Church called to welcome all

ASUNCION, PARAGUAY (CNS) – Christians cannot force anyone to believe, but at the same time, no one can force Christians to stop being welcoming, loving and living in solidarity with others, Pope Francis said.

On the last day of his July 5-12 visit to South America, Pope Francis celebrated Mass with close to 1 million people at Asuncion’s Nu Guazu Park. Artist Koki Ruiz designed the altar and stage, which was made of coconuts, corn cobs, gourds and other plants and vegetables. The fruits of the earth and the expressions of local culture were obvious at the Mass with its prayers in Guarani, a native language, and with a variety of traditional hymns and percussion-punctuated songs.

Tens of thousands of people from Argentina, including President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner and Greek Orthodox Metropolitan Tarasios of Buenos Aires, also attended the Mass.

“Our communion with God always brings forth fruit, always gives life,” Pope Francis said in his homily.

A firm trust in God, the pope said, is learned within a family and within a community that has experienced the transforming power of God’s grace and knows it is called to share that grace with others.

NFP Week to be held July 19-25

“All Natural! Good for the body. Great for the soul!” is the theme of this year’s Natural Family Planning Awareness Week, a national educational campaign to celebrate God’s vision for marriage and promote the methods of NFP.

FULL STORY, PAGES 3, 8-9

It’s Mission Co-op time

Parishes on the western side of the diocese will welcome missionaries to their pulpits.

FULL STORY, PAGES 7 & 15

WELCOME TO GUGGENHEIM!

PHOTO BY COLLEEN MINER

Matt Conger and Maeve McCullough are thrilled to finally welcome campers to Camp Guggenheim in Saranac Lake July 5. The opening was delayed for a week while the search for the two prisoners who had escaped from the Clinton Correctional Facility was being conducted throughout the Adirondacks.

YOUNG CATHOLIC VOICE: Our ‘woman in gold’ in face of persecution... p. 12
Welcome, welcome, welcome

We seem to have a bit of a theme running on the first two pages of this week’s NCC as the word “welcome” appears in four headlines, including the one above. The pope seeks a welcoming church, Father Muench a welcoming parish and Guggenheim staffers are happy to finally welcome their campers.

It’s a rather timely concept since, if it’s July in northern New York, we know it’s reunion time! Many of us are preparing to welcome classmates and cousins back to our glorious part of the world.

I am blessed to be part of a family that cherishes every second that we can be together; our reunions are much anticipated and thoroughly enjoyed.

While this year will be bittersweet as we remember the parents who made our loving family reunions possible, it will also be a time for rejoicing as we look forward to a year with new babies and the start of new families.

Between our hotdogs and goofy games, we will honor all the lives that expand our love. God is good!

July is also a traditional time for people in our diocese to welcome missionaries to our parishes as part of the Missionary Co-op Appeal. This year, the parishioners on the west side of the diocese will hear missionaries tell their stories, making the lives and needs of people around the world more real.

At the same time, parishioners on the east side of the diocese will have an opportunity to make a concrete difference in the lives of our “old friends” in Mollendo, Peru.

Dollars from our diocese will go a long way towards replacing a 30-year-old truck owned by our former mission parish, St. Martin de Porras.

This will certainly be “welcome” news for faraway people who are still close to our hearts!

A PASTOR’S PERSPECTIVE

Let us build a house, welcoming all

I am firmly convinced that one of the important prayers at Mass is the opening song, often called the gathering hymn. This song gives an initial message that helps us to understand the theme of today’s Mass.

I encourage people at Mass to follow the prayer that is the opening song even if they do not sing. Many people say to me – “I am such a bad singer – so they seem to ignore the opening song of the Mass.” My response to them is that they may be missing an important prayer of the Mass. So, I encourage them all to follow the prayer, to say the words even if they don’t sing the song to let the words of this prayer touch their lives.

Let me give you an example. The opening song at our Mass on a recent Sunday was “All Are Welcome.” The song begins by everyone declaring that we all want to make our Church community a place of love. “Let us build a house where love can dwell. And all can safely live.”

This house is not a building. It is a community, a Church family that all of us present would like to form by our love.

The song goes on – “A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.”

This song declares that we are all united as saints and children. Our faith in God gives us and leads us to holiness and gives us the grace to live good and loving lives. This is what it means to be a saint. Actually, this road to sanctity is not impossible or even highly difficult. Jesus gives us the strength and power to live good lives, to avoid evil, to become saints.

I have often had people say to me, “Well, Father, I’m no saint.” My response to them is “then you better get busy. This is what our life here is all about.” We know that Jesus will lead us and guide us on the road to sanctity.

We are the children of God. As we join together at Mass – as the children of God – we are preparing to celebrate the Blessed Eucharist and unite ourselves with the Lord in Holy Communion. As children of God, we find our destiny through the message of Our Savior, Jesus. We find love and peace as children of God. The song reminds us that as children of God, we are to develop forgiving hearts. We are to be forgiving as we believe God forgives us.

The song goes on “Built of hopes and dreams and visions. Rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of Christ shall end divisions.” So, we pray and sing at the beginning of this Mass. We pray that the love of Christ will flood this place, this congregation, so that we will be united with no divisions. We are one family, the family of the Lord, and we pray that our family will be a “rock of faith and vault of grace.”

Then comes the refrain, a refrain that is our message to the world, a refrain that declares our vision of our Church: “All are welcome, All are welcome, All are welcome in this place.”

All are welcomed to pray with our family, with our parish family, with our Church, even strangers. They are welcomed to become part of our family. As the family of the Lord, we want everyone, even the visitors to our community, and especially those present who may be sinners seeking the Lord to feel welcome.

“All are welcome.” We want them to be part with us. They will pray with us; we will pray for them and we ask them to pray with and for us.

This is only one verse of the song – there are several. There are many, many hymns that are prayers that will draw us ever closer to God.

So, don’t miss the wonderful prayers that are these wonder-

Bishop LaValley to lead Holy Year of Mercy Catholic Italy Pilgrimage

April 5 - 17, 2016 - 13 Days $3999 from Montreal

For information and reservations call 315-608-7556
Or e-mail: mkilian@rdcny.org
Have you ever read *Humanae Vitae*? Few papal documents have stirred greater controversy. Few have crafted more insightful and inspiring words describing the beauty of married love.

In this Encyclical, issued back in 1968, Blessed Pope Paul VI wrote about God’s design for married love and the gift of life.

As we mark National Natural Family Planning Awareness Week, July 19-July 25, we note that, in this document, Blessed Paul VI helps us to understand the decision making process that spouses should engage in when considering the number of children to bring into the world.

This Church teaching met fierce opposition from outside and considerable consternation from inside the Church. It seemed that contemporary conditions, particularly economic, were making it “burdensome to support a large family adequately” (*HV*, #2), so contraception became the routine method of regulating the birth of children into a family. It was, after all, the 1960’s. This was a time of liberation – freedom to do what one wanted.

Today, contraception is generally regarded by the medical community as the ordinary standard of care for women, even though fertility is not a disease requiring medical treatment. On the other hand, the Church’s teaching is often depicted as being opposed to the health and well-being of women, although natural methods actually empower women to live in harmony with their fertility without risks of any kind.

The Holy Father cautioned us that the widespread use of contraception would lead to “conjugal infidelity and the general lowering of morality.”

Can we deny that the rates of abortion, divorce, family breakdown, child and spousal abuse, and out of wedlock births have skyrocketed?

What is Natural Family Planning or NFP? It is the good visit title for the scientific, natural and moral methods of family planning that can help married couples either achieve or postpone pregnancies.

With NFP, no drugs, devices, or surgical procedures are used to avoid pregnancy; entirely natural and free of side effects, NFP is 98-99% effective.

In this way, the married couple cooperates with God in planning to have or not have children, rather than leaving God out of the picture by using artificial barriers in their becoming one flesh.

Every child is a miraculous gift that forever changes the life of a mom and dad. Too often our “throwaway” culture teaches us that children are more a burden than a gift.

Yes, being open to children requires real sacrifice. But such generosity of heart guarantees a rich adventure for which the human person was made.

Tragically, we live in a world where large families are often objects of derision and ridicule. The conception of children shouldn’t be prevented, but embraced as a sign of hope for the future.

I encourage you to set aside time to learn more about our Catholic beliefs about human sexuality, conjugal love and responsible parenthood.

*Humanae Vitae* is a good place to begin. Copies of this document can be obtained by contacting the NFP Office at 518-483-0459 or via email to aptropaoli@rdony.org.

As Catholics, we owe it to ourselves to understand Church teachings. This is one concrete way in which you can meet one of our diocesan goals: *Strengthening Faith Formation in Family Life*.

Visit our NFP office at our diocesan website: www.rcdony.org. We are so blessed to have Angelo and Suzanne Petropoli as our diocesan directors as well as all those who help with NFP instruction in our marriage preparation classes.

Natural Family Planning: Good for the Body—It’s all natural. Great for the soul!

---

**Work of the Living Stones Committee continues**

By Fr. Howard Venette
Member, Living Stones Planning Committee

Vibrant. Hope-filled. Joyful. No doubt, these words are descriptive of your parish.

They also capture the tone and work of the Living Stones Planning Committee, as we continue to prepare a roadmap for the future of parish life in our beautiful dioce.

An important aspect of our task is communication with the diocesan Church. Our plan is to regularly provide updates through diocesan media, especially the North Country Catholic, bulletin notices and our diocesan website which we hope to have updated soon (rdony.org).

Invaluable to the committee’s work is the input offered by individual Catholics. On that note, committee members would like to thank the pastors and parishioners who participated in the Listening Sessions which were recently held in each deanery. These were positive experiences which once again exhibited the love which the people of our diocese have for Christ and His Church in northern New York. Data collected from the sessions is being compiled for review at our next meeting.

On June 17, the Living Stones Planning Committee (LSPC) met at St. Francis Church, Constable. Among its agenda items, two very informative and practical tools were discussed and prepared for circulation among pastors and parish councils.

One of the tools is a survey of parish life, which utilizes various general indicators under the categories of programs, personnel, leadership and organization.

This instrument will help local parishes “take their own temperature,” as it provides an inventory of current parish life.

The second tool might be considered an exercise in personnel management, one already used by the LSPC. Pastors and their councils will be given a map of their local deanery; they will together plot the strategic placement of an assigned number of priests throughout their region.

It will be informative for the pastors and council members, as well as practical for the planning committee, as it reviews the local suggestions for placement of priests.

Parish linkages and reconfigurations are a necessary part of the LSPC’s ongoing task. Information gathered through the above exercises will assist the committee to prepare recommendations for Bishop LaValley, always with the needs of our parishes and priests as its priority.

Please pray for the committee and its work.

---

**For a New or Used Car**
Mort Backus & Sons
On Canton-Ogdensburg Rd.
315-393-5899
Chevrolet

---

Happy Birthday

July 26 to our dear former pastor Fr. Chris Looby.

Dorothy Collins, Brushton
Fr. Maroun: a priest on a mission

Newly retired priest looks back on a lifetime of challenges and joys

By Dave Shampine
Staff Writer

CARTHAGE - He sees himself as a reconciler, and in that light, Father George F. Maroun is reconciled to the reality that with the health challenges he faces, he no longer can carry on his pastorate at St. James Church and St. Mary’s in Copenhagen, his mission for the past 13 years.

“I can no longer function as I’d like to, and that’s not fair to the parish,” he said in a recent interview with the North Country Catholic. “I prayed about it and resolved that this is the right thing to do.”

Last October, Father Maroun, who had just turned 66 on Sept. 25, and enduring the effects of Parkinson’s disease, took advantage of a visit by Bishop Terry R. LaValley to reveal his decision to retire. “I said I’d remain to the end of the fiscal year, and he was very open to it.”

Although his retirement was effective July 1, Father Maroun remained in Carthage until July 12, allowing his successor, Father Donald F. Robinson, to enjoy some vacation time.

A Tupper Lake native, Father Maroun is the youngest of four sons of Camil and Navi Moses Maroun. He began studies for the priesthood at Wadhams Hall Seminary, Ogdensburg, following his graduation in 1966 from Holy Ghost Academy, Tupper Lake, where he was president of his class of 28.

He was a 19-year-old seminarian when his parents were both fatally stricken by heart attacks just ten months apart, in 1967 and 1968.

He continued his work for his vocation at Christ the King Seminary, St. Bonaventure University, and on May 4, 1974, he was ordained by Ogdensburg Bishop Stanislaus J. Brzana.

The following day, the new priest celebrated his first Mass in his home parish, St. Alphonsus Church in Tupper Lake.

Father Maroun reflected on his life as a priest, giving some frank observations, during an interview in the community room which he saw renovated in the basement of 191-year-old St. James Church.

The interview follows:

What inspired you to become a priest?

Since fourth grade, I wanted to be a priest. I came from a good family, and when I was born, my grandmother, Mary Moses, (buried in Carthage) predicted I’d be a priest. She was a very simple person, illiterate, and she prayed a lot. The nuns at Holy Ghost were the Daughters of the Holy Spirit, who came to Tupper Lake directly from France, and they were a great influence on me.

Do you have a favorite saint?

St. Francis of Assisi, St. Joseph, and the Blessed Virgin Mary. She was a spiritual mother to me when my mother died.

You had been a priest about eight years when you were sent to do mission work in Mollendo, Peru, in 1982. Did you volunteer or get assigned?

I volunteered. The Bishop can’t tell you to go. One of our missionaries, Father Paul Hagan, had come home for his father, who was dying, but he was killed in an accident. He died before his father did. (Father Hagan was 57 at the time of the Jan. 18, 1980 accident in the town of Gouverneur.)

I was associate director of the missionary office, and since nobody else offered to replace him, I felt I should go. It was supposed to be for three years, but it lasted six.

I was sent to evangelize them, but it was they who evangelized me. You see the face of God in the poor.

Were you ready to come home in 1988 or did you want to stay?

I was ready to come home, but I missed the people.

About the priest scandal, do you hold contempt for the offenders and their protectors?

I don’t hold contempt for anybody. The perpetrators may also have been victims themselves. It’s a very sad thing. It is inherent in the society in which we live that society is saturated with sex. It is in all walks of life.

The scandal had broken out shortly before I came to Carthage, and it was a challenge for me. I had to face this thing, and it wasn’t easy. It was difficult interacting with people, not knowing what might be on their minds.

It has served as an excuse for people to not go to church. We need reconciliation here. It will take generations for us to get over this.

Would you change anything in your career?

Nothing. I’ve had a very diverse ministry, doing mission work, parishes, Propagation of the Faith. I had to learn to speak Spanish, and to do in Peru (where he was known at Padre Jorge) without the conveniences we have here. We couldn’t make telephone calls … it was hard to hear … so we communicated with telex machines. I’ve faced up to the challenges, and I’m very happy with my vocation.

I guess if I had it to do all over again, I’d be more gentle on myself. I’d live my life more contemplative, in more prayer and meditation.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE
Fr. Maroun

Is there anything you can point to as a disappointment?

The most frustrating to me is in evangelization, I like to see some results. You can only affect so many people. I'm not here to be best friends with somebody.

My focus is to bring people together. I see myself as a reconciler, a mediator. I think I've succeeded, but then it is frustrating when I don't see those people returning to church.

So I feel my mission has not been accomplished.

I'm not here for personal gratification. I'm on a mission. Illness may have forced me to be more laid back.

Do you ask God why he has allowed your health challenges, which in addition to Parkinson's, have been some bouts with cancer?

I've gained a lot of insight with the challenge of accepting the sicknesses and responding accordingly. If it's there, make the best of it. Consider the whole philosophy of suffering: Jesus suffered; the people in Peru, with their suffering, they are helpless.

And I'm doing fairly well with my Parkinson's.

Speaking of that, you met with Pope John Paul, who suffered from Parkinson's.

My first meeting with him was at a Propagation of the Faith session in the spring of 1981. He expressed concern about President Reagan being shot at (on March 30, 1981) and this was just a few weeks before his attempted assassination (on May 13, 1981).

In my second visit in February, 2003, the pope was suffering the effects of Parkinson's disease. It was very sad to see him like that.

How has your final pastoral assignment been?

St. James and Augustinian Academy with their long history are strong. And the impact of military people has been strong. Without them, I don't know if we could have survived. It's sad that you get to love them, and then they have to leave.

You have the Lebanese influence here. My grandparents are buried here, and I have shirt-tail cousins here. I love the people here, and Copenhagen is a good fit. I love them too.

Where will you be in retirement, what will you be doing?

I'll be living at St. Bernard's parish in Saranac Lake, assisting there. I'm not retiring from the priesthood. We don't retire from the vocation, but retire from being a pastor.

This will put me close to my family in Tupper Lake (his brothers are Majeed, William and Camil Jr.) without being on top of them. And I'll be near a good hospital, Adirondack Medical Center in Saranac Lake.

I also hope to spend part of the winter with my first cousin, Father Richard George, at Fort Pierce, Fla. That's in the Diocese of West Palm Beach, where (former Ogdensburg) Bishop (Gerald) Barbarito is.

Editor's note:

Father Maroun’s service during his 41 years of priesthood have brought him assignments at St. Mary’s Cathedral in Ogdensburg; Holy Family Church in Watertown; St. Anthony’s in Watertown, and the Church of the Visitation in Norfolk. He was also a faculty member at Wadhams Hall Seminary College, serving as assistant professor of language and religious studies.

Attention Scouts!

Would you like one of these?

There are a variety of emblems for Scouts of all levels and ages!

The emblems are awarded at the annual Bishop’s Scout Mass which will be held this year Oct. 18th in Tupper Lake!

For more information go to http://www.rcdony.org/scouting/emblems-and-medals.html or contact Cory Haynes at 518-856-9656 or chaynes14@gmail.com

It is easy to get started today!
Pro-Life booth to return to Clinton County Fair

By Colleen Miner
Diocesan director, Respect Life Ministry

PLATTSBURGH - Deacon Jack Lukasiewicz, chairman of Champlain Valley Right to Life since May 2014, is spearheading the Clinton County Fair Pro-Life Fair Booth for the second time.

The booth has had a presence at the Clinton County Fair for over 40 years.

"Numerous fair attendees return year after year offering their personal stories on how the information they received at our booth had saved a baby," Deacon Lukasiewicz said. "On occasion a mom, dad, or grandparent confides in us 'that baby' is right here with them, grown up, handsome or pretty, enjoying the gift of life to the fullest!"

Fair goers can expect to receive information on where to obtain prenatal care for infants, referrals to the Plattsburgh Pregnancy Center and Birthright.

Applications for free or low cost health insurance for families as well as education items related to stages of pregnancy, alternatives to abortion, post-abortion healing, chastity and other family-oriented materials, will also be offered.

Pamphlets, DVDs, books, cards and trinkets are available for a donation to the Champlain Valley Right to Life. Each year, New York State Right to Life raffle tickets are sold which provide support pro-life efforts in New York State.

The booth is set among the usual fair foods and vendors - standing out with educational baby developmental posters and fetal models. Pro-lifers working at the booth may find questions from passersby to be challenging.

Some refer to their volunteer hours as "time in the trenches" but understand the value of the opportunity to reach the general public in a positive way.

Deacon Lukasiewicz said "We appreciate our volunteers who support this annual event and welcome others who wish to become involved in the pro-life cause."

"We do this work to show how precious human life is," he said.

This summer's fair runs from July 28 through August 2. Two volunteers are asked to fill each 4-hour shift: 10 a.m. to 2; 2 p.m. to 6 and 6 p.m. to 10.

Prospective volunteers may contact Deacon Lukasiewicz at 518-562-1175 or paulared@charter.net.

The CVRTL pro-life fair booth is a 2015 recipient of the diocesan Respect Life collection.

Bishop's Schedule
July 24 – 10:50 a.m., Mass at St. Joseph's Home in Ogdensburg
July 26 – 12:15 p.m., Knights of Columbus Pilgrimage & Mass to St. Ann's Shrine in Isle LaMotte, Vermont
July 28 – 4 p.m., Mass & Meeting with Seminarians at Camp Guggenheim in Saranac Lake
July 30 – 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral
5:30 p.m., Gathering with Missionaries of the Sacred Heart at Dablon Point
July 31 – 10:50 a.m., Mass at St. Joseph's Home in Ogdensburg
Aug. 1 – 11 a.m., Memorial Mass at Wadhams Hall Reunion
Aug. 2 – 7 a.m., Mass at St. Cyril's Church in Alexandria Bay
8:30 a.m., Mass at St. Francis Xavier Church in Redwood
10 a.m., Mass at St. Cyril's Church in Alexandria Bay
Aug. 3 – 4 p.m., Mass at Camp Guggenheim in Saranac Lake

Announcement
Father Bernard D. Menard, recently returning from a leave of absence, will be assigned as Parochial Vicar of the Roman Catholic Church of St. Mary in Canton effective August 4.

Rest in Peace
This week marks the anniversary of the deaths of the following clergymen who have served in the Diocese of Ogdensburg
July 25 – Rev. Simon Wallace, M.S.C., 1941
Aug. 2 – Rev. Zephyrin Jutras, 1919

Environmental Stewardship
Common Home
We, along with religious and world leaders around the world, have awaited Pope Francis’ encyclical on the environment, “Praise Be to You . . . On Care for Our Common Home.”

Pope Francis describes our relationship with God, the earth, and one another. We are called to be stewards.

The recent daily Scripture readings remind us of how God listened to the cry of his people in Egypt and how Moses was sent to lead the Israelites. God seems to have heard the cry of the poor, including the earth and all Creation, and He has inspired Pope Francis to address these needs and to challenge each of us as Catholics and citizens of the world to respond to these needs with compassion and love.

To Report Abuse
If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact:
Victims Assistance Coordinator, Terri-anne Yanulavich, 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, the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy at 315-393-2920, ext. 1340

NO PAPER NEXT WEEK

The next issue of the North Country Catholic will be dated Aug. 5
A collection with purpose....

MPDO
Collection dates
July 25-26

WE SUPPORT:
- Mission Parish in Mollendo, Peru
- US Bishop’s Annual Latin America Appeal
- Various projects throughout the world as part of our evangelization efforts.

GIVE GENEROUSLY

Former Mission, St. Martin de Porres Parish in Peru, needs our help NOW! Their 30 year old truck is beyond repair. They have exhausted every capability.

Our goal:
to help them purchase a new truck...
Can we count on your support?

Thank You!
What Is Natural Family Planning?

And why would anyone use it?

By Angelo and Suzanne Pietropaoli
Diocesan NFP directors

Some years ago, a friend remarked rather wistfully, "You seem to meet the most interesting people when you teach NFP." She was quite right. Couples come to learn Natural Family Planning for a wide variety of reasons - health concerns, philosophical/religious beliefs, unwanted side effects of contraceptives, dissatisfaction with methods that impose undue burdens on the woman and so strain the relationship. Some come as engaged couples, some as newlyweds, some after a decade or two of marriage. Each couple is unique, but all of them inspire us.

Whatever their backgrounds, they bring an openness - to their spouses, to God, and to learning all they can about how, in the words of Psalm 139, they are "fearfully, wonderfully, made." These couples do not see their fertility as a medical problem - or a problem of any sort - but as a gift to be accepted with gratitude and treated with respect. This attitude tends to extend to the whole of their relationship, as well.

As a couple learns to identify, observe, and interpret the readily observable signs of the fertile and infertile phases of the menstrual cycle, they quickly grasp the fundamentals of Natural Family Planning.

Holistic approach

NFP is a holistic approach that educates couples to understand their fertility, their emotions, and their family planning intentions. Its successful use to avoid pregnancy relies upon a couple's following what they know about the method and about one another, and it requires them to communicate.

In the daily charting of their fertility signs, couples quickly appreciate their shared responsibility for family planning. Husbands are encouraged to "tune into" their wives' cycles, and both spouse are encouraged to speak openly with each other about issues related to their relationship and to family size. [From USCCB, "What is NFP?"]

Couples using NFP to avoid pregnancy abstain from intercourse when the woman is fertile and can conceive. The total days of abstinence will vary from woman to woman, and from cycle to cycle. Whatever the length of the fertile phase, no barriers or chemicals are used to avoid pregnancy. To achieve pregnancy, couples have intercourse during the fertile time of the cycle.

NFP is not a contraceptive; it does nothing to suppress or block conception. Instead, couples adjust their behavior according to their family planning intention using the naturally occurring signs and symptoms of a woman's cycle. [From USCCB, "What is NFP?"]

Knowing how to apply this knowledge gives couple both a new independence and a new interdependence, which in turn empowers them to live in harmony with their fertility.

Privileged teachers

There are also remarkable moments for the teachers. We are privileged to witness: the amazement couples express as they come to understand the precise and mysterious perfection of the human body and of reproductive physiology; the beauty of watching husband and wife work together to process and apply what they are learning; the patience and appreciation they extend to each other when one of them finds something difficult.

Then, too, there is hearing a young husband explain that he has chosen to learn and live NFP because he loves his wife too much to expose her to the dangers of the Pill or other chemical contraceptives. It is awe-inspiring to watch Ephesians 5:25 come to life in this way: "Husbands, love your wives as Christ loves the Church."

And it is deeply beautiful to see an answering love light up the face of so dear a wife!

Learning, growing, loving

Decades of teaching have not dulled our appreciation as we observe, in these couples, this process of learning, growing, and loving. And very rarely, a student will wish to share this wonderful way of life and love by becoming an NFP teacher.

Brittany Duso of Malone is such a one. Wife, mother, and registered nurse, she has completed the application process and expects to begin training as a FertilityCare Practitioner this fall. After initially learning the Sympto-Thermal Method, Brittany experienced health issues which led her to the Creighton Model FertilityCare/NaPro Technology, a natural method developed by Thomas Hilgers, M.D.

A clinical professor in obstetrics, gynecology, and reproductive medicine at Creighton University in Omaha, Dr. Hilgers has created a system which melds the observation-based practices of other NFP methods with the results of extensive medical research in the area of human fertility.

As Mrs. Duso explains, "A FertilityCare Practitioner helps teach a woman how to recognize and categorize the biological markers...which give her specific understanding of her hormonal function. Women of every age can learn to proactively NaProTrack (chart) the events of the menstrual cycle that can benefit her overall health care.

"With this information, the Practitioner can help his/her clients find the right FertilityCare/NaProTechnology doctors and surgeons to help cure specific gynecological problems," she said. "Also, a woman can chart throughout a pregnancy to identify any hormonal abnormalities that could lead to a poor outcome."

"I have been going through many of these issues myself," Mrs. Duso continues. "After much prayer, this is the pathway God has led me to in order to overcome some of my problems. At my last appointment with my NaProTechnology doctor, she said that my three children are truly miracles since I am a 'classic infertility case.'"

"Andy and I cherish our three beautiful gifts that God has given us, and I hope to help God give such wonderful gifts to families through this work," she said. "I am ready to make a difference!"

We are confident that she will, and grateful for her commitment to this vital work.
NFP Awareness Week begins July 19

“All Natural! Good for the body. Great for the soul!”

This is the theme of this year’s Natural Family Planning Awareness Week, a national educational campaign of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) to celebrate God’s vision for marriage and promote the methods of Natural Family Planning.

Natural Family Planning (NFP) is an umbrella term for the safe, natural and effective methods of both achieving and avoiding pregnancy. NFP methods teach couples how to observe and interpret the woman’s signs of fertility and infertility.

In the words of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, NFP methods “respect the bodies of the spouses, encourage tenderness between them and favor the education of an authentic freedom.” (CCC, no. 2370)

Natural Family Planning also embodies the values set forth in Laudato Si, Pope Francis’s new encyclical. “The acceptance of our bodies as God’s gift is vital for the welcoming and accepting of the entire world as a gift from the Father...Learning to accept our body, to care for it, and to respect its fullest meaning, is an essential element of any genuine ecology.” (LS, 153)

The dates of Natural Family Planning Awareness Week are July 19-25. These dates highlight the anniversary of the papal encyclical Humanae Vitae (July 25) which articulates Catholic beliefs about human sexuality, marriage, conjugal love and responsible parenthood.

This document makes clear that these realities can only really be understood “in the light of an integral vision of man and of his vocation, not only his natural and earthly vocation, but also his supernatural and eternal vocation.” (HV, 6)

NFP methods respect the bodies of the spouses, encourage tenderness between them and favor the education of an authentic freedom

Catechism of the Catholic Church

The NFP Office of the Diocese of Ogdensburg - headed by Angelo and Suzanne Pietropaoli of Malone - joins with Bishop LaValley and all U.S. bishops in highlighting the benefits of Natural Family Planning.

In his NFP Awareness Week letter (see page 3) Bishop LaValley recommends reading Humane Vitae as a way to connect with the diocesan goal of Strengthening Faith Formation in Family Life.

Copies of this encyclical are available upon request from the NFP Office at the address below.

Various educational materials have been sent to all parishes, and are also available upon request.

Want to learn more about NFP in our diocese? Interested in taking a class?

See www.rcdony.org/nfp, contact the Diocesan NFP Office (see below), or visit the NFP section of the USCCB website at: http://www.usccb.org/nfp/what-is-nfp/index.cfm.

Don’t have time to attend an in-person class?

Learn NFP in the comfort of your home by contacting one of the NFP providers listed at http://www.usccb.org/nfp/nfp-distance-learning.cfm.

The NFP Office is located at 418 Schuyler St., Malone, NY 12953.

Contact information:

Angelo Pietropaoli - 518-483-0459

Suzanne Pietropaoli - 518-483-0459

Email: apietropaoli@rcdony.org

Diocesan NFP Office

www.rcdony.org/nfp

Email: apietropaoli@rcdony.org • Tel:518-483-0459
Lessons from South America:
How to greet and understand Pope Francis

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - People make special preparations for welcoming a special guest, and watching what worked and did not work in Ecuador, Bolivia and Paraguay may help people preparing for Pope Francis’ visit to the United States in September.

Some of the plans, however, will require commonsense adjustments, especially because the U.S. Secret Service is likely to frown on certain behavior, like tossing things to the pope - a phenomenon that occurs much more often with Pope Francis than with any previous pope.

At the Vatican, the items tend to be soccer jerseys and scarves; in Ecuador, it was flower petals - lots of them.

Watching the pope July 5-12 in South America it is clear:
• Pope Francis loves a crowd. He walks into events with little expression on his face, then lights up when he starts greeting, blessing, kissing and hugging people. Persons with disabilities, the sick and squirming babies come first.
• The pope does not mind being embraced, but he does not like people running at him. As a nun in Our Lady of Peace Cathedral in La Paz rushed toward Pope Francis July 8, the pope backed up and used both hands to gesture her to calm down and step back. In the end, she did get a blessing from him, though.
• At Mass, Pope Francis tends to be less animated. His focus and the focus he wants from the congregation is on Jesus present in the Eucharist.

At large public Masses on papal trips, he sticks to the text of his prepared homilies, although he may look up and repeat phrases for emphasis.
• A meeting with priests, religious and seminarians is a fixture on papal trips within Italy and abroad; in Cuba and the United States, the meetings take place during vespers services, Sept. 20 in Havana and Sept. 24 in New York.

At vespers, like at Mass, Pope Francis tends to follow his prepared text. However, when the gathering takes place outside the context of formal liturgical prayer, he never follows the prepared text, even if he may hit the main points of the text as he did in Bolivia July 9.
• Pope Francis has said he needs a 40-minute rest after lunch and his official schedule always includes at least an hour of down time.

However, like his “Free” afternoons at the Vatican, the pope often fills the breaks with private meetings with friends, acquaintances or Jesuits. In fact, his trips abroad have always included private get-togethers with his Jesuit confreres, although in South America one of the meetings - in Guayaquil, Ecuador - was a luncheon formally included in the itinerary. But he also spent unscheduled time with Jesuits at Quito’s Catholic university the next day.

In Paraguay, he made an unscheduled visit to 30 of his confreres in Asuncion and then went next door to their Cristo Rey School to meet with more than 300 students from Jesuit schools.
• In South America, Pope Francis specifically asked that his meetings with the bishops be private, informal conversations - similar to the way he handles the regular “ad limina” visits of bishops to the Vatican to report on the state of their dioceses.

For the “ad limina” visits, he hands them the text of a rather general look at their country and Catholic community, then begins a discussion.

But when he makes a formal speech to a group of bishops, his words can seem critical. But, in fact, the tone tends to be one of addressing his “fellow bishops” and his words are more of a collective examination of conscience than a scolding.
• Pope Francis’ speeches in general - whether to presidents, civic and business leaders, young people or even, for example, the prisoners in Bolivia - acknowledge what is going well and being done right, then seeks to build on that. It’s a combination of a pat on the back and a nudge forward.

While Bolivia’s Palmasola prison is notorious for its difficult conditions and while the pope pleaded for judicial reform in the country, he also told the prisoners: “The way you live together depends to some extent on yourselves. Suffering and deprivation can make us selfish of heart and lead to confrontation.”

• Since the days of the globetrotting St. John Paul II, the nunciature stakeout has been a staple of papal trips. In fact, anywhere a pope sleeps, people will gather - shouting and singing - in the hopes that the pope will make a special appearance.

St. John Paul, retired Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis have all obliged on occasion. Although in Quito, Ecuador, it seems that Pope Francis was inspired at least partially by the complaints of neighbors about the noise.

The three nights Pope Francis stayed there, he came out to say good night. Increasingly his tone was that of a dad who had already told his children five times to go to bed.
Same-sex marriage ruling settles one legal question, leaves many others

By Patricia Zapor
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) - When the Supreme Court June 26 ruled that marriage licenses cannot be denied to same-sex couples nationwide, it may have settled one legal issue, but it left many more unanswered questions, particularly in the realm of religious objections.

Within hours of the 5-4 ruling, worried speculation raised the possibility of repercussions: for religious colleges that wouldn't want same-sex spouses in their married student housing; for church-run social service agencies morally opposed to enabling gay couples to adopt; and to the tax-exempt status enjoyed by churches that may not want to acknowledge same-sex marriages.

Although some critics of the decision suggested clergy would be required to conduct marriage ceremonies that conflict with their faiths' teachings, most legal observers said that clearly would not pass legal scrutiny.

Catholic priests, for instance, already are able to refuse to preside over weddings of people they believe are unsuited for the sacrament of marriage, even though they are legally entitled to be married.

But there are many other possibilities for legal conflicts arising from objections to same-sex marriage that are rooted in religion.

A few states already are acting to protect faith-based objections. In some places, county clerks quit their jobs rather than issue marriage licenses. In others, clerks who also didn't want to issue licenses refused to quit.

The 5-4 ruling written by Justice Anthony Kennedy found a right for same-sex couples to marry under the 14th Amendment to the Constitution, which provides for equal protection under the law. Kennedy's opinion gave a nod to those who believe same-sex marriage to be wrong "based on decent and honorable religious or philosophical premises."

He said the First Amendment ensures that religious organizations and individuals are protected "as they seek to teach the principles that are so fulfilling ... and to their own deep aspirations to preserve the family structure they have long revered."

But in a strong dissent, Chief Justice John Roberts said the ruling "creates serious questions about religious liberty."

He observed that in each of the states in which same-sex marriage was allowed either by voter referendum or legislative action, the law included accommodations for "counseling religious practice."

Of the 36 states and the District of Columbia that permitted same-sex marriage before June 26, in only 10 jurisdictions did that come about through laws that were adopted by the legislature or voters. In the rest, it came about through a state or federal court ruling.

Roberts noted that the majority opinion in Obergefell v. Hodges created no accommodations for religiously based objections. He said though the First Amendment guarantees "the freedom to 'exercise' religion ... ominously that is not a word the majority uses."

Among the "hard questions" he predicted would arise would be those involving required student housing at a religious college, religious adoption agencies and tax exemptions of religious institutions.

Catholic entities in some states have been dealing with same-sex marriage for as much as 15 years. In Massachusetts, for example, Catholic agencies got out of the business of handling adoptions because of theological objections to same-sex couples adopting children. Same-sex marriage became legal in Massachusetts in 2004.

Father J. Bryan Hehir, secretary for Health and Social Services for the Archdiocese of Boston, returned to work in the archdiocese just as same-sex marriage was becoming a factor there.

He had spent several decades working in Washington, as president of Catholic Charities USA, at Georgetown University and at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

"Adoption was the big issue for us," he told Catholic News Service. "We felt we had no other choice" but to withdraw from handling adoptions. Other social service agencies picked up adoptions when Catholic organizations phased out of them.

Otherwise, said Father Hehir, there haven't been implications for how the charitable agencies under his jurisdiction operate.

Mark Chopko, a partner at Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young who specializes in legal issues affecting religious and nonprofit organizations, told CNS he expects legal challenges will arise over tax exemptions, employment and accommodations such as the rental of parish halls to the public.

He said he doesn't expect threats to churches' tax exemption will be a serious legal issue.

"Certainly someone may try to sue," he said. "The church has seen similar pressures over abortion and the licensing and exemption of health care facilities."
Contributing Writer

ways deeply pene­t­rate America.

fish that more than freedom and sanctuary,
compassion for people who had

couple of Sundays will all
Gold."

spent the day with

women who had
gaging movie with my hus­band called

true story of an Austrian
Christians today in the US.

It is ironic that the very

country that has been a
place of refuge for many
during turbulent times in
our world, is slowly crum­bling to the fallen nature of
man and becoming that
which we fear and escaped
at the founding of our coun­try. About halfway through
the movie, during a scene in
which Jewish business own­ers are made to scrub the
sidewalk with acid while
others look on and mock
them, my husband turned
to me and said “this will be
the Catholics soon.”

Of course he didn’t mean
that we will literally be
cleaning on our hands and
knees, but we will be perse­cut­ed simply because we
are Catholic and uphold the

of persecution will never
reach the ultimate desti­nation of heaven and to lead
others to their heavenly
home.

Jesus, stir up my sluggish
faith, and let my soul sing
loudly my gratitude for your
incredible gift of perpetual
presence, nourishment and
friendship. May I never
again take your miracle of
love for granted. May I dis­cover new ways of being
bread for others!

SCRIPTYON REFLECTIONS

The challenge to be bread for others

Our readings for the next
couple of Sundays will all
talk of the miracu­lous “multiplica­tion” of bread and
fish that more than
fed the thousands of
people who had
spent the day with
Jesus and his disci­ples.

Jesus always had
compassion for
those who were
hungry. This great
Gospel event will al­ways deeply pene­trate our
understanding of Jesus.

Our Holy Father, Pope
Francis, has just returned
from South America. His
whole message in Ecuador,
Bolivia, and
Paraguay was one of
righting the injustices
done to the poor, the hungry by
the wrong use of
power and money.

As farmers gather the hay
into storage, we are re­mind­ed of the seven loaves
being gathered by the disci­ples. Then, after all had
eaten their fill, there are
twelve baskets left over of
the bread and fish!

What will we do with all
that is left over? We are
meant to be ourselves the
Bread of Healing and Hope
for those in our world.

In what ways do we pass on
a portion of what we
have received? A word of
encouragement? Letting
someone know that you’re
praying that they get a job,
or have a successful out­come to some medical
screening? Or reading to
some nearly-blind neigh­bor? Or sharing with those

in other countries.

Not one of us is suffi­ciently grateful for a loving
and generous God who
feeds us so lavishly each
day.

And how about the Bread
of Eucharist? O Bread of
Heaven which heals and
soothes our souls so

JULY 26

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

READINGS

2 Kings 4:42-44
Ephesians 4:1-6
John 6:1-15

wounded by sin and a faith­less and indifferent world!
O Delightful Banquet which
gives strength and joy to our
weary hearts! May we
be inspired by a renewed
appreciation for the pre­cious Gift of Jesus Himself
to prepare more carefully
before approaching the
altar.

Think of Jesus, stir up my sluggish
faith, and let my soul sing
loudly my gratitude for your
incredible gift of perpetual
presence, nourishment and
friendship. May I
never again take your miracle of
love for granted. May I

JULY 22, 2015

(YOUNG CATHOLIC VOICE

Our ‘woman in gold’ in face of persecution

By Amanda Conklin
Contributing Writer

I recently watched an en­gaging movie with my hus­band called “The Woman in
Gold.” It is based on the true story of an Austrian woman trying to claim a
painting of her aunt that is
rightfully hers and was

taken from her by the Nazis
during the Holocaust.
The movie contains many
scenes of religious perse­cution and also depicts many
of the characters attempting
to flee to a place of religious freedom and sanctu­ry.

America.

While watching this

movie, I could not help but
recognize the ironic par­allels between the persecu­tion of Jews during the Holo­caust and the subtle, often
swept aside, stripping of reli­gious freedoms from
Christians today in the US.

It is ironic that the very
country that has been a
place of refuge for many
during turbulent times in
our world, is slowly crum­bling to the fallen nature of
man and becoming that
which we fear and escaped
at the founding of our coun­try. About halfway through
the movie, during a scene in
which Jewish business own­ers are made to scrub the
sidewalk with acid while
others look on and mock
them, my husband turned
to me and said “this will be
the Catholics soon.”

Of course he didn’t mean
that we will literally be
cleaning on our hands and
knees, but we will be perse­cut­ed simply because we
are Catholic and uphold the

teachings of Christ.

Many claim this thinking
is sensationalist and para­noia and that no such risk is
present for Christians. But
we can’t be naive to think
that this isn’t happening.

Cardinal Francis George
famously said: “I expect
in bed, my successor
die in prison and his
successor will die a martyr
in the public square.
His successor will pick up the
shards of a ruined society
and slowly help rebuild civil­ization, as the church has
done so often in human his­tory.”

Christians business own­ers are being forced to pay
large sums of money simply
by following their beliefs in
charity. Christian busi­nesses are forced to pay for
abortifacients for their em­ployees. The very nature of
marriage as God designed
has been “redefined” in our
society. Christians are called
bigots, intolerant and hate­ful when we simply express
the truths of our Church.

The next logical step to this
progression is outlawing
any speech or action that
goes in direct contradiction
to our country’s rally cry of
relativism.

I am also deeply saddened
when the truth came to
light. Christ himself
warned us that the world
will hate us as it hated him.
But, we have hope, because
we know our home is not
here. Our purpose in life is
to reach the ultimate desti­nation of heaven and to lead
others to their heavenly
home.

Will we have the gumption
to stand in the truth of
Christ when the secular
world comes knocking at
our door? Will we look to
our Woman in Gold, Mary,
our Mother to pray for us
during this coming perse­cution?

SUBSCRIBE TO THE NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC TODAY!

Subscribe online at www.northcountrycatholic.org
or call our office at 315-608-7556 to subscribe today!
Options to receive the NCC in your mailbox or in your e-mail.

subscribe to the north country catholic today!

young catholic voice

Our ‘woman in gold’ in face of persecution

Our ‘woman in gold’ in face of persecution

Our ‘woman in gold’ in face of persecution

Our ‘woman in gold’ in face of persecution

Our ‘woman in gold’ in face of persecution

Our ‘woman in gold’ in face of persecution

Our ‘woman in gold’ in face of persecution

Our ‘woman in gold’ in face of persecution

Our ‘woman in gold’ in face of persecution

Our ‘woman in gold’ in face of persecution

Our ‘woman in gold’ in face of persecution

OUR ‘WOMAN IN GOLD’ IN FACE OF PERSECUTION

Our ‘woman in gold’ in face of persecution

Our ‘woman in gold’ in face of persecution

Our ‘woman in gold’ in face of persecution
Minions

By John Mulderig
Catholic News Service

Fillet it how you will, "Minions" (Universal) is a rare treat.

This bright 3-D animated comedy traces the history of the yellow, capsule-shaped creatures whose endearing presence in the background contributed to the success of both 2010’s "Despicable Me" and its rather unimaginatively titled 2013 sequel, "Despicable Me 2."

In hauling these sweetly bumbling beings to the fore, and providing them with an ever upbeat - though not always tightly crafted - adventure of their own, co-directors Pierre Coffin and Kyle Balda avoid any genuinely objectionable material. Only a few scenes of combustive mayhem and a couple of mildly out-of-place visuals may give some parents pause.

After an origins story that reaches all the way back to the primordial ooze, the proceedings settle down in the swinging London of the 1960s.

There, motivated by their natural inclination to serve a villainous master, the central trio of minions - Kevin, Stuart and Bob (all voiced by Coffin) - assist famed criminal Scarlet Overkill (voice of Sandra Bullock) and her mad scientist husband Herb.

Minions star in a scene from the movie "Minions."

(f voice of Jon Hamm) in their wild scheme to steal the British crown from Queen Elizabeth II (voice of Jennifer Saunders).

Narrated by Geoffrey Rush, and interspersed with familiar hippie-era musical standards, the freewheeling plot that follows pursues its own logic down curious courses, some of which feel like detours. But the underlying morality is sound enough.

In contrast to Gru, the supposed bad guy of the earlier outings, Scarlet is a truly negative character driven by selfishness, greed and disloyalty.

Her evil tendencies, which carry straightforward consequences, are all the more obvious when compared to the virtues consistently displayed by Kevin and his pals -- an appreciation for one another and a sensitivity to the common good prominent among them.

The climactic conflict might prove too much for small fry.

In the buildup to it, a few possible irritants for vigilant grown-ups also appear, including a sumo wrestler’s frequently glimpsed backside and the brief presence of a mustachioed bystander whose enthusiasm for Scarlet leads him to dress exactly like her. While treated comically, his quirky behavior may not sit well with some adults.

The film contains occasional cartoonish violence, fleeting anatomical sights, gags and a touch of scatological humor.

The Catholic News Service classification is A-I -- general patronage. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG -- parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.
**ADIRONDACK**

**WONDERS OF CREATION RETREAT**
Saranac Lake - Enjoy the wonders of Creation and journey into the heart of Jesus who desires to speak to your heart.

**Dates:** July 24-26 or Sept. 18-20
**Speakers:** Paul Gabaldon, licensed Adirondack Wilderness Guide and publisher of two nature photography books (June Weekend); Paul Hetzler, Arborist; Writer; and Educator at Cornell Co-operative Extension (Sept. Weekend) Sr. Bethany Fitzgerald, SSJ, Adult Faith Educator; Fr. Paul Kelly, Celebrant for Liturgy
**Place:** Guggenheim Lodge
**Cost:** $145 (limited space)
**Features:** Weekends will include presentations, time for quiet prayer and reflection, communal prayer, nature hike and opportunities for sharing.
**Contact:** email sbrethsy@gmail.com or call 315-212-6592; See www.fourseasonsoftheheart.weebly.com

---

**CLINTON**

**INDOOR YARD SALE**
Chazy - Sacred Heart Parish will have their annual indoor yard sale.
**Date:** July 25
**Time:** 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
**Place:** Parish Center
**Features:** In conjunction with the Chazy town wide yard sale. Bathrooms and refreshments. Something for everyone.
Furniture, appliances, household items, electronics and much more.

---

**GOLF TOURNAMENT**
Plattsburgh - St. Peter’s is sponsoring its 20th Annual Golf Tournament.
**Date:** Aug. 7
**Time:** 12:30 p.m. ’Shotgun Start’ (please arrives 30-60 minutes prior); Dinner at 6:15 p.m.
**Place:** Adirondack Golf Club
**Cost:** $63 non-Adirondack members; $54 Adirondack members; $22 for awards dinner only; not able to dine subtract $22
**Features:** Each team will have two carts reserved whether you walk or ride. All the proceeds will benefit Youth Programs sponsored by St. Peter’s Church. They are accepting $50 hole sponsors for anyone (or business). If you do not have a foursome, you will be paired with other players. Hole assignments and team pairings will be in the Press Republican July 31.
**Contact:** Call 518-578-4927 or 518-562-4179. Make checks payable to John Mockry (not St. Peter’s Church). Send registration form to 51 Oak Street, Plattsburgh, NY 12901 by July 27.

---

**FRANKLIN**

**BREAKFAST BUFFET**
Brushton - St. Mary’s will be having a breakfast buffet.
**Date:** July 19
**Time:** 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
**Place:** St. Mary’s Parish Center
**Cost:** Adults, $5; Seniors, $2; Children 6-12, $4; 5 and under, free; Immediate Family of 5 or more, $25
**Features:** Take-outs available. Call 518-529-6580. Sponsored by St. Mary’s Catholic Church events committee.

---

**JEFFERSON**

**HOMESCHOOLERS SAVE THE DATE**
Cape Vincent - Homeschoolers invited to Mass and pot luck lunch.
**Date:** Aug. 2
**Place:** Dabin Point
**Features:** Mass at 10:30 a.m. at St. Vincent of Paul Church followed by a pot luck lunch at the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart at Dabin Point. Please come rain or shine.
**Contact:** RSVP Dolores at 315-654-3932 or Mary Jank gm3days@gmail.com

---

**ST. LAWRENCE**

**SUMMER SOCIAL**
Norfolk - The Parish of the Visitation and St. Raymond will have their 32nd annual summer social.
**Date:** Aug. 16
**Time:** 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
**Place:** Fr. Amyot Parish Center
**Cost:** Adults, $7; Children 5-10, $4 or alternate meal for $2; under 5, free
**Features:** Hamburgers, hot dogs, sausages, corn on the cob, wide variety of summer salads, beans, sampling of foods from the six ethnic food booths. (Chinese, Italian, Irish, Mexican, Hungarian, and French) beverage, and Make Your Own Sundae. Entertainment by the Sweet Adelines. Midway of games for young and young of heart. New this year!! Games of Chance - Silent Auction for adults, Chinese Auction for children, BINGO (with gift cards and gift items for prizes) for all, Who’s the Winner, Raffle with gifts and cash prizes.

---

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

---

**JOSEPH'S HOUSE**
New York - Sacred Heart Parish will have their Fourth Annual Parish Picnic.
**Date:** Aug. 2
**Time:** 1 p.m.
**Place:** St. Lawrence Church
**Features:** Take-outs available. Call 518-561-5083 or email speculator.sacredheart@gmail.com

---

**MINISTERS**

**ADIRONDACK**

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**
Plattsburgh - Eucharistic Adoration is held throughout the year every Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.
**Place:** St. John’s “Holy Family” Adoration Chapel, downstairs
**Time:** 9 a.m. to 9 p.m
**Contact:** 518-561-5083 or email Stjohnsadoration@aol.com

---

**PARISH PICNIC**
Ellenburg Center - Our Lady of the Adirondack House of Prayer to begin First Saturday Devotion.
**Date:** through Nov. 2015
**Time:** 10:30 a.m.
**Features:** Mass, rosary
**Contact:** RSVP to lunch at olaprayercourthouse@gmail.com or 518-594-3253.

---

**FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION**
St. David’s Church, Speculator - Our Lady of the Adirondack House of Prayer to begin First Saturday Devotion.
**Date:** through Nov. 2015
**Time:** 10:30 a.m.
**Features:** Mass, rosary
**Contact:** RSVP to lunch at olaprayercourthouse@gmail.com or 518-594-3253.

---

**FALCON**

**GOLF TOURNAMENT**
Lake Pleasant - St. Ann’s and St. James will again hold their Golf Tournament to raise funds to help needy families in the area with their winter heating.
**Date:** July 25
**Time:** 8 a.m.
**Features:** Last year 13 families, from Hope, Wells, Lake Pleasant, Speculator and Morehouse received heating assistance in the form of wood, oil, propane or kerosene and Fr. Sony Pulickal, Parish priest is happy that this year’s tourny has been enthusiastically supported. 18 teams with 72 people will tee off.

---

**JEFFERSON**

**HOMESCHOOLERS SAVE THE DATE**
Cape Vincent - Homeschoolers invited to Mass and pot luck lunch.
**Date:** Aug. 2
**Place:** Dabin Point
**Features:** Mass at 10:30 a.m. at St. Vincent of Paul Church followed by a pot luck lunch at the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart at Dabin Point. Please come rain or shine.
**Contact:** RSVP Dolores at 315-654-3932 or Mary Jank gm3days@gmail.com

---

**LEWIS**

**DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS**
Houseville - Divine Mercy Devotions for the month of August will be held.
**Date:** Aug. 2
**Time:** 3 p.m.
**Place:** St. Hedwig’s Church
**Features:** Vesper (Evening Prayer), Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction. All are welcome.
**Contact:** 348-6260.

---

**JEFFERSON**

**HOMESCHOOLERS SAVE THE DATE**
Cape Vincent - Homeschoolers invited to Mass and pot luck lunch.
**Date:** Aug. 2
**Place:** Dabin Point
**Features:** Mass at 10:30 a.m. at St. Vincent of Paul Church followed by a pot luck lunch at the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart at Dabin Point. Please come rain or shine.
**Contact:** RSVP Dolores at 315-654-3932 or Mary Jank gm3days@gmail.com

---

**POTSDAM**

**SUMMER FAITH FUN PROGRAM**
Potsdam - Summer Faith Fun Program to be held.
**Date:** Aug. 3-7
**Place:** St. Mary’s Church
**Features:** The “Cathletics” program is for youths entering grades Pre-K through 9 this fall and will include a faith lesson, craft, games, music and a snack. “Altaration” is geared toward students entering grades 7 through 10 this fall and will feature video components and discussion, fun activities, and a snack break. All participants will have field day on Friday.
**Contact:** Call 212-2221 or email hartzellpam@gmail.com

---

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

---

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**
Massena - St. Mary’s & St. Joseph’s hold Benediction and Adoration every Friday
**Time:** 9 a.m. to 10
**Place:** St. Mary’s Family Room

---

**DOCESAN EVENTS**

**ANNUAL K OF C PILGRIMAGE**
Isle La Motte, VT - Knights of Columbus, their families and friends from throughout the Diocese of Ogdensburg will participate in the 67th annual pilgrimage to St. Anne’s Shrine.
**Date:** July 26
**Schedule:** The pilgrimage begins with 12:15 p.m. Mass by Bishop Terry LaValley. Knights of Columbus State Deputy Robert Weitzman will also be in attendance. Following Mass, Bishop LaValley will join the pilgrims for a picnic lunch on the shrine’s beautiful grounds. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will take place at about 3:30 P.M.
**Features:** All pilgrims are invited to the picnic lunch and if practical asked to bring a dish to share. The Knights of Columbus will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, and beverages. Located on the shores of Lake Champlain, only a few miles from the Rouses Point Bridge, the St. Anne’s Shrine historic location to 1666 when the French erected a fort and chapel on the site.
**Contact:** Pilgrimage Coordinator Peter Keenan at 518-643-9241.
Mission Cooperation Plan
Summer 2015

In the 1930’s, Auxiliary Bishop William Griffin of the Archdiocese of Newark came up with the idea of Missionary Cooperation Plan. His initial thought was to help mission aid societies to solicit funds for their efforts by giving them the opportunity to appeal for vocations and assistance at the local level.

The plan was widely accepted by pastors who received frequent visits from mission societies. The Plan took the burden off the pastors and enabled their people to hear of missionary experiences to help promote missionary spirit.

Every summer the Missionary Cooperation Plan introduces parishioners to a real—life missionary who represents a mission cause from a faraway place.

The missionary makes the needs of the missions more real and more personal, as the faithful become personally involved in learning about the missions and in responding to their needs.

It has been an appeal that has been worth cultivating and nourishing in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

This summer, the Missionary Cooperation Appeal is planned for the West Side Deaneries of our Diocese. Some parishes may have already had a visit or perhaps it is planned for the coming weekend or next. This summer, seventeen different Societies will visit the Diocese and introduce their cause. Some are new, and some are not to the Diocese. Please welcome them with open arms and open hearts and contribute where you can!

Below is a listing of the groups coming to visit us.

Society of St. Peter Apostle
Daughters of Charity
The Heralds of Good News
Missionaries of the Sacred Heart
Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement
Order of Friars Minor Conventual
Glenmary Home Missionaries
North Country Mission of Hope
Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers
El Centro Del Muchacho
Congregation of the Holy Spirit
Salesian Missions
Sisters of Chavanod of the Cross
Divine Word Missionaries
Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur
Diocese of Djibouti- Somalia, Africa

OBITUARIES

Margaret A. Crosby
CLIFTON SPRINGS, N.Y. – A Mass of Christian Burial for Margaret A. Crosby, age 71, mother of Father Theodore A. Crosby of Lyon Mountain, was held July 16 at St. Felix Church.

She died July 11 at Clifton Springs Hospital & Clinic. Burial was in St. Francis Cemetery in Phelps, N.Y.

Mrs. Crosby was born Aug. 15, 1943, in Clifton Springs, the daughter of the late Elmer and Margaret Scherbyn Maslyn. She was a member of St. Felix Church in Clifton Springs. Mrs. Crosby retired from J. DeBoover Farms in Phelps.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by her husband of 46 years, Ted Crosby; a daughter, Tammy Crosby of Phelps; a sister, Betty Gordon of Seneca Castle; a sister-in-law, JoAnne Maslyn of Farmington, Barbara Maslyn of Clifton Springs and Jane Crosby of Geneva; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her brothers Elmer, Ken and Joe.

Memorial donations may be made to Happy Tails (Ontario County Humane Society) 2976 Co. Rd 48, Canandaigua, N.Y., 14424 or House of John, 14 Spring Street, Clifton Springs, N.Y., 14432.

—

Brasher Falls – Leon J. Plummer, 61; Funeral Services July 10, 2015 at St. Patrick’s Church; burial in St. Lawrence, North Lawrence.

Canton – Nancy Mager Cannon, 82; Funeral Services July 7, 2015 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Evergreen Cemetery.

Canton – Donald L. McKenna, 84; Funeral Services July 10, 2015 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in St. Mary’s Cemetery.

Carthage – John S. Ablan, 59; Funeral Services July 10, 2015 at St. James Church; burial in St. James Church.

Carthage – Helen M. DuFllo, 88; Funeral Services July 18, 2015 at St. James Church.

Carthage – Dawn Elaine (Bingham) Strife, 47; Funeral Services July 10, 2015 at St. James Church; burial in Black River Cemetery.

Champlain – Shirley Mona Burl, 84; Funeral Services July 25, 2015 at St. Mary’s Church.

Champlain – Anna Germaine (Fillion) Trow, 84; Funeral Services July 14, 2015 at St. Mary’s Church.

Chateaugay – Kathleen (Izzo) Pearson, 72; Funeral Services July 15, 2015 at St. Patrick’s Church.

Constable – Cindy Lou Dufrane Bruso, 55; Funeral Services July 13, 2015 at St. Francis of Assiss Church; burial in St. Francis Cemetery.

Constableville – Virginia C. (Iseneker) Burke, 96; Funeral Services July 13, 2015 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Ellenberg – Loretta Manor (St. Andrew) Cook, 100; Funeral Services July 18, 2015 at St. Edmund’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Ellenburg – Virginia C. LeClair, 83; Funeral Services July 6, 2015 at St. Edmund’s Church.

Hogansburg – Michael M. Smoke, 81; Funeral July 7, 2015 at St. Regis Mission Church; burial in Kateri Cemetery.

Keene – Susan A. (Gifford) Carey, 61; Funeral Services July 9, 2015 at St. Brendan’s Church; burial in Norton Cemetery.

Keeseville – Alma Rosalie (Furnia) Pelkey, 91; Funeral Services July 13, 2015 at Immaculate Conception Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Lowville – Laura M. (McGrath) Monnat, 58; Funeral Services July 15, 2015 at St. Peter’s Church; burial in Lowville Rural Cemetery.

Lyon Mountain – Gertrude “Gert” Eileen (Foran) Hamelin, 88; Funeral Services July 15, 2015 at St. Bernard’s Church; burial in St. Bernard’s Cemetery.

Lyon Mountain – Elliot B. Merrill, 88; Funeral Services July 17, 2015 at St. Bernard’s Church; burial in St. Bernard’s Cemetery.

Malone – Marjorie Theresa Johnston, 77; Funeral Services July 16, 2015 at St. Joseph’s Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Massena – Salvatore J. DeAngelos, 92; Funeral July 14, 2015 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena – Gabriele (Aubin) Granger, 88; Funeral Services July 9, 2015 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena – Johnson O. Merrill, 86; Memorial Services July 22, 2015 at St. Mary’s Church.

Mooers Forks – Richard D. Rabideau, 80; Funeral Services July 9, 2015 at St. Ann’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Morrisonville – Thomas R. "Tom" Jessey, 61; Funeral Services July 14, 2015 at St. Alexander’s Church.

Peru – Dorothy M. (Hebert) Banker, 87; Funeral Services July 15, 2015 at St. Augustine’s Church; burial in Peasleeville Cemetery.

Peru – Evelyn Y. (Robert) Fuller, 73; Funeral Services St. Augustine’s Church; burial in Whispering Maples Mausoleum.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

WANTED: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
THE PRIORY RETREAT HOUSE

Live and work in the beautiful Adirondacks!

We are seeking an Executive Director to expand our programs and presence in the Adirondack North Country and beyond. Responsibilities include overall management and operation of The Priory.

A job description is available upon request. Candidates should send resume and cover by August 15 to: Board of Directors, Priory Retreat House, PO Box 336, 135 Priory Road, Chestertown, NY 12817-0336 or e-mail to prioryretreat@yahoo.com

Subject: Attn: Pat Mousaw.

www.prioryretreathouse.org
St. Mary’s Church, Clayton
13th Annual Summer Gala & Raffle

Only 370 Tickets to be sold!
(One need not be present to win)
Ticket Price: $100.00 U.S. (Includes dinner for two, two drinks and chances to win - Sorry no take outs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prize Level</th>
<th>Prize Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Prize</td>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Prize</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Prize</td>
<td>$2,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Prize</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th &amp; 6th Prizes</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Prize amounts depend on 370 tickets sold**

All winning tickets will be returned to drum and be eligible for all 11 prizes.

Where: The Cerow Arena at Clayton Recreation Park
When: Tuesday, August 4 5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Make checks payable and mail to:
St. Mary’s Church
521 James Street, Clayton, NY 13624
(315) 696-3398

Name ____________________________
Address __________________________
City __________________ State ______ Zip ______
Phone ____________________________
Must by 18 to purchase

MONASTERY CARD SHOP
Cards for All Occasions
Mass Enrollments for your living & deceased loved ones.
Precious Blood Monastery
OPEN: 9 AM - 5 PM
SATURDAY 9 AM - 3 PM
400 PRATT ST., WATERTOWN
315-788-1669

Follow Pope Francis on Twitter!
www.twitter.com/Pontifex
#Pontifex

Empire State Housing
We process all VA loans

New or Used Manufactured and Modular Homes
Located on Route 3 (next to the fair grounds)

518-563-8722 or 518-569-0890
www.pwmh.com

Special: 28x48 used Double, Excellent Condition.
$49,900
Delivery and Setup, no tax.

OBITUARIES
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15
Peru - John J. Galanneau IV, 39; Funeral Services July 9, 2015 at the Hamilton Funeral Home; burial in Church of the Assumption Cemetery, Redford.

Plattsburgh - Andrew “Sonny” E. Brault Jr., 82; Funeral Services July 13, 2015 at St. Peter’s Church; burial in St. Peter’s Cemetery.

Plattsburgh - Roland E. Dumas, 92; Funeral Services July 16, 2015 at St. Peter’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Plattsburgh - Alfonso “Al” Ruffino, 70; Funeral Services July 8, 2015 at Our Lady of Victory Church; burial in Gerald B. Solomon-Saratoga National Cemetery.

Port Henry - Clara V. Maye, 85; Funeral Services July 18, 2015 at St. Patrick’s Church; burial in St. Patrick’s Cemetery, Moriah.

Potsdam - Doris B. (Bradley) Ellis, 89; Funeral Services July 13, 2015 at St. Thomas Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown - Carol J. Coryea, 74; Funeral Services July 10, 2015 at St. Patrick’s Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown - Martha Kennedy Dowling, 91; Funeral Services July 13, 2015 at St. Patrick’s Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown - Franklin C. Howard, 81; Funeral Services July 10, 2015 at St. Anthony’s Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

West Chazy - Robert J. Duquette Sr., 77; Funeral Services July 15, 2015 at St. Joseph’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Winthrop - Della M. A. (Sawyer) Pike, 65; Funeral Services July 6, 2015 at the Hammill Funeral Home; burial in Fairview Cemetery, Dickinson Center.

Peru - John J. Galanneau IV, 39; Funeral Services July 9, 2015 at the Hamilton Funeral Home; burial in Church of the Assumption Cemetery, Redford.

Plattsburgh - Andrew “Sonny” E. Brault Jr., 82; Funeral Services July 13, 2015 at St. Peter’s Church; burial in St. Peter’s Cemetery.

Plattsburgh - Roland E. Dumas, 92; Funeral Services July 16, 2015 at St. Peter’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Plattsburgh - Alfonso “Al” Ruffino, 70; Funeral Services July 8, 2015 at Our Lady of Victory Church; burial in Gerald B. Solomon-Saratoga National Cemetery.

Port Henry - Clara V. Maye, 85; Funeral Services July 18, 2015 at St. Patrick’s Church; burial in St. Patrick’s Cemetery, Moriah.

Potsdam - Doris B. (Bradley) Ellis, 89; Funeral Services July 13, 2015 at St. Thomas Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown - Carol J. Coryea, 74; Funeral Services July 10, 2015 at St. Patrick’s Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown - Martha Kennedy Dowling, 91; Funeral Services July 13, 2015 at St. Patrick’s Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown - Franklin C. Howard, 81; Funeral Services July 10, 2015 at St. Anthony’s Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

West Chazy - Robert J. Duquette Sr., 77; Funeral Services July 15, 2015 at St. Joseph’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Winthrop - Della M. A. (Sawyer) Pike, 65; Funeral Services July 6, 2015 at the Hammill Funeral Home; burial in Fairview Cemetery, Dickinson Center.