selfies with the pope in this milieu, with the Catholic Charities lunch in downtown Washington Sept. 24 as an example, are a particularly prized possession -- but one eagerly shared on social media like Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Snapchat.

The Pew study also parsed the percentage of the stories that included different types of sources.

More than half of them, naturally, included Pope Francis or the Vatican -- 56 percent to be exact. Members of the public were quoted in 31 percent of the stories, an indication of the desire to be with or at least

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19
Nov. 4

3460
Joins us for a peaceful, 
12,
SI.

SATION

Thetrimmings There will be immediate 
sentary donations for local food pantry wel­

mores.

Contact: 236-7733

OUR COMMON HOME

Plattsburgh - St. Peter's Parish is present­

ing a program on Pope Francis' Encyclical 
Laudato Si.

Date: Wednesdays Oct. 8 - Nov. 4.

Time: from 6:30 until 8:00 p.m.

Place: Emmanuel Room.

Presenters: Msg. Duprey and members of the Environmental Stewardship group.

HARVEST DINNER

Altona - Holy Angel's Church to have a 
Harvest Dinner Buffet.

Date: Oct. 25

Time: 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Cost: Adults, $9; Children 5-12, $4; 
under 5, Free

Features: Roast Turkey and Ham with all the trimmings There will be immediate seating and take-outs available. There will also be a raffle, pull tabs, a Country Store and craft tables.

Contact: To reserve a craft table call 
236-5848.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Plattsburgh - Eucharistic Adoration is held throughout the year every Wednes­

day, Thursday, and Friday.

Place: St. John's "Holy Family" Adora­
tion Chapel, downstairs

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

Contact: call 518-561-5083 or email 
jphsnadoration@aol.com

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION

Ellenburg Center - Our Lady of the 
Adirondack's House of Prayer to hold 
First Saturday Devotion.

Date: Nov. 7

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Features: Mass, rosary

Contact: RSVP for lunch to olaprayerg­
house@gmail.com or 518-594-3253

ESSEX

HARVEST DINNER

Willsboro - The Catholic Community of 
St. Philip of Jesus & St. Joseph will have a 
turkey dinner will all the trimmings.

Date: Oct. 22

Time: Take-outs at 4 p.m.; 5 p.m. to 7

Cost: Adults, $9; Children 6-12, $5; 
under 5, Free

Features: 50/50 Raffle, Basket of Cheer.

FRANKLIN

TURKEY DINNER

Fort Covington - St. Mary's will have 
their annual Turkey Dinner.

Date: Oct. 18

Time: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Parish Hall

Cost: Adults, $9; Under 12, $5; under 5, Free

Features: Take-outs available. There will be a country store With baked goods, canned goods, fresh produce and flea market items. 50/50 raffle, multi-price 
raffle, Chinese auction.

YANKIE POT ROAST:

Chateaugay - The 36th Annual Yankee 
Pot Roast, family style harvest dinner 
will be held.

Date: Oct. 18

Seatings: Noon, 2:30 p.m. and 5 p.m.; 
Take-outs and Home Delivery is 1 p.m. 
and 4; Reservations are not needed but 
appreciated by calling Pat at 497-3183 
or Mary Lou at 497-3154

Place: St. Patrick's Church

Cost: Adults, $9; Children 6-11, $4; 
under 5, Free

Features: Raffle with many prizes, 
Country store If you have craft items, 
call 497-6823. Proceeds will go towards 
the church's renovations and fuel. 
Workers are needed, please call 497-6673.

BEREAVEMENT MEETING

Wattertown - Eumenical Bereavement 
meeting to be held.

Date: Oct. 26

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. 
Joseph

Speaker: Mr. James Monaco, a psy­
chotherapist with a private practice in 
Wattertown.

Topic: "Dealing with Grief- How to heal 
from the loss of a loved one."

SANDY HOOK MOTHERS

Waterford - During the past two Lents 
the IHC Mystery Players have gone to 
Newtown, Connecticut, to present the 
"Way of the Cross" for the community 
that dealt with the Sandy Hook Eleemen­
tary School shooting. Two of the moth­
ers are coming to IHC to speak.

Date: Oct. 28

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: School Auditorium

Features: The event is free and open to 
all. The women will speak on how faith 
has helped them cope. They will speak 
about 45 minutes and take questions.

HARVEST DINNER

LaFargeville - Annual Harvest Dinner 
to be held.

Date: Nov. 1

Time: 11:30 a.m. until sold out

Place: St. John's Evangelist Church

Cost: Adults and all take-outs, $8.50; 
Children 5-10, $4; under 5, Free

Features: Turkey will be served family 
style, raffles and a Country Store.

Contact: 315-686-3398

ELECTION NIGHT DINNER

Alexandria Bay - Annual Election night 
ham dinner to be held.

Date: Nov. 3

Time: 5 p.m. to 7; Take-outs start at 4 p.m.

Place: St. Cyril's Church

Cost: Adults $9; Children, $5; under 5, Free

Features: Meatballs, $.75 each

Contact: For deliveries call 955-5504

"LAUDATO SI"

Waterford - Discussion sessions on 
"Laudato Si", Pope Francis' encyclical on 
the Care for our Common Home.

Date: Six-week program every Tuesday 
Oct. 13 - Nov. 17

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 11 (with option to attend 
Mass) or 6:30 p.m. to 8

Place: Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse

Cost: $11 for the copy of the Encyclical 
and a discussion guide

Features: The program will include a 
brief overview of each of the six chapters 
on successive meeting dates followed by 
small group discussion. Sponsored by 
Social Justice Committee, Sisters of St. 
Joseph of Watertown, and the Water­
town Faith & Ecology Group

Contact: Please call or email to make 
reservations. St. Bethany, 315-782-3460 
or sbbethy@gmail.com

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

Watertown - The Altar Rosary Society 
will be having a spaghetti supper.

Date: Oct. 29

Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7

Place: St. Anthony's Msgr. Sechi Hall

Cost: Adults, $8; Children, $4.50; under 
3, Free; Sauce, $5 per quart; Meatballs, 
$7.50 each

Features: Take-outs begin at 4 p.m., 
please bring your own containers.

CRAFT FAIR VENDORS

Watertown - Immaculate Heart Central 
Home & School Club will be holding a 
craft fair and is in need of vendors.

Date: Nov. 14

Cost: $25 per table

Contact: IHCHASC@gmail.com for an 
application, or contact Lori Hickman at 
(518)250-6008; Applications can also be 
picked up at either IHC Primary school 
on Winthrop Street or Intermediate 
school on South Massey Street in Water­
town. Deadline is Oct. 19.

PEACEFUL PRAYER FOR LIFE

Watertown - Join us for a peaceful, 
prayerful witness of prayer and hymns for 
the Sanctity of human life.

Date: Every day through October includ­
ing Sundays.

Time: Noon to 1 p.m.

Place: Planned Parenthood office on

LEWIS

HOLY HOUR

Lowville - Holy Hour to be held.

Date: Oct. 15

Time: 6 p.m. to 7

Place: St. Peter's Chapel

Features: All are invited to worship with 
Adoration prayers, the Divine Mercy 
Chapel, and Benediction.

K OF C BRUNCH

Lyons Falls - The South Lewis Knights of 
Columbus will be having an all you can 
eat pancake brunch.

Date: Oct. 18

Time: 8 a.m. to Noon

Place: St. John's Church Hall

Cost: Adults, $7; Children 5-12, $4; 
under 5, Free

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE
A Eucharistic celebration for all the World

World Mission Sunday, organized by the Propagation of the Faith, is a day set aside for Catholics worldwide to recommit themselves to the Church’s missionary activity through prayer and sacrifice.

In 2015, World Mission Sunday is celebrated this coming Sunday, October 18.

World Mission Sunday 2015

Annually, World Mission Sunday is celebrated on the next-to-last Sunday in October. As described by Pope John Paul II, World Mission Sunday is “an important day in the life of the Church because it teaches how to give: as an offering made to God, in the Eucharistic celebration and for all the missions of the world.”

Every year the needs of the Catholic Church in the Missions grow - as new dioceses are formed, as new seminaries are opened because of the growing number of young men hearing Christ’s call to follow Him as priests, as areas devastated by war or natural disaster are rebuilt, and as other areas, long suppressed, are opening up to hear the message of Christ and His Church.

That is why the involvement and commitment of Catholics from around the world is so urgently needed. Offerings from Catholics in the United States, on World Mission Sunday and throughout the year, are combined with offerings to the Propagation of the Faith worldwide.

Mission dioceses - about 1,100 at this time - receive regular annual assistance from the funds collected. In addition, these mission dioceses submit requests to the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples for assistance, among other needs, for catechetical programs, seminaries, the work of Religious Communities, for communication and transportation needs, and for the building of chapels, churches, orphanages and schools.

These needs are matched with the funds gathered in each year. The world’s national directors of the Propagation of the Faith vote on these requests, matching the funds available with the greatest needs.

These funds are then distributed, in their entirety, to mission dioceses throughout the world.

So, as we approach World Mission Sunday, please consider a donation, big or small, to the second collection this weekend. The good we do here helps so many so far away.

Please remember “The Society for the Propagation of the Faith” when writing or changing your Will.

http://www.rcdony.org/mission-office.html

Media

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

It must be remembered that Pope Francis met with Obama in the White House Sept. 23, and addressed a joint meeting of Congress Sept. 24. Obama also met the papal plane when it arrived from Cuba Sept. 22, and Vice President Joe Biden led the delegation at the papal farewell from Philadelphia Sept. 27.

For those caught up with papal visit news, it should be remembered that other news that took place around the world and in the United States during the papal visit, like the death of Hall of Fame baseball player Yogi Berra.

Another key news item was the resignation announcement by House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, the day after the pope’s remarks to Congress. Boehner was on plenty of TV screens the day of the papal address and the day he announced he was quitting, making reference to his meeting with Pope Francis before he addressed Congress’ joint meeting.

For a New or Used Car

Mort Backus & Sons

On Canton-Ogdensburg Rd.

315-393-5899

Support And Pray

For Vocations
HEALING MASS
Lowville — Fr. Chris Carrara will celebrate a Healing Mass.
Date: Oct. 24
Time: 10 a.m.
Place: St. Peter’s Church
Features: The Sacrament of the Sick will be offered during Mass. The Mass will be followed by a breakfast in church hall.

ALTAR ROSARY MEETING
Lowville — New members are welcome to a luncheon meeting of St. Peter’s Rosary Altar Society.
Date: Oct. 14
Time: 12:30 p.m.
Place: St. Peter’s Church Hall

THEOLOGY ON TAP
Lowville — Theology on Tap to be held.
Date: Oct. 28
Time: 7 p.m.
Place: Barkeater Brewery
Features: Fr. Christopher Carrara will be speaking on the topic of evil in the world and will answer questions after.

PIZZA AND PRAYER
Lowville — Pizza and Prayer to be held every Monday.
Schedule: 5:30 p.m. to 6:15, pizza and social time; Bible Study 6:15 to 6:45; Pick up at 7 p.m.
Place: St. Peter’s Church
Features: Open to high school students. Most P&P will be Bible studies. The first Monday of the month will be Eucharistic adoration in the chapel, following the same time structure.

IMPACT NIGHTS
Lowville — IMPACT (High school youth group) nights are the first and third Sundays of the month.
Time: 6 p.m. to 8
Place: St. Peter’s Church

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP
Lowville — Middle School Youth Group to meet.
Date: Oct. 21 and third Wednesday of each month
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: St. Peter’s Church

ST. LAWRENCE

TURKEY DINNER
Brasher Falls — Turkey Dinner to benefit St. Lawrence and St. Patrick’s fuel fund.
Date: Oct. 18
Time: 11:30 a.m.
Place: Knights of Columbus
Cost: Adults, $10; Children 5-12, $7; under 5, Free
Features: Take-outs at 11 a.m. 50/50 raffle, Bake sale by Altar Rosary societies

HARVEST DINNER
Star Lake — St. Hubert’s Church to have a harvest dinner.
Date: Oct. 24
Time: 5 p.m.
Cost: Adults, $9; Children 5-10, $5
Features: Take-outs available by calling 848-3612

HOLIDAY BAZAAR AND BAKE SALE
Star Lake — St. Hubert’s Church to have a Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale.
Date: Nov. 7
Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; coffee and donuts 9 a.m. to 11; lunch 11 a.m. to 1
Features: Hundreds of handcrafted items, gift baskets, live wreaths, and a Children’s Shoppe.

RUMMAGE SALE
Canton — Rummage sale to be held. Bag Sale Oct. 16, from 8 a.m. to 11.
Features: Clothing, household items, plus misc. items

HARVEST DINNER
Ogdensburg — Notre Dame Church to have their Annual Harvest Dinner.
Date: Oct. 18
Time: Noon to 3 p.m.
Place: Knights of Columbus Hall
Cost: Adults, $9; Children 5-12, $5; under 5, Free (Eat in only)
Features: Take-outs available. Roast Turkey with all the trimmings and dessert. 50/50 raffle and craft table.

SENIOR CITIZEN DINNER
Brasher Falls — Annual Senior Citizen dinner to be held.
Date: Oct. 14
Time: Cocktails 5 p.m.; Dinner 6 p.m.
Place: Knights of Columbus Hall
Features: Open to ALL seniors living in the Quad-Town area. Choice of Roast Beef or Chicken.

Contact: If you would like to join, call 315-328-4077 or 389-5557

LATIN MASS
Potsdam — A Tridentine (Latin) Mass is celebrated each Sunday
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Place: St. Mary’s Church

Eucharistic Adoration
Massena — Sacred Heart/St. Lawrence holds a Eucharistic Support Group last Tuesday of each month.
Time: 2 p.m.
Place: Sacred Heart Convent
Contact: 315-769-3137

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP
Massena — Sacred Heart/St. Lawrence holds a Bereavement Support Group last Tuesday of each month.
Time: 2 p.m.
Place: Sacred Heart Convent
Contact: 315-769-3137

DAYS OF DISCERNMENT
Potsdam — Discerning men are invited to come together & consider the call the Roman Catholic Priesthood.
Dates: Oct. 25;Nov. 8 & 22; Dec. 6 & 13; Jan. 17 & 31; Feb. 14 & 28; March 13; April 3 & 17
Time: 3 p.m.
Place: St. Mary’s Rectory
Features: Reflection and vespers. No reservation necessary, just come along.
Contact: Your Catholic Campus Minister or Father Howard Venette, pastor @st.maryspatrick.net 315-265-9680; Father Douglas Lucia, fdoug@twcny.rr.com or Father Bryan Stitt, bstitt@rcdony.org

CELEBRATE CHRIST
Lake Placid — Celebrate Christ 2015 has been planned. The theme for this two day event, Nurturing Families and Parishes with Living Stones.
Dates: Oct. 16 for Catholic School administrators and faculties. Oct. 17 is for all people engaged in parish life
Place: Crowne Plaza
Features: Dr. JoAnn Paradis, national catechetical consultant for Our Sunday Visitor Curriculum division, will speak on the first day on the topic “Crossing the Threshold to Intentional Discipleship.” Dr. John Roberto, president of LifeLong Faith Associates, will speak on the second day. Bishop Terry R. LaValley will celebrate the opening Mass Saturday at 9 a.m.