Pope urges prayers for creation

**VATICAN CITY (CNS) -** The World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation should be a time for individuals to examine their lifestyles and the way they impact the environment, Pope Francis said.

At the end of his weekly general audience Aug. 26, the pope asked Catholics and "all people of goodwill" to join members of the Orthodox Church in the special day of prayer Sept. 1. "We want to make our contribution to overcoming the ecological crisis that humanity is experiencing," the pope said, explaining why he decided the Catholic Church should mark the annual day of prayer begun by the Orthodox Church in 1989.

See Bishop LaValley's column on page 3

Around the world, the pope said, church groups are planning prayer and reflection initiatives in order to make the day of prayer a key moment for "assuming coherent lifestyles" that have less negative impact on nature. Pope Francis invited everyone to join him for an evening prayer service Sept. 1 in St. Peter's Basilica.

Seek to bring Catholic radio station to area

John and Maura Fehlner, parishioners of St. Agnes in Lake Placid and St. Brendan’s in Keene, are planning to launch Catholic radio station WCLP 98.3.

The low power FM radio station's mission is to educate the public about the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church through the distribution of nationally syndicated and locally produced Catholic programming.

WCLP will begin broadcasting as soon as the start-up funds are received and the equipment is installed.

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

Rachel's Vineyard

Retreat for those suffering from aftereffects of abortion set for Columbus Day Weekend

FULL STORY, PAGE 12

**ADVENTURES AT GUGGENHEIM**

Ellen Miner of Saranac Lake, right, a member of the 2015 summer camp staff at Guggenheim, right, leads some of the campers in an adventure project during the fourth week of camp. A report on the 43rd season of the diocesan summer camp will be part of the NCC's special issue on diocesan youth ministry coming next week.

FULL STORY, PAGE 9

**YEAR OF FAITH PILGRIMAGE:** Join Bishop LaValley on trip to Catholic Italy... p. 3
Celebratory song of September

Happy New Year, everybody! In a gallant effort to embrace September with joy I'm ready to start the month with new resolutions and – maybe – a bit of celebration. Moving away from the lazier summer schedule, the NCC is back on track to arrive at your home every week. There is so much going on this month that it would be impossible to keep up if it didn’t.

As usual September brings us the Marriage Jubilee for couples (see page 7 for information), Leadership Weekend for youth (page 13) and the first days of school for families.

It's also time to register for Celebrate Christ set for Oct. 16 for Catholic School administrators and faculties and Oct. 17 for all people engaged in parish life.

The theme for this two day event, to be held at the Crowne Plaza in Lake Placid, is "Nurturing Families and Parishes with Living Stones," highlighting two of our diocesan priorities, the faith formation of families and building parishes with living stones.

This year, families will also be the center of attention during the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia Sept. 22-25 before Pope Francis arrives in that city for the weekend.

We will all be anxious for reports from our ten diocesan delegates to the World Meeting of Families, as well as from the busloads of Catholics planning to travel from the North Country to see the pope.

In our parishes, the arrival of September means we'll be starting to hear about this year's Bishop's Fund Appeal. Coming off the most successful year ever, the Bishop LaValley is hopeful that the generosity of 2014 will be repeated.

After all, the ambitious initiatives arising from the diocesan vision can’t be accomplished without a few extra dollars! One of the six goals of the vision is to “establish youth ministry, in accordance with
diocesan standards, in 25-30 parishes with competent qualified leaders (adults and youth) by June 30, 2015.”

A very hard working committee, led by Father Chris Carrara, has made sure this has happened. Don’t miss next week's special issue of the North Country Catholic to learn all the details.

In the coming weeks, we’ll also be starting to hear about the major diocesan event that will be taking place NEXT September.

It’s definitely worth blocking off Sept. 25, 2016, so that you can be among thousands who gather at the Olympic Arena in Lake Placid for the Follow Me Summit.

Stay tuned for all the exciting details!

A PASTOR’S PERSPECTIVE

Saluting heroic efforts in Ticonderoga

I want to take a moment today to recognize the heroic efforts by all the folks at St. Mary’s School, Ticonderoga – the families, Sister Sharon Dalton, the principal of St. Mary’s and her faculty and Father Kevin McEwan, the pastor.

This September, the students at St. Mary’s School will be returning to their school building. As you probably know, St. Mary’s School was badly destroyed by a fire a year ago on the second day of the last year's school year. The school could not be used for the whole school year.

I want to congratulate and recognize the huge effort of Sister Sharon and her faculty for carrying on the complete school year in temporary circumstances, using the basement of the Church and the rooms generously offered by the Ticonderoga Methodist Church. So, school continued without interruption.

I know this was not an easy year for Sister Sharon and her teachers. For that reason, I call their efforts heroic. The classes were separated in two different places - causing many unique difficulties – especially for school lunches.

I am certain that they can be very proud of all that they did and accomplished.

Father Kevin has had a busy year, also, organizing the efforts to refurbish the school building. I was totally impressed with the generosity of so many including many other parishes which sent donations. In addition, there was an incredible number of volunteers who helped with so many large and small chores.

The families of St. Mary’s School united together for all the many details of keeping the school alive during this incredible year. Now they can celebrate – as the students return to their own school building – now as good as new.

Catholic schools are about families. The strength of our Catholic Schools has always depended entirely on their involvement and participation. These parents trust our Catholic Schools for an excellent education and formation in the Catholic faith that gives hope for their future.

I had the happy experience of teaching in Catholic schools of the Diocese of Ogdensburg and was also a pastor for a parish with a Catholic School. I am always pleased to meet former students, often at alumni gatherings.

I am constantly impressed at how well they have done and they were truly touched by the formation they received. They speak often of the solid formation they received as students in a Catholic School.

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has fewer Catholic schools now. I guess I understand why and yet it is rather disappointing.

The Catholic Schools of our diocese have truly been very influential, they have touched and influenced so many throughout the years.

The history of our Catholic schools has been a story of dedicated families – families united to keep our schools strong as they offer a strong formation to their children, to their whole family.

So, I am so impressed to see the determination and dedication of the families of St. Mary’s School in Ticonderoga. They would not accept any other choice than to rebuild their school. There was no time wasted for sadness and depression. They know how important their school was to their own families and so they supported Sister Sharon and her faculty though that difficult year. The challenge was accepted and the building is now ready.

So, I salute the example given by all everyone at St. Mary’s School. I pray that all goes well in this new school year.

The dedication of these families to their Catholic School is truly a testament to their faith in the Lord and readiness to meet the challenges of the future.
We continue our reflection on *Laudato Si'* by noting that its introductory paragraphs set the sobering tone and lay out the framework of what Pope Francis will address in his encyclical.

At the beginning of his document, the Holy Father makes a hopeful appeal for change as he prepares the reader to tackle Chapter One.

Before we even begin to read the Bishop Terry R. LaValley first chapter, one of the most important sentences in the entire document provides the flavor with which we should study and digest *Laudato Si*: "Humanity still has the ability to work together in building our common home." (#13)

Does the Holy Father really believe that? You betcha! Do you?

As we listen to the verbal missiles being hurled indiscriminately among our political candidates, suffer through seemingly endless legislative gridlock, and as we watch society sailing directionless with no rudders of values to guide us, where does such hope come from?

In a world where, increasingly, commitment is becoming a foreign concept and being faithful to God’s law risks the label ‘bigot,’ how is hope more than a pious dream?

Upon what is such hope grounded?

How can Pope Francis claim that we possess a common home when, more and more, many seem to believe that fences and weapons make the best neighbors?

Whether one believes that global warming is an urgent concern or just exaggerated hype, we cannot deny the great violence that human behavior is inflicting upon our environment.

In the midst of the damage clearly seen, the Holy Father sees possibilities and appeals to every person to be a part of the solution. Little pockets of change can inspire and make a difference.

In addressing “every person living on this planet” (#3), Pope Francis pleads that each of us has a vested interest in caring for our environment.

He tells us that the violence present in our hearts, our sinfulness, is reflected in the symptoms of sickness evident in the soil, in the water, in the air and in all forms of life. (#2)

Yet, in the midst of such destruction, hope is real because we have the remedy for sin in Jesus Christ. We can work together because Jesus has shown us the way. The road is narrow, but passable. The fuel for our efforts along the way must come from prayer, both personal and communal. In fact, the Holy Father has invited us all to join the Orthodox Church and mark our calendars on September 1st, every year, as we celebrate the “World Day of Prayer for the Care of the Creation.”

He sees this as a “precious opportunity to renew our vocations as custodians of creation, raising to God our thanks for the marvelous works that He has entrusted to our care, invoking His help for the protection of creation and His mercy for the sins committed against the world in which we live.”

All who walk this earth face the same environmental challenge. May our prayer lead us all to an ongoing conversion of heart.

It is with a spirit of determination borne of confident faith that we heed Pope Francis’ words and take up his challenge.
Coming soon: Catholic radio station

Lake Placid couple planning to launch FM station to spread the Church’s message

By Colleen Miner
Staff writer

LAKE PLACID - John and Maura Fehlner, parishioners of St. Agnes in Lake Placid and St. Brendan’s in Keene, are planning to launch Catholic radio station WCLP 98.3.

The low power FM radio station’s mission is to educate the public about the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church through the distribution of nationally syndicated and locally produced Catholic programming.

Light of Truth, Inc. (a not-for-profit corporation established to fulfill licensing requirements for operating the station) will produce programming focusing on the teachings of the Catholic Church, parish and community activities and devotionals performed by local talent.

Broadcasts of live and pre-recorded events such as the Mass, Divine Mercy Chaplet, the rosary, lectures, sermons and musical performances will allow those unable to attend the ability to enjoy the production.

The station will promote and support local ministries such as respect life efforts, the ecumenical food pantry and thrift shop, parish nurse ministry, Women of Faith group, Men’s Forum and the Catholic school.

Survey taken

In April, a survey of Lake Placid and Keene parishioners found that Catholic news and talk radio were the most popular nationally syndicated programming. National programs may be obtained from EWTN, Relevant Radio or Immaculate Heart Radio.

For local programs, the Sunday Mass and public service announcements were the most popular. Interviews with Bishop LaValley and other clergy and representatives from lay apostles within our diocese are also being considered.

Longtime dream

According to Maura Fehlner, her husband had the idea (for a Catholic radio station) before they met.

The Fehlners are newlyweds who met through CatholicMatch.com in 2013.

“When we met, I was living in Pennsylvania, working as an assistant professor of Theology at DeSales University,” she said. “John was a young retiree, getting ready to enter diaconal studies and anxious to spend this new phase of life in God’s service. “Our mutual love of the Church, theology and our shared sense of a call to evangelization were prominent factors in our attraction to each other,” she said. “When John mentioned that he was thinking about starting a radio station, my heart jumped! I also have a Master of Fine Arts degree in theater that I’ve been yearning to use somehow. This seemed like a wonderful venue that would incorporate all our dearest interests.”

“John thought that the fact that his fiancee had credentials in both theology and theater was a sign from God that this radio thing was supposed to happen,” she said.

Recognizing the need

In 2013, Mr. Fehlner had stumbled across a radio ad encouraging listeners to build their own low-power FM radio station in communities that did not have access to a Catholic radio station.

He reflected on the numerous car trips through rural back roads of the Adirondacks with its intermittent radio reception.

“It was - and is - obvious that the secular world dominates the airwaves and their worldview infiltrates our psyche as we drive through their broadcast areas,” he said. “The secular message often has a subtle and sometimes overt anti-Christian slant and their high quality productions are seductive and alluring.”

Mr. Fehlner said he questioned why children so easily embrace the culture of death and defend deviant lifestyles.

“One obvious reason is that our society has kicked God out of the public square, our schools and institutions,” he said. “It’s time to take some steps to bring him back!”

Mr. Fehlner contacted the Catholic Radio Association (CRA) and the research began. He said the process seemed daunting at first but with resources available through the CRA, encouragement from his pastor Father John Yonkovig, family and friends, he was strengthened.

“At first, I simply wanted to broadcast the nationally syndicated programs offered by EWTN but then I met my wife,” he said. “The proven nationally syndicated programming could now be combined with local productions.”

“Operating a radio station was never my dream, nor my aptitude,” he said, “however, God has a tendency to select the least likely and least talented people to do His will.”

Diocesan support

The Fehlners contacted the diocesan administration with their idea.

“We received a warm welcome from Father O’Brien (episcopal vicar for administration, moderator of the curia and a lawyer) who gave us some very helpful advice about the paperwork when we were acquiring our tax exempt status and has offered to answer legal questions,” Mr. Fehlner said. “He and Bishop LaValley offered their support.”

WCLP will begin broadcasting as soon as the start-up funds are received and the equipment is installed.

“If the funding comes in, we’d like to be up and running with our national feed and some basic local programming within the year,” Mr. Fehlner said. “Eventually, locally produced shows will be available to stream online.

“Our long-term goals include negotiations for translator towers—additional stations that will re-broadcast the WCLP signal and so expand our listening area,” he said. “Teaching other communities within the diocese will allow programming to those who are able to support a radio transmitter.”

The Fehlners were among 80 participants who attended the national programming symposium sponsored by the CRA at Belmont Abbey College at the end of June.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7
Praying, planning and sharing the Good News during summer in the North Country

The Commissioned Lay Ministry Association Board of St. Lawrence-Franklin-Adirondack Deaneries met in June to plan for coming events for commissioned lay ministers. A picnic for all lay ministers was held Aug. 22 at Guggenheim and the annual dinner for the cluster has been set for Oct. 21 in Norfolk. Shown are St. Joseph Sister Jennifer Votruba, delegate for lay pastoral ministers in the diocese; and board members Jean Mozdzier, Clare Murdock, Chuck Mozdzier, Dorothy Hobbs, Cassie Pulsifer, Marilyn DeCelles, Barbara Gibson, Mary Sovie and Brent Charland. Commissioned lay ministers should be receiving emails regarding the events; those who have not should contact Jeannie Grizzuto @ (315) 393-2920, Ext. 1413 or by email jgrizzuto@rcdony.org.

Andrea Roberts, left, and Barbara Bruno received their First Communion and the Sacrament of Confirmation April 26 at All Saints Church in Chaumont from Missionary of the Sacred Heart Father Pierre Aubin.

Deacon Jim and Christine Chaufy of Port Leyden manned a right-to-life booth at the Lewis County Fair July 22. “Jim and I couldn’t get over the many more people that stopped and looked things over,” Mrs. Chaufy said. “Much more than in the past. There were lots of questions and pregnant mothers got a free t-shirt.”

Fifty-four children from all four parishes in Watertown - St. Patrick’s, St. Anthony’s, Holy Family and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart - took part in the Catholic Watertown Vacation Bible School held this summer at IHC Intermediate School. In addition to 13 adult staff from the parishes, ten young people assisted the children. The theme this year was “Hometown Nazareth, Where Jesus Was A Kid.”
Funeral held for Filippini Sister

MORRISTOWN, N.J. — A Mass of Christian Burial for Filippini Sister Filomena Di Carlo, 100, was held Aug. 10 at Villa Walsh.

She died Aug. 5 at Morris­town Medical Center, Morris­town, N.J. Burial was in Ave Maria Cemetery.

Born in Stamford, Con­necticut, Sister Filomena entered the Religious Teachers Filippini Oct. 5, 1947. She received the religious habit on Sept. 5, 1948 and her religious profession on July 2, 1950.

Sister Filomena was awarded a B.S degree in Ele­mentary Education from Seton Hall University, a MA degree in General Pro­fession Education from Seton Hall and a Library Science Certificate from Trenton State Teachers College.

Sister Filomena taught the 7th grade in the Archdiocese of Newark, Diocese of Trent­ton, NJ, Pittsburgh, PA, Can­den Diocese NJ, Ogden­sburg, NY and Scranton, PA. She was also Superior at St. Anthony’s in Belleville, NJ. Sister Filomena was also Principal and Superior at St. Anthony in Dunmore, PA. Sister Filomena then returned to Villa Walsh where she was secretary for Sister Margaret Marchione at the Mazzei Center.

Sister Filomena retired at Villa Walsh and entered St. Joseph Hall Infirmary when she took ill in 2006.

Rites for Atonement Sister held July 25

GARRISON, NY – A Mass of Christ­ian Burial for Atonement Sister Margaret Mary O’Rourke, 86, was held July 25 in the Motherhouse Chapel, St. Francis Convent, Graymoor.

She died July 18 at North Westchester Restorative Therapy and Nursing Center, Mohegan Lake. Burial was in the sisters’ cemetery.

Born in Detroit, Mich., she entered the Franciscan Sis­ters of the Atonement in 1947 and professed final vows in 1955.

Through the years, Sister Margaret Mary served in parish and catechetical ministry in several places includ­ing Hogansburg. She is survived by her sisters, Nancy Lengyel and Carol Ann Livingston, and her brothers, Edward and William.

Job Opening

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Watertown are seeking a full-time Licensed Register Nurse Supervisor.

The Nurse Supervisor is responsible for the provision of skilled nursing care of the Sisters of St. Joseph in the Infirmary and assisted care to the Sisters who live in the Motherhouse. The Nurse Supervisor is responsible for satisfactorily performing administrative, personnel, safety, staff development, and resident care functions.

Applicants should have a current, valid, New York State Nursing License, valid driver license and one year of Geriatric Care. Applicants should be proficient in Microsoft Word. For more information and application, contact Randy Belina, 1425 Washington Street, Watertown, NY. 13601, (315) 782-3460.

Deadline for application is September 15, 2015.

Bishop’s Schedule

Sept. 2 – 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral

Sept. 3 – 11 a.m., Council of Priests Meeting at Church of the Visitatation in Norfolk

Sept. 4 – 10:50 a.m., Mass at St. Joseph’s Home in Ogdensburg

Sept. 5 – 5:30 p.m., Installation Mass of Rev. Raymond Moreau as Pastor of St. Mary’s Church, Brushton and The Catholic Community of St. Augustine, North Bangor in Brushton

Sept. 6 – 9 a.m., Mass followed by the re-dedication of St. Mary’s School in Ticonderoga

Sept. 9 – 10:30 a.m., Investment Advisory Committee Meeting at the Brzana Conference Center in Og­densburg

To Report Abuse

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

Victims Assistance Coordinator, Terri­anne Yanulovich, Adult & Youth Counseling Services of Northern New York, 413 Ryan Road, Churubusco, NY, 12923; e-mail: terrianneyanulovich@yahoo.com Phone: 518-483-3261; or Father James Seymour, the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy at 315-393-2920 ext. 1340

Rest in Peace

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


Sept. 6 – Rev. James Connor, 1930

Sept. 7 – Rev. Manuel Belleville, 1964

Sept. 8 – Rev. William H. Coffey, 2000

Protecting God’s Children

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

Upcoming sessions:

Sept. 3 – 8 p.m., Wakefield Recital Hall, SUNY Potsdam

Sept. 5 – 10 a.m., Seton Academy, Plattsburgh

Sept. 9 – 5:30 p.m., Trinity Catholic School

Sept. 9 – 6 p.m., Seton Academy, Plattsburgh

Sept. 9 – 5 p.m., St. Mary’s School, Canton

Sept. 12 – 9 a.m., St. Alexander’s Church, Morrisonville

Sept. 14 – 6 p.m., St. Bernard’s School

Oct. 14 – 6 p.m., St. Augustine’s Church, North Bangor

Environmental Stewardship

What is the Different?

Until recently we in the north country have been experiencing a relatively ‘cool’ summer. So one could wonder what’s the story about this “global warming”?

Cornell Cooperative Extension of St. Lawrence County published an interesting article by Paul Hetzler in their recent newsletter concerning weather vs. global warming.

“Weather is what we experience in a given day. week, season, or year. Climate refers to long-term trends in weather patterns over decades and centuries. When you have 100 years of weather records in hand, you can begin to look for patterns in climate.

Long-term climate trends bringing an increased number of years can be gleaned from air trapped in ice cores and pollen trapped in lake sediment cores plus reliable temperature records dating back to about 1850. Local records document that our region is about two degrees warmer than it was just fifty years ago.”

Lake Champlain ice data, which reaches back more than 200 years, indicates in the 19th century there were only three years in which the lake didn’t freeze over. But in the 20th century the lake failed to freeze in 28 winters, mostly since 1950. It has also risen a foot in the past 45 years.”

In Chapter 1 (#25) of the Encyclical Pope Francis states “Climate change is a global problem with grave implications: environmental, social, economic, political and for the future of the nation . . . (26) The urgent need to develop policies so that the emission of carbon dioxide and other highly Polluting gases can be drastically reduced... for example, developing solutions of renewable energy.”

Suggested action: Research the cost of installing solar panels for your home or business. Bishop LaValley’s solar panels for his residence has saved 59% on his energy bill in one year!

(By Eunice Trombly, Faith and Ecology Lake Clear Group)

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‘Summer Heat’ helps neighbors face winter cold

By Pam Broiles
Contributing writer

Wells - The fourth annual “Summer Heat” tournament, sponsored by St. Ann’s and St. James in Lake Pleasant July 25, was true to its name. Although it was a sizzler of a day with lots of sunshine, the weather didn’t stop 18 teams from teeing off at the Lake Pleasant Golf Course all for a good cause. Perhaps they also played with the hope that maybe they might make a hole-in-one at 17 and win a new Toyota RAV 4, donated by Steet Toyota, Johnstown, NY.

At Mass the next day, Father Sony Pulickal, pastor of both churches, said that he “watched it, go and go but that it missed the hole by about six feet.”

First place winners were Mike O’Rourke, Brianne O’Rourke, Ed Merendo and Lance Lindner.

The successful event raised $5,200 which will help people in Lake Pleasant, Piseco, Speculator and Wells needing heating assistance. Last year’s tournament helped out 16 families or individuals stay warm.

Requests for funds for heating assistance may be submitted to Father Sony at the St. James Rectory. They can be made in person or on behalf of a neighbor in need.

The church council will review requests.

The tournament sponsors were J & R Eldredge, Alicia C. Miller Real Estate, Speculator Spirits, Inc., The Inn at Speculator and Speculator Lions Club. Hole sponsors were Chuck and Maryanne Keehn, G.A. Bove Fuels, Charlie Johns Store, Hamilton County Cable TV, Wells Wesleyan Church, Lawrence and Smith PLLC, King of the Frosties, Speculator Dept. Store, NBT Bank, Donuts & More and Sunrise Diner.

Hole-in-one sponsors were Steet Toyota Scion and Northway Golf Center.

“Thank You Donators” were Speculator Lion Club, King of the Frosties, Hope Diner, James and Kathleen Rude, Belinda Germain and Dr. Lewis Britton II.

The Inn at Speculator, Robert Phillips Family and the Altar and Rosary Society provided food and volunteers who helped with setting and cleaning up.

Coordinators of this year’s event were Sue Williamsen and Roger Snyder, Kathy and Fran Gramlich were food committee chairs while Edna Rew, Sandy Stuart and Mary Ellen Stefano served on the fundraising committee.

Radio

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

“We now have a national support network that will answer just about any question that might come up,” Mr. Fehlner said. “This fact, coupled with the great training we received from the formal program has really boosted our confidence.”

“So far we’ve made great progress,” Mrs. Fehlner said. “We received a few donations before we even began our official fundraising drive including $1000 Respect Life Grant from our diocese that will help fund our first locally produced series of talks on the culture of life, which, ideally, should air just prior to the 2016 March for Life in Washington.”

“We’ve also received a $500 donation from the Knights of Columbus, Saranac Lake council 599 and a couple of generous donations from parishioners,” she said. “So we’re very hopeful about raising the rest of the money.”

Two fundraising events are planned for the fall. There is also a Paypal account set up for donations. The Paypal button is on the website www.lightoftruthministries.org. Private donations can be mailed to Light of Truth, P.O. Box 552, Keene Valley, NY 12943 (checks payable to “Light of Truth”). All donations are tax deductible.

“And of course we ask for prayers,” Mrs. Fehlner said. “The Holy Spirit is the real power behind anything good.”

Further information about Light of Truth Ministries may be obtained by emailing info@lightoftruthministries.org.

Marriage Jubilee

Diocesan Celebration of Marriage
“A time to gather and celebrate marriage with Bishop Terry LaValley”

September 20, 2015 at 2:30 pm
St. Mary’s Cathedral
Ogdensburg

ALL COUPLES AND THEIR FAMILIES ARE WELCOME.
Couples celebrating jubilees and wishing to receive a certificate need to register for this event through the parish before September 8th

This event is co-sponsored by the St. Lawrence Society and the Family Life Office.
By Tracy Leonard  
Contributing writer

Vacation, business, holidays, funeral, wedding, reunion... why did you recently travel by airplane to another destination? Since we've all probably experienced travel by air at one time or another, I thought it would be interesting to explore life in the airport.

Recently, I traveled both to New York City and Washington, D.C. for work related functions. As I anxiously waited in the airport, I began to people watch—the captivating activity I'm sure you can easily relate to.

My mind started to take over from thoughtless people-watching to intense critical thinking. It was then that I knew I owed it to myself to carefully examine life in an airport as more than a mere logistical piece of a business trip itinerary.

So I decided to write this article in hopes of capturing the thought provoking ideas in my mind, but also to perhaps inspire or entertain you.

First, let's explore why people travel. Some travel to challenge themselves or enjoy new experiences such as studying abroad, volunteering for a mission trip or participating in a race of some kind. Others travel to seek respite, to rejuvenate, or to renew their mind, body or spirit. Perhaps they are traveling by plane to vacation, to retreat, to see the world, to learn a new language or culture, or to reunite with family and friends.

Venturing into the unknown or perhaps known can be new and exciting. Perhaps some travel to cross places and events off a bucket list. The "been there, done that, got the t-shirt" mentality may be what motivates one to get out and see the world or see how other countries and societies operate can give one a deeper appreciation for their own culture. With this appreciation comes a more harmonized world.

Conversely, others may be traveling to celebrate and/or mourn the loss of a loved one; or perhaps it is the new birth of a child, a wedding, a birthday or the holidays that causes one to travel. These types of trips can invoke a variety of emotions ranging from one of incredible joy to deep sorrow.

Finally, many commonly travel for business ventures—meetings, conferences, negotiations, advocacy, etc. While each of these "motivators" bring about different purposes, thoughts, feelings or memories, it is the airport that often gathers all these different people to one place—fascinating!

As I stood in the Watertown Airport, the Philadelphia Airport, the Newark Airport and the Reagan Airport in D.C., it was this multitude of diversity which filled me with wonder and awe.

Where did these people come from? Why are they here? Where are they going and for what? Who will they see and what will they experience? Are they just beginning their trip or just ending it? Are they happy, sad, scared or excited to be traveling? Are they alone or with companions on their journey?

As I boarded the plan to come home from my business trip, I attempted to come up with a concluding thought to ease my inquisitive mind... that is, human life is sacred.

As we often say in the IHC Mystery Play group, "you don't know the crosses these people bear."

Each and every individual in that airport has a purpose, a plan, a God given destiny. They have been planted in that situation, at that exact moment for a reason. Whether they are traveling to help, to heal, to relax, to explore, to celebrate or to mourn, they have been called at that very hour to be present to someone or something, somewhere. In our diverse world, we must always seek first to understand, then to be understood.

We must love our neighbor, and in doing so, come to know and appreciate the love of Christ that is truly present in each and every person.

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CAR RAFFLE

Our Annual Car Raffle is underway. Tickets will be sold after the Saturday and Sunday Masses. They are also available at the rectory Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The drawing will be held after the 10 a.m. Mass on Sunday October 11, 2015 and the winner may choose the car or $15,000 in cash.

The price for the ticket is $20 or six (6) tickets for $100 with all proceeds going to St. Agnes School.

The car this year is a 2016 Subaru Outback fully equipped from Jerry Strack of Central Garage here in Lake Placid.

If you wish to buy tickets by mail, please fill out the form & enclose your check made out to St. Agnes Church

ST. AGNES CHURCH
169 HILLCREST AVE
LAKE PLACID, NY 12946

NAME__________________________

ADDRESS__________________________

Telephone__________________________

Number of Tickets Amount of check $__________________________

ST. AGNES CHURCH

$20 EACH or 6 for $100

You do not have to be present to win.

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YOUNG CATHOLIC VOICE

‘Oh, the places we’ll go’

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Priorities, preaching, personal touch reflect Pope Francis’ background

From Argentina... to Rome... to U.S.

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - A self-described “homebody,” Pope Francis will make the 10th foreign trip of his pontificate in September, visiting Cuba and then, for the first time in his life, the United States.

The visit of the 78-year-old Argentine pope comes in a year packed with important events for him: the publication in June of “Laudato Si’,” his encyclical on the environment; the world Synod of Bishops on the family in October; and the opening Dec. 8 of a special Year of Mercy.

The former Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio of Buenos Aires was not a household name to most North American Catholics when he was elected to succeed Pope Benedict XVI March 13, 2013, but his brothers in the College of Cardinals knew who he was.

The Argentine Jesuit had been second on the balloting in the conclave that elected Pope Benedict to succeed St. John Paul II in 2005.

His growing up with four siblings in a family with strong ties to its Italian origins, his training and ministry as a Jesuit -- including what he says were mistakes as a provincial superior -- and his regular contact with the poorest residents of Buenos Aires are influences seen in his preaching, priorities, style of governance and, especially, in the way he interacts with individuals.

The pope signaled just how strong those influences were almost immediately after his election. The first sign was his decision not to live in the Apostolic Palace, but in the Vatican guesthouse where the cardinals stayed during the conclave.

He told reporters it was a matter of liking to have a lot of people around and not a statement about simplicity or austerity, although he said both are essential for every minister in the church.

As he settled into his new life as pope, he shook up much of what had become tradition with a small “V” in the Vatican. He ordered Vatican officials to check on the progress of projects; he kept his own schedule in the afternoon, phoning people who had written to him or inviting them over for a chat; he lectured clerics on the need for simple lifestyles; and he repeatedly condemned office gossip and clerical careerism.

Early in his pontificate, Pope Francis named an international panel of cardinals -- most of whom head dioceses, not Roman Curia offices -- as an advisory panel for church governance. Their first big task, one that is ongoing, is to reorganize the Vatican bureaucracy.

While the bulk of the project has not been completed, the pope accepted the cardinals’ recommendations to establish a council and secretariat for economic affairs, a secretariat for communications and a commission to promote child protection. They already are at work.

Just eight months after taking office, Pope Francis published his apostolic exhortation, “The Joy of the Gospel,” a detailed vision of the program for his papacy and his vision for the church -- particularly the church’s outreach and its response to challenges posed by secular culture.

In the document, the pope called on Catholics to go out into the world, sharing their faith “with enthusiasm and vitality” by being living examples of joy, love and charity. “An evangelizer,” he said, “must never look like someone who has just come back from a funeral.”

Jorge Mario Bergoglio was born in Buenos Aires Dec. 17, 1936. He earned a chemical technician’s diploma from his high school and entered the Jesuit novitiate in March 1958.

As part of his Jesuit formation, he taught literature and psychology at Jesuit high schools in the mid-1960s, and he was ordained to the priesthood Dec. 13, 1969.

In 1973, he was appointed superior of the Jesuit province of Argentina. “I was only 36 years old. That was crazy. I had to deal with difficult situations, and I made my decisions abruptly and by myself,” he said in an interview after becoming pope.

“My authoritarian and quick manner of making decisions led me to have serious problems and to be accused of being ultraconservative,” he said.

In 1992, Pope John Paul II named him an auxiliary bishop of Buenos Aires. He was promoted to coadjutor archbishop in 1997 and became head of the archdiocese in 1998; St. John Paul named him to the College of Cardinals three years later.
**Family and Church**

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - The discussion at last year’s extraordinary Synod of Bishops on the family was lively - some media coverage made it sound like a battle - and a new book from the Pontifical Council for the Family shows the debate continues.

"Family and Church: An Indissoluble Bond," published this summer only in Italian, is a collection of presentations by theologians and canon lawyers gathered by the council for three full days of discussion and debate.

As Catholics prepare for the world Synod of Bishops on the family in October, a number of church leaders and theologians are discussing ways to reach out to divorced and civilly remarried Catholics.

Their consensus is that the church must do something to present more clearly its teaching on marriage: it must do more to help young couples prepare for marriage; it must be more effective in helping couples in trouble; and it must reach out to those who divorced and remarried without an annulment.

At the same time, the text indicates that many bloggers and reporters are wrong when they try to pigeon-hole church leaders as being in either-or categories of loving ministers of God’s mercy or strong defenders of God’s truth. The challenge lies in being both.

The meetings brought together two dozen participants, men and women, most teaching at pontifical universities in Rome, including the Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family. The experts -- Europeans, an Indian, Africans and South Americans -- met in January, February and March.

Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia, president of the family council, told an Italian Catholic magazine that finding pastoral approaches to express God’s mercy while being faithful to church teaching is complicated. However, he told Famiglia Cristiana, "It is pharisaical to limit ourselves to repeating laws and denouncing sins. The church must be frank in admonishing, but it also must be ready to find new paths to follow."

One of the paths suggested before and during last year’s extraordinary Synod of Bishops on the family was a “penitential process” that gradually would lead some divorced and civilly remarried Catholics to confession, absolution and Communion.

Participants at the family council’s meetings explored the idea, giving suggested steps and highlighting potential pitfalls beginning with the obvious danger of signaling to the couples and the world at large that perhaps some sacramental marriages are not indissoluble after all. But doing nothing, several said, risks signaling that entering a new union -- even after being abandoned by a husband or wife -- is the only situation where the church cannot be a minister of God’s forgiveness.

In his presentation, Father Giampaolo Dianin, an Italian professor of moral theology, insisted forgiveness is not "some kind of amnesty." In Catholic teaching it is "a free and full gift of God which asks for and provokes a commitment to repair, begin again and rebuild." A possible "penitential path," he said, would include:

- A diocesan bishop appointing a priest or a team of qualified people to evaluate individual cases and accompany the applicants, first determining if they have the grounds for an annulment, which would allow them to have their new union blessed as a marriage.
- For a spouse who was abandoned, the process would aim at promoting forgiveness of the offending party. For all involved, the process would include recognizing their sins and ways they contributed to the destruction of the marriage.
- Evaluating the solidity of the second union and the commitment of the couple to live seriously as Christians.
- "Readmission to the sacraments could be full or partial." Some might maintain that permanent readmission downplays the fact that the second union is not a sacramental marriage, Father Dianin said; they would allow the couple to receive absolution and Communion during the Easter season and on special occasions.

In Father Dianin’s process, there is no requirement that the couple abstain from sex, living "as brother and sister." In current church practice, that is what is required of divorced and civilly remarried Catholics who want to receive the sacraments.

Father Dianin and several other participants said that beyond the difficulty, and perhaps impossibility, many couples would have in fulfilling that requirement, there is a theological problem in suggesting that the spiritual and corporal aspects of love can and should be separated.

In addition, Father Alberto Bonandi, another theologian, said it gives the message that the sexual relations in a new union are the only way the couple is living in conflict with their original marriage bond when, in fact, they have withdrawn their affection and are building a life with someone else.

Father Eugenio Zanetti disagreed. The Italian canon lawyer outlined not a "penitential path," but what he called a "path of conversion to Love," meaning to God who is love.

The process would begin with a year of individual and group prayer and reflection, particularly looking at the obligations that remain to the spouse and any children from one’s sacramental marriage, he said.

During Lent, the prayer would intensify and the reflection would include attention to the Christian understanding of sexuality.

At the end of Holy Week, the couple would be invited to confession, "recognizing their sins, including their complex and not fully correct marriage situation."

As a condition of granting them absolution, the church would ask for a promise that they abstain from sexual relations during the Octave of Easter, which would permit them to receive Communion on Easter and on Divine Mercy Sunday.

Publishers have announced the coming release of other books on Catholic teaching and the family before the world Synod of Bishops on the family begins Oct. 4. One of them, coming from Ignatius Press, is: "Eleven Cardinals Speak on Marriage and the Family: Essays from a Pastoral Viewpoint."

The book, widely expected to be cautious about broadening the church’s "penitential path," is described by the publisher as steering "a wise and merciful course that engages genuine concerns, while avoiding false compassion, which compromises both truth and authentic love."

The discussion and debate continues.
Iraqi archbishop: Plight of fleeing Christians has challenged his faith

By Sean Gallagher
Catholic News Service

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) - Chaldean Catholic Archbishop Bashar Warda of Irbil, Iraq, said Christians who have been uprooted by the Islamic State are seeking a bridge to their past lives, during his homily for a Mass marking the 125th anniversary of the death of Father McGivney.

His archdiocese in the Kurdistani region of northern Iraq has, with the help of Catholic relief agencies, provided shelter, food, medical care and educational services to the displaced.

"(God) did it in a way that a state could not really offer to its citizens in such a situation," Archbishop Warda said.

"He did it through the church and through the generosity of so many people. His own faith is bolstered as well when he sees the un­daunted faith of displaced Christians.

"People come and tell their stories of persecution and how they were really terrified, having to walk eight to 10 hours during the night," Archbishop Warda said. "In the end, they would tell you, 'Thank God we are alive. Nushkur Allah. We thank God for everything.' That's the phrase they end with. That's strengthening, in a way."

In contrast to the goodness he sees in the suffering faithful that have filled Irbil, Archbishop Warda recoils when he remembers the Islamic State, which he often refers to by its Arabic "criminal name," Daesh.

"Daesh is evil," he said. "The way they slaughter, the way they rape, the way they treat others is brutal. They have a theology of sacrificing people."

And he knows that the evil that overtook Mosul could also strike Irbil.

"It's quite possible, but the coalition, led by the Americans, has stopped Daesh from advancing," Archbishop Warda said. "This has given some sense of security to the people. But Daesh is just 40 kilometers (25 miles) from Irbil. It's not far away. Anything could happen."

This uncertainty and the horrific experiences of the past year have led many Christians who fled to Irbil to move on to refugee camps in Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey with the intention of emigrating from the Middle East for good - something that saddens Archbishop Warda.

"They lost trust in the land and their neighbors," he said.

"Everyone has betrayed them and treated them as a treasure to be stolen, took their houses and property. Their daughters were under threat at any time."

The thousands who remain in Irbil have moved from makeshift shelters on church properties and in public schools to prefabricated houses and pre-existing homes provided or rented by the church. Some want to stay in the region and are seeking jobs to support their families.

"All of them are waiting for Mosul to be liberated so that they can go back again and start their life again," Archbishop Warda said.

An important step that he thinks will help galvanize the international community to help Iraqi Christians is for national leaders to join with Pope Francis and recognize what is happening there as a genocide.

He spoke of this in Indianapolis - where he visited his fellow Redemptorist, Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin - and in Washington.

"It's genocide. It has all the facts, events, stories and experiences to meet the definition of genocide," Archbishop Warda told The Catholic Standard, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Washington.

Recognizing the genocide would mean "those people are not forgotten," the archbishop said. "They are remembered and acknowledged. Their sacrifices and experiences are not forgotten. We'd be giving them just status, to help the world not repeat (this)."
Moving away from fear, towards great hope

Sunday’s readings are filled with hope for our future. Isaiah assured the captive Israelites that, if they repent, their land and their people will again prosper and they will rejoice at the lavish blessings that will come to them.

To all of us today who are held captive by a culture spoiled by war, drugs, and a loss of respect for life, God holds out hope. In the first reading, Isaiah tells us that new vitality will spring forth from the desert. It will bloom with fresh beauty, and the pools and springs will again overflow with refreshing water.

What do we need to do to experience this “second spring”? God tells us to strengthen our weak hands, and make firm our feeble knees. Furthermore, we are to encourage one another with words like Be brave! Fear not! In other words, we are to rebuild the “ground zeros” in our lives left barren of hope and courage. Fear can paralyze, causing our hearts and souls to wither.

Fear can close our purses, and tempt us to clutch our possessions to ourselves, not sharing with those who are poor and destitute. In Isaiah and in James, we are warned of God’s punishment on narrow and exclusive behaviour. If our fear paralyzes our faith, God will exclude us from the kingdom.

In the Gospel, Jesus shows us the way to getting rid of prejudice. Travelling into non-Jewish territory and, much to the astonishment of his disciples, he heals some gentiles. These, in turn, exclaim in wonder, “He does all things well; he even makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak!”

This weekend, we beg Christ to open our eyes to and hearts to a world that has lost its vision. Our eyes and God’s truth must help them see again. “Be brave. Be courageous, be compassionate to all.”

Rachel’s Vineyard responds to Planned Parenthood

By Theresa Burke, Ph.D.
Founder of Rachel’s Vineyard

The undercover expose of Planned Parenthood’s video reveals a disturbing wholesale profit off the flock… slaughtered for consumption, for secret reasons that can hurl a traumatized mind into the past. The blind eye of Planned Parenthood will never be satiated, in 2013 they downed $528 million in taxpayer funding.

Will they ever see a need to fund recovery programs for those whose lives have been shattered? It’s unlikely. I started my career 30 years ago as a psychotherapist facilitating a support group for anorexics and bulimics. As it turned out, most of the women in my group developed eating disorders after having abortions.

My supervisor, a psychiatrist, told me I had no business prying into people’s abortions. He claimed that Debbie’s flash backs to her aborted baby screaming were a psychotic reaction caused by the medication he prescribed. I did not pry – I listened as I watched my patients engage in self-destructive rituals of mourning and sabotaging their lives in ways that were excruciating to observe.

I write about these and other patients and their subsequent traumatic reenactments in my book “Forbidden Grief: The Unspoken Pain of Abortion” in a chapter entitled “What’s Eating you?” I left that group and started the first therapeutic support group for healing after abortion. I quickly saw that talk therapy did not really help and developed a trauma sensitive treatment model entitled Rachel’s Vineyard. The program was not set up as a business to make any money, but a mission to save the living dead.

Rachel’s Vineyard was not set up as a business to make any money, but a mission to save the living dead.

Rachel’s Vineyard has been spread by those whose lives were resuscitated through the healing they received. We estimate there are over 300,000 Rachel’s Vineyard volunteers around the world working to save the living dead.

I know the women and men I serve never bargained for the assaultive flashbacks and nightmares they suffer as fragments of trauma sheared into their consciousness. The images that constitute their waking and sleeping hours are like fortress prisons of guarded depression, anxiety, avoidance, numbing behaviors, and grief.

This is what I have witnessed from a lifetime of listening to stories of abortion from all over the world, as women and men, grand-parents and siblings grieve the members of their family who are not here anymore.

But that kind of emotional grazing takes courage and guts. Let’s be brave. Let’s be sober regarding the colossal loss of human potential.

We must not be afraid of the truth or cherish the need to defend choice to the point that we become hard hearted, self protective and willfully ignorant.

It’s critical when making policies and encouraging practices that have the potential to destroy more lives, marriages, relationships, and the physical and emotional health of traumatized parents.

Our society also needs permission to grieve the loss of the irreplaceable precious children whose lives and dignity should matter… even in their death. Let us work to save just one and not be punished for the effort.

If you or someone you love has suffered the loss of a child because of abortion, I invite you to attend a Rachel’s Vineyard Retreat for psychological and spiritual healing. At each retreat you will be able to share your unique history and circumstances in a way that will allow you to move forward and find closure from the heartache of the past.

You will have an opportunity to bestow dignity on the memory of your baby’s life. You deserve a safe and nonjudgmental response to soul shattering pain and a unique journey to find peace, freedom and joy.

For more information, contact www.rachelsvineyard.org
By John Mulderig
Catholic News Service

The premise on which the action comedy "American Ultra" (Lionsgate) rests is a relatively clever one. Yet the film's potential appeal is overwhelmed by the excessive violence with which this initial scenario is developed.

Director Nima Nourizadeh's fish-out-of-water story begins by showing us the humdrum life of small-town West Virginia slacker Mike Howell (Jesse Eisenberg).

Though he aspires to become a comic book artist -- an ambition in which he's supported by his stabilizing live-in girlfriend, Phoebe (Kristen Stewart) -- Mike currently toils as a convenience store clerk.

Along with sketching in his notebook, Mike devotes a considerable portion of his free time to smoking the pot supplied to him by twitchy local misfit Rose (Connie Britton) appears at his workplace and starts spouting what sounds to him like gibberish but is, in reality, a coded warning.

As the audience knows, but Mike has yet to discover, this visitor is a CIA agent named Victoria Lasseter. She's out to trigger Mike's suppressed memories of participating, under her direction, in an agency research program designed to turn ordinary citizens who had run afoul of the law in a minor way into highly skilled warriors.

In the aftermath of the project, which failed and was shuttered, Mike's recollections of the experience were erased. Yet he subconsciously retains the cutting-edge combat abilities he gained from the experiment.

That's just as well because Victoria's ruthless bureaucratic rival Adrian Yates (Topher Grace) -- the creator of a similar but far more sinister program designed to turn the criminally insane into government fighters -- is out to show the superiority of his trainees by siccing them on Mike.

Though it amounts to the single joke on which screenwriter Max Landis wagers his script's whole fortune, the combination of low-key wonderment and ninja-like dexterity with which Mike reacts to his peculiar circumstances -- ably conveyed by Eisenberg -- is good for a few laughs.

But the gory results of Mike's campaign of self-defense, during which he deploys everything from the edge of a spoon to an iron-headed club hammer, are far too explicitly portrayed.

They sabotage the light tone as well as the movie's more serious moments such as Mike's briefly sympathetic encounter with one of his pursuers (Walton Goggins).

They also turn what might have been an amusingly dizzy outing into a queasy rampage.

The film contains frequent graphic bloodletting, cohabitation, drug use and pervasive rough and crude language.

The Catholic News Service classification is O - morally offensive. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R - restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.

Jesse Eisenberg and Kristen Stewart star in a scene from the movie "American Ultra."
WONDERS OF CREATION RETREAT
Saranac Lake - Come to the Adirondack Mountains to enjoy the beauties of fall and ponder the mysteries revealed to us by God in this season of autumn.

Dates: Sept. 18-20
Speakers: Paul Hetzler, Arborist; Writer; and Educator at Cornell Co-operative Extension (Sept. Weekend) St. Bethany Fitzgerald, SSI, Adult Faith Educator; Fr. Paul Kelly, Celebrant for Liturgy
Place: Guggenheim Lodge
Cost: $145 (limited space)
Features: Weekend will include presentations, time for quiet prayer and reflection, communal prayer, nature hike and opportunities for sharing.
Contact: email srbethssj@gmail.com; call: 315-212-6692; See www.fourseasonshearth.com

CDA MEMORIAL MASS
Lake Placid - Annual fall CDA Past Regents Chapter Memorial Mass/Luncheon to be held.
Date: Oct. 3
Features: All CDA members are invited

HEALING MINISTRY
Morrisonville - The Catholic Community of St. Alexander’s and St. will have Living Waters Healing Ministry.
Date: Sept. 3 and Dec. 3 (no longer monthly)
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: St. Alexander’s Church
Features: Anointing of the Sick, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and an opportunity to receive individual prayer.

HARVEST DINNER BUFFET
Altona - St. Louis of France Parish will have a harvest dinner buffet.
Date: Sept. 13
Time: 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Place: Holy Angels Hall
Cost: Adults and take-outs, $9; Children 5-12, $4; under 5, Free
Features: Top round of beef and roast pork. Immediate seating. There will be a raffle and country store
Contact: Craft table available by calling 236-5848.

CDA PAST REGENTS MEETING
Plattsburgh - Past Regents fall meeting to be held for CDA Court Mary Immaculate #479.
Date: Sept. 19
Time: 11 a.m.
Place: St. John’s Parish center
Cost: $10

Features: Reservations may be made with Marie Varno at 643-0284 or Anna Lucia at 492-7246. Checks may be mailed to Marie at 211 Rock Rd, Plattsburgh, 12901. Reservations would be appreciated no later than Sept. 7.

SETON ALUMNI REUNION
Plattsburgh - Seton Catholic Central is holding an alumni reunion honoring the 25th anniversary class from 1990 as well as the classes of 1995, 2000 and 2005.
Date: Sept. 11-12
Schedule: High School Memories Mixer on Friday, Sept. 11 at 6 p.m. at UNO Pizzeria and Grill. Additional events on Sept. 12 include participation in the Battle of Plattsburgh Parade at 1 p.m. and a Mass at St. Peter’s Church at 4 p.m. The reunion festivities will culminate with an Alumni Banquet and tours of Seton Catholic Central beginning at 5:30 p.m.
Contact: Development Office at Seton Catholic Central 206 New York Road, Plattsburgh, NY 12903 (518)561-4031

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 oaprayertime@gmail.com or 518-594-3253.

BLESSED SACRAMENT ADORATION
Keeseville - There is Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every Sunday.
Time: 1 p.m. to 4
Place: Immaculate Conception Church

SERVICE FOR ABORTED CHILDREN
Willowboro - Pro-Life Americans throughout the country will gather at the grave sites of aborted babies and other memorial sites dedicated in their honor for the second annual National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children.
Date: Sept. 12
Time: 9 a.m.
Place: Calvary Catholic Cemetery
Contact: Nancy Beville at 518-593-6024

ROSARY RALLY
Chateaugay - St. Patrick’s Church to have a rosary rally.
Date: Sept. 8
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Features: To pray for peace in our families, our country and in the world. Mass with Rev. John Looby and Deacon Brian Dwyer. Blessing of Our Lady’s Statue. Recitation of the Rosary in procession and song with the Knights of Columbus. Rosaries and Prayer Cards will be available. A light reception to follow. Sponsors by the Catholic Community of Burke and Chateaugay Altar-Rosary Society in celebration of Our Lady’s Birthday and their 75th Anniversary!
Contact: 497-0707

BREAKFAST BUFFET
Brushton – St. Mary’s will be having a breakfast buffet.
Date: Sept. 13
Time: 4 a.m. to 7
Cost: Adults, $17.50; Children under 12, $4; under 5, Free
Features: Take-outs available. Call 518-529-6580. Sponsored by St. Mary’s Catholic Church events committee.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER
Burke - St. George’s Church will hold its annual spaghetti supper.
Date: Sept. 19
Time: 4 p.m. to 7
Cost: Adults, $7.50; Children under 12, $4; under 5, Free
Features: 50/50 Raffle

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION
St. Regis Falls - First Saturday Devotion and Holy Hour to be held the first Saturday of each month.
Time: after 4:30 p.m. anticipated Mass
Place: St. Ann’s Church
Contact: 518-856-9656

GOLF TOURNAMENT
Indian River - The Knights of Columbus will be having a golf tournament.
Date: Sept. 12
Time: 10 a.m.
Place: Cedar River Golf Course
Cost: $70 includes lunch and dinner.
Features: All proceeds go to local families to help with heating costs.
Contact: Call Grand Knight David Harrington to register or for more information (518) 648-5170

BIBLE STUDY COURSE
Englishtown - The K of C Council 7471 is sponsoring a Bible study course.
Date: Beginning Sept. 16 (10 week course)
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: St. Mary’s Parish
Features: Our topic this time is The Prophets, a 10-week Ascension Press presentation with DVD lectures by Thomas Smith. Discussion of homework assignments will be led by R C members. For the first time we will provide course materials free of charge courtesy of St. Mary’s-St. Joseph’s-St. Teresa’s parishes.
Contact: 767-1065 by Sept. 13

LIFERIGHT MEETING
Watertown - Liferight of Watertown meets the first Wednesday of the Month.
Time: 1 p.m.
Place: 870 Arsenal Street
Features: The office has a variety of pro-life videos, books and educational materials which may be borrowed.
Contact: Phone 315-788-8460

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS
Watertown – Holy Hour for vocations.
Date: Mon.-Fri.
Time: 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
Place: Holy Family Church
Contact: 315-782-2468

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
Lowville – Eucharistic Adoration to be held.
Date: Sept. 3 and 17
Time: 3:30 p.m. to 5
Place: St. Peter’s Church
Features: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, the Luminous Mysteries of the Holy Rosary and Benediction.

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS
Housesville - Divine Mercy Devotions for the month of September will be held.
Date: Sept. 6
Time: 3 p.m.
Place: St. Hedwig’s Church
Features: Vespers (Evening Prayer), Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction. All are welcome.
Contact: 348-6260.

ST. HEDWIG’S POLISH FEST
Housesville – Save the date for St. Hedwig’s Annual Polish Fest.
Date: Oct. 11
Time: Noon after the celebration of the 11a.m. Mass.
Features: Events include: the serving of a tasty Polish Platter (takeouts will be available); Theme Basket Raffles, Bake Sale, Ice Cream Sundae; Polish Hot Dogs; and a 50/50 Raffle. Donations of Theme Baskets, Pies and Monetary Donations to defray the cost of the food are appreciated. The event is a fundraiser for church repairs and restoration.
Contact: Joan 348-8735, Mary 348-8836 or Mary Ann 348-6260.
Hats off to Catholic school teachers & religious educators

From the director's desk
Sister Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ
Diocesan Mission Director

As summer's end draws near, and our lives get back into the routine of normalcy, we have new beginnings to look forward to with the children of our diocese. The new school year is now underway and our devoted teachers and religious educators have geared up and prepared for the challenges that are ahead this year.

I'm reminded of how educators have joined with parents to sustain the commitment of bringing to the world the uplifting message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Religious educators and Catholic school teachers have been leaders in helping the youth here at home to reach out in prayer and generosity to the suffering in our country and in the third world countries.

The Mission Office is grateful for all the educators, teachers, parents and students who continue to help spread the Mission Message.

A Pontifical Mission Society, MCA focuses entirely on "children helping children" throughout the world. MCA's young members have participated in our apostolic mission for roughly 165 years! The program and its facets have changed over the years, even the name changed about five years ago from Holy Childhood to Missionary Childhood, but the fundamental heart of the cause is still there. That cause is to raise awareness, fund needs and spread love to all of God's children, no matter where they may live.

I look forward to seeing the Catholic school teachers, principals and religious educators at the upcoming Celebrate Christ 2015 conference next month. At that time, I will be present to answer any questions, distribute supplies and thank you in person for all the help and support you offer. I pray that the educators will have a school year filled with positive energy, strong experiences and prayer-filled lessons of love. I am grateful for the good they do and their commitment to excellence. Without the educators in our community, our job in the Mission office would be an uphill battle.

Let us pray for each other in our missionary efforts! The missionary work of the church depends on each one of us!
October is Respect Life Month

We are inviting you to consider sponsorship of a full page advertisement with the theme

**EVERY LIFE IS WORTH LIVING**

to appear in our October 7th issue of the

**NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC**

For only $25 your name will appear as a supporter of human life from conception through natural death.

**Must be returned to the NCC by September 30, 2015**

☐ YES! I/we would like to support a Respect Life Page in the North Country Catholic.

Name ________________________________
Address ______________________________
City ___________________________ State __ Zip __________
Phone ________________________________
Name as it will appear in the ad (please print): ________________________________

Mail Checks payable to: North Country Catholic
PO Box 106, Canajoharie, NY 13317

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**Around**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

**LEWIS**

**A-R LUNCHEON MEETING**

Lowville - St. Peter's Rosary Altar Society will be having a luncheon meeting.
Date: Sept. 9
Time: 12:30 p.m.
Place: Shady Ave
Features: Members asked to bring grocery items for raffle. Drawing after meeting. New members welcome.

**ST. LAWRENCE**

**FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY**

Massena - First Saturday Rosary Devotion to be held.
Date: Sept. 5
Time: 3:15 p.m.
Place: St. Mary's Church
Features: The Rosary will be prayed to Our Lady of Fatima in reparation to Her Immaculate Heart and for World Peace. Confession will be available starting at 2:45 p.m. Saturday Mass Vigil is at 4 p.m.

**CHICKEN BAR-B-QUE**

Gouverneur - St. James School will hold their annual Chicken Bar-B-Que.
Date: Sept. 6
Time: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Cost: Adults, $9; Children 12 and under, $5; under 5, Free

**BRUNCH**

Norfolk - The Knights of Columbus Council will be sponsoring a brunch.
Date: Sept. 13
Time: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Place: Visitation Parish Center
Cost: Adults, $8; Children under 12, $5; under 5, Free; Family of 4, $20, each additional $3; Take-outs available

**CABBAGE ROLL SALE**

Norwood - The Norwood Knights of Columbus are having a cabbage roll sale.
Date: Sept. 19
Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Place: St. Andrew's Church Social Hall
Cost: $3
Features: Take-outs only. There will be a 50-50 drawing with proceeds going to a local need. The proceeds from the 50-50 drawing will be matched by the Norwood Knights of Columbus.
Contact: For pre order sale contact Mark Tebo 353 8821 or Jim Murray 353 2796 or Phil Regan 353 9917. Pre orders must be picked up by noon.

**GRIEFWORK TRAINING**

Massena: This training session is designed for those who are currently offering grief support in their parish or who are interested in starting a Grief Support Group.
Date: Sept. 16
Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Place: Sacred Heart Convent
Features: Speaker Maria Farrell, is Director of Grief Work, a National Servite Ministry of Compassion
Contact: 315-764-1611, 315-764-0818 or 315-769-3137

**ST. TERESA OF AVILA ANNIVERSARY**

Ogdensburg - Bishop LaValley will celebrate the 500th anniversary of St. Teresa of Avila.
Date: Sept. 19
Time: 9 a.m.
Place: St. Mary's Cathedral
Features: Morning Prayer followed by Mass with Bishop LaValley and Fr. Mark Reilly. A holy hour including adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, presentations by the Discalced Carmelites, secular order & benediction will follow. Teresian & Carmelite information & literature will be available.
Contact: 713-4353 Rita Lewis OCDS

RCLA CLASSES TO BE HELD

Ogdensburg - St. Mary's Cathedral will be presenting an opportunity for interested people to explore many questions about Roman Catholicism. RCLA prepares adults for admission into full communion in the Catholic Church.
Contact: Call St. Mary's Cathedral at 393-3930 to sign up for Fall classes.

**ST. VINCENT dePAUL STORE MOVED**

Ogdensburg - The St. Vincent de Paul store has moved from its Ford St. location to the former Bishop Conroy School

**LATIN MASS**

Potsdam - A Tridentine (Latin) Mass is celebrated each Sunday
Time: 9:30 p.m.
Place: St. Mary's Church

**HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS**

Ogdensburg - St. Mary's is holding a monthly Holy Hour for vocations.
Date: Tuesday before the First Friday
Time: 7 p.m. concluding with Benediction at 8 p.m.
Place: Deacon Winter Chapel

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

Massena - Sacred Heart/St. Lawrence holds a Bereavement Support Group last Tuesday of each month.
Time: 7 p.m.
Place: Sacred Heart Convent
Contact: 315-769-3137

**EUCARISTIC 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.

**DIOCESEAN EVENTS**

**MARRIAGE JUBILEE**

Ogdensburg - Bishop Terry R. LaValley will preside at the annual diocesan Marriage Jubilee
Date: Sept. 20
Time: 2:30 p.m.
Place: St. Mary's Cathedral
Features: A reception will follow in the Bishop Brzana Hall

**FOR HOMESCHOOL FAMILIES**

Ogdensburg - There will be a Mass for boys and lunch for home school students with Bishop LaValley.
Date: Sept. 17
Time: Mass at noon with picnic to follow.
Place: Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral; picnic at Bishop's house. If it is raining the picnic will be in Brzana Hall at the Cathedral.
Contact: tyler11@twcny.rr.com or 315-654-3932

**CELEBRATE CHRIST**

Lake Placid - Celebrate Christ 2015 has been planned. The theme for this two day event, Nurturing Families and Parishes with Living Stones, highlights two of our diocesan priorities, the faith formation of families and building parishes with living stones.
Dates: Oct. 16 for Catholic School administrators and faculties. Oct. 17 is for all people engaged in parish life
Place: Crowne Plaza
Features: Dr. Joan Paradis, national cattle-echical consultant for our Sunday Visitor Curriculum division, will speak on the first day on the topic “Crossing the Threshold to Intentional Discipleship.” Dr. John Roberto, president of LifelongThFaith Associates, will speak on the second day.
Bishop Terry R. LaValley will celebrate the opening Mass Saturday at 9 a.m.
Registration: www.rcdony.org and click on the Celebrate Christ 2015 logo.