
POPE FRANCIS IN AMERICA

World Meeting of Families in Philly

The largest-ever World Meeting of Families opened in Philadelphia Sept. 22. More than 17,500 participants from more than 100 countries registered for the four-day congress, said Archbishop Charles J. Chaput of Philadelphia. Among the participants were ten delegates from the Diocese of Ogdensburg: Father Douglas Lucia, episcopal vicar for worship and family life; Stephen Tartaglia, diocesan director family life; as well as Father Thomas Higman, Deacon Henry and Dayna Leader, John and Colleen Miner, Pamela Ballantine, Jamie Burns and Marika Donders. Other diocesan families also took part. “All (the participants) have come to affirm their commitment to the family as the foundation of a fruitful life,” Archbishop Chaput told reporters Sept. 22.

Sacred Heart Foundation dinner held

Missionary of the Sacred Heart Father Frank T. Natale was the guest of honor at the Sacred Heart Foundation’s 42nd annual benefit dinner held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Watertown Sept. 16. While a student, Father Natale, now serving in California, received eight years of support from the Sacred Heart Foundation scholarship fund. The mission of the Watertown based Sacred Heart Foundation is to provide financial assistance for the education of those studying to be priests and brothers of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart anywhere in the world.

Catholic Relief Services

Bishop LaValley has urged Catholics in diocese to support CRS in its response to the refugee crisis in Europe, Middle East

Around the Diocese

CNS / MIKE CRUPPI

CNS/MIKE CRUPPI
‘Don’t forget to pray for me’

There’s nothing like a papal visit to America to make a Catholic proud to be Catholic. I still remember that feeling when Pope John Paul II came to Yankee Stadium in 1979, long before cable news and social media offered non-stop coverage of every papal step taken and every holy syllable uttered.

This week we’ve watched Pope Francis captivate senators and news reporters right along with Catholic school kids and seminarians. The idea that this simple, prayerful man could draw 20,000 worshippers to Madison Square Garden and more than a million to Philadelphia is just astonishing.

The television people was just beginning the final leg of his American journey as this issue of the North Country Catholic went to press.

As I write this, hundreds of pilgrims from the diocese are getting ready to board their busses for an all-night ride to Philadelphia. And, Bishop LaValley is on his way home after joining other bishops for events in Washington and New York.

While we captured his televised presence at St. Patrick’s and the Garden (see page 9), we are very anxious to hear his personal impressions of this historic opportunity.

We are also anxious to hear from the diocesan delegates to the World Meeting of Families who took part in the four-day conference in Philadelphia before the Holy Father’s arrival.

One said, “I am blown away by God’s pouring his blessings upon me with week.”

But even those of us who watched it all from a distance could be blown away by the blessings.

Listening to Pope Francis speak at the White House and to Congress, at the U.N., to the children and in one church service after another was like being on a retreat.

Throughout the week, we were called to transmit the joy of the Gospel and to build up the Church. His homily at Madison Square Garden was typical: seek the face of Jesus in the poor and suffering and share the joy of the Gospel with all.

While Pope Francis’ messages were tailored for the groups to which he was speaking they all seemed to have one thing in common. As we were looking for his spiritual support, he was asking for ours.

In small groups and large, he parting words were this: ‘Don’t forget to pray for me.’ He can certainly count on me!

A PASTOR’S PERSPECTIVE

Looking back on an exceptional week

So, what did you think of the Pope’s visit? I thought it was a great week – an exceptional time. I couldn’t get enough. So, how about you? What did you think? Pope Francis did bring the message of Jesus to so many in our country.

I am certain you recognized that Pope Francis took our country by storm. His reputation preceded him. We all knew that he comes as a humble priest who is now the head of our Catholic Church. He has spoken often of his concern for the poor and the marginalized.

Many were so surprised that this Pope is so humble. He is such a great human being, such a holy priest. Everything about him is so simple, so humble and yet so impressive. He handled the huge crowds and special ceremonies so well.

From the very beginning of this visit, Pope Francis did all he could to demonstrate that he really means what he says. I remember how his papacy began – as he stood on the balcony of St. Peter’s – he calmly asked the crowd in St. Peter’s Square and throughout the world to take a moment to pray for him. Since then there have been so many surprises – surprises that we did not expect from our Holy Father.

This one man attracted such huge attention. He comes as the son of immigrants to Argentina, this Jesuit priest and bishop who now has been elected the Supreme Pontiff.

It was such a wonderful week for us, Catholics, as our Holy Father, Pope Francis, took center stage in our own country. Everywhere he went people turned out in large numbers.

Every event was jammed and they were such wonderful celebrations – such prayerful Masses. And he spoke so well – he had lots to say to us all.

The television people couldn’t get enough. Everything was covered – even his rides from event to event. Many people were wondering if there would be any surprises. Pope Francis did not need any surprises. His words, his smile, his reaching out to all people was enough to impress us all – Catholic and those who are not.

I was thinking it would have been neat, if there were some surprises. I know that the Pope knew about the security precautions. However, I know he would have loved to walk through the crowds – touching the people – hugging the children. Yet, so many simply wanted to get a glimpse of him.

My hopes and prayers are that as the Holy Father thrilled so many Americans, his presence here put new life and faith in all Catholics. May his holiness of life reach those Catholics who have given up the practice of their faith. May they see the goodness and joy of our Catholic faith.

We certainly cannot forget how wonderful this visit has been – the memories, the stories, the pictures should stay with us. Pope Francis brought us the love and Spirit of Our Savior, Jesus Christ. Let us all continue to pray and pray often for this exceptional Pope.

May he stay healthy and strong. We need his words and his actions and his surprises. He certainly makes me proud to be a Catholic.

I did not attend any of the events of Pope Francis’ visit but I did follow it all on television. Through the close ups of television, I could see in Pope Francis’ eyes – eyes that demonstrated how much he loves people. He wants our Catholic Church to be ready always to bring love and compassion and forgiveness to those who are in need. He wants the Catholic Church to stand always with the poor and the needs – to bring Jesus to the world – to bring love and peace to all families. He certainly strives to change our world with the love of Our Savior – and I noticed his deep devotion to Mary, the Mother of Jesus, the Mother of God.

To accomplish this, Pope Francis has called for a Jubilee Year of Mercy. Mercy – the Church’s mercy of love and forgiveness – open to all – saints and sinners.
EIGHTH WORLD DAY OF FAMILIES OPENED SEPT. 22 IN PHILADELPHIA

MEETING OF FAMILIES

Ten delegates from the Diocese of Ogdensburg among 17,500 participants from more than 100 countries.

On the streets of Philadelphia... Father Tom Higman, John Miner, Colleen Miner, Henry Leader and Marika Donders. See page 12 for story.

Steve Tartaglia had a chance to sit down with Dr. Janet Smith who has written extensively on Catholic teachings on sexuality and bioethics.

The local delegates saw two familiar faces on the EWTN set at the convention center - Bishop Robert Barron who will deliver the keynote address at the 2016 vocation summit in Lake Placid and Johnnette Benkovic who has traveled to Ogdensburg for Women of Grace conferences at Wadhams Hall.
Sackets Harbor — There’s a story in this village that goes back a good eighty or so years that you can hear by word of mouth, but never will you find it documented.

It’s about two women, parishioners of St. Andrew’s Church, who infiltrated a local chapter of the Ku Klux Klan to expose its members.

The KKK was, of course, known down south for its racist activities. Up here in the north, the group expressed its antagonism toward the Catholic Church and those who practiced the faith.

In this historic and scenic village, KKK members donned their white hoods, robes and face coverings to cowardly hide their identities while trying to spread fear among the faithful of St. Andrew’s Church. They particularly enjoyed their outing not far away while the parish was having its annual summer festival.

As the story goes, two women of the parish took it upon themselves to infiltrate the KKK, just to find out who were these cowards in masks. The ladies took pillow cases and cut holes for the eyes so they wouldn’t be recognized, and had themselves all decked out to blend in with the crowd. And apparently they went undetected.

But how did the intruders figure out who was who? By the shoes they were wearing, according to Connie Barone, granddaughter of one of the spies — Mary Elizabeth Noonan Brennan.

And she also happened to be a village trustee from 1941 to 1946, but that was more than a decade after Mary and her unnamed partner had taken off their masks.

Mary was born Sept. 18, 1879, in Kingston, NY, the daughter of Patrick and Mary Rock Noonan. She grew up in Kingston, where she was educated at St. Mary’s School. And it was in Kingston, at St. Mary’s Church, where on April 27, 1910, she married a three-years younger man, Patrick X. Brennan.

Their birthdays were only 10 days apart. The eighth day of September was his.

Patrick was a canal boat baby. His mother, Mary Hayden Brennan, a native of Ireland, was carrying him while accompanying her husband, Patrick, on a boat he was operating from Troy to Rouses Point through Lake Champlain. When the boat captain and spouse got off the craft with their newborn son, they registered his birth at Burlington, Vt.

Young Patrick attended Christian Brothers School in Kingston.

Patty, as he was known, and his bride of just over a year moved to Sackets Harbor in 1911, because a job awaited him. He had won a Civil Service appointment to be chief plumber at the military outpost Madison Barracks. The couple brought with them their first-born, James E., who had just come into the world on April 2.

The Bennetts made their home on Broad Street, making room there for three more children: Katherine M., born in 1914; Donald J., arriving in 1917, and, Robert E., who completed the family on May 11, 1921.

Patrick Brennan remained on the job at Madison Barracks for thirty-three years — through two world wars.

“When I came here they transported supplies and other materials by mule and boat to Stony Point,” he told the Watertown Daily Times in November 1942. “Today you just see the motorized units in operation. I planned to retire last September but since we are in the war I am going to see it through and remain here, if I can, until we have achieved final victory.”

He retired in 1944.

Mr. Brennan served for sixteen years as a trustee of St. Andrew’s Church, and Mary volunteered for cook duty at the church’s annual St. Patrick’s Day dinners. The couple served as hosts for the church’s annual St. Patrick’s Day dinners. The couple served as hosts for the church’s annual St. Patrick’s Day dinners. The couple served as hosts for the church’s annual St. Patrick’s Day dinners. The couple served as hosts for the church’s annual St. Patrick’s Day dinners. The couple served as hosts for the church’s annual St. Patrick’s Day dinners.

An invitation

The North Country Catholic continues a series of stories about outstanding parishioners in the diocese from years gone by.

The series is inspired by Bishop LaValley’s call for “Living Stones” in our parishes, people whose service outside their church reflects “what happens inside the sacred walls.” The subjects are men and women who in effect were “stones” within their parishes.

We hope to make this fully representative of our parishes, but we can’t do it without your help. Are you aware of someone who was very active at promoting the faith in your parish years ago and who equally set a good example by his or her service to the community? Perhaps it was somebody in your family, possibly a parent or grandparent.

You are invited to research and write about your nominee. If writing is not your thing, tell us about your nominee, providing whatever material you may have, and we will take care of the rest.

Good photos of the nominee are welcomed, of course.

Submissions may be emailed to mkilian@rcdony.org, or mailed to The North Country Catholic, Post Office Box 326, Ogdensburg, NY 13669.

(see page 5)
MARRIAGE JUBILEE

Bishop Terry R. LaValley presides at Sept. 20 Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral

Among the couples honored for significant anniversaries this year were Robert and Aline Decker who were married 70 years ago. Parishioners of the Roman Catholic Community of Morristown, Hammond and Rossie, they are shown above with their two sons, Father Douglas Decker of Tupper Lake and Father Robert Decker of Black River along with Bishop LaValley.

Deacon Garry and Arletha Burnell of Constable, married 60 years, read from the scriptures during the Jubilee Mass.

Stephen Tartaglia, diocesan director of family life, introduced the couples to the bishop who led them in a renewal of marriage vows.

Richard and Kathleen Shippey of Sacred Heart Parish in Massena came to the cathedral to celebrate their first year of marriage.

Bishop LaValley greets Robert and Kay Massia of Notre Dame Parish in Ogdensburg who are celebrating 53 years of marriage this year.

Lee and Bessie Flanders of Morristown are celebrating their 50th anniversary in 2015.
Bishop urges support of Catholic Relief Services as it responds to refugee crisis

Bishop Terry R. LaValley received a communication from Archbishop Paul Coakley, Archbishop of Oklahoma City and Chairman of the Catholic Relief Services Board of Directors, outlining the work being done by CRS to assist refugees in Europe and the Middle East.

“It is important for all of us to pray for and support refugees,” said Bishop LaValley. “I am delighted to hear of the generous support of Catholic Relief Services to our suffering brothers and sisters living in exile in Europe and the Middle East.”

Response in Europe

In response to Pope Francis’ call to support refugees arriving in western Europe and Syria, CRS is helping Caritas Germany (Catholic Charities of Germany) resettle the refugees by providing accommodations, job assistance, early education activities, and volunteer training.

Archbishop Coakley writes, “The effort in Germany is a holistic approach that includes responding to migrants going through the transit countries of Macedonia, Greece, Serbia, and Albania where local resources who are responding are extremely limited.

“CRS is providing temporary shelter, food, water, hygiene, medical care, and translation and legal services to the refugees,” he said.

The needs of the migrants are constantly changing and CRS is adapting to respond the changing situations on a day to day basis.

Response in the Middle East

In Iraq, CRS has been working with local church partners to help displaced Christians and other groups who have been targeted by ISIS.

CRS has worked for more than the past four years to assist more than 600,000 Syrian refugees in Lebanon, Jordan, and Egypt, including Christians and people of other faiths.

“In addition to providing basic living supplies,” writes Archbishop Coakley, “CRS has particularly focused on helping children who have been traumatized by the violence and displacements. One Muslim girl told our staff that she had never heard the word ‘Catholic’ before, but when she came to the CRS children’s tent and saw children playing, she assumed the word ‘Catholic’ meant ‘help.’

‘Catholic’ people who help

“We all should be proud to have ‘Catholic’ understood as the people who help,” said Bishop LaValley. “Let us all pray for these refugees who are facing such terrible situations. Let us also pray for the people who are assisting them.”

“You can support CRS in their work on behalf of refugees by visiting the CRS website at www.crs.org,” Bishop LaValley said. “Let us pray that we will be generous in responding to the needs of our brothers and sisters throughout the world.”

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 children are required to participate. Further information is available from Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, 315-393-2920, ext. 1440

Upcoming sessions:
Oct. 5 - 3 p.m., St. Agnes School, Lake Placid
Oct. 8 - 6:30 p.m., Church of the Visitation, Norfolk
Oct. 14 - 6 p.m., St. Augustine’s Church, North Bangor
Oct. 14 - 6:30 p.m., St. James Church, Gouverneur
Oct. 20 - 5:30 p.m., Trinity Catholic School, Massena

Bishop’s Schedule

Oct. 1 – 11 a.m., Foundation Board of Director’s Meeting at the Bishop’s Residence in Ogdensburg
Oct. 2 – 9:30 a.m., Opening School Mass at St. James Minor Church followed by Visit to Augustinian Academy in Carthage
7 p.m., Canon Law Class for Deacon Aspirants at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg
Oct. 3 – 10:30 a.m., Catholic Daughters Memorial Mass at St. Agnes Church in Lake Placid
4:30 p.m., Mass at St. Augustine’s Church in Peru
Oct. 4 - 9:30 a.m., Mass at Notre Dame Church in Ogdensburg
2:30 p.m., Knights of Columbus Prayer Rally at St. Mary’s Church in Canton

Rest in Peace

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

Environmental Stewardship

Reflections on Canticle of Creation

By a Third Order Franciscan

“Praise be you, my Lord, through all your creatures, especially Brother Sun who is the day and through whom you give us light. And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendor and bears a likeness to you most high.”

“We are now learning to value even more, the power of the sun and use it wisely to provide electric power.”

“Praise be you, my Lord, through Sister Moon and Stars. In heaven you found them clear and precious and beautiful. “Praise be you, my Lord, through Brother Wind and through the air cloudy and serene and every kind of weather through whom you sustain your creatures.”

“Now we see those beautiful wind mills turning in the wind and begin to recognize how our choices of power are affecting our climate and weather.

“Praise be you, my Lord, through Sister Water, who is very useful and humble and chaste.”

Pope Francis stressed how our wasteful use of water is harming, not just the environment, but especially the poor in many countries of our world. The need to provide pure water for all of our children is essential.

So I ask myself, what can I do as a senior person, retired and seemingly powerless? Pope Francis calls us a “throw-away society.” So I need to consider carefully before disposing of things and buying new. I can become useful in my use of items that can be recycled and/or reused. Secondly, because I am part of a parish and community, I can share with others ideas and words of Pope Francis to encourage a wise use of our precious resources.

In conclusion, “The Lord of Life, who loves us so much, is always present. He does not abandon us. He does not leave us alone, for he has united Himself definitively to our earth and his love constantly impels us to find new ways forward. Praise be to Him.”

#245

Ann Thomas, Henderson Harbor Waterfront Faith and Ecology Group
Lay ministry formation...a clarion call

By Deacon Patrick Donahue
Diocesan director, Formation for Ministry program

Our vibrant Catholic mission in the Diocese of Ogdensburg needs laborers for the Vineyard...and always has.

But today with the increasing shortage of ordained priests and consecrated life, the need for well-trained commissioned lay ministers has never been greater.

Through our parish life, the Catholic community has always joined together with priests, deacons and those in consecrated life to continuously breathe life into the vast array of ministries that enliven our Church.

As more laity serve in the life and programs of the parish, they look for continuing education and spiritual formation experiences that will help them to both identify and develop their skills and talents that will prepare them to meet the challenges of ministry.

They become “Living Stones” that serve in the continuation of Jesus Christ mission of love and hope.

Commissioned lay ministers have always sought to deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith in order to become partners in church ministry.

The U.S. Bishops, in the 2005 Co-Workers in the Vineyard of the Lord, explained the need for thorough formation for lay ministers:

The Church has always required proper preparation of those who exercise a ministry...Lay ecclesial ministers, just like the ordained, need and deserve formation of high standards, effective methods, and comprehensive goals...

The diocesan Formation for Ministry Program is funded by donations to the Bishop's Fund Appeal

And this is true in our own Diocese of Ogdensburg where the Formation for Ministry program that was initiated by Bishop Stanislaus J. Brzana in 1990 has resulted in the commissioning of over 1200 pastoral lay ministers into a variety of church ministries.

In both quiet and humble fashion, the Formation for Ministry program now celebrates a quarter century of lay ministry formation. Always more than a simple credentialing or certification program, the Formation for Ministry program continues to be responsive to the Laity's call to ministry and preparing for authentic discipleship and service to the Church.

In the words of Pope Francis, lay ministry formation, seeks to foster “a growing awareness of the identity and mission of the laity in the Church,” which is widely regarded to be one of the great fruits of the Second Vatican Council.

And while many of today's Catholics believe that the growth in lay ministry is directly connected to the continuing decline in the number of priests and consecrated religious being available for ministry, the fact is that the laity have always been a vibrant source of ministry in the Catholic Church.

Even before any formal distinction as “minister” the laity have historically provided a rich legacy of church ministry.

Bishop LaValley during the most recent commissioning of lay ministers on June 28, 2015 said:

"Your learning and formation must never end. So this is far from a graduation. It is a formal public commitment to your continued discipleship.

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

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

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

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The 2015 Bishop's Fund Appeal
At the 42nd annual Sacred Heart Foundation dinner

Recipient returns to address the Foundation

By Deacon Kevin Mastellon
Staff writer

WATERTOWN - The mission of the Watertown based Sacred Heart Foundation is to provide financial assistance for the education of those studying to be priests and brothers of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart anywhere in the world.

Each year the Foundation board awards scholarships to MSC students in provinces across the globe, places like Papua New Guinea, Colombia, Korea, Peru.

MSC students in the United States benefit from scholarships as well. This year the membership of the Foundation had a chance to hear from one of its home grown beneficiaries.

Missionary of the Sacred Heart Father Frank T. Natale was the guest of honor at the Foundation’s 42nd Annual Benefit dinner held at the Hilton Garden Inn Sept. 16.

Father Natale, a native Ohioan, entered formation with the MSC’s in 2002, where he continued his studies at Our Lady of the Lakes University in San Antonio, Texas. He was ordained June 29, 2013 on the feast of St. Peter and Paul.

At present Father Natale is serving as an associate pastor in two parishes in Palm Springs, California, Our Lady of Solitude and Our Lady of Guadalupe.

While a student, Father Natale received eight years of support from the Sacred Heart Foundation scholarship fund.

The Scholarship Committee, chaired by Bishop Terry R. LaValley, reviewed applications from twelve different MSC Provinces located in ten countries. Eighty-four MSC deacons and seminary students will receive financial assistance.

“Through the generosity of our supporters since 1968 this is the highest annual award the Sacred Heart Foundation has given in scholarships,” Mrs. McCabe said.

Father Natale thanked the Foundation for its support of his studies. He described his years of discernment and preparation and acknowledged there were times of doubt about his being called to God’s service as a priest.

“But something told me to keep at it,” he said, “and now I am grateful God directed me to this service and ministry.”

Father Natale was born and brought up in Canton, Ohio. He began thinking of service to the Church while in high school but initially attended a local technical school.

He began his training to become a priest at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio and graduated in 2006 with a degree in philosophy. He spent a year in spiritual formation with the MSC community in Australia and made his first profession of vows in December 2007.

Father Natale professed his life-long vows as a member of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart in 2011 at his hometown parish in Canton. In preparation for his ordination to the priesthood, Father Natale earned a Masters of Divinity degree from Catholic Theological Union in 2012.

He was ordained a deacon in August 2012, and was ordained to the priesthood on June 29, 2013, in St. Joseph Church by Bishop George V. Murray, SJ, Bishop of the Youngstown Diocese.

The Sacred Heart Foundation honors a corporate donor each year for their support. This year it was A Touch of Grace, a retail store in Watertown that has provided religious goods for the Foundation as favors at the annual dinner. In the picture are John Gaffney, former board member and chair of the dinner; Nancy McCabe, president of the SHF; and, representing A Touch of Grace, Kathy Lettiere, Bradley Lettiere, Mary Bova and Tony Bova.
BISHOP LAVALLEY JOINS POPE FRANCIS IN WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

NEW YORK (CNS) – Seeing New York for the first time in his 78 years of life, Pope Francis said he knew Madison Square Garden was an important gathering place for sporting events and concerts. For him, it was transformed into a chapel in the heart of the Big Apple.

True peace in a big city comes from seeing the vast variety of people not as a bother, but as a brother or sister, Pope Francis said in his homily during the Mass Sept. 25 at “The Garden” where 20,000 people gathered to pray with him.

With tough security and long lines, people arrived hours early. They prayed and listened to inspirational music sung live by Gloria Estefan, Jennifer Hudson and Harry Connick Jr.

Before vesting for Mass, Pope Francis entered the arena in an electric cart, riding up and down the aisles, kissing babies and blessing several sick children.

In his homily, the pope urged the congregation to go out into the city, to seek the face of Jesus in the poor and suffering and to share the joy of the Gospel with all.

Jesus urges his disciples “to go out and meet others where they really are, not where we think they should be,” Pope Francis said.

“Go out to others and share the good news that God, our father, walks at our side,” the pope told them. “He frees us from anonymity, from a life of emptiness and selfishness” and moves people to encounter and to peace instead of competition.

The pope had visited ground zero earlier in the day, participating in an inter-religious service for peace. The evening Mass used the readings and prayers for a Mass for peace and justice.

The first reading, from the Book of Isaiah, began with the passage, “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.” People who are faithful to God, the pope said, “can see, discern and contemplate his living presence” in the midst of the city. “The people who walk, breathe and live in the midst of smog, have seen a great light, have experienced a breath of fresh air.”

The pope, who was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, a city of 3 million people, said he knows it is not always easy living in a big city, especially one made up of people of dozens of different languages and cultures.

However, he said, those differences are riches that express “all the different ways we human beings have discovered to express the meaning of life.”

Pope Francis recited most of the Mass prayers in English, although he read the eucharistic prayer in Latin. He preached in Spanish and the prayers of the faithful were offered in Italian, German, Polish and Tigrinya, one of the languages spoken in Ethiopia.

For Christians, the real challenge of big cities is the way that they can “conceal the faces” of people who don’t fit in or even are treated as if they had no right to be there, Pope Francis said. “They are the foreigners, the children who go without schooling, those deprived of medical insurance, the homeless, the forgotten elderly.”

Too many people just walk by them, he said. They have become part of the “urban landscape.”

But being a Christian means seeing Jesus in others, all of them, and actually looking for his face in the faces of those who usually are ignored, the pope said.

The Christian virtue of hope frees people from isolation and self-absorption, it is “unafraid of involvement,” he said, and it “makes us see, even in the midst of the smog, the presence of God as he continues to walk the streets of our city.”

Pope brings Gospel of 'encounter' to MSG
Pope canonizes Junipero Serra, says faith is alive only when it is shared

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) - Canonizing the 18th-century Spanish missionary, Blessed Junipero Serra, Pope Francis insisted a person’s faith is alive only when it is shared.

Celebrating a late afternoon Mass outside the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception Sept. 23, the pope declared the holiness of St. Junipero, founder of a string of missions in California.

Some people had objected to the canonization - like the beatification of the Spaniard in 1988 - because of questions about how Father Serra treated the native peoples of California and about the impact of Spanish colonization on native peoples throughout the Americas.

Pope Francis mentioned the controversy only briefly, saying: "Junipero sought to defend the dignity of the native community, to protect it from those who had mistreated and abused it. Mis-treatment and wrongs, which today trouble especially because of the hurt which they cause in the lives of many people."

Vincent Medina, who has questioned the wisdom of the canonization, read the first Scripture reading in the Chenoeyo language of the Ohlone people of Northern California.

After the formal proclamation, Andrew Galvan, curator of Dolores Mission in San Francisco, brought a relic of St. Junipero up to a stand near the altar as a song was sung in Spanish accompanied by a drumbeat.

Catholics in the United States and throughout the world are indebted to St. Junipero and thousands of other witnesses who lived their faith and passed it on, the pope said in his homily.

St. Junipero "was excited about blazing trails, going forth to meet many people, learning and valuing their particular customs and ways of life," Pope Francis said.

A missionary’s life is exciting and brings joy, he said, because it is not sedentary or turned in on itself. Sharing the Gospel is the way to keep experiencing the joy it brings and keeps the heart "from growing numb from being anesthetized."

More than speaking about St. Junipero, Pope Francis spoke about keeping faith alive and joyful, calling on all Catholics to be missionaries.

"Mission is never the fruit of a perfectly planned program or a well-organized manual," he told the crowd of about 25,000 people. "Mission is always the fruit of a life which knows what it is to be found and healed, encountered and forgiven."

Pope Francis insisted that Jesus does not give Christians "a short list of who is, or is not, worthy of receiving his message, his presence."

Instead, Jesus embraced people as they were, even those who were "dirty, unkept, broken," he said. Jesus says to believers today, like yesterday, "Go out and embrace life as it is, and not as you think it should be."

"The joy of the Gospel," the pope said, "is something to be experienced, something to be known and live only through giving it away, through giving ourselves away."

A surprise visitor

WASHINGTON (CNS) - Pope Francis made a previously unannounced 15-minute stop Sept. 23 at a Washington residence operated by the Little Sisters of the Poor, where he met with about 45 sisters.

Sister Constance Veit, communications director for the Little Sisters, said the pope talked individually with each sister, ranging in age from novices to 102-year-old Sister Marie Mathilde, who is Colombian and spoke to the pope in Spanish.

Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, the Vatican spokesman, told reporters in Washington that evening that the papal visit was intended as a sign of support for the Little Sisters’ lawsuit against the Obama administration’s mandate that all employers offer contraceptive coverage in their health plans or participate in a religious “accommodation” that the sisters have refused.

But Sister Constance said Pope Francis made no mention of the lawsuit during his visit. Rather, his message to the group was about the Little Sisters’ “mission to the elderly” and “how important it is in a society that tends to marginalize the elderly and the poor,” she told Catholic News Service Sept. 24. "We were deeply moved by his encouraging words." The Little Sisters did not know about the visit until after the pope’s morning meeting at the White House with President Barack Obama, Sister Constance said. Three Little Sisters of the Poor, including Sister Constance, had been invited to attend the ceremony on the South Lawn.

Sister Maria del Monte Auxiliadora, the mother general, was told after the ceremony that Pope Francis wanted to make a five-minute visit to the Jeanne Jugan Residence, located across the street from the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and not too far from the St. John Paul II Seminary.

American Indian to be canonized. The canonization of St. Junipero, however, was the first such ceremony to be celebrated in the United States rather than at the Vatican.

After the formal proclamation, Andrew Galvan, curator of Dolores Mission in San Francisco, brought a relic of St. Junipero up to a stand near the altar as a song was sung in Spanish accompanied by a drumbeat.

Catholics in the United States and throughout the world are indebted to St. Junipero and thousands of other witnesses who lived their faith and passed it on, the pope said in his homily.

St. Junipero "was excited about blazing trails, going forth to meet many people, learning and valuing their particular customs and ways of life," Pope Francis said.

A missionary’s life is exciting and brings joy, he said, because it is not sedentary or turned in on itself. Sharing the Gospel is the way to keep experiencing the joy it brings and keeps the heart “from growing numb from being anesthetized."

More than speaking about St. Junipero, Pope Francis spoke about keeping faith alive and joyful, calling on all Catholics to be missionaries.

"Mission is never the fruit of a perfectly planned program or a well-organized manual," he told the crowd of about 25,000 people. "Mission is always the fruit of a life which knows what it is to be found and healed, encountered and forgiven."

Pope Francis insisted that Jesus does not give Christians "a short list of who is, or is not, worthy of receiving his message, his presence."

Instead, Jesus embraced people as they were, even those who were "dirty, unkept, broken," he said. Jesus says to believers today, like yesterday, "Go out and embrace life as it is, and not as you think it should be."

"The joy of the Gospel," the pope said, "is something to be experienced, something to be known and live only through giving it away, through giving ourselves away."
Pope to Congress: Stop bickering, the world needs your help

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) - The past, the promise and the potential of the United States must not be smothered by bickering and even hatred at a time when the U.S. people and indeed the world need a helping hand, Pope Francis told the U.S. Congress.

Making history by being the first pope ever to address a joint meeting of Congress, Pope Francis was introduced to the legislators by the House sergeant at arms Sept. 24 as: "Mr. Speaker, the pope of the Holy See."

The pope introduced himself, though, as a son of the American continent, who had been blessed by the "new world" and felt a responsibility toward it.

In a long speech, he gave the sense that he sees the United States as a country divided, one so focused on bickering -- a word children could understand, comparing it to seeking acceptance and making friends in school, not always an easy place for them to fit in or find their way. "They tell me that one of the nice things about this school is that some of its students come from other places, even from other countries," Pope Francis told students and a group of immigrants at the Our Lady Queen of Angels school, where he visited Sept. 25. "I know that it is not easy to have to move and find a new home, new neighbors and new friends," the pope said. "At the beginning it can be hard ... Often you have to learn a new language, adjust to a new culture. There is so much to learn! And not just at school." The message, spoken simply, continued the pope's call for inclusive attitudes and actions in favor of immigrants, who often occupy the peripheral places to which he has called on Catholics to carry the Gospel. Immigrants at the school greeted him personally, engaged in small talk and read from the Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 25. "I was a stranger and you welcomed me." The Our Lady Queen of Angels School serves Spanish Harlem, a section of New York originally home to African-Americans, then newcomers from Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic. Mexicans have arrived in large numbers of late.

to correct that was the speech to Congress and through Congress to the American people.

"I would like to take this opportunity to dialogue with the many thousands of men and women who strive each day to do an honest day's work, to bring home their daily bread, to save money and -- one step at a time -- to build a better life for their families," the pope said.

"These are men and women who are not concerned simply with paying their taxes, but in their own quiet way sustain the life of society," he said. "They generate solidarity by their actions, and they create organizations which offer a helping hand to those most in need."

Showing he had studied the United States before the visit -- something he said he would do during the Rome August break -- he used four iconic U.S. citizens as relevant models of virtue for Americans today: Abraham Lincoln, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., Dorothy Day and Thomas Merton.

"A nation can be considered great when it defends liberty as Lincoln did; when it fosters a culture which enables people to 'dream' of full rights for all their brothers and sisters as Martin Luther King sought to do; when it strives for justice and the cause of the oppressed as Dorothy Day did by her tireless work; the fruit of a faith which becomes dialogue and sows peace in the contemplative style of Thomas Merton," the pope said.

Describing political service with the same tone used to describe a vocation to religious life -- "you have been invited, called and convened by those who elected you" -- the pope recognized the

weighty responsibility of being a member of the U.S. Congress.

Dialogue, he said, is the only way to handle the pressure and fulfill the call to serve the common good, promoting a culture of "hope and healing, of peace and justice."

For the speech, Pope Francis stood in the House chamber in front of Rep. John Boehner, speaker of the House and a Republican from Ohio, and Vice President Joe Biden, president of the Senate. Both men are Catholics. Besides the senators, representatives and their invited guests, the attendees included members of the U.S. Supreme Court and members of President Barack Obama's Cabinet.

Tens of thousands of people watched the speech on giant screen from the Capitol's West Lawn. Gathered hours before the pope's morning visit, they were entertained by military bands.

In his speech, Pope Francis gave strong support to several concerns of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and Catholic faithful, including defending the right of people to publicly live their faith and join political policy debates from a faith-based perspective.

"It is important that today, as in the past, the voice of faith continue to be heard, for it is a voice of fraternity and love, which tries to bring out the best in each person and in each society," he said.

The dialogue the country needs must be respectful of "our differences and our convictions of conscience."

"Every life is sacred," he insisted, calling for the "global abolition of the death penalty" and the "responsibility to protect and defend human life at every stage of its development."
Scripture Reflections

Timely readings as Respect Life Month begins

On this Respect Life Sunday, the readings are so appropriate since they show us the reason why God made marriage, the source of new life.

In the Book of Genesis, we find that, after creating this beautiful world and allowing Adam to name all the creatures, God decided that it was not good for a man to be alone. He needed a helpmate that would be his equal, so God created woman.

Far from being an afterthought, woman became the crown jewel of all creation.

God established marriage as a union of a man and woman in one flesh, to love and support each other as equals in fidelity and faith.

New life that comes from such a union can flourish in every way. It can be protected and cherished, educated through the example of loving parents, and formed in the knowledge and love their Creator.

In the second reading from the Book of Hebrews, the Christian nature of marriage is spelled out. We find that, after God made a suitable partner for the man, the two of them are meant to mirror in their lives the teaching of Jesus through mutual and sacrificing love.

In the Gospel, Jesus is under attack from the Pharisees who try to trap Him by asking if it were licit for a man to divorce his wife. When the religious leaders quote Moses as allowing divorce, Jesus tells them God allowed it then "because of the hardness of your hearts."

He insists that it was not so from the beginning, and quotes what we have just read in the first reading, "what God has joined together, no human being must separate".

Why then, we must ask, has the Catholic Church always allowed annulments from certain unions?

Always true to the teaching of Scripture and of their founder, Jesus Christ, the Church examines whether God intended this union or not. Were each a suitable partner to the other, capable and willing to live their marriage in sacrificing love, building a true community of life?

Pope Francis has recently simplified the annulment process without in any way weakening the teaching of the Church on the nature of marriage.

Our Gospel concludes today with another teaching from Jesus about the essential sacredness of children.

Today is a good day for us to make reparation through our Mass and prayer for the lack of respect in our society for all life, and the daily crimes against the unborn.

Do we treat with respect all life from the moment of conception until natural death?

Church leaders affirm commitment to family

By Laura Lisaci
Catholic News Service

PHILADELPHIA (CNS) — Known as the City of Brotherly Love, Philadelphia will be "the city of family love" and the "world capital of families" during the four-day World Meeting of Families, said Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia, president of the Pontifical Council for the Family.

The largest-ever World Meeting of Families opened in Philadelphia Sept. 26. More than 17,500 participants from more than 100 countries registered for the four-day congress, said Archbishop Charles J. Chaput of Philadelphia.

"All have come to affirm their commitment to the family as the foundation of a fruitful life," the archbishop told reporters at the Pennsylvania Convention Center Sept. 22.

The numbers are expected to swell to the tens of thousands for the major events with Pope Francis, Sept. 26-27, including the Festival of Families and an outdoor papal Mass.

The theme of the eighth international World Meeting of Families is "Love is Our Mission, The Family Fully Alive."

Dozens of addressed issues that families face, such as raising children, dealing with grief, intimacy between spouses, caring for members with disabilities, and the role of grandparents, said Archbishop Chaput.

Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia said the World Meeting of Families comes just one week before the Synod of Bishops on the Family, set to begin in Rome Oct. 4, and "will doubtless have a great effect on the discussion in the synod."

In response to a question from the press on the upcoming synod, Archbishop Paglia said the family "is not understood through books but through encounter with real families. For this reason, Pope Francis wanted, in these past two years (before the synod), to have a very wide consultation."

"Because we do not need new definitions (of family)," he continued. "We need to understand how families live today, what their problems are, their hopes, and how we can help those that are healthy, and not so healthy, to be more of a family."

Archbishop Paglia said the World Meeting of Families communicates that the family is not just important for the church or for Christians, but for all people and cultures, which is why holding the meeting in a country that is not majority Catholic is important.

Christians do not marry or raise a family for personal satisfaction, he said. "Christians build a family in order to transform ... the world," he said.

When asked by a journalist if this concern of the church for families extended to same-sex parents, the archbishop replied, "You know, family is family." He said it is important to avoid confusing language and underlined the "link" that God created between man and woman.

The theme of the World Meeting of Families:

‘Love is Our Mission, The Family Fully Alive’

"We have to underline the dignity of each person," he continued. "Each person is a saint because they are loved by God. But family is a man and a woman as God, at the beginning of creation, established, and we have to obey the holy Scriptures."

Archbishop Paglia and Archbishop Chaput later addressed hundreds of pilgrims at the official opening of the World Meeting of Families.

"The family is our passion and our mission," Archbishop Paglia told the pilgrims. "The family is our most valuable and most important resource."

"If the family is fully alive, then society is fully alive," he said.

He said Pope Francis decreed that pilgrims to the World Meeting of Families could receive a plenary indulgence under the normal conditions.

The archbishop also mentioned during the news conference that his council compiled the catecheses on the family, which Pope Francis delivered this past year during his general audiences in Rome, and translated them into English and Spanish. The translations are available at the congress.

Later that day, two halls of the Pennsylvania Convention Center were transformed into an image of the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul, located about six blocks away, for the meeting’s opening Mass.

Archbishop Chaput was the main celebrant, and more than 95 bishops and archbishops, plus five cardinals, concelebrated.

Msgr. Joseph McLoone, pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Downingtown and coordinator for volunteers at the Mass, estimated that more than 600 priests and some 10,000 people were present.
By John Mulderig
Catholic News Service

Lit by the sunny disposition of its title character, writer-director Nancy Meyers' generally affable comedy "The Intern" (Warner Bros.) could have provided families with a pleasant, though not especially memorable, visit to the multiplex.

Instead, the needless inclusion of some adults-only humor and the questionable amendments attached to her film's basically moral agenda raise concerns about this project's acceptability even for older teens.

Time was when the task of embodying elder wisdom on the screen fell to the members of the so-called Greatest Generation, the children of the Depression who went on to fight World War II.

Now it's 1943-vintage, not-quite-baby-boomer Robert De Niro's turn to channel sagacity as 70-year-old retiree Ben Whittaker.

Feeling bored and isolated by retirement, sociable Ben enrolls in the internship program for senior citizens set up by Brooklyn-based online clothing retailer About the Fit. Assigned to assist the firm's hard-driving founder and CEO, Jules Ostin (Anne Hathaway), Ben quickly discovers that his new boss regards him as little more than a nuisance.

That begins to change when Ben happens to spot Jules' driver having a tipple on the job and discreetly volunteers to take his place at the wheel.

As this improvised arrangement becomes more or less permanent, Ben works to capitalize on it by proving his professional worth to Jules.

Widowed Ben's personal life also takes a turn for the better thanks to the stirrings of romance with About the Fit's in-house masseuse, Fiona (Rene Russo). Ben's first encounter with Fiona's magical hands, however, degenerates into a potentially embarrassing occasion for him that also marks one of the movie's infrequent but bothersome detours into tastelessness.

In between such regrettable interludes, Meyers showcases the synergy between the creative innovation of the young and the experience-based prudence of their elders, though the means she employs to do so sometimes ring false.

A subplot involving the strained relationship between Jules and her husband, stay-at-home dad Matt (Anders Holm), is ultimately resolved in a way that affirms commitment and fidelity. Yet the dialogue, at least, follows a twisting path before reaching this positive outcome. Though less substantial, Ben's brief but up-beat memories of his own long-lasting match do serve to reinforce the overall promarriage message.

Like a brightly colored top that wobbles a bit as it pursues its course, mature viewers will find "The Intern" a mildly diverting - if not always reliable - source of passing entertainment.

The Catholic News Service classification is A-III - adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 - parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.
ROSAry RALLY
Bloomingdale – 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: 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
Features: Curt Stages, 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. 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.

AUTUMN DINNER
Plattsburgh – Our Lady of Victory to have Autumn Dinner.
Date: Oct. 4
Time: Noon to 5 p.m.
Place: Parish Center
Cost: Adults, $7; Seniors (60 and over), $5; Children under 12, $4; under 5, Free
Features: Spaghetti (Gluten-Free Available) with Meat/Meatless Sauce, Salad and Rolls, Brownies & Ice Cream. Big ticket raffle and country store.
Contact: 578-1068 for take-outs and deliver from Noon to 4 p.m.

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 Music; 7 p.m.
Place: St. Peter’s main church
Speaker: Msgr. Dennis Duprey

GOING OUT OF BUSINESS SALE
Ellenberg Center – The Lost Sheep Quilt shop is going out of business and will be selling their inventory at low prices.
Schedule: Oct. 2, Oct. 9, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Oct. 10 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Place: Our Lady of the Adirondacks
Features: 10%–50% off, the more you buy, the more you save. More than 150 bolts of fabric, Needle & Quilting Treasures fabric, 200 precuts including Jelly Rolls & Charm Packs; Notions, Books etc.

WALK OF FAITH & DINNER
Peru – The CC of St. Augustine’s and St. Patrick’s Parish, The Peru Community Church, Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court St. Monica 2598 and Knights of Columbus Council 7273 in Peru, NY are holding their 9th annual Walk of Faith and a Pulled Pork Dinner to benefit the North Country Mission of Hope and the Jamaica Project.
Date: Oct. 11
Schedule: Early registration begins at 11:45 a.m. Opening Ceremony begins at 12:30 p.m., followed by the Walk of Faith Dinner is from Noon to 2 p.m.
Place: Walk, Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine (2.7 miles total); Dinner is at the St. Augustine Parish center
Cost: Walk is free, but donations are accepted. Dinner is $8 (Non-Walkers), $6 (Walkers) adult guests will get a plate full of pulled pork, corn on the cob, baked beans, salad and rolls. Beverages and dessert come with the meal. Children 12 and under are $4 each (non-walkers) and $3 each (walkers).
Contact: Christa Reyell at 566-6404.

ROAST BEEF DINNER
Elizabethtown – Elizabethtown BEEF dinner will be held.
Date: Oct. 4
Time: 2 p.m. to 6; take-outs at 1:30
Place: St. Elizabeth’s Church
Cost: Adults, $9; Children, $5; under 5, free

ESSEX
WILLSBORO LIFECYCLE
Willsboro – All Pro-lifers 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.
Contact: 518-963-7814 or e-mail: rm.smith2000@gmail.com

ROAST PORK DINNER
Brushton – St. Mary’s Church has planned a harvest roast pork dinner.
Date: Oct. 4
Time: Noon to 4 p.m.; take-outs available 11:30 to 4, call 518-529-6580
Place: St. Mary’s Parish Center
Cost: Adults, $9; seniors, $8; ages 6-12, $5; children five and under, free.
Features: Raffle tickets may be purchased; drawing during the meal

ESSEX
HARVEST DINNER
Elizabethtown – St. Elizabeth’s Church will have a Harvest Dinner.
Date: Oct. 4
Time: Noon to 2 p.m.
Place: Parish Center
Cost: Adults, $9; Children 5-12, $5; under 5, Free
Features: Roast Beef with all the trimmings. Take-outs available at 1:30 p.m. Children’s activities and music provided by the Old Timer’s Band.

FRANKLIN
HARVEST DINNER
Dannemora – St. Joseph’s Church to have a harvest dinner.
Date: Oct. 11
Time: Noon to 5 p.m.
Place: Parish Center
Cost: Adults, $10; Children 5-12, $5; under 5, Free
Features: The menu will include a Buffet Style Ham Dinner with all the trimmings. Take-outs are available at $10; Country Store, Benefit Drawing.
Contact: call 518-493-4521.

JEFFERSON
ROSAry CRUSADE
Watertown – A Rosary Crusade has been planned.
Date: Oct. 7
Time: 5:15 p.m.
Place: Holy Family Church
Features: Celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. Mass followed by a recitation of all four Mysteries of the Rosary. Sponsored by the Watertown Curia, Legion of Mary.
Contact: Deanna Smith, 315-788-3076 or deannasmith@nhsnet.com

‘LAUDATO SI’
Watertown – Discussion sessions on "Laudato Si’, Pope Francis’ encyclical on the Care for our Common Home.
Date: Six week program every Tuesday Oct. 13 – Nov. 17
Time: 9:30 a.m. to 11 (with option to attend Mass) or 6:30 p.m. to 8
Place: Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse
Cost: $11 for the copy of the Encyclical and a discussion guide
Features: The program will include a brief overview of each of the six chapters on successive meeting dates followed by small group discussion. Sponsored by Social Justice Committee, Sisters of St. Joseph of Watertown, and the Watertown Faith & Ecology Group.
Contact: Please call or email to make reservations, St. Bethany, 315-782-3460 or srbethss@gmail.com

SPAGHETTI SUPPER
Watertown – The Altar Rosary Society will be having a spaghetti supper.
Date: Oct. 29
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7
Place: St. Anthony’s Msgr. Sechi Hall
Cost: Adults, $8; Children, $4.50; under 3, Free; Sauce, $5 per quart; Meatballs, $2.75 each
Features: Take-outs begin at 4 p.m., please bring your own containers.

CRAFT FAIR VENDORS
Watertown – Immaculate Heart Central Home & School Club will be holding our second annual craft fair and is in need of vendors.
Date: Nov. 14
Cost: $25 per table
Contact: IHCASC@gmail.com for an application, or contact Lori Hickman at (518)250-6088; Applications can also be picked up at either IHC Primary school on Winthrop Street or Intermediate school on South Massey Street in Watertown. Deadline is Oct. 19.

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE
About World Mission Sunday

The late Pope John Paul II once referred to the Propagation of the Faith’s General Fund of support, as a “central fund of solidarity.” Over a decade ago now, St. John Paul II said: “The offerings that will be collected on World Mission Sunday are destined for a common fund of solidarity distributed, in the Pope’s name, by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith among the missions and missionaries of the entire world.”

What is World Mission Sunday?
World Mission Sunday is a day set aside for Catholics worldwide to recommit themselves to the Church’s missionary activity through prayer and sacrifice. Annually, World Mission Sunday is celebrated on the second-to-last Sunday in October. Offerings from Catholics in the United States, on World Mission Sunday and throughout the year, are combined with offerings from Catholics around the globe and distributed to mission dioceses — about 1,100 at this time.

The celebration this year is even more special, as we prepare to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Second Vatican Council’s Decree on the Missionary Activity of the Church (Ad Gentes!) This Council Decree gave new depth to our understanding of the mission of the Church. The now famous statement, “The pilgrim Church on earth is missionary by its very nature,” reminds us that mission is not just for a few members of the Church – no, all of us are called to be on mission. And all of us, Pope Francis says, should see our faith through the lens of mission.

Who benefits from my donations?
Your ongoing support of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith is vital to the missionaries serving in 1,150 dioceses throughout Asia, Africa, parts of Latin America and Europe, and on the islands of the Pacific. Your generosity makes it possible for local priests, religious, and catechists to reach out to communities, families and children in desperate need, bringing the light of Christ to the darkest of circumstances.

The World Mission Sunday celebration highlights the outreach of local churches through priests, religious and laity among the poor and marginalized half the world away. Life-changing help is provided to mission churches in territories covering more than half the globe.

Mission Gratitude.
Your prayers and generous support offered to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith on World Mission Sunday directly benefit the mission church — and help deepen your relationship with Jesus by helping so many missionaries around the world.

Please remember “The Society for the Propagation of the Faith” when writing or changing your Will:
http://www.rcdony.org/mission-office.html

OBITUARIES

Brownville - Kyle David Young, 28; Funeral Services Sept. 23, 2015 at Immaculate Conception Church

Cadyville — Gerard A. Bassett, 70; Funeral Services Sept. 25, 2015 at St. James Church; burial in St. James Cemetery.

Chazy — Leon J. Gonyo Jr., 63; Funeral Services Sept. 25, 2015 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Hogansburg — Henry J. Arquette, 84; Funeral Services Sept. 22, 2015 at St. Regis Church; burial in St. Joseph’s Cemetery.

Keeseville — Patricia Ann (McDonough) Fisch, 69; Memorial Services Oct. 14, 2015 at Immaculate Conception Church.

Lake Placid — Thomas G. Quinn, 56; Funeral Services Sept. 23, 2015 at St. Agnes Church; burial in Norton Cemetery, Keene.

Louisville - Jacqueline Mary (Kelly) Curran, 58; Funeral Services Sept. 26, 2015 at the St. Lawrence Church.

Malone — Florence I. King, 92; Funeral Services Sept. 18, 2015 at St. Joseph’s Church; burial in St. Joseph’s Cemetery.

Malone — Gayle Paul Mainville, 80; Funeral Services Sept. 22, 2015 at Notre Dame Cemetery; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Malone — Kenneth E. Rousell, 84; Funeral Services Sept. 24, 2015 at St. Joseph’s Church; burial in St. Joseph’s Cemetery.

Massena - Shirley A. (Quimet) Douillet, 72; Funeral Services Sept. 24, 2015 at the Phillips Memorial Home; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena — Linda G. Munson, 64; Funeral Services Sept. 20, 2015 at Phillips Memorial Home.

Morrisville — Edward Joseph Burgess, 39; Funeral Services Sept. 23, 2015 at St. Alexander’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Ogdensburg — Dorothy “Dottie” (Carrier) Fuller, 88; Funeral Services Sept. 25, 2015 at St. Mary’s Cathedral; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

Plattsburgh — Marjorie M. “Marge” (Provo) Bouyea, 92; Funeral Services Sept. 24, 2015 at Our Lady of Victory Church; burial in St. Peter’s Cemetery.

Potsdam — Milton J. Langlois, Jr., 68; Funeral Sept. 26, 2015 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in St. Mary’s Cemetery.

Potsdam — Gary G. Sebastian, 72; Funeral Services Sept. 24, 2015 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Chapel Hill Cemetery, Parishville.

Sackets Harbor — Fordie L. Plantz, 70; Memorial services Sept. 26, 2015 at St. Andrew’s Church.

Upper Lake — Mary Rose (Toulouse) Fortier, 93; Funeral Services Sept. 23, 2015 at Holy Name Church; burial in Holy Name Cemetery.

Waddington — Mary W. (Sweet) Ryan, 85; Funeral Sept. 21, 2015 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in St. Mary’s Cemetery.

Watertown — Arlene M. (Sawyer) Morrisson, 87; Funeral Services Sept. 25, 2015 at the Reed & Benoit Funeral Home; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown — Donald J. Trombley, 75; Funeral Services Sept. 26, 2015 at Cummings Funeral Service, Inc.

Westville — Patricia A. (Reynolds) Fountains, 64; Funeral Services Sept. 22, 2015 at Our Lady of Fatima Church.
PEACEFUL PRAYER FOR LIFE
Watertown - Join us for a peaceful, prayerful witness of prayer and hymns for the Sanctity of human life.
Date: Every day through October including Sundays.
Time: Noon to 1 p.m.
Place: Planned Parenthood on Stone St.

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

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

SWING DANCE
Lowville - There will be a Swing Dance (Jitterbug) Fundraiser for the 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 to win 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.

ST. LAWRENCE

RUMMAGE SALE
Canton – Rummage sale to be held.
Date: Oct. 9, from 8 a.m. to 5 & Bag Sale Oct. 16, from 8 a.m. to 11.
Features: Clothing, household items, plus misc. items

K OF C BRUNCH
Norfolk – Knights of Columbus Council will be sponsoring a brunch.
Date: Oct. 11
Time: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Place: Fr. Amyot Parish Center
Cost: Adults, $8; Children under 12, $5
Under 5, Free; Family of 4, $20, additional $2; Take-outs available
Menu: Pancakes, French toast, scrambled eggs, omelets ($3), ham, sausage, home fries, toast, juice, coffee and tea.

LIFECHAIN IN POTS DAM
Potsdam – All Pre- lifers are invited to join us for the 27th Annual Life Chain.
Date: Oct. 4
Time: Gather at 1:45 p.m. in parking lot across from the Roxy Theater to pick up signs. 2 p.m. to 3
Place: Market and Main Streets

SENIOR CITIZEN DINNER
Brasher Falls – Annual Senior Citizen dinner to be held.
Date: Oct. 14
Time: Cocktails 5 p.m.; Dinner 6 p.m.
Place: Knights of Columbus Hall
Features: Open to all seniors living in the Quad-Town area. Choice of roast beef or chicken.
Contact: If you would like to join, please call 315-328-4077 or 315-389-5557 by Oct. 5.

HOLY HOUR
Canton – Holy Hour has been planned at St. Mary’s Church as part of respect life month.
Date: Oct. 4
Time: 2:30 p.m.

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
Features: The Caritas Award will be presented to John and Jane Pinkerton of Ogdensburg
Contact: Reservations are needed. Call 315-393-2255

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. 17 & 18
Place: Crowne Plaza
Features: 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.rcdony.org and click on the Celebrate Christ 2015 logo

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