Youth ministry: living the vision

Bishop Terry R. LaValley introduces the North Country Catholic's special issue on youth ministry with a message of thanks to all those who support youth ministry in the diocese of Ogdensburg including parents and parish leaders.

The bishop also cites the work of the committee, led by Father Christopher Carrara, which developed a new diocesan vision for youth ministry, one of the goals of the diocesan envisioning process.

This week's paper includes an interview with Father Carrara as well as a summary of the new vision. Some of the committee members also shared their expectations for the future of the diocese in light of their work.

This week's issue also features an interview with Deacon Brian Dwyer who is leaving his position as diocesan director of youth ministry this month, a roundup of parish youth ministry programs and lots of photos of faithful young Catholics.

Papal Mass in Madison Square Garden

A “simple weekday Mass” is in the works when Pope Francis celebrates the liturgy with 20,000 people at Madison Square Garden during his U.S. visit.

Originally the Mass at was only to be open to Catholics from New York City area but, this past week, the Diocese of Ogdensburg was notified that 200 tickets would be available for Catholics from the diocese. All the tickets were claimed less than 24 hours after the priests were notified.

The pope will concelebrate the Mass with cardinals, bishops from the New York province, including Bishop Terry R. LaValley and priests from New York City.
EDITOR’S NOTE
Traveling companions for our young

Once again, my good friend Pope Francis came through with a timely message for the editor of the North Country Catholic.

This week we’re presenting a special issue on youth ministry in the Diocese of Ogdensburg focusing, in particular, on the new vision which has been developed in response to the Diocesan Envisioning Process.

The pages are filled with information about the state of youth ministry in the diocese today and hopes for the future of this essential work of evangelization.

So, imagine my delight when I had the chance to listen to part of Pope Francis’ virtual town hall aired by ABC News in advance of the Holy Father’s Sept. 22-27 visit to the United States. As part of the program, Pope Francis engaged via satellite with students at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in Chicago.

One of the students asked the pope what he wanted young people to do and to be. His response: “What I hope for you is for you to not walk alone in life... that you feel encouraged to walk with the love and tenderness of other people, that you find someone to carry you, walk hand in hand with you.

“Life is very difficult,” he told the students. “You get confused you can find the wrong path, walking around in a maze or, the worst, you stop because you get tired of walking alone.

So, he said, “always walk hand in hand with someone who loves you, who gives you tenderness. The first thing I ask of young people is to allow themselves to be accompanied with good company...

Hearing this reminded me of my interview with Deacon Bryan Dwyer who has spent the past five years as director of youth ministry for the diocese. He talked about how he was inspired by the words of another pope, St. John Paul who said that the church needs to be “traveling companions for young people.”

Enhancing youth ministry in the diocese will require an incredible amount of time and talent and treasure for people in our parishes but somehow it doesn’t seem so daunting if we just aim to be companions on their journey.

A PASTOR’S PERSPECTIVE
Challenge for all: you gotta have heart!

I would like to share with you some of the ideas I used for my homily on a past Sunday. I picked up on Jesus’ quoting Isaiah the Old Testament prophet. Isaiah uses the image of a heart noting the importance of having a strong and alive heart. The quote is this, “This people honors me with their lips but their hearts are far from me.”

Today, this become a challenge for all of us, Catholics. We are challenged to worship our God and live our lives with a committed heart, not just giving God lip service.

The image of a dedicated heart is used often even in ordinary conversation. It is such a wonderful image. I have a friend who was a major league baseball scout. His joy was to travel the country, looking over talented college and high school baseball players, considering if they would be good prospects for the major leagues. So, I inquired what he was looking for. He told me he looked for two things – one was a strong arm – a good throwing arm. The other was “heart.” I asked about what he meant by this “heart.” As I remember, he said “heart” means the determination, the desire, the commitment to become a good, even better player, to be a real committed member of a team. Too often talented players, who have no heart are a liability to the whole team and to themselves. They don’t have that quality to become a terrific baseball player.

“Heart” – the image is truly meaningful to us. It describes well that quality we all need to live a good Christian life. The question for us will be have you the “heart” to make our world a better place, your parish a wonderful community with the help and guidance of your faith in God. What will Jesus say about you and me? We hope it’s not what he said to the Pharisees – “This people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.”

In conversation, we often use this image of “heart.” Someone who is truly committed we say “he has a strong heart” or “he is warm hearted.” About someone who is not committed we say “he has no heart” or “he has a cold heart.”

When you talk of sorrow – we say “her heart is broken” or “she has a heavy heart.”

So, the Lord’s question for each of us is “Where is your heart?”

How do we judge? I noticed in the second reading of that Sunday – a reading from the Letter of St. James. That brief letter is so wonderful. You should read it soon. The reading that day urges us to “humbly, welcome the word that has been planted in you.” Humility is the spirit that helps us to form our “heart.”

I want to interject – I just heard a golf commentator on television speak of a confident golfer as being “light-hearted.”

I have been reading a book by David Brooks. He writes about the formation of character and describes ten important people who have had a profound influence yet, lived life in a very humble way. One of those he chose to write about is Dorothy Day.

This writer helped us understand humility – let me share with you one sentence. “You become more disciplined, considerate and loving (and I would add more Christian)

through thousand small acts of self-control, sharing, service, friendship and joy.

Most of us may have only one or maybe two opportunities to do something huge, something marvelous making a difference in this world, truly accomplishing something big.

However, all of us will truly have a thousand small acts – even this very day. To do something good, to help someone, to make someone happier, to make a difference in this world.

The Lord calls upon us to have the “heart,” to be truly concerned and courageous to remember to do all that we can. All those small acts truly make a difference in our lives and in our part of this world.

As the new school year begins and our religious education programs begin I consider the message of developing a committed “heart” can be very important for our young people.

This would mean teachers that have committed hearts, dedicated to bring the love and the challenge of Our Lord to our young people.

If “hearts” mean so much to a young baseball player it certainly will make a difference for a young Christian.
FOLLOW ME

Youth ministry: reasons to say thanks

By Bishop Terry R. LaValley

As we welcome a new school and parish program year, it is fitting to take this opportunity to thank all those who support youth ministry in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

We begin with our parents who live out the faith in the daily joys and challenges of family life. Parental support of parish formation and youth ministry is an important ingredient in strengthening their children’s personal relationship with Christ and formation in the Catholic faith.

Today, unfortunately, many parishes are seeing significant decreases in the number of students attending parish faith formation classes. In some instances, parents choose either class or Mass for their children, but not both.

In a society where it has become increasingly difficult to practice our faith, our parents are charged with an awesome responsibility to actively foster the growth of their children’s faith as they nurture their own.

Thank you, parents, for your persevering faith and love of the Church.

In my parish visits, I see families at Mass praying together and often our youth serving as greeters, ushers, altar servers and readers. Some of our parishes enjoy the talents of their gifted youth as vocalists and instrumentalists in their music ministry.

When parishes host special receptions, many of the youth are there to lend a helpful hand. Some of our youth assist with the children’s Liturgy of the Word during Mass.

In some parishes, the newly Confirmed students make public commitments to continue participation in community service projects. Thank you for your continued ministry!

How can we better encourage our youth to become more engaged in the faith life of our parishes when so many of their plates are already heaping full?

Should we ask them to squeeze one more thing into their calendars?

Through our Envisioning Process, the Diocese of Ogdensburg has set a goal to: Establish Youth Ministry, in accordance with diocesan standards, in 25-30 parishes with competent, qualified leaders (youth & adult) by June 30, 2015.

Later this fall, a Youth Minister’s Training Weekend will take place at Wadhams Hall. This important weekend will include the training of competent and qualified leaders for youth ministry in our parishes. We are so grateful to all who are committed to serving in this crucial role. Thank you, youth ministers!

I, also, want to express a special word of gratitude to Deacon Brian Dwyer who has tirelessly led our diocesan efforts in youth ministry since 2010.

During that time, he has overseen such areas as Guggenheim summer camp, the annual Youth Rally, and high school leadership weekends. Deacon Brian has worked with our pastors, offering assistance to the parishes as they enhance their youth ministry.

We are all indebted to Deacon Brian for his energetic leadership and strong commitment to serve our youth. Thank you, Deacon Brian, for a job well done!

While every parish has unique needs with differing resources available to support youth ministry, we know that youth ministry cannot be just another option for any viable and vibrant parish today.

We are so blessed with the fine work of Father Chris Carrara’s committee in helping us meet this goal of establishing youth ministry in over thirty-five of our parishes thus far! Thank you, Father Chris, committee members and pastors!

As you see, we have much for which to be thankful when it comes to youth ministry in the North Country. I’m confident that our continuing efforts and the prayerful support of everyone will see us reap much fruit in the Lord’s vineyard.

Bishop LaValley has been a familiar presence at Camp Guggenheim in Saranac Lake, celebrating Mass for the campers as often as he can each summer. In this week’s Follow Me column the bishop thanks all those involved in youth ministry in the diocese.

---

**Off to College?**

**Take Us Along!**

Keep Informed: From National to International Catholic News to What’s Happening Around the Diocese of Ogdensburg

Take Advantage of our SPECIAL COLLEGE RATE

Take our E-Paper for you with only $15 Sept. Thru May

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your Name</th>
<th>Student’s Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td>Address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zip</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-Mail</td>
<td>Zip</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Send to: North Country Catholic PO Box 106 Canajoharie, NY 13317

www.northcountrycatholic.org 315-608-7556

---

**JOB OPENING**

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

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

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

Deadline for application is September 15, 2015.
Highlights of the diocesan vision for youth ministry

The Goal of Diocesan and Parish Youth Ministry is to provide age-appropriate opportunities which will lead our youth to a life-changing encounter with Christ which will nourish a faithful, fruitful and joyful friendship with Him and His Church.

Too often youth ministry is considered an optional ministry. The option is exercised if and when: there is enough time, energy, money, volunteers, experience. We need to agree that this ministry is essential. The following steps serve as a guide

**Essential elements for successful parish youth ministry**

The core team should strive for a healthy balance of active, prayerful and fun filled fellowship opportunities which give youth occasions to grow in three basic ways: discipleship, service and knowledge.

1. **Discipleship:** To become a close follower of Christ is to have a personal and communal relationship with him as friend, Lord and Savior. (Youth to be exposed to following aspects: prayer, fellowship, vocations, apologetics, mission)

2. **Service:** To know and love Christ is to follow in His footsteps. Service means extending a loving and helpful hand to the Church family as well as the larger secular community in the name and person of Christ. (Including opportunities to involve youth in church liturgical ministries, corporal and spiritual works of mercy, service trips, networking, pilgrimage, social justice issues)

3. **Knowledge:** To have a relationship with Christ requires one to know His teachings. Ignorance of Christ’s life, teachings or commands is to be ignorant of Him. (Includes prayer, personal and communal, morality, saints, scripture. Catholic identity, personal witness, social justice issues, community life and vocations.)

The vision statement also addressed funding, how to choose a youth minister, the process for certification and offers reviews of available youth ministry programs and resources.

**In conclusion:**

This Diocesan Vision for Youth Ministry is intended to guide efforts at the parish level in providing young people age-appropriate opportunities which will lead them to a life-changing encounter with Christ and nourish a faithful, fruitful and joyful friendship with Him and His Church. The working committee, comprised of clergy and youth ministry leaders from across the diocese, prayerfully researched, considered and discussed each element of the Vision and is confident it fulfills the stated intention. Through the inspired efforts of local pastors and collaborating core teams and individuals, it is believed that our ministry to the youth will flourish in the Diocese of Ogdensburg. May God bless all of our endeavors for our youth so that they may find in Christ constant renewal in faith, joy in hope and discover in Him the love which never fails.

(The entire document is available in the Pastoral Documentation section on the diocesan website, www.rcdony.org)
Youth

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

"More often than I care to admit, I didn’t know where an individual meeting was going to go," he said. "It was led by the Spirit and the input of those people which was phenomenal.

Pastors should acknowledge youth ministry as essential. If the roof were leaking, we would not think fixing it optional, rather essential. We all need to agree, the roof is leaking

"The diocesan vision was the result of their combined wisdom and the Holy Spirit," he said. "These people really were the core of the vision. They brought such great gifts to bear and they love youth. Just look at what they are doing - teaching at our Catholic high schools and leading youth ministry in parishes."

The vision

The group was charged with developing a diocesan vision for parish youth ministry. (See highlights of the vision on page 4; the complete document may be found on the pastoral documentation site of the diocese, www.rcdony.org)

"We were asked to come up with a model of what parish youth ministry would include," Father Carrara said. "Nothing would be mandated but we were asked to including training children in discipleship, knowledge and service, locally and on a larger scale."

"We came up with a few recommended programs and gave the pros and cons," he said. "The pastor can look at his team, evaluate the programs and develop his own parish program."

Developing standards for certification as youth ministers was another responsibility of the committee.

"We looked at what is currently being required for certified catechists and we knew that the Formation for Ministry folks have a youth ministry tract," Father Carrara said. "Deacon Brian (diocesan youth director) is in our committee and has offered classes for Formation for Ministry."

"We took those, modified them, built on them," Father Carrara said. "Now the catechists, Formation for Ministry candidates and parish youth ministers will all be on the same page."

A training weekend to be held Nov. 6-8 at Wadhams Hall will offer four of the eight classes necessary for certification as well as a spiritual component and Mass celebrated by Bishop LaValley. (See ad on this page)

Presentations to priests

After developing the Diocesan Vision for Parish Youth Ministry, the team presented the vision and the certification process to the priests at deanery meetings across the diocese.

"We wanted it to be practical, doable," Father Carrara said. "To date, 39 parishes have begun to review their own youth ministry in their parishes, compare it to the diocesan vision and come up with one or two practical things that they are going to do to get their own efforts in line with the diocesan vision."

"Another positive aspect of the process is that there has been a lot of conversation across the diocese with priests asking what we can do with other local parishes to hire personnel," he said.

"Every pastor thinks youth ministry is important but they have all been challenged to think of it as essential," he said. "In that same way as 'if roof leaking, you fix the roof.'"

"Youth ministry must be taking place in every parish," he said, "granted, how you do it in your parish can differ greatly from others. City parishes have more people, resources might to a more robust program. Little country parish might work just with volunteers and have a more modest program. That's absolutely fine but it's essential that we all do something."

"I'm hope-filled with the response of parish priests about how we're going to work together," Father Carrara said. "Hopeful that we will have a positive change, improvement of youth ministry in the diocese."

In the words of the diocesan vision: "Pastors should acknowledge wisdom and the Holy Spirit were the core of the vision."

"There is hope-filled with the response of parish priests about how we're going to work together," Father Carrara said. "Hopeful that we will have a positive change, improvement of youth ministry in the diocese."

In the words of the diocesan vision: "Pastors should acknowledge wisdom and the Holy Spirit were the core of the vision."

NOV. 6-8, 2015
YOUTH MINISTRY TRAINING WEEKEND
A weekend long retreat at Wadhams Hall for anyone interested in becoming involved in Youth Ministry in the Diocese of Ogdensburg

Keynote Speaker:
Bob Walters
Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry, Diocese of Syracuse

First 50 people to register from the Diocese of Ogdensburg are free!
(Pastor’s recommendation required for waived fee)
($170 cost per person after first 50)

Check off half of the necessary workshops towards a Youth Ministry Certificate of Recognition

Sunday Mass with Bishop LaValley!

REGISTRATION OPENS SEPTEMBER 8TH @ 8:00A.M.
WWW.RCDONY.ORG/AMTRAINING

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: The Office of Youth Ministry 315.393.2920 ext. 1415

*Single occupancy rooms are based upon availability and are subject to an additional...
Deacon Brian Dwyer looks back on life as diocesan director of youth ministry

‘I leave with a heart full of gratitude’

By Mary Lou Killian
Editor

OGDENSBURG — Deacon Brian T. Dwyer, diocesan youth director for the past five years, served on the committee which generated the new diocesan vision for youth ministry, but he’ll have another vantage point from which to see it bear fruit.

On Sept. 30, Deacon Dwyer will move from the youth ministry office to a parish office becoming the pastoral associate for Chateaugay, his home parish, and for the Catholic Community of Constable, Westville and Trout River.

Deacon Dwyer has served as diocesan youth director since March 31, 2010 but has been actively involved in youth ministry since 1995.

“I really enjoy working with young people,” he said. “I saw the great and urgent need for their ongoing formation and ultimately, just felt called to this ministry.

“It’s hard to leave but I’m really not leaving youth ministry,” he said. “I’ll still be available to the extent that I’m needed.”

“In my work in youth ministry I got involved with the wider parish,” he said, “making visits to the homebound, being part of the faith formation program. I got to see many facets of parish ministry and it intrigued me.

“As I told Bishop LaValley, I’m here to serve and want to go and assist him wherever it’s needed,” Deacon Dwyer said. “So I’m anxious to get closer to home and bring my gifts, skills and talents not only to youth but to the wider community.”

Working closer to home brings him closer to his wife Monique, and their four children, Stephen, 11; Angela 9; Paul, 6; and Matthew 4.

“I joked that ‘when Stephen is old enough to go to Guggenheim, it’s time for me to be done as youth director because he’s not going to want dad anywhere near the place,’ ” he said.

Blessings and challenges

Looking back at his tenure as youth director, Deacon Dwyer said that he is most proud of the resurgence of the diocesan Youth Rally which he, said, had been dormant for a while.

“We’ve done four or five of those and they’ve all been well received and successful,” he said.

“I’m also happy that the Leadership Weekends have emerged again,” he said. “When I was in parish youth ministry, the Youth Rally and Leadership Weekends were two staples that I remember taking teenagers to. When I came on here they had drifted a bit. I wanted to try to bring back programs that had worked in the past.

What has been the most inspiring aspect of Deacon Dwyer’s work?

“We have a very solid summer youth program, the Youth Rally is solid, March for Life is solid,” he said. “These are grandiose events with a lot of energy.

“But, what inspires me is when I work with a parish youth minister and they are in the parish basement with five kids and there’s not a lot of hoorah,” he said. “They are just trying to make a difference with limited resources and sometime limited support.

“Those are the people who inspire me, people on the grassroots level trying to walk with these young people in their daily life,” Deacon Dwyer said. “That’s what has fueled me more than the big events.

The challenging aspects of working for the Diocese of Ogdensburg, he said, are the distances and demographics.

“The demography of diocese are a challenge and a blessing,” he said. “How things work in Ticonderoga is a lot different from how things roll in Adams.

“I’ve put 140,000 miles on my car so the travel has been difficult at times,” he said. “And no one size fits all to ministry, not just youth ministry, but all ministry. In a lot of these parishes, there are limited resources and personnel. Often your youth minister is also wearing six other hats. So that’s difficult.’

The diocesan vision for youth ministry

While Deacon Dwyer was happy to be part of the youth ministry vision team, he appreciated that the committee was led by Father Christopher Carra and not the youth director.

“This made me look at things from a different perspective,” he said. “I knew long before bishop made his proclamation that youth ministry would be a priority in the diocesan vision. I went to four listening sessions and heard people say ‘we have to do something for our youth.

“I do think the vision will make a difference and I’m glad that it happened,” he said. “When we went around speaking at all the deanery meetings, Father Chris would say that, ‘as a pastor I know youth ministry is important and we say, we’ll do something when we get around to it, when we have enough money, have enough resources, have enough time, but we have to change our thinking from youth ministry is important to youth ministry is essential’.”

“If it’s not essential, it’s not going to get done,” Deacon Dwyer said, “because we’ll never have enough resources, we’ll never have enough money, we’ll never have enough time.”

“Authentic and genuine youth ministry happens in the parish,” he said. “To put our emphasis on that is going to huge. Having fewer priests in the diocese is obviously a disadvantage but it does open up opportunities for regional growth, encouraging parishes to share resources rather than thinking we have to do this on our own.”

“St. John Paul II said that the church needs to be traveling companion for young people and that’s what we need to do,” the deacon said. “Parish youth ministry gives that.

“Those are his words and I believe it,” he said. “It’s not good if a young person has a great time at Guggenheim and then goes back to parish where not much is going on. Diocesan events are good but they are sporadic and we don’t want our kids to ‘hold on for dear life’ until the next event.”

For the future

As Deacon Dwyer enters his last weeks as youth director, he shares some advice for his successor.

“Be yourself and don’t try to become bigger than the position,” he said. “Be a humble servant… humility is so important and Pope Francis models that beautifully.

“To implement this diocesan vision there’s going to be a lot of work, on a regional basis with pastors and parish leaders,” he said. “I’ve always seen that the purpose of this office is to serve the parishes.

“So a director needs to have humility, be prepared to offer service and be him or herself,” he said. “I would not want the successor to be a clone of Brian Dwyer. I’m excited to see where it goes.”

“This has been the best job I ever had,” Deacon Dwyer said. “For a farm boy from Chateaugay to come into this dynamic was very different for me. There have been a few bumps along the way but the people I’ve met here will be continued friends even as I leave. People in this building (Lovey Building in Ogdensburg) have been so helpful. I knew they will help me in my new position. People here have been so supportive.

“I leave,” he said, “with a heart full of gratitude.”
United as one Family

Christ-led
Christ-fed
Hope-filled

The 2015 Bishop’s Fund Appeal

www.rcdony.org/bishop-s-fund-appeal
**Youth ministry training Nov. 6-8**

OGDENSBURG – The diocesan office of youth ministry will be hosting a youth ministry training weekend at Wadhams Hall on Nov. 6-8.

The first 50 participants endorsed by their pastor will attend at no cost. Registration opens Sept. 8.

This weekend will provide time for networking, spirituality, and attendance at four workshops towards certification of recognition in youth ministry.

“The vision for youth ministry has been well received among pastors and now they are getting their core teams aligned so they can attend the training,” said Deacon Brian Dwyer, diocesan director of youth ministry. “Much excitement is building for all of us as we travel and form disciples for Christ.”

---

**Bishop’s Schedule**

- **Sept. 10** – New York State Catholic Conference Meeting in New York
- **Sept. 11** – 12 p.m., Episcopal Council Meeting at the Bishop’s Residence in Ogdensburg
- **Sept. 12** – 10 a.m., Council of Religious Meeting at the Bishop’s Residence in Ogdensburg
  - 4 p.m., Installation Mass of Rev. Thomas Komnemer as Pastor of The Catholic Community of Constable, Westville and Trout River and St. Mary’s of the Fort Church, Fort Covington and St. Joseph’s Church in Bombay at St. Joseph’s Church
  - 6 p.m., Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church in Westville
- **Sept. 13** – 8 a.m., Mass at St. Anthony’s Church in Watertown
  - 9:30 a.m., Mass at St. Patrick Church in Watertown
  - 11 a.m., Installation Mass of Msgr. Robert Aucoin as Pastor of St. Anthony’s and St. Patrick’s Church in Watertown at St. Anthony’s Church
- **Sept. 15** – 12 p.m., Mass at St. Peter’s in Plattsburgh followed by the Heritage Circle Luncheon
- **Sept. 16** – 9:30 a.m., Diocesan Department Heads Meeting at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg
- **Sept. 17** – 6 p.m., Sacred Heart Foundation Dinner at the Hilton Garden Inn in Watertown
- **Sept. 18** – 7 p.m., Bishop’s Convocation in Watertown
- **Sept. 19** – 7 p.m., Bishop’s Dinner at the Hilton Garden Inn in Watertown
- **Sept. 20** – 7 p.m., Bishop’s Dinner at the Hilton Garden Inn in Watertown

---

**Environmental Stewardship**

**Season of Celebration**

September 1 was established by Pope Francis as annual World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. This special day of prayer was inspired by the example of the Orthodox Churches who have observed this day for a number of years.

Pope Francis wishes to remind us that Christians are called to “an ecological conversion whereby the effects of their encounters with Jesus Christ become evident in their relationship with the world around them.”

Thus, “living our vocation to be protectors of God’s handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience (‘Laudato Sì’ On Care for Our Common Home’ #217).”

We are encouraged by The Global Catholic Climate Movement to join in a “Season of Celebrating Creation” beginning September 1 and concluding October 4, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Some suggestions from their web page on ways to celebrate these days are:

**PRAY** - Commit to praying on a regular basis for creation and for an ecological conversion for yourself, our leaders, and all people. See Pope Francis’s Prayer found in the encyclical.

**LEARN** - Read the “Laudato Sì” encyclical. Invite others to form a group to discuss the encyclical.

**GO GREEN!** - Receive the MTC in your e-mail every Monday where ever you are in the world. E-mail cward@dioodensburg.org to sign up today.

---

**Peaceful Dove Books & Gifts**

- 164 Boynton Ave. Sq., Ste 304, Plattsburgh, N.Y. 12901
- Bibles, Crosses, Missals, Rosaries, Medals, Cards
- Baptism, Wedding & Sacramental Gifts, Statues
- Memorial Candles, Icons, Music, DVDs, Recovery
- Willow Tree Products, Seasonal, Maple Syrup & More!
- Gifts of the Spirit! Shipping Available!

Hours: M-F 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Sat. 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
(518) 561-5083 www.peacefuldovebooksandgifts.com

Mrs. Linda Bracy and Ms. Mary Beth Bracy

---

**Empire State Housing**

We process all VA loans

New or Used Manufactured and Modular Homes
Located on Route 3 (next to the fair grounds)
518-563-8722 or 518-569-0890
www.pwmh.com

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

---

**BARSTOW**

“Family owned dealership serving the North Country for over 56 years!”

For more information, visit our Website at: www.barstownmotors.com

MARKET ST., POTSDAM, NY • (315) 265-8800

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

#Pontifex
YOUTH MINISTRY ALIVE AND WELL IN THE NORTH COUNTRY

YOUNG AND FAITHFUL

Teens led to discipleship, knowledge and service at camp, in parishes and in Catholic schools

Some of the most important youth ministry in the Diocese of Ogdensburg takes place in the Catholic schools. During the last week of July, 30 Immaculate Heart Central Junior and Senior High students from Watertown joined the First Presbyterian Church for the school’s 5th Annual Summer Mission: Building Blocks (and communities) 2015. This year, the students - including Megan Welch - replaced the exterior of a local home. See full story on page 15.

Every summer Catholic boys at Camp Dudley in Westport who wish to attend Mass are transported by Dudley vans and bus to St Philip Neri Church. This year, one of them served as a lector each Sunday. In addition to the boys who regularly attend Sunday Mass, the Dudley Gospel Choir, shown at left, sings Mass at St Philip Neri twice during the summer. “The Dudley Boys are always willing to do whatever I ask of them,” said Father Francis J. Flynn, pastor. “On the Sunday of the collection for Peru (Mission Projects of the Diocese) I asked for ten volunteers. Then I dressed them in ponchos, chullos, and explained a little about Peru and the diocesan mission there...also taught them a little Spanish. One Sunday we had two van loads and a bus of kids from Dudley at Mass...totaling more than 75 kids, age 11 to 22, which is more than half the congregation...as well as ten students from Meadowmount school of music.” Camp Dudley, now in its 131st year is the largest overnight boys camp in North America.
Camp Guggenheim...

‘My favorite place on earth’

By Madison Slater
Contributing Writer

How does one describe Camp Guggenheim to someone that’s never been? I know that when I’m telling people about it for the first time, my go to label is “my favorite place on Earth”. While this description may be true, it doesn’t even begin to scratch the surface of what Camp Guggenheim is.

For the past six summers I’ve been lucky enough to be a camper at Camp Guggenheim, and I spend all year looking forward to the six days I get to spend on Lower Saranac, at my favorite place on Earth.

My name is Madison Slater, I am 18 years old, and I’ve spent six summers as a camper at Camp Guggenheim. I found out about Camp when I was a member of St. Patrick’s parish in Colton. Since then I’ve moved to Baldwinsville and joined St. Elizabeth Anne Seton’s parish and I am now beginning school at the University of Vermont.

I was also lucky enough to be accepted into the Teen Vision program at Camp, which is a two week long junior counselor program where 16-18 year olds go to the younger weeks and learn important leadership skills. I can not even begin to describe how much I learned, how much fun I had, and how many memories I made during those two weeks that will last me a lifetime.

Camp Guggenheim is like any other summer camp in many ways. Campers meet new friends, play games, participate in arts and crafts, and spend time at the beach. But Camp Guggenheim is also completely unique. Camp is the only place that I have ever been where everyone can be completely themselves, without fear of what others may think of them. It is the safest, most fun and caring environment that I have ever experienced. And it is also extremely powerful.

Amidst the Camp Games and the friendship bracelet making, campers also get the unique opportunity to learn about and grow in their faith with kids their own age. Between the knowledge of the staff and the chaplains, no question will go unanswered, and the counselors serve as some of the strongest role models I’ve ever had.

The friendships that are formed at Camp are unlike any other, campers bond in a way unique only to Guggenheim because they get the opportunity to learn more about themselves and grow in their faith together. Personally, I’ve made some of my closest friends at Camp Guggenheim, and it’s always wonderful being able to spend a year apart from a person and pick up right where you left off each summer.

Camp is a sanctuary, a place where many are able to find peace. It may not be a five star resort, but it’s beauty cannot be matched by any other destination. On lower Saranac, campers are surrounded by the amazing Adirondacks, a true testament to just how beautiful God’s creation is. The area is quiet and peaceful, however camp typically isn’t described as quiet. Something is always happening, and a majority of the time that something will probably be pretty loud. But it is joyous noise, because it is coming from our youth on fire for their faith and in my opinion, nothing could sound better.

I’m so incredibly thankful for the summers that I’ve been able to spend at Camp Guggenheim. It has without a doubt made me into the person I am today, and I know that I will carry the lessons I’ve learned there, the friends I’ve met there, and the memories that I’ve made there with me forever.

Words of a mom

By Candace O’Neill
Parishioner, St Mary’s/St Joseph’s, Massena

I would like to take a minute to express my huge appreciation for Camp Guggenheim and all who run it. Guggenheim is a magnificent tool for youth ministry, and the affect it has had on my family cannot be underestimated.

My oldest first started attending several years ago when she came home from the mountain top, and instead I was always excited to see what she had been learning. However, several summers ago she surprised me when she came home and quickly broke up with the boyfriend she had been dating for a year. At camp, the counselors had talked about what real love means.

She soon came to realize her boyfriend didn’t have her best interest at heart and that God had better plans for her.
'LOVE IS THE REASON'

'The closest place to God'

By Hans Xu
Contributing Writer

I'm Hans Xu. I attended Camp Guggenheim 2015, Week 6. I'm 17, an international student from Beijing, China, and this is my second year at Camp Guggenheim. Invited by Kelly the camp director, I'm so happy to share my reflections on this wonderful week.

I have to say that out of all those places I've been to in my life, Camp Guggenheim is the closest place to God. The camp was blessed by God with passionate and faithful staff and campers who were loving and caring for others.

Jesus once said he is with those who gather in his name, "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." - Matt 18:20 and here at Guggenheim we have about 80 campers and staff gathering 5 days in his name! Who can say that he is not with us?

To me, Camp Guggenheim is not only a place to hang out and have fun, but also a place to learn something that schools won't teach. The most important things, the truth of life. There, I learned to humble myself and sacrifice. There, no one was attracted to the pleasures offered world anymore, everyone looked up to God, the ultimate meaning of our lives. It's a place to rest our souls and fill them with pure love. With love in our hearts instead of greed and ambitions, we sang, we praised, we confessed, we played.

Love is the reason why we can form a life-long friendship while playing volleyball. Love is the reason why we sang and praised with tears. Love is the most important gift from God. With love in our hearts, no material possessions seemed important anymore, the only things remained in our eyes were brothers, sisters, and the loving Lord of us. This is when we found the heaven within. (Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation; nor will they say, 'See here! or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you." - Luke 17:20-21)

Language cannot truly describe the joyful and memorable week we had. The memories I had at Camp will remind me of my duties until the next time I come!

Mom

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

This summer, a son of mine who has been seriously considering a vocation to the priesthood had his discernment rekindled. His desire had waned a bit after attending a year of middle school.

Being at Guggenheim and connecting with those counselors, campers and priests who "got him," helped him to get back on track, even to realize the additional value of being a married deacon, if that is God's plan.

His twin, a musician, loves the music at camp. Whether it's the reverent music of Mass, funny little ditties at the campfire, or the varied genres heard at the Variety Show, seeing the musical talent of counselors and campers alike inspires him every time.

My children are also inspired constantly by the camp's director and counselors. They see men and women who are reverent, talented, amusing and fun-loving. They see in them what is often lacking in other young adults they see… a desire to dive in and live life to the fullest, but with God as their leader, not the false gods many others choose.

They see adults who are not afraid to learn, love and laugh or cry, kneel and pray. They see strong men and women who can be tender, nurturing and real.

I see this also. As time has gone on, I have NEVER missed a Guggenheim closing Mass, which I have found to be some of the most beautiful Masses I have ever attended. Looking over the lake and hearing the passionate, heartfelt singing of those young adults - counselors and campers alike - gives me joy and hope. (You wouldn't know it, because inevitably, I am crying, as touched and moved as I always am.)

Hope is always present, because seeing those teens and those counselors as their role models TRULY makes me believe that there IS good and beauty in this world, and these kids are going to be the ones that lead the rest of us to God.

Thank you to all who support Camp Guggenheim - this beautiful North Country gem - through time, talent and treasure. Thank you to those counselors who see Guggenheim as a vocation, often losing out on jobs that would surely pay them more. Thank you to Kelly Donnelly and those directors who sleep little, but give so much. Thank you to Bishop LaValley, Youth Ministry Director Deacon Bryan Dwyer, and seminarians and deacons and those priests who are "game" enough to be chaplains.

Thank you to those benefactors, parishes, Knights of Columbus Councils, and others who have sponsored children who otherwise wouldn't be able to afford to go. Through sacrifice and true love, all of you are investing in the future of our church.

Thank you all for being the light in our world.

(PS’ I have one more child to go! He will start this coming summer and CAN NOT WAIT!)
Parishes: places of ‘authentic youth ministry’

By Deacon Kevin Mastellon
Staff writer

WATERTOWN—Parishes throughout the Jefferson and Lewis Deaneries have been working to identify ways to “strengthen faith formation in family life” (one of the priorities of the Diocesan Vision) through the development of youth ministries in their parishes.

Our youth director came up with an idea to sell stock in our young people...it is a fantastic way for our people to support our youth activities

By Deacon Kevin Mastellon
Pastor: Clayton, LaFargeville

Indeed establishing Youth ministry in 25 to 30 parishes in the Diocese was one of the goals set by the Visioning Team and Bishop Terry R. LaValley in the April 2014 Diocesan Pastoral Letter: “Find Your Home in Christ.”

Here are just a few examples of the efforts underway in the western deaneries.

Cape Vincent
Sharon Turner is the Youth Ministry Director for the Catholic Communities of Cape Vincent, Rosiere, and Chaumont. “We started our Youth group in January of 2012 and currently have 12 to 15 members ranging from grades 6 to 12,” she said. “We do a variety of activities that include service, team and faith building and fundraising.

"Service activities have included spring cleaning of all three churches in the parish inside and yard work outside, yard work for parishioners, volunteering at the Urban Mission and Dollar DInners as well as moving books at the library,” Ms. Turner said. “Team and faith building activities include overnights, attending the Youth Rally yearly, attending the National Catholic Youth Conference in Indianapolis in 2013 and we will go again this November 2015.”

The activities all have the full support of Missionary of the Sacred Father Pierre Aubin, pastor for the three church communities.

Clayton/LaFargeville
The group Mrs. Turner directs often cooperates in activities with the youth group from St. Mary’s Clayton and St. John’s in LaFargeville where Father Arthur J. LaBaff is pastor.

“Our youth director came up with an idea to sell stock in our young people,” Father LaBaff said. “Over the summer parishioners were invited to buy a share in the future of our young people by donating any amount they wanted to our program. Christine’s idea brought in $6,000 over the summer. It is a fantastic way for our people to support our youth activities.”

The Clayton/LaFargeville group varies in size depending on the season. Director Christine Woodley says anywhere from 10 to 15 young people participate in the events. In addition to attending the aforementioned National Conference, “the group has gone apple picking, Pumpkin Chunkin and taken nature hikes,” she said. “We volunteer for Hawn Memorial Library, the Salvation Army’s Soup Kitchen, and within the parish community. We have held "Fat Tuesday" gatherings to prepare for Lent. We met on Assumption Thursday and created activities to correspond with the feast; we have engaged in day trips and overnights and attend all the Youth Rally’s in the Diocese including March for Life.”

While these programs have been up and running for some time, others are discovering new opportunities in youth activities.

Crogan
At St. Stephen’s in Crogan., DRE Eileen Greenwood said, “We have activities throughout the year for our youth. We have game nights, retreats for youth at Beaver Camp, opportunities to assist the community such as raking lawns and yard work to help those who are ill or need assistance. We have a number of our youth involved in music ministry at our masses, as well as altar serving.

"This past August we had a group of youth help with our Summer Program, assisting teachers in classroom, crafts, games and the kitchen," she said. “During Christmas many of our youth help with a Children’s mass that lights a drama by the children and youth of our parish. Many of our youth are looking forward to the bus trip later this month to participate at Mass in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania celebrated by Pope Francis.

"We also participate in regional Youth days, taking hikes, picnics and campfires, bowling, winter sliding days, and a service weekend several of our youth attend in Philadelphia at the St. Francis Inn," Ms. Greenwood said.

Alexandria Bay
Father Douglas Comstock, pastor of St. Cyril’s in Alexandria Bay reports, "in addition to our catechetical efforts for junior and senior high school students every other Sunday night during the school year, we have a "lock-in" in the spring for the same group. It goes from 7 p.m. until 7 a.m. in the parish hall with games, movies, time for personal prayer and confession up in church.”

Brownville
Father Michael Gaffney says “we are in the process of starting a youth ministry here in Brownville (Immaculate Conception) in light of the diocesan initiatives for youth ministry. We have a very well attended religious education program for Junior high students on Sunday nights. We are looking at ways to expand that into a viable ministry for youth.”

Bishop LaValley has said the Diocese needs to enhance youth ministry in the Diocese as a way to strengthen the family and the church. These and many other parishes are responding to the call.
The journey towards the vision

Members of the Youth Ministry Smart Goal Committee share their hopes for the diocese

I am currently the Youth Ministry Director for St. Mary’s and St. John’s in Clayton. Over the past five years as director I have been truly blessed by my parish and community. The support I receive is overwhelming and very powerful at times.

I have had great success with participation and have been involved in many events within the parish community; We are planning on attending the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) in Indianapolis Nov.19-22. It will be the third time attending this event held every other year. The NCYC is the highlight of my ministry; there is a lot of planning and fundraising but totally worth it – the reaction of the kids when 30,000 young people get together to praise God is breathtaking! When it all comes together there is no greater bond that we could ever imagine and have with us forever.

I did not have any special training, nor did I have any guidelines to follow when I started in 2000. It was an honor to be on the Youth Ministry Smart Goal Committee to give others considering Youth Ministry some guidelines.

I am very hopeful that others will follow in my steps to be a youth minister within their parish; If you know the importance of what God can do for the young people in today’s world when He is part of their lives, then you would not hesitate to follow your call to youth ministry.

The Committee worked together and created a great model for others to follow and made it adaptable for all the parishes within the diocese.

I think this means that the Church cares enough about our youth of today and it puts out a message that “We are here for you”, and has the ability to create something new for everyone to utilize within their Ministry. The Church is putting out a message that “We are strong” and that the support is all around you, just ask, we are here.

It was an honor to serve and will continue to serve on this committee.

Christine Woodley

Moving forward with hope

It was truly a privilege to be on the Youth Ministry Smart Goal Committee. As the committee worked together to develop the diocesan vision of youth ministry and the upcoming youth ministry training event, I was repeatedly impressed with what hope there is for the youth of our diocese.

When we assessed the needs for youth ministry in our diocese, it was obvious that we are facing challenges. For instance, our diocese has needs in terms of having a population that is widely spread out with unique needs.

The youth have needs based on the fact that they are coming of age in a culture that by and large belittles and knows very little about Catholicism.

Despite these and the other needs we thought about and assessed, the overwhelming sense during our work was that we, as a committee, as individuals involved in youth ministry, and as part of the Church, have a lot to look forward to.

There are committed teens, pastors, volunteers, and youth ministers across the diocese who are ready and willing to work towards building youth ministry,

building the relationship between form with Christ.

Playing a role in voicing some of the ways we can define, refine, and improve youth ministry was both humbling and empowering. It was a pleasure to work with a group of committed people who each brought their own insights and experiences to go forward with a common vision in hopes that our diocese can grow in the ways we minister to the youth and guide them towards being passionately invested in living out the faith.

Kelly Donnelly

Leaving a lasting impression

I think that a large hope that we had as a committee was to be able to establish something solid that will help youth not only grow in their faith right now, but would leave a lasting impression for them to want to grow in their faith always.

As we all know, it’s easy for teens at a certain point in their lives to disengage from practicing their faith.

By establishing a vision that incorporates personal encounters with Christ, our hope is that their relationship with Jesus will become deep, real and personal—and not something that they will want to walk away from.

Samantha Poulin

Encountering Jesus

Being a member of this committee has certainly contributed to my hope for Youth Ministry in our diocese, and increased my expectations.

Spending time and talking with the other members of the committee gave me new perspectives on what the youth need and what they desire. I sincerely hope that this diocesan vision will give needed direction to current Youth Ministry efforts, and provide stimulus for new efforts.

From our prayer and discussions, our committee came to the conclusion that what we need as a diocese is not necessarily more programs, which are merely resources. Ministering to our youth is not the “job” of the pastor by himself, or even a select few who have been “trained” to do so. Though the particular graces and charisms of the pastor are essential, and certain areas of expertise are necessary, youth ministry is a parish-wide effort.

Our youth need to be led to encounter Jesus Christ, and then led in their relationship with him by other disciples—the other members of the Church!

It is my belief that the implementation of this diocesan vision in our parishes, undertaken in a spirit of prayer and openness to the Holy Spirit’s lead, will no doubt contribute to our youth encountering Jesus and joyfully following him in their lives.

Father Scott Belina
Pope to celebrate 'simple weekday Mass' for 20,000 at Madison Square Garden

By Beth Griffin
Catholic News Service

NEW YORK (CNS) - A "simple weekday Mass" is in the works when Pope Francis celebrates the liturgy with 20,000 people at Madison Square Garden during his U.S. visit.

"Simple" takes on a new dimension when the pope is the celebrant and the congregation clears security checkpoints hours before the opening notes of the opening Gloria and the reading from St. Paul.Father Matthew Ernest, diocesan director of the archdiocese's planning effort Sept. 2.

The liturgical option for the day is the Mass for Peace and Justice, Cardinal Dolan said, explaining that the choice reflects the "high emphasis Pope Francis puts on this, and that by the end of the Mass, it will be at the United Nations and also visit two sites in the archdiocese devoted to that.

"The readings and prayers are a given," Cardinal Dolan said. But the music, the gifts, the intercessions, the readers and other elements have been carefully selected to represent the diverse "languages, families, apostolates, parishes and ministries of this vast region," he said.

Father Matthew Ernest, director of the archdiocesan Order of Charity, told Catholic News Service, that some of the liturgical options selected "will make it more like a simple weekday Mass," including eliminating the Gloria and the Creed and using only one reading before the Gospel.

The liturgist said the pope will concelebrate the Mass with cardinals, bishops from the New York province and an as-yet-undetermined number of local priests.

Other participants include "faithful parishioners" who represent communities or parishes and seminarians studying at St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, New York.

The seminarians will be the servers and, as you can imagine, they're thrilled," Father Ernest said. "We're putting all the seminarians to work. They're not simply attending the event. Some are singing, some are serving, some will direct traffic in the halls.

Jennifer Donelson, director of sacred music at the seminary, said 10 seminarians from the school's Schola choir will sing the communion antiphon.

Father Ernest said the Vatican made few requests beyond keeping the liturgy simple. The Vatican asked that the gifts be presented to a multigenerational family, he said.

Initial planning for the papal Mass began in April, Father Ernest said. He consulted with the priest who planned Pope Benedict XVI's Mass in Washington in 2008. Volunteers were recruited and committees formed.

"This is Mass on a stage. It requires forethought with regard to the movement and placement of people," he said. One of the challenges is providing for the distribution of Holy Communion to 20,000 people, Father Ernest said.

More than 200 permanent deacons from the archdiocese and the dioceses of Brooklyn and Rockville Centre will be deployed throughout Madison Square Garden as eucharistic ministers. They will be assisted by 150 volunteers from groups including the Knights of Columbus, Knights of Malta, Knights of the Holy Sepulchre and Ancient Order of Hibernians.

Father Ernest said immigrant women from the Obreros Unidos Mission in Yonkers are embroidering the altar linens and purificators.

Many of the items used at the Mass may look familiar. The simple ciboria will be the same design as those used for Pope Benedict XVI's Mass at Yankee Stadium. Their lids have a commemorative inscription and the sides bear the papal coat of arms and the seal of the archdiocese.

As in 2008, they will be given to New York parishes after the visit.

Pope Francis will use the same chalice Pope Blessed Paul VI used when he celebrated Mass in Yankee Stadium Oct. 4, 1965. It is currently on display at St. Joseph's Seminary. Cardinal Dolan said the Holy Father will carry a pastoral staff that is a replica of one used in New York by Paul VI, John Paul II and Benedict XVI.

Speaking courtside at Madison Square Garden, the cardinal unveiled the oak presider's chair Pope Francis will use at the Mass. It was built by immigrant day laborers from the Dominican Workers, Inc. in Port Chester, New York.

"The chair is very important in Catholic imagination," Cardinal Dolan said. "It is a great symbol of unity and the teaching authority the pope has."
Thirty hearts and sixty hands

IHC students in Watertown take part in fifth annual summer mission

By Patricia Minter-Powell
IHC’s Faith Community Service Program

WATERTOWN - Thirty hearts plus sixty hands. Now do the math.
If your answer was a new home exterior for a North Country family in need you’re correct.
During the last week of July - with temperatures hovering in the high 90’s - 30 Immaculate Heart Central Junior and Senior High students joined the First Presbyterian Church to again lend hearts and hands to our school’s 5th Annual Summer Mission: Building Blocks (and communities) 2015.
The result: a brand new exterior for a family who had waited five years for a chance at improving their home.
It certainly was not your typical summer vacation week.
Many of our volunteers were on the job at 8:30 each morning and despite the near record temperatures worked through the heat of each day until late afternoon. In the end it was all worth it. Delighted and appreciative homeowners. Tired but happy students.
And then, of course, was the competence (and confidence) building. And all that practical knowledge. How to set up scaffolding. And tear it down. And move it. Job site safety. Why sand with the grain? What’s the grain, anyway? How to trim a window. How NOT to trim one.
The simple joy of painter’s tape, everyone’s new best friend. And of a freshly loaded sanding block. The fun and responsibility of working on that second level scaffolding. And especially the old-fashioned fun of connecting with friends and making new ones during an entirely electronic free week.
If you’d like to learn more about IHC’s Faith Community Service Program and its on-going service opportunities please check us out on our Facebook group page.
As always we welcome your support!
As autumn leaves are beginning to turn colors, we find in this season a touch of sadness, a hint of death.

In this week’s Gospel, Mark shows a definite change in relationship between Jesus and His apostles. After months of amazing miracles and healings, Jesus now challenges His followers, “Who do people say that I am?”.

Jesus’ reaction is equally violent. “Get thee behind me, Satan. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do.”

Neither the apostles nor ourselves today particularly enjoy the next words of Jesus “Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me”.

There is no other way to being accepted by Jesus. It is the way to salvation.

Are we surprised? No. We are accustomed in our time to unspeakable acts against the one hand, yet difficult to explain on the other, since there hadn’t been a parallel outcry when it came to the more offensive act of terminating the life of the unborn child itself.

As one commentator observed, “Maybe it is not enough to be outraged at abortion on its face because, I don’t know, killing is somehow worse if body parts are sold.”

Despite this inconsistency, it is nonetheless clear that the use of tissues and organs from direct abortions raises significant moral concerns, even if the mother’s signature may have been sought and obtained.

The assumption is that as we cared for them in life, and had their best interests in mind while they were living, we can continue to exercise that “best interest” decision-making capacity later when they are deceased.

But if the mother of an aborted child were to sign the dotted line granting permission to utilize fetal cells or tissues from the corpse would represent a violation of the integrity of the child’s body and constitute a failure to respect the remains of the dead.

Thus, the tissues and organs of the directly aborted child should not be utilized for research, transplantation or the development of therapies, but instead should be given a proper and respectful burial. In the final analysis, maternal consent cannot provide moral clearance for researchers to utilize fetal remains from direct abortions in their research.

Such permission from the mother is not, objectively speaking, an authentic form of consent but is rather a type of “sham consent” that secures the veneer of legitimacy for what is ultimately an unconscionable research practice.
Prayer becomes the ultimate weapon to save a young family in crisis in "War Room" (TriStar). This Christian-themed drama is the latest offering from Alex and Stephen Kendrick, the fraternal team behind 2008’s "Fireproof" and 2011’s "Courageous."

A McMansion in suburban North Carolina serves as the film's battleground. There, overtaxed wife and mother Elizabeth Jordan (Priscilla Shirer) finds that the demands of her job as a real estate agent leave her little time to focus on raising her daughter, Danielle (Alena Pitts).

Elizabeth's ambitious but inattentive husband, Tony (T.E. Stallings), isn't much help. His work as a salesman keeps him on the road where sinful temptations lurk.

When Tony does come home, he and Elizabeth do nothing but argue. Frustration and depression take their toll on the family until the Jordan residence resembles an emotional war zone.

Riding to the rescue is elderly but feisty local character Miss Clara (Karen Abercrombie), who just happens to be selling her house. Elizabeth pays a visit and, as the coffee is served, pours out her heart, revealing her bitterness. Clara, in response, immediately insists on a battle plan.

Clara shows Elizabeth her favorite hideaway: a walk-in closet, empty except for the letters, notes and photographs taped to the walls. "I call it my war room," Clara explains. Here Clara develops a "prayer strategy" for calling on God and seeking his grace.

"Give me one hour a week and I will teach you how to fight the right way with the right resources," Clara promises. "It's time for you to take off the gloves and fight for your marriage."

We follow Elizabeth's metamorphosis as she reads Scripture and posts prayer requests in her own empty closet. In a transformative moment, she storms through her home, denouncing Satan. "This house is under new management!" she proclaims. "You go back to hell where you belong and leave my family alone!"

Slowly but surely, the heaven-sent healing begins. A symbolic turning point comes at the dinner table, when Tony sets aside a bottle of his favorite brand of hot sauce, "Wrath of God."

Needless to say, subtlety is not the armament of choice and the proselytizing can be heavy-handed at times.

But the brothers’ intentions - Alex directed, while Stephen collaborated with him on the script - are obviously sincere and worthy. And, though they approach their subject matter from an evangelical viewpoint, their emphasis on piety, forgiveness and redemption is, of course, fully compatible with Catholic teaching.

The film contains mild domestic discord and some mature themes. The Catholic News Service classification is A-II -- adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG -- parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.
AROUND THE DIOCESE

ADIRONDACK

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.

WONDERS OF CREATION RETREAT
Saranac Lake — Come to the Adirondack Mountains to enjoy the beauties of fall and ponder the mysteries revealed to us by God in this season of autumn.
Dates: Sept. 18-20
Speakers: Paul Hetzler, Arborist; Writer; and Educator at Cornell Co-operative Extension (Sept. Weekend) St. Bethany Fitzgerald, SSJ, Adult Faith Educator; Fr. Paul Kelly, Celebrant for Liturgy
Place: Guggenheim Lodge
Cost: $145 (limited space)
Features: Weekend will include presentations, time for quiet prayer and reflection, communal prayer, nature hike and opportunities for sharing.
Contact: email srethssj@gmail.com; call 315-212-6592; see www.foureseasonsoftheheart.weakly.com

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

CLINTON

‘CATHOLICISM’
Ellenburg Center — Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer will host the program “Catholicism.”
Date: Sept. 16 – Nov. 4 (Wed.)
Time: 3 p.m. and 6 p.m.
Features: Program will be by Bishop Elect Robert Barron. Pre-registration is required to order workbooks. Facilitator will be Fr. Jack Dowms.
Contact: 518-594-3253 to register

ANNUAL APPLEFEST
Peru — The 38th Annual St. Augustine Applefest is to be held.
Date: Sept. 19 – 11 a.m. parade followed by live music (Plattsburgh Pipe and Drum Corps, the SUNY Plattsburgh Gospel Choir and the Bootleg Band,) a giant craft fair, food, games and rides.
Sept. 20 – 11:30 a.m. the Compass Rose Band will perform followed by the Durham County Poets Band. Chicken BBQ in the afternoon.

SPAGHETTI DINNER
Morrisonville — St. Alexander Church and the Knights of Columbus 7248 will host a all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner to support vocations to the priesthood.
Date: Sept. 19
Time: 4 p.m. to 7
Place: St. Alexander’s Jubilee Hall
Features: Call ahead for take-outs, 518-561-5039

HARVEST DINNER
Chazy — Sacred Heart Church to have their annual harvest dinner.
Date: Sept. 27
Time: Buffet style 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Place: Sacred Heart Church
Cost: Adults, $9; Children 6-12, $3; under 5, Free; Take-outs, $9
Features: Raffle with dozens of prizes. Sinners’ Den Pantry.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE
Plattsburgh — Join the worldwide movement to protect mothers and babies.
Date: Sept. 23 – Nov. 1
Time: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Place: Outside of the Planned Parenthood
Features: 40 Days for Life is a peaceful pro-life effort that will join hundreds of other cities in this life-saving campaign.
Contact: Nancy Belzle 518-593-6024 nancy56@hotmail.com or 40daysforlife.com/plattsburgh

HARVEST DINNER
Dannemora — St. Joseph’s Church to have a harvest dinner.
Date: Oct. 11
Time: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Cost: Adults, $9; Children 5-11, $5; under 5, Free
Features: Roast turkey with all the trimmings will be served. Take-outs available. There will also be a Chinese raffle, craft tables, country store, flea market and live music by Ann-Marie Petrushane and Robert Rubado. Proceeds benefit St. Joseph’s Renovation Fund and St. Pauls.

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

CDA PAST REGENTS MEETING
Plattsburgh — Past Regents falling meeting to be held for CDA Court Mary Immaculate #479.
Date: Sept. 19
Time: 11 a.m.
Place: St. John’s Parish center
Cost: $10
Features: Reservations may be made with Marie Verno at 643-0284 or Anna Lucia at 492-7246. Checks may be mailed to Marie at 211 Rock Rd, Plattsburgh, 12901. Reservations would be appreciated no later than Sept 7.

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

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

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

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

SERVICE FOR ABORTED CHILDREN
Willisboro — Pro-life Americans throughout the country will gather at the grave sites of aborted babies and other memorial sites dedicated in their honor for the second annual National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children.
Date: Sept. 27
Time: 9 a.m.
Place: Calgary Catholic Cemetery
Contact: Nancy Bezile at 518-593-6024

LIFECYCLE
Willisboro — 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, bring a friend.
Contact: 518-963-7814 or e-mail rm-smith2000@gmail.com

FRANKLIN

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

HARVEST FESTIVAL
Malone — St. Andre Bessette Parish to have 7th Annual Holy Harvest Festival.
Date: Sept. 20
Time: Mass under tent at 11 a.m., Noon to 3 p.m. Harvest dinner.
Place: Holy Family School
Cost: Adults, $10; Seniors, $8; Children 6-12, $6, under Free
Features: Take-outs available. Dinner will feature smoked pulled pork. Raffle with a $1,000 first prize, harvest table of homemade harvest goodies, free children’s activities and music provided by the Old Timer’s Band.

FALL FESTIVAL
Bembridge — St. Joseph’s to have their 24th Annual Fall Festival Dinner.
Date: Sept. 27
Time: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Place: St. Joseph’s parish hall
Cost: Adults, $9; under 12, $4.5 and under Free
Features: Take-outs available. There will be a country store this year. Enjoy shopping for baked goods, canned goods, fresh produce & flea market items. 50/50 Raffle, Multi-Prize Raffle & More! Sponsored by St. Joseph Society.

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE
The Pontifical Mission Societies of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, Inc.
The Society for the Propagation of the Faith
Sr. Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ, Director
622 Washington St., Ogdensburg, NY 13669
(315) 393-2920; fax 1-866-314-7296
mbrrett@rcdony.org

Safeguarding human dignity

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

This year on Sunday, September 20, 2015 our church will celebrate Catechetical Sunday. This year the theme of the event will focus on “Safeguarding the Dignity of Every Human Person.”

Catechetical Sunday is a time to pray, ponder and to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism and being a living example of the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is the time for all to recommit themselves to this Mission as a community of faith. By virtue of our baptism and by Pope Francis Himself, we are called to be Missionaries and protect the Human Dignity.

Protecting Human Dignity in the Missionary lands is a struggle. People are being exploited every sense of the word. Human Trafficking, crimes against humanity, the breakdown of the traditional family and its values, and even worse, the treatment of our Earth in these developing lands.

These lands are war torn, famine struck, economically disadvantaged and plagued with disease. A normal day is a struggle so protecting human dignity is like climbing a mountain.

What can cause human dignity to be lost? A lack of basic human needs and a lack of understanding. These are necessary two ways. These needs can be anything from access to medical care, housing, education or religious freedom. Respect is lost. Respect for life, for the young and the vulnerable, for the sick and the elderly, or for those who cannot speak for themselves.

It our duty as Catholics while adhering to the vows of our baptism, that we stand up for those who cannot stand up for themselves both near and far.

Pope Francis urges us to seek out and help communities vulnerable to environmental destruction and other human indignities and to take responsibility for our Earth and our fellow brothers and sisters who are at risk both here and in the Mission Lands.

I urge you to take time to pray for the people of the Mission lands and the places that they call home. They need our prayers, sacrifices, donations and time now more than ever before in our history.

Take the time also to make a difference in our own backyard. Respect, love and most of all be kind to one another and look out for those who cannot look for themselves. God Bless.

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 — Daniel E. Boyle, 93; Funeral Services Sept. 5, 2015 at Immaculate Conception Church; burial in St. Mary’s Cemetery.

Brushton — Philip W. Richards, 86; Funeral Services Sept. 12, 2015 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in St. Ann’s Cemetery, St. Regis Falls.

Champlain — Donald R. “Mustard” Emery, 82; Memorial Services Sept. 5, 2015 at St. Mary’s Church.

Colton — Theresa Ann (Connelly) Perkins, 85; Funeral Services Sept. 4, 2015 at St. Patrick’s Church; burial in St. Patrick’s Cemetery.

Hogansburg — Clara Jean Lazore-King, 78; Funeral Services at Aug. 31, 2015 at St. Regis Church; burial in Kateri Cemetery.

Housesville — Lucian W. Stanton, 87; Funeral Services Sept. 4, 2015 at St. Hedwig’s Church; burial in Lowville Rural Cemetery.

Keeseville — William J. “Bill” Sullivan, Jr., 72; Funeral Services Sept. 2, 2015 at Church of the Immaculate Conception; burial in parish cemetery.

Massena — Beryl I. (Emmons) Fregoe, 90; Funeral Services Sept. 4, 2015 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena — Boryane M (Holmes) Leffler, 75; Funeral Services Sept. 1, 2015 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena — Gay W. Patraw, Sr., 80; Funeral Services Sept. 5, 2015 at Donaldson Funeral Home; burial in St. Lawrence Cemetery, Louisville.

Massena — Michael Nicholas, 95; Funeral Services Sept. 5, 2015 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena — Mary Eileen “Leenie” (Ward) Story, 92; Funeral Sept. 2, 2015 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Calvary cemetery.

Mooers Forks — Dorothy Mae Miller Eno Anderson, 85; Funeral Services Sept. 2, 2015 at St. Ann’s Church; burial in St. Ann’s Cemetery.


North Lawrence — Luella M. “Lou” (Cook) Griffin, 87; Funeral Services Sept. 4, 2015 at St. Lawrence Cemetery.

Ogdensburg — Wilma F. (Kench) Lewis, 74; Funeral Services Sept. 9, 2015 at the Fox and Murray Funeral Home.

Ogdensburg — Richard D. McDonald, 78; Funeral Services Sept. 3, 2015 at Notre Dame Church.

Ogdensburg — Ronald D. Winters, 79; Funeral Services Aug. 31, 2015 at the Fox & Murray Funeral Home.

Peru — Adrianah M. Young, 3; Funeral Services Sept. 4, 2015 at the Hamilton Funeral Home.

Star Lake — Maurine E. (Fadden) McKenney, 82; Funeral Services Sept. 5, 2015 at St. Hubert’s Church; burial in Cranberry Lake Cemetery.


Ticonderoga — Teresa (Ose) Redmond, 97; Funeral Services Aug. 24, 2015 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Parish Cemetery.

Tupper Lake — Chalice M. (Gauthier) Dechene, 76; Funeral Services Sept. 3, 2015 at St. Alphonsus Church; burial in St. Alphonsus Cemetery.

Tupper Lake — Thyrza L. (Brickey) Soucy, 93; Funeral Services Sept. 5, 2015 at St. Alphonsus Church.

Watertown — Paul T. Higgins, 81; Funeral Services Sept. 2, 2015 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Westport — Marjorie Elizabeth Beha Lopez, 91; Funeral Sept. 4, 2015 St. Philip Nerri Church; burial parish cemetery.

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.

NCC
**BREAKFAST BUFFET**

**BRUSHTON** — St. Mary’s will be having a breakfast buffet.

**Date:** Sept. 13  
**Time:** 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
**Place:** St. Mary’s Parish Center  
**Cost:** Adults, $8; children $4.50; under 3, free; immediate family of 5 or more, $25  
**Features:** Take-outs available. Call 518-529-6580. Sponsored by St. Mary’s Catholic Church events committee.

---

**SPAGHETTI SUPPER**

**BURKE** — St. George’s Church will hold its annual spaghetti supper.

**Date:** Sept. 19  
**Time:** 4 p.m.  
**Cost:** Adults, $7.50; children under 12, $4; under 5, free  
**Features:** 50/50 Raffle  
**Contact:** Ann’s Event Center.

---

**FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION**

**ST. REGIS FALLS** — First Saturday Devotion and Holy Hour to be held the first Saturday of each month.

**Time:** after 4:30 p.m. anticipated Mass  
**Place:** St. Ann’s Church  
**Contact:** 518-856-9566

---

**GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**INDIAN RIVER** — The Knights of Columbus will be having a golf tournament.

**Date:** Sept. 12  
**Time:** 10 a.m.  
**Place:** Cedar River Golf Course  
**Cost:** $70 includes lunch and dinner. Features: All proceeds go to local families to help with heating costs.

**Contact:** Call Grand Knight David Harrington to register or for more information (518) 648-5170

---

**SPAGHETTI DINNER**

**EVANS MILLS** — Spaghetti and meatball dinner to benefit the Indian River Knights of Columbus.

**Date:** Sept. 19  
**Time:** 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.  
**Place:** St. Mary’s Parish center  
**Features:** Meatballs and sauce available for purchase.

---

**SPAGHETTI SUPPER**

**WATERTOWN** — The Altar Rosary Society will be having a spaghetti supper.

**Date:** Sept. 24  
**Time:** 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.  
**Place:** St. Anthony’s, Msgr. Sechi Hall  
**Cost:** Adults, $8; children under 12, $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

**BIBLE STUDY COURSE**

**EVANS MILLS** — Mill of the K of C Council 7471 is sponsoring a Bible study course.

**Date:** Beginning Sept. 16 (10 week course)  
**Time:** 6:30 p.m.  
**Place:** St. Mary’s Parish  
**Features:** Our topic this time is The Prophets, a 10-week Ascension Press presentation with DVDs lectures by Thomas Smith. Discussion of homework assignments will be led by the K of C members. For the first time we will provide course materials free of charge courtesy of St. Mary’s-St. Joseph’s-St. Teresa’s parishes.

**Contact:** 767-1065 by Sept. 13

---

**LIFELIGHT MEETING**

**WATERTOWN** — Lifelight of Watertown meets the first Wednesday of the month.

**Time:** 1 p.m.  
**Place:** 870 Arsenal Street  
**Features:** The office has a variety of pro-life videos, books and educational materials which may be borrowed.

**Contact:** Phone 315-788-8480

---

**HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS**

**WATERTOWN** — Holy hour for vocations:

**Date:** Mon.-Fri.  
**Time:** 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.  
**Place:** Holy Family Church  
**Contact:** 315-782-2468

---

**EUCHARISTIC Adoration**

**LOWVILLE** — Eucharistic Adoration to be held.

**Date:** Sept. 3 and 17  
**Time:** 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.  
**Place:** St. Peter’s Church  
**Features:** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, the Luminous Mysteries of the Holy Rosary and Benediction.

---

**ST. HEDWIG’S POLISH FEST**

**HOUSEVILLE** — Save the date for St. Hedwig’s Annual Polish Fest.

**Date:** Oct. 11  
**Time:** Noon after the celebration of the 11a.m. Mass.  
**Features:** Events include: the Serving of a tasty Polish Platter (take-outs will be available); Theme Basket Raffles, Bake Sale, Ice Cream Sundaes; Polish Hot Dogs; and a 50/50 Raffle. Donations of Theme Baskets, Pies and Monetary Donations to defray the cost of the food appreciated. The event is a fundraiser for church repairs and restoration.

**Contact:** Joann 348-8735, Mary 348-8836 or Mary Ann 348-6260.

**AR LUNCHEON MEETING**

**LOWVILLE** — St. Peter’s Rosary Altar Society will be having a luncheon meeting.

**Date:** Sept. 19  
**Time:** 12:30 p.m.  
**Place:** Shady Ave  
**Features:** Members asked to bring grocery items for raffle. Drawing after meeting. New members welcome.

**SPAGHETTI DINNER**

**HARRISVILLE** — All you can eat spaghetti dinner to be had.

**Date:** Sept. 27  
**Time:** 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.  
**Place:** St. Francis Solanus Church  
**Cost:** Adults, $8; children 5-12, $5; under 5, free; Take-outs available

**TURKEY DINNER**

**COPENHAGEN** — St. Mary’s to have Annual Turkey Dinner

**Date:** Oct. 1  
**Time:** 4:30 p.m.  
**Place:** Copenhagen Fire Hall  
**Cost:** Adults, $9; Children 6 - 12, $4.50; 5 & under free; Take-outs $8.00  
**Features:** Bazaar & Bake Sale, Raffle Items, 50/50 Raffle

---

**ST. LAWRENCE**

**MIRIAM HOLY HOUR**

**CANTON** — Holy Hour 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. Will include liturgy, rosary. Bishop LaValley will attend. Refreshments will be served at St. Mary’s School. Families are strongly encouraged to attend.

**BRUNCH**

**NORWOOD** — The Knights of Columbus Council will be sponsoring a brunch.

**Date:** Sept. 13  
**Time:** 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
**Place:** Visitation Parish Center  
**Cost:** Adults, $8; children under 12, $5; Under 5, free; Family of 4, $20, each additional $3; Take-outs available

---

**LATIN MASS**

**POTS DAM** — A Triduum (Latin) Mass is celebrated each Sunday  
**Time:** 9:30 p.m.  
**Place:** St. Mary's Church

---

**MARRIAGE JUBILEE**

**OGDENSBURG** — Bishop Terry R. LaValley will preside at the annual diocesan Marriage Jubilee for all married couples, particularly those celebrating special anniversaries in 2015.

**Date:** Sept. 20  
**Time:** 2:30 p.m.  
**Place:** St. Mary’s Cathedral  
**Features:** A reception will follow in the Bishop Brzana Hall

---

**FOR HOMESCHOOL FAMILIES**

**OGDENSBURG** — There will be a Mass and lunch for all home school students with Bishop LaValley.

**Date:** Sept. 17  
**Time:** Mass at noon with picnic to follow  
**Place:** Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral; picnic at Bishop’s house. If it is raining the picnic will be in Brzana Hall at the Cathedral.

**Contact:** rtyler111@twcny.rr.com or 315-654-3932

---

**CELEBRATE CHRIST**

**LAKE PLACID** — Celebrate Christ 2015 has been planned. The theme for this two day event, Nurturing Families and Parishes with Living Stones, highlights two of our diocesan priorities, the faith formation of families and building parishes with living stones.

**Dates:** Oct. 16 for Catholic School administrators and faculties. Oct. 17 for all people engaged in parish life  
**Place:** Crowne Plaza  
**Features:** Dr. JoAnn 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.