Pope asks for prayers

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Pope Francis asked for prayers for his trip to Cuba and the United States, calling it "a mission" he had high hopes for.

He said while the main purpose of his 10th apostolic journey abroad, Sept. 19-28, was to attend the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia, he also highlighted his planned visit to the United Nations in New York as it marked its 70th anniversary.

"I greet with affection the Cuban people and the people of the United States, who, guided by their pastors, have spiritually prepared" for the visit -- "a mission I'm preparing for with great hope," Pope Francis said at the end of his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square Sept. 16.

The pope said his talk Sept. 16 would be his last audience talk on the family and marriage, thus concluding a series he began in December 2014.

The reflections were meant to help prepare for the now imminent World Meeting of Families Sept. 22-27 and the gathering of the Synod of Bishops on the family in Rome Oct. 4-25.

A correct vision and culture of the family are necessary for defending the world from many threats, he said in his catechesis.

Thank you, sisters

Sister Mary Catherine Pham made her first religious profession as a Sister Adorer of the Precious Blood Sept. 19 at St. Patrick's Church in Watertown.

In his homily for the occasion, Bishop LaValley noted that, in this Year of Consecrated Life, "The witness of your prayer-filled, cloistered life challenges the world to wake up and not be drowsily lulled along by the God-less current now infiltrating our society.

"So, today is a day that brings us all great hope, steeped in much joy!" FULL STORY, PAGE 3

Mark your calendars:

For next month's Celebrate Christ and Caritas dinner and next year's INSPIRE vocation summit FULL STORY, PAGE 4 & 6

Young Catholic Voice: Of passports and papal encyclicals... p. 8
Welcome, Pope Francis!

It should come as no surprise that the pages of this week's North Country Catholic are filled with anticipation about the pope's visit to the United States. Depending on when you're reading this, we may already be talking about what Pope Francis had to say to the people of Cuba or the members of Congress. Hundreds of Catholics from the North Country will have the opportunity to hear the Holy Father live in Washington, New York or Philadelphia but most of us will be watching and listening from our own homes.

The bishops of the United States have encouraged us homebodies to take part in a "virtual pilgrimage," making the visit a "time of spiritual renewal and evangelization." (The complete list of ideas is available on the usccb.org website by clicking on the "Love is our Mission" icon.) The suggestions aren't surprising: pray for the pope as he makes his way to more than a dozen locations, have a "papal visit watch party" or respond to Pope Francis's call to encounter by reaching out to those in need, supporting parish or community charitable efforts, acting to promote life, human dignity, families and religious freedom, and by caring for creation.

And, it wouldn't hurt to remember that Pope Francis originally decided to make the trip to the United States to show his support of families at the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia. If we do nothing else during the coming week, we could make this World Meeting of Families Prayer part of our daily conversation with God: God and Father of us all, in Jesus, your Son and our Savior, you have made us your sons and daughters in the family of the Church. May your grace and love help our families in every part of the world be united to one another in fidelity to the Gospel.

May the example of the Holy Family, with the aid of your Holy Spirit, guide all families, especially those most troubled, to be homes of communion and prayer and to always seek your truth and live in your love. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us!

A PASTOR’S PERSPECTIVE

If you had five minutes with the pope...

Finally, it is time for Pope Francis’ visit to the United States. Suppose you could spend five minutes with Pope Francis alone, what would you like to talk about with him? What would you like to do with your five minutes? Suppose you are one of those who would spend time with Pope Francis. I contacted several people, inquiring what he or she would do if they had those five minutes with Pope Francis. So, I would like to share some of those responses that I received.

Here is one that I found especially wonderful. It is from my niece, Susan, who is married to my nephew, Paul. They have three children – two in college, one in high school – and Susan is also a member of her parish's Parish Council.

Susan wrote: “I would thank him. I think he is breathing new life into Catholicism. I feel like he truly is speaking on behalf of the teachings of Jesus, without regard for how it plays in the modern world, even in spite of it, just because it is not going to be easy to take care of the poor or take care of the gift of the earth that God gave us, does not mean we shouldn’t make it our life’s work to try and do that.

All my life, Popes, Cardinals, and Bishops have always spoken with what seemed to be shaded speech, Susan continued. They always seemed to have to be careful with how the audiences were going to interpret and react. I am sure Pope Francis put tremendous thought into what he says and what words he uses, but the words always go back to the basics of what Jesus said, not some agenda that is colored by modern politics or secular forces.”

Susan goes on: “I would like the church to come around on homosexuality and still has some catching up with the position of women in the Church. Pope Francis has come up a little short on these two issues for me. However, I do feel for the first time that the Pope is actively trying to make strides with respect to that. So, if I had five minutes, I would probably love just to take a walk with him. Although I’d be torn between asking about church stuff or just talking to him like a regular person and see what comes up. Might be fun to play a game of Apples to Apples with him.”

So, thanks Susan – for your wonderful insight – of an involved Catholic – I have no doubt Pope Francis would enjoy five minutes with you.

Here is another response from my friends, Sister Janet, a Mercy Sister. She wrote: “I would first thank him for sharing his gifts of gentleness, kindness, and love for the poor and marginalized. I would also ask him to continue the challenge and encouragement for me to follow his example.

I would add a special thanks for his initiative in calling the Jubilee Year of Mercy, Sister Janet said. We will expect a focus on God’s compassion and love, and our responsibility to love on another. When I made vows, we chose a motto and my motto is "love one another".

Here is one more from another Susan, who I remember from many years ago when she was just a child. She writes: “I would thank him for his bravery in caring less about the restrictions of the Church than the teachings of Jesus. I feel like he approaches each matter with the simplest (and yet the hardest to live) formula of unconditional love and acceptance, which is what I was taught when I was young. For me, that is the most refreshing, positive and potentially revolutionary thin, that he can do for our Catholic Church.”

I have found personally with so many who have written to me a readiness to form a close relationship with the Pope as a friend. They approach him as a human – as a friend – not some far off Supreme Leader of the Church. They see in him a real embodiment of Jesus – they find the Lord and his message through this Holy Father. He has come across to them as a real person.

As for me, I see in him the priest – that compassionate and merciful priest – I would certainly ask him, if I could go to confession to him – he seems like the merciful and compassionate confessor I have always looked for.
‘Your prayer-filled life challenges the world’

Sister Mary Catherine Pham made her first religious profession as a Sister Adorer of the Precious Blood Sept. 19 at St. Patrick’s Church in Watertown. Bishop LaValley’s homily for the occasion follows:

This Holy Year, this Year of Consecrated Life, Pope Francis has challenged our consecrated religious to: “Wake Up The World.”

Well, a tiny portion of the world located at 400 Pratt Street here in Watertown has been doing just that. The Sister Adorers of the Precious Blood have given us good reason to celebrate and praise God because you, dear Sisters, continue to respond to the Holy Father’s challenge by so generously answering the Lord’s invitation to live a life of totally self-less love.

The witness of your prayer-filled, cloistered life challenges the world to wake up and not be drowsily lulled along by the distractions of this world, you joyfully give yourselves completely to a life of adoration and reparation. Your docility to God’s Spirit will give you the grace to walk forward on the path of holiness, that holiness of the Church which is so beautiful and which enables you to live the Gospel boldly.

Through the many challenges the world brings us, our witness to the divine presence, that holiness of the Church which is so beautiful and which enables you to live the Gospel boldly.

Bishop Terry LaValley

Your prayer-filled life challenges the world

MONASTERY CARD SHOP
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LIFE CHAIN 2015
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4
A peaceful, prayerful, public, pro-life presence. Open to all faiths. We stand for life rain or shine. Signs are provided.

LOCATIONS
Massena - Main Street at Route 37
2 p.m. to 3 - Cliff Boice 315-769-0898

Plattsburgh - Smithfield Blvd at Route 3
2:30 p.m. to 3:30 - Jack Lukasiewicz 518-562-1175

Potsdam - Market Street at Main Street
2 p.m. to 3:30 - Chris LaRose 315-403-8123

Saranac Lake - Bandshell Park at River St.
2:30 p.m. to 3:30 - Colleen Miner 518-891-2309

Schenectady - Route 9 at Leland Ave.
2:30 p.m. to 3 - Dorothy Bean 518-532-9866

Willsboro - Route 22 at Main St.
2 p.m. to 3 - Margaret Smith 518-963-7814
Celebrate Christ set for Oct. 16 and 17 in Lake Placid

LAKE PLACID - Celebrate Christ 2015 - a conference for Catholic school principals, teachers, staff, catechetical leaders, catechists, lay ministers and all involved in faith formation ministry - will be held Oct. 16 and 17 at the Crowne Plaza.

The theme for the two day event, Nurturing Families and Parishes with Living Stones, highlights two diocesan priorities, the faith formation of families and building parishes with living stones.

The Oct. 16 program is for Catholic School administrators and faculties. Dr. JoAnn Paradis, national catechetical consultant for Our Sunday Visitor Curriculum division, will speak on the topic "Crossing the Threshold to Intentional Discipleship."

She has served as a catechetical administrator in the Diocese of Pittsburgh in several parishes, most recently as Director of Parish Ministerial Life and Spiritual Formation at St. Sebastian Parish.

The program on Oct. 17 is designed for pastors, catechetical leaders, catechists and all people engaged in parish life.

Bishop Terry R. LaValley will celebrate an opening Mass at 9 a.m. The keynote speaker will be Dr. John Roberto, president of LifelongFaith Associates. He is the editor of the journal Lifelong Faith, and works as a consultant to churches and national organizations, teaches courses and conducts workshops in faith formation, and has authored several books and program manuals in faith formation.

Registration, due by Oct. 2, may be made through the diocesan website, www.rcdony.org; click on the Celebrate Christ 2015 logo.

Over 150 students, faculty and parents of the Seton Schools in Plattsburgh marched in the Battle of Plattsburgh parade Sept. 12, sporting blue and green Seton pride. Seton had the greatest representation of any group included in the parade.

save-the-date-for-2016-diocesan-vocation-summit

Convening a 2016 vocations summit is one of the two goals of the diocesan priority, Creating a Culture of Vocations.

In an Aug. 15 letter to the priests of the diocese, Bishop Terry R. LaValley said, "the purpose of the summit is to remind God's people of their universal call to holiness, and to provide both formation and encouragement in the living out, or discerning of God's particular call for them."

The summit, to be known as INSPIRE: Called to Love, will be held Sept. 25, 2016, at the Olympic Arena in Lake Placid.

The slate of speakers follows:
- Bishop Robert Barron of Los Angeles, noted evangelist and creator/host of the Catholicism and the New Evangelization series, will give the keynote address;
- George Weigel, official biographer of St. John Paul II, noted author, and Vatican analyst for NBC news, will lead the breakout session, Mission, Evangelization & Vocations;
- Jennifer Fulwiler, young Catholic evangelist, author, speaker and radio host will lead the breakout session, Promoting Vocations in a Francis World;
- Bishop Chris Coyne of Burlington, Vermont, the US Church's most digitally-engaged bishop, will lead the breakout session, Ecclesial Spirituality and Vocations;
- Archbishop Paul-André Durocher of Gatineau, Quebec and President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops will be the guest homilist at the Mass concluding the summit.

The bishops and people of the Dioceses of Albany, Burlington, Alexandria-Cornwall and Syracuse as well as the Archdiocese of Kingston, Ontario have been invited to participate in the summit.

Further information will appear in upcoming issues of the North Country Catholic.
ACROSS THE NORTH COUNTRY AS SUMMER ENDS

FACES OF FAITH

Father Donald J. Manfred, pastor of the Church of the Sacred Heart and St. Lawrence in Massena, presented five graduating seniors from Sacred Heart Parish with a Papal Blessing in recognition of their ministry as altar servers. Above, Father Manfred is shown with Elizabeth Furnace who is now attending LeMoyne College in Syracuse. Other graduates honored were Molly Broderick who is also attending LeMoyne and her brother Brendan Broderick who entered the Maine Maritime Academy; Annie Casey, Nazareth College in Rochester; and David Elman, SUNY Canton.

Eleanor Mayette, a “Life Member” of Court Mother Admirable #592 Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Dannemora, has once again won recognition for her court in the scrapbook competition held at the NYS 54th CDA Biennial State Convention, held in Albany in April. According to the court: Mrs. Mayette is an active (90+ plus, but who is counting?) member, who has some outdoor winter limitations, but keeps herself very busy inside; she is always willing to do what she can to help. In August of 2001, she agreed to re-activate the scrapbook, and at each of the four CDA State Conventions since, the court’s scrapbook, under Mrs. Mayette’s assembly, has won: three times second place and once honorable mention. Court Mother Admirable applauds Mrs. Mayette for eight years of diligent, time consuming, hard work! Sadly, the court has to now give her time off from their scrapbook, as she has too many others to do, and she commented something like, “just in case I’m running out of time”.

Matthew Dwyer, son of Deacon Brian and Monique Dwyer, a pre-kindergarten student at Holy Family, Malone, shows everyone a ripe tomato grown in the school’s garden. Matthew has three older siblings in the school, Stephen, Angela and Paul.

Catholic Daughters Court Sts. Kateri & André of Morrisonville sponsored a day retreat to Ste. Anne’s Shrine, Isle LaMotte, Vermont, Aug. 27. Bishop Terry R. LaValley presided at Mass with Father Scott R. Seymour of Morrisonville and Father J. Michael Demo of Dannemora concelebrating. In attendance were Regent Christina Packwood and members of Court Sts. Kateri & André, Regent Nancy Clancy and members of Court Mother Admirable of Dannemora, Regent Brenda Owens and members of Court Our Lady of the Snows of Lyon Mountain, members of Court Lily of the Mohawk of Champlain, Regent Linda Manchester and members of Court St. Monica of Peru, and Regent Christina Bigelow and members of Court Joan of Arc of Willsboro. Following Mass the Catholic Daughters enjoyed a picnic lunch, shopped at the shrine shop, visited the grottos, walked the grounds along Lake Champlain, and then participated in a Holy Hour and Adoration with the rosary and music accompaniment by Shirley Butler.
Annual Caritas Dinner Oct. 28

OGDENSBURG-Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Ogdensburg will hold its annual Caritas Dinner Oct. 28 at the Gran-View Restaurant.

A highlight of the dinner will be the presentation of the 2015 Caritas Award to John and Jane Pinkerton of Ogdensburg.

This award has been presented each year since 1978 for “devoted and unselfish service to the people of the North Country, exemplifying the spirit and ideals that Catholic Charities embodies in its mission, ideals of service and social action, of justice and charity.”

In addition, Catholic Charities will present its President’s Award to Timothy and Jeanine McLellan, co-owners of Northern Physical Therapy in Ogdensburg.

Reservations are required and may be made by sending $40 per person to Caritas Dinner, Catholic Charities, 6866 State Highway 37, Ogdensburg, NY, 13669.

Checks should be made payable to Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

The event starts with a cash bar at 5:30 followed by dinner at 6.

Further information is available from Catholic Charities at 315-393-2255.

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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 $_______

$20 EACH or 6 for $100
You do not have to be present to win.

Bishop’s Schedule
Sept. 24-25 – Papal Visit in Washington, D.C. and New York City
Sept. 27 - 11 a.m., Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral
Sept. 29 – 9 a.m., Opening School Mass at St. Peter’s Church followed by School Visit to Seton Academy in Plattsburgh
Sept. 30 – 12:00 p.m., Episcopal Council Meeting at the Bishop’s Residence in Ogdensburg

To Report Abuse
If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact:
Victims Assistance Coordinator, Teri-anne Yanulavich, Adult & Youth Counseling Services of Northern New York, 413 Ryan Road, Churbusco, NY, 12923; e-mail: terianneyanulavich@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 clergy men who have served in the Diocese of Ogdensburg

Sept. 24 – Rev. John Talbot Smith, 1923; Deacon Reginald F. Merrill, 2005
Sept. 25 – Rev. Frederick P. Shue, 1989
Sept. 29 – Rev. Patrick O. Thompson, 1955

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. 24 – 6 p.m., Holy Family School, Malone
Oct. 14 – 6 p.m., St. Augustine’s Church, North Bangor
Oct. 14 – 6:30 p.m., St. James Church, Gouverneur

Environmental Stewardship

How can I praise God’s creation?

 Viewing the news these days and witnessing our brothers and sisters suffering from the effects of climate change around us, drought, famine, wildfires, and floods, you may find yourself asking, “What can I do?” During this ‘Season of Creation’ that began on September 1 with the World Day of Caring for Creation and which concludes on October 4 with the Feast of St. Francis, the Holy Father encourages us to find time to ponder the wonders of Creation and to take action on climate change.

One couple in our Diocese, Molly and Bill Amoriel from Colton, took the initiative to investigate solar energy as an alternative to fossil fuel in an effort to lessen their carbon footprint and concretely care for our “common home.” They invited James Ammon, the owner of Ampersand Electric and a parishioner of St. Bernard’s Church in Saranac Lake, to come to their home to provide information on solar energy. They then invited their neighbors and friends to join them for an evening of inquiry about the pros and cons of solar energy for both their homes and for businesses. After a pleasant and informative session, the couple and several of their neighbors asked Jim to return to conduct a free energy assessment of their homes.

While there is considerable saving on one’s energy bill, the initial investment can be costly, although there are state and federal incentives to offset the installation.

However, this cost needs to be seen not only from a financial perspective, but also from an ethical standpoint, an investment that can insure a healthier planet for their children and for all of God’s children around the world.

Some suggestions provided by the Catholic Climate Covenant include:

• Praying for world leaders as they prepare for the world summit on Climate Change;
• Reading and discussion with others Pope Francis’ Encyclical
• Taking action by considering ways to reduce your own energy consumption and to reduce heat loss this winter in your home.
Bishop’s Fund supports Camp Guggenheim

By Sister Jennifer Votraw
Chancellor, Diocese of Ogdensburg

In its Sept. 9 issue, the North Country Catholic focused on youth ministry in our diocese. A portion of that issue highlighted people and events in Guggenheim, our diocesan summer camp, located in Saranac Lake.

This beautiful camp is right on the lake, with five buildings used by our various programs. Over 350 youth participated in our youth summer camping program, followed by several families who took part in our family camping program.

These programs are supported by a dorm and meeting rooms, the Inn, which houses arts and crafts, the cafeteria which can feed participants from each week and a building which is combination storage, garage, with rooms overhead.

Additionally, we have a lovely lodge which is separate from our children's and family camp and provides a place for adults, family respite/vacation, retreats and prayer days. All these buildings are modern, well-kept with clean water, bathrooms, and beds.

These facilities are made possible for our use and enjoyment because of the Bishop's Fund. A segment of these monies are set aside each year to help maintain this special place. Without your generous contributions, it would not be possible to continue to keep Guggenheim open. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Polish Custom for Assumption

Father Christopher Carrara blessed flowers, herbs and grains at St. Hedwig's, Houseville, Aug. 16. This is a Polish custom to honor the Blessed Mother's Assumption. The many flowers represent the many virtues of Mary that we are to imitate. The grains represent thankfulness for a new harvest. On this feast day of beautiful flowers Mary is known as "MATKI BOSKIEJ ZIELNEJ" Mother of God of the Herbs. Herbs in Polish means anything green and growing — flowers, trees, herbs. There are many flowers, trees, grains and herbs mentioned in the Bible and there are over 2,000 plants, flowers and herbs later named after the Blessed Mother.

Please use my/our gift to continue the good works of our Church and help support the ministries of the Diocese.

Gift 4 Pledge Payments

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OR Please charge my credit card for $_________

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Parish City/Town: __________________________

Visit us on the web at: www.rcdony.org/bishop-s-fund-appeal

The 2015 Bishop’s Fund Appeal
Dear Friends,

Why not join me and other pilgrims on a journey of a lifetime—a pilgrimage to Italy during the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy? A highlight of our travels will be four days in Rome where we will enter St. Peter’s Basilica through the Holy Doors and also visit the other three major basilicas. We hope to have an audience with Pope Francis and tours of the Sistine Chapel, the Coliseum, the Vatican Museum, as well as visit many other spectacular places holding sacred and cultural treasures. Our pilgrimage will, also, see us at such awesome locations as Venice, Florence, Siena, Orvieto and Assisi.

A Holy Year offers unique opportunities for spiritual growth. This Holy Year Pilgrimage to Italy promises to be a time for prayer, an increase in faith, and a whole lot of enjoyment for all the pilgrims. The frosting on the cake: gaining the plenary indulgence associated with such a pilgrimage during a Holy Year.

I hope you’ll join us for what promises to be an exciting and spiritually enriching time together.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Bishop Terry R. LaValley

Call 315-608-7556 or visit our website www.northcountrycatholic.org for more information

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**Bishop LaValley to lead Holy Year of Mercy Catholic Italy Pilgrimage**

April 5 - 17, 2016

**Rome • Venice • Florence • Siena • Assisi • Orvieto**

$3999 from Montreal

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**YOUNG CATHOLIC VOICE**

**Of passports and papal encyclicals**

By Thomas Pietropaoli

Contributing Writer

The skeptical TSA agent was clearly not amused with the situation in front of him: an individual with an unsigned replacement passport and no form of secondary ID, attempting to take an international red eye flight out of Boston’s Logan airport.

What sort of person would get into such a foolish situation? Unfortunately, I am.

Serving this past February as part of a mission team to a remote mountainous region of the Dominican Republic, I had prepared rigorously for the trip, carefully making sure to cross all the Ts and dot all the Is—apparently except for those on my passport!

Though Pope Francis’ encyclical on the environment had not yet come out, the task we were embarking on under the leadership of a Redemptorist priest was an attempt in a small but concrete way to live out some of the central principles laid out in Laudato Si’, to answer the call to bring the “human family together to seek a sustainable and integral development” (Laudato Si’ 13). Though much attention has been given to the mention of climate change made in the Encyclical, global warming and its purported causes are ultimately on the periphery of the Pope’s message, which calls into question the justice and sustainability of our modern ‘first-world’ way of life.

It is a prophetic demand that we not live lives blind to the systemic disorder and resulting degradation that have become heavily entwined with our prosperity—and the poverty of the global majority.

And an excellent place to

Malone native Tom Pietropaoli holds a little friend from the Dominican Republic during a recent mission trip.

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赞同于2016年9月23日

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**CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE**
A Garden of Eatin'

MASSENA—As the school year begins, Trinity Catholic has been transformed into a true "Garden of Eatin’" as pumpkins, beans and beets grow alongside an unexpected orchard planted by the Massena Electric Department.

Almost 60 plum, apple and pear trees now abound on the property surrounding Sacred Heart Church and TCS and complement the beautiful garden planted last spring as a result of a Fidelis grant.

"The planting [of the trees] was a result of a joint effort between MED, Global ReLeaf USA and the New York Power Authority’s Tree Power program, which focuses on targeting neighborhoods in need of trees. The MED received funding that was made possible by the Alcoa Foundation and American Forest organizations," the Courier Observer reported last week.

MED’s effort is part of the Global ReLeaf grant is to engage the use of volunteers in the community to help with the planting, said Laurie A. Marr, Alcoa Massena Operations communications and public affairs manager. MED used the help of six Alcoa employees and nine members of the Massena Rotary Club, along with employees of MED and North Raquette Greenery to plant the fruit trees.

Trinity's Read and Weed students were the first to see the trees last summer, as they went out three days a week to weed their vegetable garden as part of a five-week summer program designed by teachers Margie Ilisco and Michele Bombard to develop ELA skills and gardening knowledge.

Along with researching and writing about plants, students dove deep into projects that involved learning from parents, grandparents, and local experts about many aspects of gardening. Parent, Candace O'Neill talked to them about unique uses for fruit and flowers, such as aromatherapy and medicinal use, and guided students in making lavender butter cookies.

Master Gardener, Jane Portelese brought in herbs and talked to students about composting.

Licensed nutritionist, Mary Mittiga, talked to students about nutrition and taught them how to make kale salad and chips.

Community members, Paul and Joan Rufo and Eileen Boots showed students around their home flower and vegetable gardens.

Lastly, students got their hands dirty looking for decomposers, "nature’s recyclers," in piles of compost donated by grandfather, Tony Covais.

But, most importantly, these children saw how tiny seeds emerge into God’s nutritive bounty as a plethora of tomatoes, kale, beets, beans, peppers have slowly evolved into delicious tidbits to don their plates this fall.

Although Read and Weed students finished a couple of weeks before school began, teachers and after school employees continued putting their heads together to decide the best way to preserve the garden’s yield.

Freezing and canning the harvest for students to eat in this year’s lunches will serve as great practice for sustaining the coming years’ yield of fresh fruit from a surprise orchard in a modern-day version of an Edible Eden.

Passports

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

However, the many material goods we carried with us were not merely a large-scale, one time handout divorced from a deeper sense of commitment to the people with whom the providence of God has brought us into contact.

As Pope Francis has pointed out so emphatically, we must not “live and reason from the comfortable position of a high level of development” that lacks “direct encounter” (LS 49) with those we ought to serve.

Instead, we need to share our lives with them, and especially that which is the source and summit of our lives as Christians.

After one afternoon spent dispensing medical supplies, clothes, and toys in a remote mountain village, we cleared away the items from the benches and lone table in the simple, one room building we were using, so that it could fulfill its proper function as the local church.

As the priest we were with celebrated the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, few of the recognizable liturgical trappings were visible, and the plastic water bottle within which the wine had been transported was the only vessel available for the precious blood - yet the liturgy was no less real, and was highlighted by the background of poverty and charity which had colored the day. Indeed, it is authentic worship of Jesus which is the true pivot point of all our charitable activity, and the key to a more integrated and sustainable approach to inhabiting our common home.

For in him we find the healing of our hearts and minds, and the transformation of desires from an addicted consumerism to a liberated communion with the Eucharistic God who is the "living center of the universe" (LS 236) of which we are all a part.
Cardinal predicts pope's topics for trip to Cuba, US

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Arriving in the United States from Cuba, Pope Francis "will enter as a migrant" as millions of people have done before him, said Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state.

The cardinal, who will accompany the pope on his Sept. 19-27 visits to Cuba, the United States and the United Nations, said immigration will be one of the main topics of the pope’s speeches, along with the need for greater freedom for the people of Cuba and a global call for "integral ecology," which is an approach to safeguarding all of creation, including the sanctity and dignity of human life.

Immigration will be "one of the most important themes" of the pope’s visit, the cardinal said in an interview with the Vatican television center on the eve of the trip. The United States is "a country with a long history of immigration and, at the same time, a long history of openness, welcome and integration of the various waves of immigrants who arrived."

The U.S. heritage of welcoming newcomers, he said, should be valued as a treasure to be built upon in "facing the modern challenges of migration.

Immigration is an issue close to the heart of Pope Francis, whose family immigrated to Argentina from Italy, the cardinal said. The pope hopes to be able to offer some points for consideration in the current U.S. debate on immigration reform.

Pope Francis also is likely to encourage a new season of greater freedom and respect for human rights in Cuba, Cardinal Parolin said.

Asked about the economic embargo the United States has had in place against Cuba since 1960, the cardinal said the Holy See has always been against the embargo and consistently has supported United Nations’ resolutions in favor of lifting the economic sanctions on the island.

"There is a simple fact and that is that the embargo, this kind of sanction, provokes poverty and suffering" among a country’s population, he said. In addition, the Vatican hopes that lifting the embargo will have the impact predicted by the Cuban bishops, which is that greater contact with the United States and increased trade "also would bring greater openness from the point of view of freedom and human rights, a flowering of these aspects that are fundamental for the life of persons and peoples."

The invitations for Pope Francis to address a joint meeting of the U.S. Congress and to speak to the General Assembly of the United Nations are special opportunities, he said. The pope is likely to relaunch the central messages of "Laudato Si’," his encyclical on the environment, which "takes into consideration the human person within creation," urging respect for "the transcendent nature of the person, from which flows his or her fundamental rights, especially the right to life and to religious freedom."

Pope Francis, he said, will call people "to change our lifestyles so that we can be custodians of creation, as he says, and not dominators or aggressors."

Cardinal Parolin said he knows some people in the United States and elsewhere have read the encyclical as an overly harsh attack on capitalism.

"I think the pope is touching fundamental points," the cardinal said, and calling for reflection.
WASHINGTON (CNS) - Pope Francis enjoys extremely high levels of support among Catholic likely voters and that support could reshape the Catholic Church's engagement on political and social issues, a new poll reveals.

Undertaken by the Institute for Policy Research and Catholic Studies at The Catholic University of America and Faith in Public Life, the survey found that Catholics across the political spectrum are hearing the pope’s message of love and mercy and would welcome a widening of the perception that the church's primary concerns are so-called “culture war” topics of abortion and same-sex marriage.

The most important takeaway (from the survey) is for all of us to recognize that this pope offers a framework for consideration of so many aspects of our public life,” said Stephen Schneck, institute director, said during a news briefing Sept. 16 at the National Press Club to release poll results. “He’s offering us a way to rethink issues that are so important in our contemporary world.”


The survey found that 82.5 percent of Catholic likely voters favorably viewed the pope while 10.9 percent saw him unfavorably.

A related question on whether the pope was moving the church on the right path or the wrong direction found that 82 percent supported his work while 18 percent did not.

In the battleground states, 76.8 percent of respondents favorably viewed the pope and 14.4 percent had an unfavorable view.

Poll respondents said that religious leaders should pay attention to seven policy issues including abortion, immigration, international affairs, same-sex marriage, climate change, poverty and religious liberty.

Latinos supported the pope by an 84.4 percent to 6.5 percent margin, with 9.1 percent unsure. On whether the church is on the right path, 89.6 percent of Latinos agreed while 10.4 percent disagreed.

Broken down further, 92 percent of self-identified Democratic respondents support the pope as do 77 percent of independents and 70 percent of Republicans.

The sample was taken July 22-31 and included 1,121 respondents. The sample was pared to 1,000 respondents to obtain the final results. The margin of error is plus or minus about 3 percent.

The poll’s findings were released six days before Pope Francis was to arrive in the United States for a tour of Washington, New York and Philadelphia. He will speak to a joint meeting of Congress and the U.N. General Assembly and participate in the World Meeting of Families.

In addition, he planned to visit a Catholic Charities run meal program, a Catholic elementary school and a prison at each locale.

The poll examined issues related to economic inequality and the pope’s encyclical on the environment, “Laudato Si’, On Care for Our Common Home,” as well as the feelings of Latinos for the pope. Latinos represent a significantly growing segment of the Catholic Church.

By a 77 percent to 23 percent margin, respondents agreed that Catholics should pay attention to a wide range of issues as opposed to a set of "non-negotiable" issues when deciding whom to support at the election booth.

Specifically, respondents said that religious leaders should pay attention to seven policy issues including abortion, immigration, international affairs, same-sex marriage, climate change, poverty and religious liberty.

The poll also revealed a wide gap between conservatives and non-conservatives in regard to economics, with 65 percent of non-conservatives agreeing that unregulated capitalism poses a significant challenge to protecting human life and dignity while only 25 percent of conservatives holding the same view.

John Gehring, Catholic program director at Faith in Public Life, explained that the poll’s results point to the desire by Catholic respondents to “expand the voice on what encompasses human dignity.”

Perhaps more than any other religious leader, Pope Francis provides a different kind of face to Catholics. Pope Francis is not changing church teaching, but has emphasized the church cannot only be known for those positions (on abortion and same-sex marriage), Gehring said. “I think he is reorienting the conversation, not throwing doctrine out the window, but putting people at the center.

He sees human beings as the center of church doctrine,” he added.
We are all brothers and sisters under God

No matter how good a leader is, many people will grumble and complain about his leadership. In today's first reading from the Book of Numbers, Moses was discouraged at all the complaints he receives from the Israelites. "If only we had meat to eat," they cried.

God, seeing Moses' frustration, decides to lighten the burden of leadership. He pours the divine Spirit also on seventy elders who will share Moses' authority.

Now, two of the elders were not present at the ceremony, but received the Spirit anyway.

When they began prophesying on their own, Moses' young assistant, Joshua, became envious. "Moses, stop them!" he cried. To Joshua's surprise, Moses praised the two, and told Joshua he wished everyone had that gift.

Jesus, in today's Gospel, teaches the same lesson. When a man said his disciples complained to Jesus that some, not of their company, were driving out demons, Jesus, like Moses, rebuked his followers for being so exclusive.

"Whoever is not against us, is for us" became Jesus' rule for his Church. Two of the great rules for the Catholic Church are unity and inclusivity.

All in the Church are meant to share their gifts, and welcome the gifts of others.

In the not so distant past, lay persons were not invited to share their gifts in running the ministries and programs of the Church. Those days are gone forever.

With the current priest shortage, the help of deacons is absolutely essential to the smooth running of a parish.

In addition, we have many hundreds of the laity who have trained and commissioned as lay ministers. Pastors now urge all Catholics to take seriously their baptismal consecration, and become active in church ministries.

Those who respond are welcomed with open arms as they learn how to visit the sick and shut-ins, how to teach the beautiful truths of the Gospel to our children, and how to work with our youth, to name just a few.

In the current massive refugee crisis in the Middle East, our Holy Father has urged all nations to show compassion and aid to those fleeing for their lives. We are all brothers and sisters under God.

May the hearts and purses of all nations we open to their needs.

Jailed for defending marriage

Kim Davis, the now-famous Clerk in Rowan County, Kentucky, who became known for her refusal to issue marriage licenses, was arrested and incarcerated in September of 2015. She had refused to affix her signature to licenses issued to same-sex couples. She had refused to issue marriage licenses to two people of the same sex.

In point of fact, however, he only begs the question under dispute.

Opponents of the Supreme Court's Obergefell decision stress that the state does not determine the nature of marriage; instead, it is nature that makes that determination through the radical complementarity of man and woman, a reality entirely outside the purview of the state to redefine or negate.

The unique and exclusive eligibility of one man and one woman to marry each other cannot be changed by court order any more than gravity can be overturned by court decree.

Commenting on the Supreme Court decision on gay marriage, Ed Peters, a canonist in Detroit, explains it this way:

"Five justices imposed on marriage (true marriage, natural marriage, traditional marriage, whatever pneumatic phrase one wishes to use) the lie that marriage includes the union of two persons of the same sex.... The Court has published a naked, gross falsehood that tears simultaneously at the fabric of law, language, family, and society. The word marriage has, and will always have, an objectively true meaning—no matter how many times it has been debased."

Ms. Davis resolutely declined to lend her signature, and the authority of her office, to affirm this falsehood.

Even some commentaries have tried to insist that Ms. Davis was elected to serve as a government official, and should carry out the provisions of the law even if she might not agree with them. But this argument is flawed on at least four counts.

First, the claim that public servants have a stringent duty to uphold the law tends to be selectively applied by those who make the claim.

Nearly 18 months before Ms. Davis was jailed, and 15 months before the Supreme Court decision on gay marriage, another public servant in Kentucky named Jack Conway, the state Attorney General, failed to carry out his duty of defending the Kentucky Constitution that affirmed marriage to be between one man and one woman.

He publicly refused to defend the law of the Commonwealth before the Supreme Court; and Mr. Conway was praised and celebrated for his decision by numerous voices in the national media and in the legal establishment.

Mr. Conway's refusal to perform this duty clearly contravened Kentucky law KRS 522.020; nevertheless, he was neither punished nor incarcerated for his failure to uphold the fundamental marriage laws of the state. Second, it would be wrong to suppose that workers and employees are mere cogs in the machinery of governments or corporations, mindlessly following orders. Many German government officials and workers seemed to make this assumption during the last World War.

Officials and employees are rather called to assist their employers in an attentive and collaborative way, so that the work of the institution or corporation they represent is marked by integrity and sound ethics.

Ms. Davis sought to conscientiously protect the integrity of marriage and the work carried out in the Clerk's Office by declining to issue licenses to two people of the same sex.

Third, when Ms. Davis was elected to the office of Clerk in Rowan County, gay marriage was still illegal, so she was elected to a position where, some time later, the ground beneath her feet abruptly shifted, and a new job description requiring her to violate her conscience was suddenly thrust upon her.

Simply put, she hadn't

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE
The somber fact-based crime drama "Black Mass" (Warner Bros.), adapted from the eponymous book by Dick Lehr and Gerard O'Neill, chronicles the rise and fall of notorious Boston kingpin James "Whitey" Bulger.

Johnny Depp brings an intriguing blend of two-faced charm and menacing intensity to the central role. And the underlying values of this cautionary tale about the dangers of government collusion in wrongdoing are sound.

Yet, while the often harrowing bloodletting integral to director Scott Cooper's film is generally surrounded with an appropriate sense of dread, a note of exploitative excess does creep in as the story progresses. Thus even those few moviegoers for whom it can be considered tolerable may ultimately judge this gritty journey through Beantown's insular back streets offensive.

Bulger's story -- which Cooper marshals to convey a resounding admonition against using illicit means to achieve valid ends -- would be hard to credit if it weren't true. Motivated by a misguided sense of ethnic and neighborhood loyalty, John Connolly (Joel Edgerton), a childhood acquaintance of Bulger's in the Irish-American enclave of "Southie," uses his position as an FBI agent to engineer a deal between the bureau and the initially small-time gangster.

According to the implicit terms of this corrupt bargain, Bulger will be given free rein to expand his underworld empire in exchange for information about his rivals in the Italian-American mafia.

For Connolly's boss, Charles McGuire (Kevin Bacon), and his closest coworker, John Morris (David Harbour) -- both of whom, despite some ethical misgivings at the start, become willing accessories to the arrangement -- the goal seems a straightforward one: Use the small fry to catch the big fish. For Bulger himself, of course, it's a win-win: Use the feds to destroy your enemies, then take over their turf.

As Bulger's uncontrollable barbarism causes events to spiral out of control, however, his rampaging ways threaten not only his G-men partners but his wily brother Billy (Benedict Cumberbatch) as well. An ostensibly respectable public figure who waltzes nimbly around his sibling's shady reputation, Billy is a popular Massachusetts state senator. Despite his indirectly religious title, and the unmistakably Catholic atmosphere in which its characters move, "Black Mass" devotes relatively little attention to faith.

We're shown the fleeting image of a fatuous priest enjoying himself at a St. Patrick's Day banquet where the Provisional IRA (to which Bulger has ties) is being praised. And Bulger sits silently in a church while brooding on his downfall. But otherwise religious expression is confined to the scenery.

So it's not irreverence but rampant indifference to human life that may give even the heartiest ticket buyers pause.

The film contains frequent brutal violence, mature themes, including prostitution, about a dozen uses of profanity and pervasive rough and crude language. The Catholic News Service classification is L -- limited adult audience, films whose problematic content many adults would find troubling. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R -- restricted.

Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.ncbcenter.org

In sum, Kim Davis' measured actions at the Clerk's Office in Kentucky offer a coherent and courageous response to chaotic attempts to undermine marriage and the rule of law.

Our society needs more of her coherence and courage, not less.

Father Pachołczyk, a priest of the diocese of Fall River, MA, and serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.ncbcenter.org

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

The Diocese of Ogdensburg

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

We would like to support a Respect Life Page in the North Country Catholic.

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Name as it will appear in the ad (please print): ___________________________

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

**Rosary Rally**
Bloomville — St. Paul’s is holding a rosary rally for the nation.
**Date:** Oct. 10  
**Time:** 11:45 a.m.  
**Place:** St. Paul’s Church  
**Features:** This will be one of over 14,000 rallies throughout the nation asking God to save America through the Rosary of His Most Holy Mother. Bring a sandwich, dessert and drinks will be provided.

**‘Laudato Si’**
Lake Placid — Pope Francis’ encyclical “Laudato Si” will be the center of three evenings of discussion.
**Date:** Sept. 29, Oct. 6 and Oct. 13  
**Time:** 6 p.m.  
**Place:** St. Agnes  
**Theme:** “On Care for Our Common Home”  
**Features:** Curt Stager, Ph.D. of the faculty of Paul Smiths will facilitate. A light dinner will begin the sessions. Pre-registration is required.

**Queen’s Closet Sale**
Saranac Lake — The Queen’s Closet sale to be held.
**Date:** Oct. 3  
**Time:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
**Place:** St. Bernard’s School Cafeteria  
**Features:** Will be featuring gently used sweaters, scarves, jewelry and accessories. Everyone is cordially invited to attend. Tea and crumpets will be served. Proceeds benefit the St. Bernard’s Church Hand Bell Choir

**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.

**Clinton**

**Plattsburgh Life Chain**
Plattsburgh — 28th Annual National Life Chain to be held.
**Date:** Oct. 4  
**Time:** 2:30 p.m. to 3:30  
**Place:** Smithfield Blvd at Route 3  
**Features:** To support and pray for our Pre-born Children. Join in and stand for life. All are welcome.

**Celebrate our Lady the Rosary**
Plattsburgh — St. Peter’s Parish is holding a meditation on the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary.
**Date:** Oct. 7  
**Time:** 6:45 p.m. Prelude of Marian

**Queensbury**

**Memorial Mass**
St. Augustine’s — St. Augustine’s and St. Patrick’s Parish will host a Rosary Rally for the nation.
**Date:** Oct. 10  
**Time:** 11:45 a.m.  
**Place:** St. Augustine’s and St. Patrick’s Parish  
**Features:** Will be hosting a rosary rally for the nation.

**Franklin**

**Roast Pork Dinner**
Brushton — St. Mary’s Church has planned a harvest roast pork dinner.
**Date:** Oct. 4  
**Time:** Noon to 4 p.m.  
**Place:** St. Mary’s Parish Center  
**Features:** Adults, $9; seniors, $8; ages 6-12, $5 and children five and under, free.

**Essex**

**Roast Beef Dinner**
Elizabethtown — Roast Beef dinner will be served.
**Date:** Oct. 4  
**Time:** 2 p.m. to 6; take-outs at 1:30  
**Place:** St. Elizabeth’s Church  
**Features:** Adults, $9; Children, $5; under 5, free.

**Willsboro Lifechain**
Willsboro — All Pro-liifers are invited to join us for one hour as we join others around the nation in the 27th Annual Life Chain.
**Date:** Oct. 4  
**Time:** 2 p.m. to 3  
**Place:** Main street (Old IGA)  
**Features:** We stand for life rain or shine. Signs provided. Bring a chair, bring a friend.  
**Contact:** 518-963-7814 or email: smith2000@gmail.com

**Harvest Dinner**
Dannemora — St. Joseph’s Church to have a harvest dinner.
**Date:** Oct. 11  
**Time:** 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
**Place:** Parish Center  
**Features:** Roast turkey with all the trimmings will be served. Take-outs available. There will also be a Chinese raffle, craft table, country store, flea market and live music by Ann-Marie Petrasime and Robert Rubado. Proceeds benefit St. Joseph’s Renovation Fund and St. Pauls in McKee, Ky.

**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 Adorations 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 olaprayers­house@gmail.com or 518-594-3253.

**Fall Festival**
Bosom — St. Joseph’s has their 24th Annual Fall Festival Dinner.
**Date:** Sept. 27  
**Time:** 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
**Place:** St. Joseph’s parish hall  
**Features:** Adults, $9; under 12, $4; 5 and under, free.

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

**Jefferson**

**Concert and Dedication**
Carthage — St. James Church is holding a concert and dedication of its new Allen Renaissance Quantum Organ.
**Date:** Sept. 27  
**Time:** 3 p.m.  
**Place:** St. James Church  
**Features:** Organist Michael Perfetto, Jr. and Guest Organist Wayne Skinner with St. James Family Choir and Flute soloist Theresa Lorence. Reception and refreshments to follow. This concert will be recorded live, therefore, we request no children under the age of five.

** Bereavement Meeting**
Watertown — An Ecumenical Bereavement Meeting to be held.
**Date:** Sept. 28  
**Time:** 7 p.m.  
**Place:** Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse Hearthside Hospitality Center  
**Speaker:** Rev. Douglas Ort, Baptist minister, who has had a private counseling practice for 24 years. Topic: “Treasuring Memories in the Midst of Loss”

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE
Pope Francis’ message for World Mission Sunday

This week, our Holy Father, Pope Francis, will visit the United States to spread his message of love, peace and forgiveness.

With this in mind, it is appropriate to share with our readers his annual message on World Mission Sunday. Below is a large excerpt of his words from the Vatican for the upcoming World Mission Sunday.

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

Those who follow Christ cannot fail to be missionaries, for they know that Jesus “walks with them, speaks to them, breathes with them. They sense Jesus alive with them in the midst of the missionary enterprise.

Today, the Church’s mission is faced by the challenge of meeting the needs of all people to return to their roots and to protect the values of their respective cultures.

This means knowing and respecting other traditions and philosophical systems, and realizing that all peoples and cultures have the right to be helped from within their own traditions to enter into the mystery of God's wisdom and to accept the Gospel of Jesus, who is light and transforming strength for all cultures.

Living as Christian witnesses and as signs of the Father’s love among the poor and underprivileged, consecrated persons are called to promote the presence of the lay faithful in the service of Church’s mission.

As the Second Vatican Council stated: “The laity should cooperate in the Church’s work of evangelization; as witnesses and at the same time as living instruments, they share in her saving mission” (Ad Gentes, 41).

Consecrated missionaries need to generously welcome those who are willing to work with them, even for a limited period of time, for an experience in the field. They are brothers and sisters who want to share the missionary vocation inherent in Baptism. The houses and structures of the missions are natural places to welcome them and to provide for their human, spiritual and apostolic support.

The Missionary Societies of the Successor of Peter have a universal apostolic horizon. This is why they also need the many charisms of consecrated life, to address the vast horizons of evangelization and to be able to ensure adequate presence in whatever lands they are sent.

Dear brothers and sisters, a true missionary is passionate for the Gospel. Saint Paul said: “Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel” (1 Cor 9:16). The Gospel is the source of joy, liberation and salvation for all men and women.
AROUND THE DIOCESE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

JEFFERSON

SPAGHETTI SUPPER
Watertown – The Altar Rosary Society will be having a spaghetti supper.
Date: Sept. 24
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7
Place: St. Anthony’s, Msgr. Sechi Hall
Cost: Adults, $8; Children, $4.50; under 3, Free; Sauce, $5 per quart; Meatballs, $7.50 each
Features: Take-outs begin at 4 p.m., please bring your own containers

LEWIS

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS
Houseville – Divine Mercy Devotions to be held.
Date: Oct. 4
Time: 3 p.m.
Place: St. Hedwig’s Church
Features: Vesper (Evening Prayer), Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, The Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction. All are welcome.
Contact: 348-6260.

SWING DANCE
Lowville – There will be a Swing Dance (Jitterbug) Fundraiser for various youth ministry programs.
Date: Oct. 10
Place: St. Peter’s Church Hall
Cost: Adults, $6; Students/Seniors, $3; Family $15
Features: A seminarian from the diocese of Albany is coming to help teach everyone how to swing dance and there will be a contest for the best 1940’s costume! (Note: you do not have to come in costume) Everyone is welcome, to dance, watch the dancing, or just listen to some swing band music. Refreshments will be sold at the dance.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP
Lowville – Middle School Youth Group to meet.
Date: Oct. 21 and third Wednesday of each month
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: St. Peter’s Church
Features: If you have any questions, please speak with Siobhan OK to come a little late

THEOLOGY ON TAPOVER
Lowville – Theology on Tap to be held.
Date: Oct. 29
Time: 7 p.m.

FOOD PANTRY SUPPORT
St. Mary’s Food Pantry in Evans Mills received a donation of $1,000 from Northern Credit Union in Watertown for the construction of a handicap ramp. Above, Christine Booth, branch manager of the credit union, presents a check to Mary Boucher, Food Pantry coordinator, and Father Christopher Looby, pastor.

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

ST. LAWRENCE

RUMMAGE SALE
Norfolk – Parish of the Visitation and St. Raymond Altar Rosary Society is having a Rummage Sale.
Date: Sept. 26
Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Place: Fr. Amyot Parish Center
Features: Clothing, household goods, books, puzzles, and more

LASAGNA DINNER
Heuvelton – The annual St. Raphael’s Lasagna Dinner, prepared by Theresa Smith’s Culinary Arts Class, to be held.
Date: Sept. 30
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7
Place: Heuvelton School Cafeteria
Cost: Adults, $7; Senior Citizens (over 65), $6; Children 6-12, $5; under 6, Free
Features: Proceeds from the meal will be donated to a charitable purpose.

FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY
Massena – St. Mary’s Church is holding a special Rosary to mark First Saturday.
Date: Oct. 3
Time: 3:15 p.m.
Features: The Rosary to Our Lady of Fatima will be prayed in reparation to Her Immaculate Heart and for World Peace, followed by a 15 minute private meditation on the Glorious Mysteries. Confessions are available starting at 2:45 p.m. Saturday Mass Vigil is at 4 p.m.

MANICOTI MONDAY
Norfolk – Parish of the Visitation and St. Raymond will resume hosting the monthly edition of Manicotti Monday.
Date: Oct. 5
Time: 4 p.m. to 6:30
Place: Fr. Amyot Parish Center
Cost: $9.75 per person
Features: Homemade meat-filled Manicotti and/or Spaghetti and Meatballs salad, Italian bread, dessert, beverage.
Contact: Take-outs are available and delivery is available in the Norfolk area by calling 315-328-4077 or 315-389-5557 by Oct. 5.

LIFECHAIN IN POTS DAM
Potsdam – All pro-life’s are invited to join us for one hour as we join others around the nation in the 27th Annual Life Chain.
Date: Oct. 4
Time: 4:30 p.m.
Place: Potsdam Catholic Church
Cost: $8.00
Features: Donations of Theme Baskets, Pies and Monetary Donations to defray the cost of the food anticipated. The event is a fundraiser for church repairs and restoration.
Contact: JoAnn Paradis, national cathechetical consultant for Our Sunday Visitor Curriculum division, will speak on the first day on the topic “Crossing the Threshold to Intentional Discipleship.” Dr. John Roberto, president of Lifelong Faith Associates, will speak on the second day. Bishop Terry R. LaValley will celebrate the opening Mass Saturday at 9 a.m. Registration: www.rcdny.org and click on the Celebrate Christ 2015 logo

HOLY HOUR
Canton – A Holy Hour has been planned at St. Mary’s Church as part of respect life month.
Date: Oct. 4
Time: 2:30 p.m.
Features: Knights of Columbus to host a Miriam holy hour of prayer. The program will include liturgy, rosary. Bishop LaValley will attend. Refreshments will be served at St. Mary’s School. Families are strongly encouraged to attend.

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.
Date: Oct. 16 for Catholic School administrators and faculty. Oct. 17 is for all people engaged in parish life
Place: Crowne Plaza
Features: Dr. Dr. John Paradis, national catechetical consultant for Our Sunday Visitor Curriculum division, will speak on the first day on the topic “Crossing the Threshold to Intentional Discipleship.” Dr. John Roberto, president of Lifelong Faith Associates, will speak on the second day. Bishop Terry R. LaValley will celebrate the opening Mass Saturday at 9 a.m. Registration: www.rcdny.org and click on the Celebrate Christ 2015 logo

CARITAS DINNER
Ogdensburg – The 2015 Catholic Charities Caritas Dinner will be held.
Date: Oct. 28
Time: 6 p.m.
Place: GranView Restaurant
Cost: $40 per person
Contact: Reservations are needed. Call 315-393-2255