Bishop Terry R. LaValley expressed disappointment at the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision that same sex marriage is a right guaranteed by the Constitution. In a statement dated June 26, the day that the decision was handed down, Bishop LaValley said, “The U.S. Supreme Court issued a long-awaited decision, ruling that the Constitution guarantees a nationwide right to same-sex marriage. “Regardless of the legal gymnastics that five of the nine jurists performed, no one can change what marriage really is, he said. “Divine law always trumps civil law,” Bishop LaValley said. “Marriage is the intimate partnership of life and love between one man and one woman, for the good of the spouses and for the procreation and education of children. “Without this basic understanding of what marriage is, there is no limit to what “marriage” could mean. “Redefining marriage in the civil law teaches that one sex is interchangeable with the other, and that either a mother or a father is dispensable as a parent... (Full statement on page 3)

Opportunities to support family faith

Stephen Tartaglia, diocesan director of family life ministry, lists a number of programs planned over the next several months to assist families in their growth of faith. New this year is a Family Pilgrimage to St. Anne’s Shrine in Isle LaMotte, Vermont. Scheduled for July 18, the program will include time for a picnic lunch, swimming and crafts as well as outdoor Stations of the Cross and a closing Mass celebrated by Father Douglas Lucia, Vicar for Worship and Family Life.

NCC summer schedule

The bi-weekly summer publication schedule of the North Country Catholic has begun; the next issue will be dated July 22.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Diana Jones, a teacher at Augustinian Academy in Carthage was named the 2015 Outstanding Catholic School Teacher for the Diocese of Ogdensburg. She was honored June 25 during a luncheon hosted by Bishop Terry LaValley at the Bishop’s residence. She was joined at the luncheon by St. Joseph Sister Annunciata Collins, and Mary Ann Margrey, principal and vice principal at Augustinian Academy, Msgr. Robert H. Aucoin, Vicar for Education; Karen Donahue, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Pam Ballantine, Assistant Director of Catholic Education for Christian Formation and Catholic Schools and St. Joseph Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, Director of Education and Superintendent of Schools. Full story on page 4.

TOP GRADS: Shannon, Nathan, Anna and Anna lead Seton, IHC... p.4
An ‘inspiring’ time for our diocese

June 28 was a great day for our diocesan family as Bishop LaValley commissioned 77 lay pastoral ministers for service in North Country parishes. St. Mary’s Cathedral was packed with family and friends who promised to support the newly commissioned in their ministry.

Of course, none of the 77 was new to providing service in parishes. Most, I would guess, have been familiar faces in church throughout their lives.

What’s different is that they have taken advantage of a diocesan program designed to give them the skills and confidence to serve their communities as effectively as possible.

For the past quarter of a century, the diocesan Formation for Ministry program has offered educational and spiritual support for people interested in serving the church. Hundreds of our people have completed the two-year program, taking courses in scripture, Christology, spirituality, the church, communications, sacraments and social justice.

They attended six workshops over the course of the two years to focus on their ministry of choice: youth ministry, liturgical ministry, catechetical leadership or parish life and outreach. They also gathered for annual retreats.

Personally, I’ve spent the past 25 years in awe of all these lay ministers who have paid a very high price for the privilege of giving even more.

They left their homes every week and traveled - sometimes considerable distances along sometimes treacherous North Country roads - to spend hours in a classroom.

They gave up weekends for more study and prayer and spent time in daily prayer, personal study and in writing papers for all their many teachers.

And now they have presented themselves to the bishop with a request to do even more.

Bishop LaValley voiced the gratitude of everyone who had gathered at the cathedral for the commissioning service: “Your presence here this afternoon is a wonderful sign of hope and of promise for the Church of the North Country,” he said. “The Diocese of Ogdensburg and your home parish are so very proud of your commitment and strong faith.”

“Thank you for learning more about your faith and committing to sharing it with a vibrant hope,” the bishop said. “The grace you received on the day of your baptism is being embraced and will multiply a hundredfold. This is truly an inspiring and exciting time for the Church of Ogdensburg.”

It is indeed!

‘Do not be afraid, just have faith’

I have been thinking of my faith – my own faith in God, lately. I imagine that part of this concern has come from the Sunday Gospels that have been read at Masses during the past few weeks. I especially think of the Jarius story. I am certain you remember that story. Jarius comes to seek Jesus’ help for his very sick daughter.

As I read the story, I am certain that Jarius was a friend of Jesus, even possibly a childhood friend. I really don’t know for certain. Jesus knew exactly where Jarius lived when he decided to go to Jarius’ daughter. Jarius had certainly developed a closeness for Jesus and he had a great deal of faith in Jesus. He believed that Jesus could heal his daughter.

Jarius is for us a wonderful example and a real model for our faith life; he had great faith. He trusted that something good would come about with Jesus.

As the Jarius story continues, there are all sorts of interruptions on the way to his home.

A woman comes along seeking a healing. We know little about her, not even her name. She had heard about Jesus and somehow she developed faith in him. She believed that she had only to touch the hem of his garment. Her this faith is rewarded with healing – she definitely shows us faith.

Then Jarius’ servants come to tell him that they believe his daughter has died. Can you imagine how stunned Jarius is? Jesus intercedes – “Do not be afraid, just have faith.”

One of our deacons reminded me that in the Gospels, Jesus says, “Do not be afraid, just have faith” 73 times. Jarius’ faith in Jesus stays strong – they continue to his home where Jesus heals his daughter.

As I meditate on this story, I wonder whether my faith is strong like that of Jarius and that woman. I have often turned to the Lord, many times with many intentions, hoping that the Lord would recognize my faith. I must admit that there was some doubts. Was I worthy enough? Would Jesus really hear me? However, my experience has taught me.

When I needed the Lord – in a crisis, in a challenge, in a problem – Jesus has walked with me and given me the strength to get through it all. My faith had helped me.

There is something that I think of often: Jesus said this, “If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you can say to this tree, uproot yourself and fall into the lake.” I certainly can’t do that – I’ve tried.

My faith is rather tiny. I must continue to pray. I must turn to Jesus praying that my faith will become stronger. I know only too well that my turn will come. I must have a stronger faith than the one I can deal with all that life brings me. My faith grows each time I turn to the Lord in my prayers.

Each Mass is a time to meet the Lord in the Eucharist and truly strengthen my faith. Jesus continues to invite me closer telling me not to be afraid. My relationship with Jesus, my friendship with Jesus, my faith in Jesus transforms me. With Jesus as a friend, I truly become a different person, alive in the strength of my faith.

I am certain that walking with Jesus is transformative. His presence strengthens my confidence that I will do the right thing, say the right thing, make the right decisions.

Also, Jesus is my Savior. When I fall, when I sin and turn to the Lord in repentance I will find forgiveness and conversion.

The Jarius’ story ends with Jesus telling the girl’s parents to give her something to eat. It reminds me of a doctor – a very wonderful doctor – I knew way back in my Massena assignment.

Often, after treating a child, he could give the parents a prescription form on which he wrote, “Take this child out for an ice cream cone.”
‘Protecting marriage matters to everyone’

Initial observations on U.S. Supreme Court decision on Marriage, June 26, 2015

The U.S. Supreme Court issued a long-awaited decision, ruling that the Constitution guarantees a nationwide right to same-sex marriage. Regardless of the legal gymnastics that five of the nine jurists performed, no one can change what marriage really is.

Divine law always trumps civil law. Marriage is the intimate partnership of life and love between one man and one woman, for the good of the spouses and for the procreation and education of children.

Without this basic understanding of what marriage is, there is no limit to what “marriage” could mean. Redefining marriage in the civil law teaches that one sex is interchangeable with the other, and that either a mother or a father is dispensable as a parent. It teaches that marriage is whatever consenting adults say it is.

Protecting marriage matters to everyone. Mothers and fathers are irreplaceable, not interchangeable. Unjust discrimination is wrong, always wrong. However, treating differently that which is different is not unjust discrimination.

It’s no secret, the world at large is not eager to accept what the Church has to say. But our courts are not the ultimate arbiters of truth and that truth cannot be measured based on public opinion, even if it appears prevailing.

Fidelity to the divine law is always, always the “loving thing to do.” Our mission is to inform and transform a world that seems, in so many ways, bent on succumbing to a philosophy of life that is at odds with God’s law.

The redefinition of legal marriage has serious consequences, especially for religious freedom. It changes every law involving marital status, requiring that other relationships be treated as if they were the same as the marital relationship of a man and a woman.

No person or community, including religious organizations and individuals of faith, should be forced to accept this redefinition. For many of us, accepting a redefinition of marriage would be to act against our conscience and to deny our religious beliefs and moral convictions.

Government should protect these convictions and beliefs without fear of intimidation or unwarranted charges that our values imply bigotry or hatred of others.

The majority opinion indicated that “those who adhere to religious doctrines may continue to advocate with utmost, sincere conviction that, by divine precepts, same-sex marriage should not be condoned.”

The five justices ruled that “the First Amendment ensures that religious organizations and persons are given proper protection as they seek to teach the principles that are so fulfilling and so central to their lives and faiths.” We intend to exercise that First Amendment right to the fullest extent possible because this Court decision will not stop public dialogue.

Surely, we are disheartened and disappointed, but not deterred. We shall increase our efforts to strengthen marriages and families and to rebuild a marriage culture for the sake of our children.

Motivated by the truth and strengthened through prayer, we will continue to follow Jesus who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. We are hope-filled because we are Christ-led and Christ-fed.

FAMILY BLESSING

Seton Academy in Plattsburgh celebrated a special Candlelight Ceremony to honor the fifth and sixth graders who will be leaving Seton Academy and continuing their education at Seton Catholic. Part of the ceremony included a blessing of the students by their parents. Michael and Colleen Lemza extend a blessing to their twin daughters Emella and Madeline. Throughout the year, the students and families have focused on the theme: “Find Your Home in Christ.”

Job Opening

Middle School Teacher needed for 2015-2016 school year. Send resume to St. Mary’s School, 64 Amherst Ave, Ticonderoga, NY 12883. Call 518-585-7433 for application &/or questions.

Job Opening

Holy Family School is accepting applications for the following positions: Two K-5 Elementary Teachers. Must have appropriate NYS certification. Applications are available at the school and on the Diocesan website. Please send cover letter, resume, and application to: Mrs. Whitney Brockway Holy Family School, 12 Homestead Park, Malone, NY 12953

Job Opening

Seton Catholic seeks innovative teachers to join an expanding and dedicated team of educators providing challenging academics in a faith based environment. The ideal candidates will be New York state certified and practicing Catholics.

One full time in each:

• Math, Social Studies and English

• Part time ESL consultant

Send a cover letter, resume, email address and references to: Principal, Seton Catholic Central, 206 New York Road, Plattsburgh, NY 12903 or email to: crussell@setonthcatholic.net not later than July 15th.
Outstanding teacher is honored

By Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, SSJ
Superintendent of Schools

Diana Jones, a teacher at Augustinian Academy in Carthage, has been named the 2015 Outstanding Catholic School Teacher for the Diocese of Ogdensburg. Mrs. Jones has been a member of the faculty at Augustinian since 1994.

In her application for the position at Augustinian, Mrs. Jones wrote, “I wish to teach in a Catholic school because of its dedication to teaching Gospel values by word and example, teaching all subjects well and encouraging the development of strong family and community ties.”

For 20 years Mrs. Jones has been committed to Augustinian’s vibrant Catholic identity and strong academic program that integrates faith, culture and life.

In Mrs. Jones’ early years at Augustinian she taught Kindergarten. For the last 11 years she has taught first grade.

She is an effective teacher whose expectations are clearly stated and consistently applied in the classroom.

She is readily available to parents encouraging and supporting their active engagement in their children’s progress. Mrs. Jones works well with administrators, faculty and staff. She coordinates Augustinian’s school-wide Mission Children’s Association Program.

Her dedication to Augustinian is evident beyond her classroom. Mrs. Jones is always ready to substitute in the parish religious education program, works at the spring St. James Fair and assists with the school autumn fun hour.

Mrs. Jones has a BS degree with a concentration in Child Development in an Educational Environment and a Master of Science degree in Reading from SUNY Potsdam.

She is permanently certified in Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten and Grades 1-6. She regularly participates in continued professional development workshops and training sessions.

In nominating Mrs. Jones, St. Joseph Sister Annunciata Collins, principal at Augustinian, stated, “Twenty years ago when Diana Jones was hired as a teacher at Augustinian Academy, she said that her Catholic training, values and education were very much in concert with the faith based education program at Augustinian. This statement is valid today and resonates the standards of our schools’ Catholic Mission and Identity.

“Mrs. Jones is outstanding as a committed professional and a faith-filled member of the faculty of Augustinian Academy,” Sister Annunciata said.

Mrs. Jones was honored June 25 during a luncheon hosted by Bishop Terry LaValley at the Bishop’s residence in Ogdensburg. She was joined at the luncheon by Sister Annunciata and Mary Ann Margrey, principal and vice-principal at Augustinian Academy, Msgr. Robert H. Aucoin, Vicar for Education, Karen Donahue, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Pam Ballantine, Assistant Director of Catholic Education for Christian Formation and Catholic Schools and St. Joseph, Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, Director of Education and Superintendent of Schools.

Class leaders at Catholic high schools are profiled

Class leaders at the two Catholic high schools in the Diocese of Ogdensburg have been announced.

Shannon Egan, valedictorian, and Nathan VanHerp, salutatorian, were among 18 graduates from Seton Catholic School in Plattsburgh.

The commencement took place June 20 at SUNY Plattsburgh.

The academic leaders at Immaculate Heart Central School in Watertown were Anna Garrabrant, valedictorian and Anna Janks, salutatorian.

Forty-six seniors graduated from IHC on June 20.

At Seton Catholic

Shannon Egan, the daughter of Robert and Darlene Egan, Plattsburgh, graduated from Seton Catholic with a cumulative grade point average of 96.470. She received the Dannemora Federal Credit Union Scholarship and a Presidential Academic Fitness Award.

She was elected to membership in the Seton Catholic Central Chapter of the National Honor Society in grades 10, 11, 12.

During her school years Shannon was actively involved as a Faith Ambassador, in Student Council, and on the Yearbook Committee.

Shannon was a captain of the Seton Catholic varsity soccer team, as well as the basketball team. She was a member of the Fall CVAC All-Academic team in Soccer.

She was also a volunteer for the Journey into Reading program during her Senior year.

Shannon has been accepted into the Liberal Arts, National Honor Society program at Clinton Community College this fall, receiving the Clinton Community College Presidential Scholarship, covering the full cost of tuition.

Nathan VanHerp, the son of Gary and Deborah VanHerp, of Peru, left Seton with a 96.460 GPA.

In addition to earning salutatorian honors, he was member of the Seton Catholic Chapter of the National Honor Society and was voted President of the Key Club. Nathan is also a Presidential Academic Fitness Award winner.

He was also a member of the Student Council, Yearbook Committee and a member of the North Country Model UN. Nathan also participated on the track, tennis teams and was a member of cross country.

Nathan will be attending the University of Miami, majoring in audio engineering, receiving the University of Miami Presidential Scholarship.

At IHC

Anna E. Garrabrant, daughter of Scott and Andrea Garrabrant, Watertown, earned a grade point average of 98.413.

Besides earning the top academic honor for her class, she also received two prestigious Sisters of Saint Joseph (SSJ) Awards as the outstanding senior student in both science and math and was named recipient of the Bishop’s Award for Outstanding Diocesan Student. Her other senior academic honors included a Mary Angelica Prior Scholarship, The United States Air Force Math & Science Award, The Official Army Reserve National Scholar/Athlete Award, the Air Force Recruiting Service Scholar/Athlete Award, a $1500 New York State Scholarship for Academic Excellence Award, the United States Marine Corps Scholastic Excellence Award and a Section 3 Scholar Athlete Award and the Rotary
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Math-Science Award.

Anna was chosen as President of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapter of the National Honor Society, was a peer tutor in both junior and senior high, participated in the IHC Faith Community Service Program and Respect Life Initiative and was an IHC Mystery Player.

She earned varsity letters in basketball and softball and was presented with the Gaffney Award for Outstanding Female Athlete in the IHC Class of 2015 by the Italian American Civic Association.

In addition to her faith based and athletic activities, Anna was elected Vice President of the IHC Student Council, was a member of the Cavalier Yearbook staff, the Ambassador Club, participated in the New York State Math League, the annual variety shows, Christmas programs, spring concerts and the VFW Voice of Democracy contest.

She will be attending St. John Fisher College this fall where she plans to study nursing.

Salutatorian Anna Jank, daughter of Christopher and Paula Jank, Watertown, earned a GPA of 96.022.

Other accomplishments in her outstanding high school career include receiving the NYS Attorney General’s Triple C Award for character, courage and community concern, the Mary Delosh-Smith Scholarship Award, an Army Reserve Scholar/Athlete Award and a President’s Academic Award.

In addition to earning varsity letters in soccer and softball, Anna was a member of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapter of the National Honor Society and worked on the Cavalier Yearbook staff.

She also participated in The Faith Community Service Program and Respect Life Initiative, the VFW Voice of Democracy contest, was a peer tutor and an IHC Mystery Player.

Anna will continue her education at St. Lawrence University.

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She will be attending St. John Fisher College this fall where she plans to study nursing.

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She also participated in The Faith Community Service Program and Respect Life Initiative, the VFW Voice of Democracy contest, was a peer tutor and an IHC Mystery Player.

Anna will continue her education at St. Lawrence University.

Jarrod Smith, Jordan Trudeau, David Signor and Nicholas Kramer display their diplomas after their June 20 graduation from Immaculate Heart Central School in Watertown.

Class leaders
AFTER COMPLETION OF FORMATION FOR MINISTRY PROGRAM

LAY MINISTERS COMMISSIONED

Bishop LaValley presides at June 28 blessing and commissioning

PHOTOS BY BETTY STEELE
Bishop Terry R. LaValley commissioned 77 lay ministers - including Roderic Roca of Notre Dame Church in Ogdensburg - during a Solemn Vespers for the Blessing and Commissioning of Lay Pastoral Ministers June 28 at St. Mary’s Cathedral.

PHOTO BY GAYLE FRANK
Mary Madden Luck and Delinda Fuller, newly commissioned lay ministers at St. Mary’s in Clayton, are shown with their pastor Father Arthur J. LaBaff.

Bishop LaValley congratulates Daniel E. Hobbs who was commissioned for service in parish life and outreach for St. Joseph’s Parish in West Chazy.

The lay ministers had completed the two-year Formation for Ministry program in one of three sites - Massena, Morrisonville and Watertown. Some from the Massena site are shown in the first row at the commissioning service. From left are Thomas Lavigne, Maryann Wells, Cindy Matthews, Gloria Horan, Lisa Furnace and Nancy Brothers, all of Massena and Linda Trill of Canton.
In Greek mythology, there is the story of Pandora's Box. Pandora is described as the very first woman in creation. According to one of the most common versions of the story, Prometheus stole fire from heaven and brought it down to mortal humanity. Then, the chief god, Zeus, created Pandora. The other gods then decided to provide certain gifts for this first woman, Pandora.

The god Aphrodite gave her beauty. Hermes gave her cunning. Her beauty was so great that Zeus himself became enamored of her. He gave her a box, “Pandora’s Box,” in which he had placed all the blessings he intended humankind to have. Zeus instructed Pandora to deliver them to all humanity, but there was one condition: under no circumstance was Pandora to open the lid and look inside the box. Well, wouldn’t you know—her curiosity got the better of her. She opened the lid and all of humankind’s blessings escaped.

When Pandora saw this happen, she put the lid back on as quickly as possible and was able to save just one blessing. Of all the blessings Zeus had intended for humankind, only the blessing of hope remained.

In our Gospel stories today, it might appear to both Jairus the man who suffered a chronic illness for 12 years that Pandora’s Box was empty—blessings seemed in short supply. Yet, it was with a thread of hope that they approached Jesus and healing happened, the blessing of hope was rewarded.

Sometimes an air of hopelessness seems to dominate our culture, even our Church. Sometimes a mood of doom and gloom prevails. Sometimes, we seem unable to find solutions to the massive problems that keep pressing in on us as individuals, as families, as church. Undoubtedly, there are many people today, perhaps some among us, who feel that Pandora’s Box is empty. Many people who feel that hope is gone.

Against this background of discouragement, the Church today presents us with two miracle stories that are sandwiched together.

First there’s the story of Jairus and his 12 year old daughter at the beginning and the end of the Gospel. Then, in the middle of it all is the story of the woman who has suffered a chronic illness.

When Mark’s Gospel puts one story in between layers of another story like this, biblical teachers call it a “Marcan sandwich.”

The flavor of the outer story adds zest to the inner one: the taste of the inner one is meant in turn to permeate the outer one.

Trying to separate these stories—one from the other—would be about as successful as pulling apart the peanut butter from the jelly in a peanut butter and jelly sandwich.

Together, the stories of Jairus and his daughter along with the chronically ill woman give us a taste of the goodness of the Lord as together we move from fear to faith.

In this Gospel reading, as in all of Jesus’ miracles, there is great comfort and hope. Whenever we see Jesus heal the sick, raise the dead and still storms, we trust that the way things are is not the way things will always be. God’s desire for us and for the world is not chaos and fear but wholeness and peace.

For the Diocese of Ogdensburg and for me, your presence here this afternoon is a wonderful sign of hope and of promise for the Church of the North Country.

After much time spent in classes, home study, retreats, conferences, and daily prayer, you have come to St. Mary’s Cathedral this afternoon to be commissioned as women and men of hope to serve the folks of our diocese in diverse ways. Christ-led, Christ-fed, and Hope-filled, each of us has a role to play as we live out our vocations in following Jesus.

First and foremost, it is in the workplace, in our homes, in our places of relaxation and recreation, in our schools and malls that the lay faithful live out their call to holiness.

Additionally, you who are about to be commissioned as lay ministers, will bear the responsibility to help build up the local Church through a focused ministry in your parish in close collaboration with your pastor. The Diocese of Ogdensburg and your home parish are so very proud of your commitment and strong faith. I want to thank your instructors, pastors, your spouses, Pat Donahue, indeed, all who have been instrumental in your participation in the Formation for Ministry Program.

Thank you for learning more about your faith and committing to sharing it with a vibrant hope.

Your learning and formation must never end. So, this is far from being a graduation. It is a formal, public commitment of your continual discipleship.

Never forget, that you are co-missioned—that is, missioned with your sisters and brothers, members of the one Body of Christ. We never serve alone.

Thank you for learning more about your faith and committing to sharing it with a vibrant hope. The grace you received on the day of your baptism is being embraced and will multiply a hundredfold. This is truly an inspiring and exciting time for the Church of Ogdensburg.

The lid has been opened and our world is filled with God’s blessings. With the gift of His Son, our God has showered us with every reason to rejoice and be glad. In ministry, you will encounter folks who find no such reason to be joy-filled. Many are hurting—physically, emotionally, psychologically. You will meet people who are angry, for a host of reasons. Many will be grieving, some afraid of what tomorrow may bring. My sisters and brothers, let the beam of hope enkindled within our hearts be reflected in smiles of joy and peace to all we meet and serve.

We are hope-filled because we are Christ-led and Christ-fed. And, that makes all the difference in the world.

May God be praised...forever may God be praised!
Opportunities to build family faith announced

By Stephen Tartaglia
Diocesan Family Life Director

It is a major challenge for Catholic families to live in a society that has strongly embraced the doctrine of relativism because, as Chris Stefanick says, there are eight problems that relativism causes. It robs us of a sense of meaning, leaves us with no criteria for moral decision-making but personal taste, deprives children of formation, separates us from one another, undermines the right to life, makes it easy for those in authority to manipulate others, puts the freedom of speech under attack, and destroys faith.

I think that being separated from one another is especially insidious, especially because Jesus prayed that his followers may be one as He and the Father are one.

When we feel like we are all alone, life can be pretty overwhelming, gradually making it harder to stand up against evil and easier to give up on our efforts to grow in holiness.

On the other hand, when we join together with other like-minded people we can accomplish great things.

Here are a few opportunities to connect with other Catholic families this summer:

Family pilgrimage
We will be having a free Family Pilgrimage to St. Anne's Shrine in Isle La Motte on July 18th, from 11am-5pm. Bring a picnic lunch and bathing suits for swimming. Enjoy the gift shop and pavilions. Participate in a family craft. Enjoy walking the outdoor Stations of the Cross, celebrate Reconciliation and Mass.

Come join others for a peaceful, prayerful pilgrimage for your entire family.

Love is Our Mission
In late July we are offering a 2-hour workshop based on the book Love is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive. The workshop is to provide an overview for anyone interested in the love of God as it should be taught, shared, communicated in and through the domestic church of the family. In particular, it is for those commissioned lay ministers who in their ministry work more closely with families: in catechesis, youth ministry, or family outreach.

There are three opportunities to attend one of the workshops:
- July 28 at Seton Academy, Watertown
- July 29 at the Parish of the Visitation Parish Hall, Norfolk, NY 13667
- July 30 at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse, Watertown

The workshops are free and open to the public, but an RSVP would be appreciated. For more information or to RSVP contact Steve Tartaglia 315-393-2920 or startaglia@rcdony.org

Family Guggenheim
In August and October, Family Guggenheim welcomes families of all dimensions to come enjoy a special weekend in the beauty of the Adirondacks. Expect fun family workshops and activities that will have you working and laughing together. Celebrate Christ’s presence in your lives through liturgy (often outside) and special prayer services. Take time for great outdoor activities like paddle boat rides, beach volleyball, and hiking.

We still have openings for the second and third sessions. Sessions two begins Aug. 20 at 2 p.m. and ends Aug. 23 at 4 p.m.; session three begins Oct. 9 at 7 p.m. and ends Oct. 11 at 4.

Bus Trip for Papal Mass.
In late September we are sending four buses to Philadelphia for the Papal Mass. We still have a few seats available on the Eastern bus departing from Plattsburgh and also picking up in Schroon Lake. Tickets are $100 per person. If you are interested, please contact startaglia@rcdony.org as soon as possible.

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, the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy at 315-393-2920, ext. 1340

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 pre-register at www.virtus.org by selecting the registration button and following the directions. All employees and volunteers who participate in church sponsored activities with minor are required to participate. Further information is available from the Bishop's Office at 315-393-2920, ext. 1440.

Upcoming sessions:
- July 15 - 10 a.m., Diocesan Offices, Ogdensburg
- Sept. 3 - 8 p.m., Wakefield Recital Hall, SUNY Potsdam

Bishop's Schedule
July 7-10 - Living His Life Abundantly Board Meeting in Tampa, Florida
July 11 -10:30 a.m., Sisters of St. Joseph Jubilee Mass at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church in Watertown
July 12 - 9:30 a.m., Mass at St. Francis Solanus Church in Harrisville 11 a.m., Mass at St. Stephen's Church in Crogan
July 14 - 4 p.m., Mass at Camp Guggenheim in Saranac Lake
July 17 - 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral
July 18 - 4 p.m., Mass at St. Peter's Church in Lowville 5:30 p.m., 95th Anniversary Mass at St. Mary's Church in Glenfield

Rest in Peace
This week marks the anniversary of the deaths of the following clergy men who have served in the Diocese of Ogdensburg:
- July 13 - Rev. George Garand, 1941

Environmental Stewardship
Home Sweet Home
In Pope Francis’s recent encyclical on climate change, entitled “Praise be to you, My Lord,” he refers to our earth as our ‘common home’. As sisters and brothers in the Lord, we are all part of His body. Thus, what happens to one part of this body affects all of its members. The question that the Holy Father poses to all citizens of the world for consideration is: “What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?”

In the past, encyclicals were usually addressed to the bishops of the Church or the lay faithful. But similar to Pope St. John XXIII’s Pacem in Terris, Pope Francis addresses his message to all people. “We need a conversation that includes everyone, since the environment challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affect us all.” (#141) At the heart of the document is a call for an ‘ecological conversion’ for all of us whereby the effects of our encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in our relationship with the world around us. Living our vocation to be protectors of God’s handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or secondary aspect of our Christian experience.” (#217)

While we in the North Country may not be experiencing the immediate consequences of climate change as profoundly as some people, we need to think beyond our own backyards. As we enjoy the beauties and the fruits of our richly endowed northern country, let us remember to give thanks to our Creator and consider what act we will take today to care for it.

Show us our place in this world, God of love. Seize us with your power and light as we prepare for a better future—one of justice, peace, love and beauty. Amen.

NO PAPER NEXT WEEK
The next issue of the North Country Catholic will be dated July 22
The people of St. Mary’s & St. Joseph’s Church in Massena send prayerful congratulations to our newly commissioned lay ministers.

† Randy Besio
† Tammy Besio
† Ann Borsellino

† Darin Chartrand
† Michele Chartrand
† Sue LaComb
† Thomas Lavigne
Pastors of parishes along the St. Lawrence River say:

Welcome summer!

By Dave Shampine
Staff Writer

CLAYTON - Thank God it's summer!

The pastors of St. Mary's Church and of St. Cyril's, Alexandria Bay, didn't say that precisely, but they could have.

“We rely very much on summer traffic for the finances to carry us through the year,” said Father Arthur J. LaBaff, pastor here for the last five years.

But it's not just the money, he said. “A lot of summer people work for us, too. Deacons, lectors, choir, greeters, eucharistic ministers, cantors - they participate.

“It's exciting

“It's exciting when the summer people come,” he said. “They know us, we know them. They feel like they are part of the parish family, they feel welcomed. They feel at home, that this is their home when they are here.

“They are proud of their churches here, and they want them to flourish,” Father LaBaff said.

Simply put, said Father Douglas G. Comstock, who expects to serve in his hometown of Alexandria Bay until retirement, “Without summer people, we wouldn't be able to do all that we do.”

The dollar figures stand out, however.

In Alexandria Bay, there is roughly a 70 percent difference between summer and winter revenue, Father Comstock said. The average Sunday collection during the summer is about $4,000, while in winter, the count is a chilly $1,300.

His Sunday attendance in winter, about 170, is dwarfed by the summer gathering of up to 550.

The same goes for his linked parish, St. Francis Xavier, Redwood. Residents

of lake cottages in the area bring his Mass to about 150, he said, but after the colorful leaves have fallen and the water ices over, only 30 to 40 faces are seen in the small church.

Father LaBaff said, “Our summer income assists us through the year. Summer income receipts are two to three times higher than winter receipts.”

In winter, Sunday Mass attendance is about 250 people, while the summer traffic averages close to 800 worshipers.

He additionally conducts an 8 a.m. Sunday service at the Wellesley Island Tabernacle from July 4 to Labor Day, with attendance of about 240.

“Volunteers take care of everything,” Father LaBaff said. “All I have to do is show up and say Mass. They do the rest.”

His linked parish in LaFargeville is closed during the summer. In winter, he said he sees 35 to 40 arriving for Mass.

Summer gala

The big fund-raiser for St. Mary's is a summer gala, for which 370 tickets are sold at $100 each. The big winner takes home $10,000. This year's event will be Aug. 4 at the Cerow Recreational Center, where about 500 are expected.

Attendance is very much mixed between locals and summer people, Father LaBaff continued. “Many summer people look forward to it, and some even ask us ahead of time for the date so that they can plan their vacations to be here for it,” Father LaBaff said.

Father Comstock interjected. “They (St. Mary's) take our money too. People come to it from the Bay.”

Proceeds are split between St. Mary's and the Knights of Columbus.

“It's a nice social event which includes cocktails, dinner, and a silent auction,” Father LaBaff said. “We used to have dancing, but that went late and people were ready to go home by 10.”

Dinner is catered by Savory Café, Watertown.

The summer event for St. Cyril’s is a covered dish dinner cruise with Uncle Sam Boat Tours. The two-and-a-half hour trek accommodates a little over a hundred people, the majority of those being year-round residents, Father Comstock said.

“It seems that summer people are more short-term residents than in previous years,” he said. “But a lot of retired people with cottages are here about six months of the year.”

St. Cyril’s also conducts a popular election night supper in November, and has coffee hours after Sunday Mass.

Parish renovations

Both churches, with St. Mary's having undergone renovation a few years ago and a $300,000 exterior upgrade last year, are in good condition, the priests said.

Father LaBaff saluted both his local parishioners and the summer folk for their generosity in getting the latest project accomplished.

But there are still those nasty fuel bills to contend with, about $40,000 here, and $25,000 at St. Cyril’s. St. Mary’s, meanwhile, struck gold in 2014 with an unlikely benefactor – Verizon Wireless.

The cell phone giant needed a tower in Clayton, and the church steeple filled the bill. To house necessities for the tower, Verizon needed to have a building on church property.

A deal was reached where a ten-by-twenty-foot building behind the rectory was erected to blend in with the same limestone designs of the church and rectory. The exterior provides platforms where statues representing saints Andre Bessette, MaryAnn Cope and Kateri Tekakwitha are mounted.

And here’s the bonus: Verizon is paying a monthly rent (amount undisclosed) for twenty-five years. So St. Mary’s has a guaranteed revenue in the new building until about 2039.

Collaboration

Some day not far off, St. Mary’s and St. Cyril’s will be linked, according to the diocese’s announced plans as it deals with the declining number of priests.

“We both expect to remain in these parishes until we retire,” said Father Comstock, the older of the two pastors.

Both said they steeped in stay as long as their health permits.

But in the meantime, “collaboration is going to be very important in the future as the two parishes move closer to becoming linked,” Father LaBaff said.

Both churches have active youth and adult groups, and in some instances, those groups are already working across their geographic lines, the pastors said.
Bishop LaValley congratulates St. Joseph Sister Patricia Carmella Urbinelli of the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse in Watertown, who completed the Formation for Ministry program in youth ministry.

Congratulations and God’s Blessings on your ministry.
Nancy Brothers, Lisa Furnace, Gloria Horan, Cindy Matthews and Maryann Wells

In Thanksgiving
Church of the Sacred Heart & St. Lawrence Church

The People of St. Andrew’s Parish, Norwood

Congratulate Pat LaRose

On her Commissioning as a Lay Minister of the Church.

We pray that your Ministry among us will bear great fruit!

Congratulations from St. Peter’s Parish to our newly Commissioned Lay Ministers:
Renee Larson, Jane Kessler, Debra Biasini, Nancy Russo, Lucy Wood and Marie Nacht.
Congratulations

Kathy and Steven Bateman

on the completion of the Formation for Ministry Program and their commissioning.

St. Mary’s Cathedral, Ogdensburg

Our parish family is very grateful to

Lisa Mockus

For responding to the call to serve the church as a commissioned lay minister.

May God bless you abundantly for all the good you have done and continue to do.

The Roman Catholic Church of Saint John the Baptist

Plattsburgh, NY

Congratulations and Blessings to the Lay Ministers for the Diocese of Ogdensburg, especially to

Sister Patricia Carmella Urbinelli, SSJ

Congratulations & blessings upon you begin your work as a Lay Minister.

The Faith Community of the Church of the Assumption in Redford extends Congratulations to

Bonnie Allen & Mae Rasco

on the occasion of their commissioning as Lay Ministers within the Diocese of Ogdensburg.
The Diocese of Ogdensburg and your home parish are so very proud of your commitment and strong faith.
BISHOP LAVALLEY

Congratulations Harvey LeCuyer.
We are blessed to have your ministry.
The Roman Catholic Community of Keeseville

Congratulations
Daniel Stewart
On becoming a Lay Minister.
From The Catholic Community at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Schroon Lake.

The people of St. Joseph’s, Dannemora extend to Jamie and Beth Giroux; Congratulations and words and of appreciation for your commitment to God and the Church.

Eileen Greenwood
Peter Woolschlager

Well Done, Good and Faithful Stewards!
Congratulations
From the pastor and parishioners of St. Stephen’s Parish, Croghan

The Parishioners of St. Mary’s Church Canton, N.Y. extend Congratulations and Best Wishes to

Linda Trill
newly commissioned Lay Minister for our parish
Analyzing court ruling's implications will take time, say church officials

By Julie Asher
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Analyzing the ramifications of the June 26 same-sex marriage ruling for the Catholic Church at the national, state and local levels will take time, said Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore.

It has implications for “hundreds, if not thousands” of laws at all levels, and there is “a difficult road ahead for people of faith,” he said.

Archbishop Lori, chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty, made the comments in a teleconference for news media held about three hours after the Supreme Court issued its 5-4 decision that states must license same-sex marriage.

Joining him in the media briefing were two members of the bishops’ Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage, Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military, and Bishop Daniel E. Flores of Brownsville, Texas; and Anthony Picarello, associate general secretary and general counsel at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

“Tragically, the court was wrong,” said Archbishop Broglio, adding that this is “not the first time a ‘false understanding of marriage’ has been forced on the country, as by lower court rulings.

“Clearly the decision was not required by the Constitution (and) the narrowness of the decision reveals it is not settled,” he continued. “Marriage is unchangeable.”

Echoing an earlier statement by Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, USCCB president, Archbishop Broglio said the church will continue to follow Christ, “in solidarity with the pope,” in adhering to the church’s teaching on marriage being between one man and one woman.

Archbishop Lori acknowledged that the court’s decision in Obergefell v. Hodges “makes a nod in the direction of religious liberty.” But that, he said, is too narrow.

The ruling “recognizes free speech, the right of religion to teach or advocate with regard to the true definition of marriage, but it does not acknowledge (that) the First Amendment also protects freedom of religion and the right to follow our teaching,” he said.

Justice Anthony Kennedy, writing for the majority, recognized in several places the role of religious beliefs in the questions surrounding same-sex marriage, saying that “it must be emphasized that religious persons and those who adhere to religious doctrines may continue to advocate with utmost, sincere conviction that, by divine precepts, same-sex marriage should not be condoned.”

Kennedy also said in part that “those who believe allowing same-sex marriage is proper or indeed essential, whether as a matter of religious conviction or secular belief, may engage those who disagree with their view in an open and searching debate.”

But Archbishop Lori said free speech is not at issue. Under the ruling, “we retain the right to think what we want at home and within the confines of the church” but it does not address the First Amendment’s guarantee to free exercise of religion. The church should be able to operate “our ministries ... without fear of being silenced, penalized,” he said.

Through social services, “we serve millions of people every day. We do it well and we do it lovingly,” he added.

He foresees many legal challenges and controversies as the church seeks to protect itself from the fallout of the ruling by advocating at the federal, state and local levels for protections of its faith-based practices.

Some areas where there will be legal disputes, Picarello said, were outlined by Chief Justice John Roberts, including tax exemptions, campus housing, academic accreditation, employment and employee benefits.

The U.S. Catholic Church will have to look at internal ways to protect itself against legal challenges, Picarello said, and “advocate externally for legislation, regulation and, if necessary, litigation.”

Picarello said free speech protections for opponents of same-sex marriage were already under attack. Within a couple of hours of the decision being issued, he said, a newspaper in Pennsylvania announced it will no longer accept op-eds criticizing same-sex marriage.

“Some things will happen immediately,” as seen by that newspaper’s announcement, he said, and some will take time to unfold,” like challenges to churches receiving tax exemptions.

Another area that will require study, Archbishop Broglio said, is the military chaplaincy, because the Catholic priest-chaplains whom his archdiocese oversees also come under civil authorities.

While polls show a majority of Catholics say they approve of same-sex marriage, Catholic teaching is “never determined by numbers but by the truth,” Archbishop Broglio said. “We have to be faithful to the teaching of the Gospel.”

Pope will visit as ‘pastor,’ not ‘politician,’ says Washington cardinal

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- Pope Francis will make history during his visit to Washington in September, when he becomes the first pope to address a joint meeting of Congress and he says the first canonization Mass to be celebrated in the United States. Washington Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl outlined details of the pope’s Sept. 22-24 visit to the nation’s capital at a news conference at the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle in Washington June 30, after the Vatican published the detailed schedule of Pope Francis’ Sept. 19-22 visit to Cuba and his Sept. 22-27 visit to the United States. St. Matthew Cathedral also is on the pope’s U.S. itinerary, as is a visit to an outreach program operated by Catholic Charities, where he will meet clients served by the agency. “The Holy Father is visiting our home, he is coming to visit us,” Cardinal Wuerl said, adding that the pope will be visiting “not as a politician, but as a pastor.” The theme of the papal visit to the Archdiocese of Washington is “Share the Joy, Walk With Francis.” It is the first leg on his first U.S. trip, which also includes stops in New York City and Philadelphia.

Pope to archbishops: Be brave, convincing witnesses for church

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- The church wants pastors who are unafraid of persecution, are angels of hope and charity, and are convincing witnesses with a life rooted in prayer and the Gospel, Pope Francis told new archbishops. “It’s quite simple, because the most effective and authentic witness is one that does not contradict, by behavior and lifestyle,” what one preaches and teaches, he said during a Mass celebrating the feasts of Sts. Peter and Paul June 29. Forty-six archbishops representing 34 countries, who were named over the course of the last year, were invited to come to Rome to celebrate the feast day Mass with Pope Francis. Among those invited to concelebrate were Archbishops John C. Wester of Santa Fe, New Mexico; Blase J. Cupich of Chicago; Denis Grondin of Rimouski, Quebec; Anthony Fisher of Sydney; Eamon Martin of Armagh, Northern Ireland; and Kieran O’Reilly of Cashel and Emly, Ireland.

Papal summer: Benedict heads for hilltop villa, Francis trims schedule

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis visited retired Pope Benedict XVI at his Vatican residence June 30 to wish him a happy summer. After a 30-minute visit from Pope Francis, the retired pope then headed off to the traditional papal summer residence of Castel Gandolfo outside of Rome. It was the first time the retired pope returned to the villa since spending about two months there after he resigned in early 2013. The 88-year-old retired pope is expected to remain at the summer villa just two weeks, until July 14. Before he resigned, Pope Benedict, like many of his predecessors since the early 1600s, spent a large portion of the summer months at the 135-acre papal villa to escape Rome’s oppressive heat. Pope Francis, however, who — even as archbishop of Buenos Aires — is not known to take a full vacation, lightened his schedule just a bit for July. He will still hold his Angelus prayer and address every Sunday; however, there will be no Wednesday general audience for all of July, said Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman. The general audience will resume in August in the Vatican’s solar-powered and air-conditioned Paul VI hall.
COUPLE TO BE CANONIZED

NEW YORK (CNS) -- The 30 hours or so Pope Francis will spend in New York in September will be relatively brief, but his presence here among us will have a profound and lasting impact on all New Yorkers, said Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan.

"As Catholics, we rejoice in knowing that our Holy Father is coming to visit us, and we eagerly look forward to showing him how our faith is being put into action in this community," the New York cardinal said in a statement June 30.

His comments followed the early morning release by the Vatican of the detailed schedule of Pope Francis' Sept. 19-22 visit to Cuba and his Sept. 22-27 visit to the United States.

"As New Yorkers, we know that we can offer an example to the entire world of how people of different faiths can not only live together in peace and harmony, but also come together in a spirit of mutual cooperation and respect for one another," Cardinal Dolan said.

Pope Francis is scheduled to depart Washington at 4 p.m. (local time) Sept. 24 and arrive at New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport an hour later. That evening he will celebrate vespers with priests and men and women religious in St. Patrick’s Cathedral and deliver the homily.

Early in the morning Sept. 25, the pontiff visit the headquarters of the United Nations to greet officials and give a speech. Midmorning he will participate in an interreligious meeting at the ground zero 9/11 Memorial and give a speech there.

The rest of his itinerary includes a visit to Our Lady Queen of Angels Catholic Elementary School in East Harlem and a meeting with children and immigrant families. That evening he will celebrate Mass. Early on Sept. 26 he will depart for Philadelphia.

We look forward to having the opportunity to join with Pope Francis in prayer, as we praise God for the many gifts he has given us, and ask for the Lord's grace and wisdom in helping us continue to reach out in love and mercy to those less fortunate than us," said Cardinal Dolan in his statement.

In May, during a celebration of World Communications Day in the Diocese of Brooklyn, one of the speakers predicted America will fall in love with Pope Francis when he visits in September.

Pope Francis is "appealing in ways that no pope has been in years," said the speaker, Austen Ivereigh, author of "The Great Reformer, Francis and the Making of a Radical Pope."

The pope finds new ways to express the teachings of the church, but he is not changing doctrine as many seem to think. He rejects a church of wealth, power and ego, and instead emphasizes a church of and for the poor, explained Ivereigh.

Cardinal: pope will have 'profound impact' on NY

Pope tells parents to be mindful of children's suffering

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- The deep hurts that spouses inflict on each other cause great suffering to their children and, in some cases, lead to a separation that is "morally necessary" to protect spouses and children from more serious forms of violence, Pope Francis said during his general audience in St. Peter’s Square June 24.

Continuing a series of talks about the family, the pope reflected on the hurts family members cause each other, calling this type of behavior "the ugliest thing."

"The pope said every family has experienced moments when someone’s ‘words, acts and omissions’ offend another and ‘rather than expressing love, diminish it or worse still, demean it.

When these hurts, which can still be put right, are neglected, they get worse," he said. "They turn into arrogance, hostility, contempt. And at that point, they become deep lacations that divide husband and wife, leading us to look elsewhere for understanding, support and consolation. But often these ‘supports’ do not think of the good of the family."

"When marriages are emptied of conjugal love, resentment grows and the disintegration of the spousal relationship "caves in" on the children, he said. "Notwithstanding our apparent evolved sensitivity and all of our refined psychological analyses, I ask myself if we have not become anaesthetized to the wounds in the souls of children," he said.

He questioned aloud whether adults still know what a wounded soul is and if they have a sense of the 'weight of the mountain that crushes a child’s spirit in families in which people treat each other badly and hurt each other' to the point of breaking-up a marriage.

He urged parents to consider the weight of their choices and mistakes on their children.
LISTENING TO THE PROPHETS OF OUR TIME

This Sunday’s reading from the Book of Amos, is about a “dresser from the southern kingdom of Judah whom God called to prophecy in the northern kingdom of Israel.”

Here, King Jeroboam had made his land prosperous, with many of its citizens rich and comfortable.

Unfortunately, the rich exploited the poor, making their lives almost intolerable.

Now comes the prophet Amos with a harsh message from God that their nation is nearing its end.

God, in his anger, will send death to the king and slavery for its people.

When the priest at the northern temple of Bethel hears this, he expels Amos, telling him to go home to Judah.

Amos tries to explain to Amaziah that it wasn’t his idea to become a prophet in the first place, but that his message is authentic, and they had better listen to it.

To no avail! His prophecy came true when the Assyrians cruelly invaded Israel within a few years.

The message of the prophets was rarely welcomed, and many of the prophets were rejected, and others killed.

Who are the prophets of our time?

Certainly, the Holy Father, our Bishops, and the faithful who adhere to the Gospel, often at peril to their own security.

But we aren’t “lone rangers.” Jesus, in today’s Gospel, instructed his disciples to go “two by two.”

There is strength when we act as a community of faith and love.

Many in our society today are unwilling to listen to Christ’s message. In effect, they are rejecting the prophets of our time.

Like Amos, we have been called; as disciples of Christ, We have been commissioned!

No matter what our politicians, and even our courts decree, truth is still true.

The battle for religious freedom, for the nature of marriage, and for the sanctity of life itself is far from over!
Any movie plot that hangs on the ability of an adult character to journey into the past to give vital advice to himself as a child is bound to register as somewhat convoluted.

Add to that the further wrinkle that the film in question is the fifth installment in a franchise so antique that a sequence set in the year of the series' first release seems like a visit to an alien culture, and viewers can be forgiven for feeling a bit at sea.

Still, though they may be ruminated on at some length in the dialogue, the riddles of time travel are not really the point of "Terminator: Genisys" (Paramount). The primary purpose of this easily forgotten latest chapter in a sci-fi action narrative that dates back to 1984's "The Terminator" is, rather, to empower its cast to blow things up, fire off weapons and drive with abandon.

There is, accordingly, mayhem aplenty, both before and after that inevitable moment when the original Terminator himself, Arnold Schwarzenegger, assures us, yet again, that he'll be back.

What's behind all this stylized ruckus? The post-apocalyptic conflict between murderous machines and embattled humanity in the world of 2029, that's what.

The prospects of those fighting on the flesh-and-blood side in this drawn-out battle are looking up, thanks to the work of their Messiah-like leader, John Connor (Jason Clarke). Just as he's about to achieve a definitive victory, however, John faces a unique threat.

His adversaries, we learn, have used a time machine to send a cyborg (Byung-hun Lee) into the past to eliminate John's mother, Sarah (Emilia Clarke), before she can give birth to him. Not to be outdone, John, in turn, dispatches Kyle Reese (Jai Courtney), his most trusted lieutenant, to follow the assassin back in time and protect Sarah.

Once safely arrived in the Reagan era, however, Kyle is confused to find that Sarah is already being shielded by another chronology-defying robot (Schwarzenegger) who seems to be fighting on the wrong side.

Kyle's bewilderment is likely to be shared by those whose memory of the mid-1980s is not sufficiently detailed to explain why or how the new, good Arnold winds up battling the bad Arnold of 30 years ago. And then there's grown-up Reece's counsel-bearing encounter with little Reece.

Given the obvious prima facie appeal of director Alan Taylor's shoot'em-up to youthful viewers, however, the question confronting parents is much more straightforward.

Despite its relentlessness, the destruction on view carries with it little bloodshed. And the fact that time machine passengers can only be transported in the buff also is treated more as an occasion for smirking jokes than for visual exploitation. Together with the relative absence of obscenity in the dialogue, such restraint may lead at least some parents to consider "Terminator: Genisys" acceptable for mature teens.

The film contains pervasive action violence with minimal gore, several scenes of partial nudity, a few uses of profanity, at least one rough term and occasional crude and crass language.

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

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 Gabald, 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, SJJ, 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 hikes and opportunities for sharing.
Contact: email srbethssj@gmail.com; call: 315-212-5692; See www.fourseasonsheart.weebly.com

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; $48 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.
Features: If you are cleaning out your garage, attic, closets or drawers, please save your “gently used, but unwanted items” for us. We take anything salable, except clothes. All donations can be dropped off on the porch of St. Ann’s parish center. Proceeds help to continue the community outreach mission of the Altar and Rosary Society.

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

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION
Ellenburg Center – Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer to begin First Saturday Devotion.
Date: through Nov. 2015
Time: 10:30 a.m.
Features: Mass, rosary
Contact: RSVP for lunch to olaprayerrhouse@gmail.com or 518-594-3253.

CLINTON

WINE TASTING FUN RAISER
Dannemora – St. Joseph’s Church will be having a Wine Tasting Fun Raiser.
Date: July 19
Time: 1 p.m. to 4
Cost: $10
Features: Appetizers will be served and there will be a Basket Raffles and a 50/50 Raffle. Need to be 21 years of age or older to attend. Tickets can be purchased in advance by calling the Church office 492-7118 or at the doors of the Church Hall the day of the event. Proceeds to be applied for recent renovations in the Church Hall.

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HAMILTON-Herkimer

GARAGE SALE
Wells - St. Ann’s Altar and Rosary Society will have its Annual Garage Sale.
Date: July 17
Features: If you are cleaning out your garage, attic, closets or drawers, please save your “gently used, but unwanted items” for us. We take anything salable, except clothes. All donations can be dropped off on the porch of St. Ann’s parish center. Proceeds help to continue the community outreach mission of the Altar and Rosary Society.

LEWIS

WATERFORD – Eucharistic Adoration to be held.
Date: July 16
Time: 11 a.m.
Place: St. Peter’s Church
Features: To Thank God for & To Honor the Blessed Sacrament, all are invited to worship, the Exposition, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, SILENT ADORATION, the Holy Rosary, and the Benediction.

ST. LAWRENCE

K OF C BRUNCH
Norfolk – The Knights of Columbus Council will be sponsoring a brunch.
Date: July 12
Time: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Place: Visitation Parish Center
Cost: Adults, $7; Children under 12, $4;
Under 5, Free; Family, $18; Take-outs available

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

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.

DIOCESAN EVENTS

FAMILY PILGRIMAGE
A diocesan family pilgrimage has been planned.
Date: July 18
Time: 11 a.m.
Place: St. Anne’s Shrine, Isle LaMotte, Vermont.
Features: Following lunch and the outdoor Stations of the Cross, there will be time for families to walk the shrine grounds, swim, and connect with one another. The sacrament of Reconciliation will be available before Mass, which will be celebrated at 4 p.m. by Father Doug Lucza of Canton, Diocesan Vicar for Family Life.
Contact: Steve Tartaglia at the diocesan Family Life Office: startaglia@rdcony.org or at (315) 393-2920 Ext. 1420.
Being mindful of the Missions

Summer is here. The time to celebrate and enjoy the beautiful outdoors is upon us. We plan and anticipate such wonderful gatherings as graduations, weddings, festivals and reunions. The time to see our family, old friends and neighbors has arrived in the North Country. As we gather to celebrate, please remember that often we can take for granted just how easy it is to have such wonderful times here in our safe, peaceful land.

The celebration of things is not always that easy for those in the Missions. The children in places like Peru, Nicaragua and Ecuador do not have the luxury of knowing that tomorrow will include a meal or even clean water. The conditions they endure are so foreign to us: drought, despair, war, poverty, and disease. These factors don’t dampen their spirit in the Mission Lands as they pray each day and are grateful for the little they do have. Their faith in God and love of Jesus trumps any lack of material thing.

Our duty in the Mission Office is to educate, offer prayers and ask for sacrifices that are then sent to the Mission Lands. One way this is done, is the annual summer Missionary Cooperation Appeal. This program introduces parishioners to a real life missionaries who represents a mission cause from a faraway place.

The missionary makes the needs of the missions 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. The summer of 2015 has the Missionary Cooperation Appeal planned for the West Side of our Diocese during the months of July and August.

The Missionary Projects of the Diocese of Ogdensburg appeal will be taken up in East Side Deaneries on the weekend of July 25-26th. The focus of this year’s MPDO collection is to assist the former Mission Parish in Mollendo, Peru with the purchase of a new truck. Their 30 year old truck is no longer able to be repaired and is used as an essential part of their day to day lives in the mountainous terrain in Peru. Aside from the truck purchase, the MPDO collection also helps to support the U.S. Bishop’s annual appeal for Latin America and to help any other projects throughout the world that the Diocese deems appropriate as part of its evangelization effort. Please consider contributing with your prayers and sacrifices.

So be mindful of the Mission Lands. As you can see above, we have plans for them. We plan to help them achieve better living conditions as their faith in God does the same. Please consider giving this summer to Missions in the collections at your parish. Help those far away in need.

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

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

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**OBITUARIES**

**Alexandra Bay** – Katherine E. Welsh, 91; Funeral Services July 3, 2015 at St. Cyril’s Church; burial in St. Cyril’s Cemetery.

**Bloomington** – Raymond R. Hogan, 76; Funeral Services June 27, 2015 at St. Paul’s Church; burial in St. Bernard’s Cemetery, Saranac Lake.

**Carthage** – Rita M. (Dawes) Cain, 78; Funeral Services June 25, 2015 at St. James Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Carthage** – Robert B. Shampine, 81; Funeral Services July 6, 2015 at St. James Church.

**Coopersville** – Rita (Ostiguy) Jolicoeur, 97; Funeral June 27, 2015 at St. Joseph’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Copenhagen** – David W. Petrus, 52; Funeral Services July 3, 2015 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in St. Mary’s Cemetery.

**Croghan** – Cecile Louise Aucter, 73; Funeral June 24, 2015 at St. Stephen’s Church; burial in St. Stephen’s Cemetery.

**Croghan** – John Dent, 86; Funeral Services July 11, 2015 at St. Stephen’s Church.

**Croghan** – Mae Elizabeth (King) Schneeberger, 90; Funeral June 29, 2015 at St. Stephen’s Church; burial, parish cemetery.

**Ellenburg** – Gerald Peets, 87; Funeral Services June 25, 2015 at St. Edmund’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Hogansburg** – Darrell J. Caldwell, 62; Funeral Services June 29, 2015 at St. Regis Church; burial in St. Lawrence Cemetery, Akwesasne.

**Hogansburg** – Ann Terrance, 84; Funeral Services June 25, 2015 at St. Regis Church.

**Lake Placid** – Gregory George Thayer, 34; Funeral Services June 23, 2015 at St. Agnes Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Lowville** – Patricia Salsburg, 73; Funeral Services June 22, 2015 at St. Patrick’s Church.

**Lyon Mountain** – William Healey, 95; Funeral Services July 3, 2015 at St. Bernard’s Church; burial in St. Patrick’s Cemetery, Chateaugay.

**Malone** – Florence (Winkowski) Brozoszewicz, 89; Funeral Services June 26, 2015 at Notre Dame Church;

**Malone** – Cecilia Campbell; Funeral Services June 26, 2015 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Malone** – Ruth J. (Bisnette) Gleich, 77; Funeral Services June 25, 2015 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Malone** – Robert T. Hurteau, 67; Funeral Services June 24, 2015 at St. John Bosco Church; burial in St. Joseph’s Cemetery.

**Malone** – Fred Carl Richards, 89; Funeral Services June 27, 2015 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Malone** – MaryClaire Boyce Sherwin, 95; Funeral Services July 3, 2015 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Morningside Cemetery.

**Massena** – Sylvia (Watkins) Green, 96; Funeral Services June 22, 2015 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Massena** – Louise M. (Guillott) Fowler, 74; Funeral July 3, 2015 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Massena** – Elizabeth M. “Betty” (Small) Williamson, 94; Funeral Services July 3, 2015 at Church of the Sacred Heart; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Mooers Forks** – Gloria M. LeDuc, 87; Funeral June 26, 2015 at St. Ann’s Church; burial in St. Ann’s Cemetery.

**Morristown** – Elizabeth “Betty” (Adams) Fournier, 87; Funeral Services June 22, 2015 at St. John’s Church; burial in Foxwood Mausoleum.

**Norfolk** – Stephen P. Bond, 39; Funeral Services July 2, 2015 at the Buck Funeral Home.

**north Bangor** – Shirley Mae Wylie, 73; Funeral Services July 2, 2015 at St. Augustine’s Church; burial in St. Francis Cemetery, Constable.

**North Lawrence** – Douglas J. Villanave Sr., 51; Funeral Services June 24, 2015 at St. Lawrence Church; burial in St. Lawrence Cemetery.

**Northwood** – Wallace B. LaPointe Jr., 89; Funeral Services July 1, 2015 at St. Andrew’s Church; burial in St. Mary’s Cemetery, Potsdam.

**Ogdensburg** – Phyllis (Montroy) Johnson, 77; Funeral Services July 1, 2015 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Peru** – Gloria “Jean” (Peffter) Craig, 68; Funeral Services July 18, 2015 at St. Augustine’s Church.

**Peru** – Mary Louise “Lucille” (Garso) Light, 77; Funeral Services June 25, 2015 at St. Augustine’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Peru** – Elsie M. (Duso) Pratt, 93; Funeral Services Aug. 8, 2015 at St. Augustine’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** – James J.”JJ” Floreno, 59; Funeral Services June 30, 2015 at Our Lady of Victory Church; burial in Holy Name Cemetery, Ausable Forks.

**Plattsburgh** – Frances E. Franny (LaJodie) Lattinville, 89; Funeral Services June 29, 2015 at St. Peter’s Church; burial in St. Peter’s Cemetery.

**Port Henry** – Carol Ann (Reardon) Bourdeau, 74; Funeral Services July 3, 2-15 at St. Patrick’s Church.

**Rosiere** – William H. Thibault, 77; Funeral Services July 3, 2015 at St. Vincent DePaul Church; burial in St. Vincent DePaul Cemetery.

**Sackets Harbor** – Patricia A. McNadden-Flye, 80; Funeral Services July 7, 2015 at St. Andrew’s Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery, Watertown.

**Star Lake** – Grant W. Kerr, 96; Funeral Services July 6, 2015 at the French Funeral Home.

**Ticonderoga** – Scott A. Rockwell, 50; Funeral Services June 25, 2015 at Wilcox & Regan Funeral Home.

**Ticonderoga** – Robert R. White, 69; Funeral Services June 26, 2015 at the Wilcox & Regan Funeral Home; burial in St. Peter’s Cemetery, Vergennes, VT.

**Watertown** – Mary J. (Mistersaro) Palumbo, 93; Funeral Services July 3, 2015 at St. Anthony’s Church; burial in Glenwood Mausoleum.

**West Chazy** – Milton Barnes, 88; Funeral Services June 29, 2015 at St. Joseph’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Williamsburg** – Lauretta (Champititto) Busone, 93; Funeral Services July 6, 2015 at St. Philip’s of Jesus Church; burial in St. Patrick’s Cemetery, Watervliet.
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St. Patrick’s Church and St. Anthony’s Church congratulate:

Catherine Arthur
Elizabeth Bamann
Bridget Barden
Sarah Barden-Schantz
Dale Butler
Hugh Gilbert
Teresa Leavery
Nena VanBrocklin

as they are Commissioned for service to our parishes as Lay Ministers.
They have been blessed to be called.
Our parishes are blessed because they responded.