Inspire: Called to Love

Bishop: ‘A day of joy in our faith’

At the conclusion of the Sept. 25 diocesan vocation summit “Inspire: Called to Love,” Bishop Terry R. LaValley expressed his gratitude to all who worked to make the day a success.

“We have been gifted with a day in which we found such joy in our faith as we (young and not-so-young) shared and celebrated being a Catholic Christian up here in the North Country,” the bishop said.

“The Holy Spirit had a field day!”

With much gratitude, I pray that as we now roll up our sleeves and extend our hands and hearts to one another, the Lord will give us a standing ovation for we gave it a shot and scored, all through the grace of God,” Bishop LaValley said.

A bishop, former atheist and scholar

Three internationally known Catholic speakers led the breakout sessions at “Inspire: Called to Love.” Bishop Christopher Coyne of Burlington, chairman of the United States Catholic Conference's Committee on Communication, spoke on the topic “Spirituality of the Church and Vocations.”

Writer, speaker, mother, radio host and former atheist Jennifer Fulwiler spoke about “Promoting Vocations in a ‘Francis World.’”

George Weigel, Distinguished Senior Fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center of Washington, D.C. addressed the theme “Mission, Evangelization and Vocations.”

Inspiring liturgies

Deacon who served at the opening prayer and closing Mass of the summit reflects on the unique liturgies

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Around the Diocese

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Blessed to be part of Inspire

Don't tell anybody, but one of my favorite parts of the diocesan summit “Inspire: Called to Love” was spending time at our North Country Catholic booth. Along with Christine Ward, editorial assistant for the NCC, and her six-year-old daughter Melanie (the best little salesperson ever) we met lots of old friends and finally put faces to some voices we've heard for years. It was our great luck to be located just inside the doors of the mezzanine level of the Olympic Arena so almost everyone walked by us on their way to the 30 other exhibits, coffee stations and bathrooms. The placement also offered us a great view of the stage/altar. We couldn't have hoped for anything better! It was a particular joy for me to see the men and women who serve the diocese through their contributions to the diocesan newspaper. My talented writers and photographers put up with regular emails from me — “do you have any ideas about that?” — and answer with great generosity.

I was delighted to hold mini staff meetings with Suzanne, Amanda, Rachel, Colleen, Andrew, Kelly, Kevin and Tom — not to mention our own Father Muench and Msgr. Whitmore - as they prepared to write about/photograph every aspect of our extraordinary diocesan day.

As your read through the pages of this paper, I think you'll agree that we've published a real keepsake of Inspire: Called to Love. Starting with Bishop LaValley’s reflection on how Inspire grew out the work of the diocesan envisioning process and then including reports about each of the speakers, the liturgies, the youth rally and more, I dare to say that this is a paper that will inspire every single Catholic in the diocese.

‘Why? Why is all of this going on?’

I was walking down one of the hallways of the Olympic arena, travelling from one breakout session of “Inspire: Called to Love” to another when a lady came up to me and asked to interview me. I could tell from her cap that she represented a local radio station. She had a microphone in her hand. So, not being very bashful, I agreed.

Her initial question was, “Why? Why is all of this going on?” I had to stop for a brief moment and do some quick thinking. What should I say that would make sense to her and her listeners? What would sum up all of my feelings?

Here is my answer: “We had all come here to reaffirm and understand who we are as Catholics.” I was thinking that this gathering of Catholics from all over the Diocese of Ogdensburg is a call and challenge to us and to all Catholics in the diocese to remember who we are and to challenge us to bring new life into our Catholic parishes throughout our diocese.

So, there we were — our Bishop, our priests, our deacons, all of our people from every parish in the Diocese of Ogdensburg. All of us had gathered in Lake Placid to celebrate our Catholic faith. This was truly a “fiesta.”

In addition, we were joined by people and priests from neighboring diocese — from Burlington, Syracuse and Rochester — as well as people and priests from several Canadian diocese. Bishops from each of these diocese came to join us, to speak to us and to challenge us.

However, most of all it was about people. Personally, I renewed friendships with friends from the past and with former parishioners from the parishes where I was once pastor. It spent so much enjoyable time just talking and sharing with friends.

The one thing I noticed as I wandered around that day was that everyone was having a good time. I also found myself meeting all sorts of new people. Please forgive me here for bragging — but I was frequently stopped by someone — a complete stranger to me who happened to be a reader of this column — offering me gratitude for my words. That was pretty neat.

There was one place in the arena where folks had to climb a set of circular stairs. I remember at one time I was heading in one direction and ended up joining a crowd who were going up the stairs. At the same time, another crowd was coming down. I noticed that often the motion was slowed down as someone spotted someone they hadn't seen as yet. So they slowed us down life with hugs and a bit of conversation.

“So, what did I learn?”

For me, the presentations were great so let me try to summarize some of what they said. The speakers were rather important in our American Catholic Church — there was Bishop Barron, Bishop Coyne, Bishop Durocher (from Canada) as well as the author, George Weigel. Each speaker reminded us of our call to holiness — our personal holiness — through our Baptism as Catholics. The challenge for us now is to live out our Baptism in our daily lives through the vocation that we were called to follow, whether as a married couple, as a single person in the world, as a religious Sister or Brother, as a priest or, finally as a Bishop.

Each of us has been blessed through the Spirit to live that life in following Our Savior, Jesus Christ. In this way we bring Christ to our world and to all those other who we meet along the way. We become evangelizers. We become prophets in our time. It may be in simple, little ways and it may be in great and challenging opportunities given us by God. As we follow Christ's call, we cooperate to transform our parishes into new life.

And all of this day — the people and the message — was drawn together by the Celebration of the Eucharist. The Mass was such a wonderful liturgy such a prayerful time with magnificent music. What a sight to see the arena filled with a worshipping people — the people of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. What a sight to see all of us priests joined together in our white vestments in one section. What a sight to see the several Bishops joined together in the sanctuary. And to remind us of why we together during the Mass we all — priests and people — joined together in renewing our baptismal promises, reminding us of our call to holiness.

So, my congratulations to all who made this day possible. It was a real celebration of being a Catholic and of being a Catholic of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, a Catholic of the North Country.
Members of the Diocesan Envisioning Team, charged with discerning a mutually shared vision for the Diocese of Ogdensburg, are shown in this 2014 file photo. Among the fruits of their work was the “Inspire: Called to Love” vocation summit, planned as part of diocesan efforts to “create a culture of vocations. Pictured, front are Michael Furlan of the Catholic Leadership Institute who, along with Barbara Eckert facilitated the 13-month process; St. Joseph Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, Bishop LaValley and Cathy Romano, middle, Dr. William Amorelli, Father Kevin O’Brien, and James Coughlin; back, Patrick Murnane, Father Thomas Higman, Father Garry Giroux, and Father Douglas Luna. Missing, Deacon Mark Bennett and Barbara Boyle.

The Holy Spirit had a field day

By Bishop Terry R. LaValley

I wonder if standing at center ice before the puck is dropped at the start of a crucial hockey game in a packed arena is as personally invigorating an experience as standing in that same arena before a crowd of almost 40,000 faithful persons eager to celebrate their Catholic faith.

Your shepherd’s adrenaline was really flowing when he welcomed those standing on the covered ice and in the stands (many in the rafters) in anticipation of what the day had in store for each of us.

What led this local Church we love, the Diocese of Ogdensburg, to that Lake Placid event of September 25, 2016?

For many months, so many of the faithful of our parishes have worked diligently on several committees as we sought to meet goals that have been set to address three diocesan priorities.

Guided by Catholic Leadership Institute, these priorities were established by our Diocesan Envisioning Team after extensive discussion, study, and consultation (including feedback from eleven diocesan-wide listening sessions).

You are familiar with our Diocesan Priorities: Creating a Culture of Vocations, Strengthening Faith Formation in Family Life, and Building Parishes with Living Stones. Life in all our parishes - our ministries, services and decision-making now focus on these Priorities.

The last of the time-sensitive goals was accomplished in Lake Placid last Sunday, our Vocations Summit—SPIRE: Called to Love.

This event has now launched our parishes into focusing our prayer-filled energies, time and resources on these Priorities.

By virtue of our baptism, we are missioned to make our homes, parishes, our schools and our communities places that foster encounters with Jesus.

Think of the difference we can make, if we are ready to allow ourselves to be transformed, re-formed, by a closer relationship with Jesus Christ! Christ-led, Christ-fed, and Hope-filled, each of us is a Disciple in Mission. It’s who we are. It’s what we do: our identity defines our mission, as Archbishop Durocher so beautifully preached at our Eucharist.

There are many individu­als to thank for making SPIRE: Called to Love such a graced-filled moment in the life of our diocesan Church. We are grateful to Father Garry Giroux and his Vocations Summit Planning Committee for their tireless coordinating efforts that oversaw the many details (large and small) that made the day go smoothly.

Diocesan staff members, clergy, religious and many, many volunteers spent hours making the day such a success.

We are grateful to the Knights of Columbus (local councils, State and National) who made significant contributions to help fund the event.

Additionally, many Courts of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas and other service organizations were so supportive. We express thanks to the many businesses throughout the North Country, as well as family and individual contributors who enabled us to offer this event free of charge.

I am truly humbled and grateful to all who were able to join us for the Summit.

Of course, the true success of the Vocations Summit will be told in the years ahead.

We have been gifted with a day in which we found such joy in our faith as we (young and not-so-young) shared and celebrated being a Catholic Christian up here in the North Country.

The Holy Spirit had a field day!

With much gratitude, I pray that as we now roll up our sleeves and extend our hands and hearts to one another, the Lord will give us a standing ovation for we gave it a shot and scored, all through the grace of God!
Inspired and called to love

By Mary Lou Kilian
Editor

LAKE PLACID – Bishop Terry R. LaValley’s mind was on miracles Sept. 25 as he welcomed nearly 4000 Catholics to the Diocese of Ogdensburg’s “Inspire: Called to Love” vocation summit at the 1980 Olympic Arena.

Nearly 4000 Catholics gather at the site of a miracle to share the miracles of their faith

On the site of the legendary “Miracle on Ice” - 36 years after the American Olympic hockey team astonished the world with a victory over Russia - Bishop LaValley opened a program focused on the miracles of the Catholic faith.

With a letter of encouragement from Pope Francis, the presence of six bishops and archbishops and four renowned Catholic speakers, the summit participants heard a steady call to embrace lives of personal holiness.

Pope Francis’ message to Bishop LaValley noted that he would be praying “that the vocations summit would contribute to a clearer awareness of the unique vocation of every member of God’s people to be a missionary disciple, filled with the passionate love for the Lord Jesus and zeal for the spread of the Gospel.”

Keynote speaker Bishop Robert Barron took up the mantle with a message that every Christian is called to be a “priest, prophet and king.”

Auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and founder of the global media ministry Word on Fire, Bishop Barron said, “the vocation of the human is to lead all creation in praise of God... not in praise of wealth, prestige or ego.”

“Jesus was the best model of this but it cost him,” Bishop Barron said. “In the measure that we join our lives to his sacrifice, we become aligned right with God.”

The day continued with three breakout sessions led by Bishop Christopher Coyne, George Weigel and Jennifer Fulwiler.

Bishop Coyne of Burlington, Vermont, is the chairman of the United States Catholic Conference’s Committee on Communication. With the topic “Spirituality of the Church and Vocations,” the bishop offered practical advice on “creating parishes people want to be part of.”

“Jesus calls us out of our selfishness and into relationship, into communion,” Bishop Coyne said, adding that Catholics had two unique marks of their communion: the Eucharist and the Communion of Saints.

Mrs. Fulwiler of Austin, Texas, grew up as an atheist and began “a search for truth and the meaning of life” after her marriage 13 years ago.

In the process of her conversion to Catholicism, she discovered that “Catholic moral teaching is the owner’s manual to the human soul.”

A writer, speaker and host of the Jennifer Fulwiler show on Sirius XM radio, she spoke to her Lake Placid audience about “Promoting Vocations in a Francis World.”

George Weigel, Distinguished Senior Fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center of Washington, D.C. addressed the theme “Mission, Evangelization and Vocations.”

Author of “Witness to Hope, The Biography of Pope John Paul II,” he said that “we are living in an extraordinary moment in church life, a time of new evangelization.”

“Every Catholic has a mission,” Weigel said, “whether the mission territory is at the kitchen table, your neighborhood, your business, your life as a citizen.”

Concurrent with the breakout sessions was a youth rally, drawing 380 teenagers to Inspire. The rally featured an interactive park with a variety of youth oriented activities as well as a concert by the Catholic group Full Armor Band.

In addition to Bishops LaValley, Barron and Coyne, three archbishops from Canada took part in the vocation summit: Archbishop Terrence Prendergast of Ottawa, Archbishop Brendan O’Brien of Kingston, Ontario; and Archbishop Paul-Andre Durocher of Gatineau, Quebec.

Archbishop Durocher served as homiletist for the closing Mass, sharing his own vocation story about how he stepped away from his life as a musician to enter the priesthood.

Another special guest at the summit was Adrian Pallarols of Argentina, a personal friend of Pope Francis.

A silversmith, Pallarols crafted the chalice which the pope used during his visit to New York City in September, 2015. Pallarols brought the chalice to Lake Placid where Bishop LaValley used it at the closing liturgy.

The Mass featured a 300-voice choir under the direction of Father Scott R. Seymour of Morrisonville. The liturgy also offered married couples and consecrated religious the opportunity to renew their vows.

At the conclusion of the vocation summit, Bishop LaValley expressed his pride in a diocese “where such dedicated, faith-filled women and men joined together in prayer and feasted on insightful presentations that illustrated how each of us can better respond to God’s call to holiness.”

“Our honored visiting guests, including a national radio host and mother of six children, a world-renowned Catholic theologian and author, three archbishops, an auxiliary bishop, and a diocesan bishop came away from our Vocation Summit in Lake Placid in awe of the great number of participants who gathered for an event that was permeated with such excitement and joy,” Bishop LaValley said. “Faith shared can do that.”

“This big family of faith knows how to celebrate,” the bishop said.
SCENES FROM DIOCESAN VOCATION SUMMIT .... SEPT. 25, 2016

FACES OF INSPIRE

PHOTOS BY TOM SEMERARO

Bishop LaValley greets three of the young priests of the diocese as the day begins. From left are Father Thomas J. Higman of Lyon Mountain, Father Joseph W. Giroux, Malone; and Father Bryan D. Stitt, Rouses Point.

St. Joseph Sister Marie Cordata Kelly, a member of the planning committee for “Inspire: Called to Love,” organizes the names tags for the day. The sisters of her religious order were enlisted to put the 3700+ name tags together.

Young families were a welcome site at Inspire. Above are the Bosleys of St. Phillip of Jesus Parish in Willsboro. At left are Hudson, Jonathan, Jessica and Bryce Holm of St. Michael’s in Fort Drum.

Joe and Dana Martineau traveled to Lake Placid from Mooers where they are parishioners of St. Joseph’s Church.
BISHOP’S FUND 2016….MERCY IN MOTION

Fund supports vocations

By Catherine Russell
Diocesan vocation coordinator

Christ led, Christ fed and hope filled! This is the challenge issued as a result of the envisioning process our diocese recently underwent. This is our stance as we move forward into a future that is unknown but full of promise!

Without the Bishop's Fund appeal to support the work of moving toward these diocesan priorities, little could get done.

An important office supported by the Bishop’s Fund is the office of Vocations. Besides the essential work of supporting young men and women interested in discerning the call to the priesthood and religious life, this office promotes the diocesan priority of "creating a culture of vocation."

What is a culture of vocation?

This means is that not just Father and Sister need to be holy. Every one of us, by virtue of our baptism, is called to be holy and mission driven!

With that call to a deep and meaningful prayer life comes a call to a particular vocation.

Each one of us has a special mission to perform for the kingdom.

Supporting each Catholic in realizing and accepting this call is one work of the vocation office.

With the recent announcement from Bishop LaValley about the reconfiguration of the office, there is a new responsibility to support the ongoing work of the parish vocation committees, trained last year in deanery meetings.

The new diocesan Vocation Coordinator is responsible for encouraging parishes in this work. The program, We Are Called, with its binder full of many resources, is available to assist each parish’s vocation committee.

In addition, Catholic school teachers and parish catechists have free access to a wonderful on-line curriculum on priesthood and religious vocations.

The new diocesan Vocation Director and Associate Vocation Director, Father Lucia and Father Higman respectively, will continue to visit parishes and schools to promote vocations, especially vocations to the priesthood.

The monthly vocations E newsletter is another resource for those involved in vocation promotion.

All of these wonderful things are available because of support the Vocation Office receives from the Bishop’s Fund.

The wonderful Inspire event in Lake Placid has re-focused and reenergized the faithfulness of the North Country. We are indeed all called to love! We are indeed missioned to go forth Christ led, Christ fed and hope filled each in our own vocation.

Many thanks for the support of the faithful of the north country to the annual Bishop’s Fund appeal for helping to make it all happen.

Protecting God’s Children

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has scheduled sessions for Protecting God's Children for Adults. Pre-registration online is required in order to participate. Participants may pre-register at www.virtus.org by selecting the registration button and following the directions. All employees and volunteers who participate in church sponsored activities with minor are required to participate.

Further information is available from Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, 315-393-2920, ext. 1440. Upcoming sessions:

Oct. 20 - 6 p.m., Holy Family School, Malone
Oct. 29 - 9 a.m., St. Peter’s Church, Lowville

To Report Abuse

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact: Victims Assistance Coordinator, Terianne Yanulavich, Adult & Youth Counseling Services of Northern New York, 413 Ryan Road, Churubusco, NY, 12923; e-mail: terianneyanulavich@yahoo.com Phone: 518-483-3261; or Fr. James Seymour, the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy at 315-393-2920, ext. 1340

Environmental Stewardship

What is the connection?

Often times in conversation between people who are very committed to caring for the needs of God’s people and people who are concerned with environmental issues, the latter are labeled as ‘tree huggers’ and easily dismissed.

The more that we learn about the incidents of water and air pollution and their adverse effects on our health, the more evident it becomes that a ‘sick planet’ will produce ‘sick people.’

Care for our common home is implicitly caring for ourselves, for we are made of the elements of the earth, nurtured by it and housed in it. Our moral responsibility to care for it then touches the lives of all beings that inhabit the earth. In Laudato Si, Pope Francis says “Everything is connected. Concern for the environment thus needs to be joined to a sincere love for our fellow human beings and an unwavering commitment to resolving the problems of society.” (#91) It is the seamless garment of Christ.

As we begin this respect life month of October, let us pray, like St. Francis of Assisi whose feast we celebrate on October 4, be inclusive of ALL life. Scripture speaks of the sacredness of all life and our moral responsibility to care for both human persons and the natural world around us. Let us pray with Pope Francis his prayer taken from the World Day of Prayer for Our Common Home on September 1:

0 God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, who are so precious in your eyes . . .

God of love, show us our place in this world as channels of your love for all the creatures of this earth” (ibid., 246).

God of mercy, may we receive your forgiveness and convey your mercy throughout our common home.

Praise be to you! Amen.

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Bishop Robert Barron delivers the keynote address at INSPIRE

‘Everyone in this room is sent by Christ’

By Suzanne Pietropaoli

“Everyone in this room is called, summoned, and sent by Christ!” Thus keynoter Bishop Robert Barron encouraged INSPIRE participants to understand and embrace the universal call to holiness.

Evangelization is the bold proclamation that Jesus is Lord

“Vatican II reminded us that we are all grafted onto Jesus Christ, the new Adam, who is Priest, Prophet, and King. It is in the exercise of these offices that we find our holiness and mission,” the Bishop explained.

“We see the first exercise of priesthood in Adam, before the Fall,” he said. “There is a great ‘de-throning’ in the Book of Genesis; all that God has made is good, but it is NOT God.

“This reminds us that we do not worship creatures. Instead we are to worship the one true God, leading creation in a great chorus of praise,” he said.

Bishop Barron noted that the word ‘adoration’ implies being “mouthing with God,” being aligned with Him. “Orthodoxy means right belief, but also ‘right praise.’

“God does not need our praise,” Bishop Barron said. “We need to praise God because in the great act of praising him we become rightly ordered; we become aligned with God, and everything else falls into harmony.

“We must ask ourselves what we truly value: wealth, honor, power, or pleasure? When we give the highest value to these things, we offer ‘bad praise’; we fall apart and cause disintegration in ourselves and others,” he said. “Yet when we give God right praise, all is peace around us.

“Jesus the high priest gives his Father right praise as he suffers on the Cross and brings the world back into harmony with God,” Bishop Barron said. “But in a world gone wrong through sin, there is no communion without sacrifice; to get back on line hurts. This is why priesthood is associated with sacrifice.

“All the baptized, Bishop Barron reminded, are configured unto Christ Jesus and so are meant to be priests, participating in his sacrifice.

“This happens at Mass, the sacrifice of Calvary that is the fulfillment of what it means to be human,” he said. “Eighty percent of U.S. Catholics stay away from Mass, the source and summit of the Christian life. This is bad for all of us, since our mission to give right praise to God is not private but on behalf of the world.”

The prophetic role of the baptized emerges in Genesis, where all created things have come forth from God endowed with intrinsic intelligibility.

“God brings all the animals to Adam to name,” Bishop Barron said. “This discovery, this naming, is part of the glory of humanity. Sin, however, removes this prophetic function; not content to name things, we think we can choose/decide what they mean.

“The idea that ‘human beings decide for themselves the meaning of reality and of the universe’ is now enshrined in law,” he said. “This pervasive mindset reverses the cataloging task of Adam, of reading intelligently the meaning that God has written into creation.”

Jesus, says Bishop Barron, is the Prophet of prophets. Against disordered pursuit of wealth, honor, power, and pleasure, Jesus proposes the Beatitudes.

As the Bishop explains, “How lucky you are if you are not mouth to mouth with the material goods of this world, since they are not worthy of our worship and can never bring us happiness. How happy you are if you do not turn these things into gods.

“As Aquinas taught, ‘Despise what Jesus despised on the cross and love what Jesus loved on the cross and you will be happy,’” the bishop said.

Yet how many of us who are baptized are lifting our prophetic voice to speak up for the beautiful intelligibility placed in creation by God?”

“Like Adam, we are also kings. Adam’s job was to defend the garden from intruders—but then, to go out and bring the peace and order of Eden to all the world,” Bishop Barron said.

Bishops, priests, religious, and faithful laity all come together as baptized people, configured unto him who is Priest, Prophet, and King.

“The Old Testament reveals the vocation and purpose of Israel,” he said. “As priestly people, they offered the right praise of God; as prophetic people, they drew the whole world into that praise; as kingly people, they defended God’s order and went on the march to bring harmony and peace to the world.

“Having been baptized into Christ, we are likewise confirmed to his kingship: ‘reigning on the cross, he is priest and prophet carrying a crown,’” Bishop Barron said. “On the cross he does battle with cruelty, stupidity, hatred, injustice and scape-goating—by swallowing them up in the bath of divine mercy.

“Our task is to announce this new king to everyone in the world,” Bishop Barron said. “Though it can be awkward, even dangerous, to bring our faith into public places, that is what kings do; they go on the march.

“Evangelization is the bold proclamation that Jesus is Lord, the bishop concluded. “Bishops, priests, religious, and faithful laity all come together as baptized people, configured unto him who is Priest, Prophet, and King.”

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#Pontifex
Bishop Coyne says ‘build relationships’

By Andrew Lauria
Staff writer

LAKE PLACID - What is the experience of being inspired? It is an encounter with others that draws us out of ourselves in the direction toward God. To be inspired is to be lifted up together and therefore live in communion with each other in Christ. And the natural gift of being inspired is the desire to love and to give that joy to others.

The vocational call to community and communion

In his anecdotal, presentation-style talk titled “The Vocational Call to Community and Communion” Bishop Christopher Coyne offered a practical and light-hearted reflection of our call to love. He began by reminding us that we know God through our relationships with others and that our Church is based on communion. We are all called to contribute to the church community and he offered us tangible ways to better love in an effort to live out our communion and strengthen our parish communities.

First, we need to be welcoming. Bishop stressed the importance of individually acknowledging people in church and of reaching outside our comfort zones to get to know others who we see but may not know at Mass. He reminded us that no matter how true our faith is, people will not want to come to our churches if they do not feel personally welcomed.

Second, we need to be encouraging of one another. Bishop stated that “we need to say the things that men and women need to hear.”

Everyone needs to be encouraged along the journey of life so we need to make a conscious effort to reach outside of ourselves and do this in our faith communities.

Third, Bishop Coyne deeply stressed the need for our parishes to become places of intentional discipleship. He said that we must live the faith by praying at home, taking care of others, going to Mass, and doing the things that Christ asks us to do for others. And this, Bishop said “makes us attractive.”

People who follow Christ and live an intentional life naturally evangelize because their life has purpose and joy. People are longing for purpose and joy! And when people live this way, they want to give their love to others and this brings us to the call to charity.

Bishop Coyne rightfully stated that we as Catholics do a very good job at helping others. Charity is “the virtue by which we love.” Living a welcoming, encouraging life as a disciple allows us to give in charity the great love that we share together in our community of faith but also naturally draw others into communion with our church.

“It is a terrifying gift to step out of isolation and into community.” This was the quote on the screen that hung in the conference room before Bishop Coyne’s presentation. This is a very real experience, even in our own churches, and although it may seem challenging at times, it is the inspirational love of Christ that overcomes our own obstacles and allows us the grace to live in community. And our community is Christ-led and Christ-fed, a people that is inspired and called to love.

Finding the true ‘good life’

By Amanda Conklin
Staff writer

Jennifer Fulwiler’s workshop entitled “Promoting Vocations in a Francis World” was poignant for people serving in all vocations. She used her interesting conversion journey and her vocation as a wife and a mother to lay out three important keys to living one’s vocation.

Her first vocation lesson was that the meaning of life is service.

I listened in the audience and chuckled as I can relate to her funny mom stories. It wasn’t until after attending her workshop, when I was sitting in the front row of the large celebration of Mass, preparing to read one of the prayers of the faithful, that I fully understood and realized I was actively living her first lesson.

My three-year-old who is currently potty training was acting up so I let her sit on my lap. About fifteen minutes before I was supposed to get up in front of 4,000 people to read, she announced that she needed to go potty, and so it happened, right on my lap.

As I rushed out the back and yelled to my husband that he needed to read in my place, I could feel the red in my cheeks and the warmth of the large puddle of urine on my pants.

Sacrifice.

Mrs. Fulwiler’s second vocation lesson was conveying how important it is that we all “fill up our own tank.” Taking examples from Mother Teresa’s order’s daily schedule she highlighted that even saints have to have time to meet their own physical and spiritual needs in order to bring Christ to others. You cannot give what you don’t have.

I had spent the previous day on retreat with my college students, filling up my own spiritual tank and I know one of the reasons I kept it together during the front row Mass incident, is because I had just been to confession the day before.

The third and final vocational key was that you must live your vocation your way. Jennifer talked about how Instagram has ruined so many moms because they try to portray the perfect family and compete with other moms. I know my life looked far from perfect on Sunday of the Inspire conference, but the way I had to live my vocation was to change my daughter into dry clothes while allowing my toddler son to munch on the strawberries meant for the guests and then desperately try to dry my pants under the electric dryer in the women’s bathroom.

Mrs. Fulwiler ended her talking explaining how she had finally found the “good life” through the joy that comes from sacrifice in living one’s vocation. This is opposed to her previous belief as an atheist that the good life comes from doing whatever you feel like.

As I laid my very worn out toddlers in bed that night of the conference, I smiled because I knew that I too, through the beauty of Christ’s Church, had found the good life, potty-training accidents and all.
Catholic scholar George Weigel leads breakout session

Sees extraordinary moment in Catholic life

By Rachel Daly
Staff writer

LAKE PLACID - For those interested in an intellectually rich presentation on our moment in Church history and its implications on our life of faith, George Weigel’s breakout session was the one to attend.

In a densely packed presentation, punctuated here and there with unexpected jokes, Weigel made the case that we are living in an extraordinary moment in the Church’s life, one which demands that each of us take up anew the call of our baptism to be missionary disciples.

Explaining how we as a Church arrived at this moment - the moment in which Counter-Reformation Catholicism is giving way to Catholicism - Weigel gave particular attention to key actions in the pontificate of Pope John Paul II.

He pointed out that in his apostolic letter “Entering the New Millennium,” John Paul II gave us the image of “putting out into the deep” from the Gospel of Luke as a definitive image for the Church of the 21st century.

We must “leave the shallow water of institutional maintenance Catholicism,” Weigel interpreted, “transform all of those institutions into launch pads for mission, and become a church in which every member understands him- or herself as a missionary.”

Catholics must take greater ownership of their baptism and of their baptismal call to ‘go and make disciples’

“Mission territory today is your kitchen table, your neighborhood, your business, your profession, your life as a consumer, your life as a citizen,” he said. “It’s all mission territory.”

What does this require of you and me?

To start, Weigel suggested, the Catholics of our time must be more thoroughly versed in “the symphony of Catholic truth.”

He secondly suggested that we must be a people of the Bible more so than we have been in the past. Thirdly, and with greatest emphasis, he pointed out that Catholics must take greater ownership of their life, one which demands that each of us take up anew the call of our baptism to be missionary disciples.

In a follow-up email interview, Weigel noted that he was struck by the unique challenges of living the New Evangelization in the United States actually had that experience, actually believed they were on the mountain hearing the Great Commission, we would transform our Church; we would transform our society.

In a follow-up email interview, Weigel noted that he was struck by the unique challenges of living the New Evangelization in the United States. If the 70 million Catholics in the United States actually had that experience, actually believed they were on the mountain hearing the Great Commission, we would transform our Church; we would transform our society.

“What does this require of you and me?”

Weigel said.

“So I hope that these are all indicators that the people of the diocese recognize that mission and evangelization are everyone’s responsibility,” Weigel said.

Rhonda Gruenewald of "Vocation Ministry" to speak at the Church of the Visitation in Norfolk, Saturday, November 5th (9:30 am-2:00 pm)

Go to rcdony.org/vocations or your parish bulletin for more info and to register.
Inspire: whole team assembled to Archbishop proceeded to in­­nulate several thousand lay men and women joined in prayer with their clergy and consecrated religious for one faith-filled reason; to re­ceive Jesus Christ.

Bishop Paul-Andre Durocher, Archbishop of Gatineau, Quebec shared his own vocation experience. Destined, he thought, to a career in music the young college student felt an emptiness, something missing from his life. He redis­covered Jesus and followed His call.

"We cannot know our vocation until we know who we are," Bishop Durocher said during the homily. With those inspiring words he caused me, and I suspect most of his audi­ence, to evaluate and affirm our personal call.

From high above the arena floor it was easy to see this homily, indeed this celebration of the Eucharist, had everyone’s attention.

When the distribution of Eucharist ended, I joined Deacons Mark Bennett and John Drollette in the Sac­risty. We purified the cibo­ria used by the priests and deacons at Communion. That perspective allowed me to recognize that every priest and deacon is called to share God’s love through a vocation of service, Christ led: that each communicant receives Christ’s body as a sign of his or her desire to be fed on the bread of life, Christ fed; that each host is the body of Christ, an act of love from our God. We are indeed hope filled.

The prayers, the music, the participation of all present and feeling Christ present among us were indeed inspiring.

The liturgy of the final Mass was a fitting end to a day filled with inspiration and love.

Liturgy of the final Mass was from the top row of the mezzanine. With 20 of my brother deacons, we took our positions “off the floor” of the arena so we would be in-place to distrib­ute Communion. It gave us a panoramic view of the celebra­tion, a unique apprecia­tion for the witness of our parishes, to find ways to connect with those who are attracted to other de­nominations because we sometimes fail as Catholics to be welcoming and gen­uine.

By Colleen Miner, diocesan director of respect life ministry, is pictured at the Respect Life booth at Inspire in the neon green vest worn by the 70 volunteers for the event. Mrs. Miner took on a third hat in support of Inspire by writing about some of the behind-the-scenes activity for the ACE.

Lake Placid- Inspire: Called to Love Vocations Summit was two years in the planning but many were not involved until the week before the big day.

Earlier in the summer, the plea went out from Tri-Lakes Catholic churches that volunteer guides were needed for the day. Seventy volunteered to serve and attended a one hour training the week before the gathering.

The volunteers were reminded that hospitality is a hall­mark of our Catholic faith and that helping to make the day run smoothly would allow those in attendance to enjoy and benefit from the day. Volunteers were led on a walk around the venue to learn where assignments would be. Reminders of the famous 1980 Olympic Hockey game between the United States and Russia were everywhere and there was still ice on the rink.

How would the Inspire Planning Committee renovate the location to accommodate a spiritual gathering of 3,700?

I had already volunteered to serve as a guide before I was asked to provide a Respect Life table. I agreed and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13
Unity and division: Ecumenical realities on display at papal Mass

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

TBILISI, Georgia (CNS) -- At a papal Mass focused on two female saints, the longing for Christian unity and the painful reality of Christian division were strong undertones.

Celebrating Mass Oct. 1, the feast of St. Therese of Lisieux, Pope Francis also praised St. Nino, a woman who evangelized Georgia in the fourth century, and is recognized as a saint by the Catholic Church and hailed by the Georgian Orthodox as "equal to the Apostles and the enlightener of Georgia."

A few thousand people -- including many expatriates living and working in Georgia -- attended the morning Mass, which was celebrated in a Tbilisi soccer stadium.

While the official theme of the pope's visit to Georgia was "Pax vobis" - the Latin for "Peace be with you" - the caps and scarves handed out at the Mass and worn by most in the crowd said, "Ut unum sint," the Latin for "that all may be one."

The vast majority of Georgians are members of the Orthodox Church. Catholics, including Armenians, Chaldeans and members of the Latin rite church, account for only about 2 percent of the population.

Vatican officials and people involved in Catholic-Orthodox relations hoped that Georgian Orthodox Iliia II would send an official delegation to the Mass despite rules preventing the church's clergy from attending a non-Orthodox liturgy.

In the end, however, no Georgian Orthodox bishops were present.

The patriarchate had issued a statement Sept. 28 saying that Orthodox attendance at a Catholic liturgy was not possible "as long as dogmatic differences exist."

At a papal Mass focused on two female saints, the longing for Christian unity and the painful reality of Christian division were strong undertones.

"We accept their decision," said Greg Burke, the Vatican spokesman, who also noted that Georgian President Giorgi Margvelashvili, a member of the Orthodox Church, was at the liturgy, as were several Armenian Orthodox bishops.

Members of the crowd, though, represented a wide variety of different Christian denominations, as did the choir, which melded singers from the choirs of the Catholic parishes and the Armenian Orthodox, Baptist, Lutheran and Pentecostal churches.

Cliff Reed, an Episcopalian who works at the U.S. embassy in Tbilisi, brought his family to the Mass.

"Everyone I talked to -- Georgians or not -- asked, 'Are you going?' I said, 'Yes.' Some asked, 'Are you Catholic?' I said, 'No, but it's the pope.'"

In his homily, Pope Francis focused on the feast of St. Therese and a line from Isaiah from the first reading at Mass, "As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you."

The experience of loving, faithful mothers and grandmothers, the pope said, helps believers understand the scriptural description of God.

"As a mother takes upon herself the burdens and weariness of her children, so too does God take upon himself our sins and troubles," he said.

"Beyond any evil we are capable of," the pope said, "we always remain his children; he wants to take us in his arms, protect us and free us from harm and evil."

The church, too, is called to be a mother, Pope Francis told the people. But if the church is all the baptized together, then individuals must ask themselves how they can ensure that the church is "the house of the consolation of God."

"Do I know how to welcome others as guests and console those whom I see tired and disillusioned?" he asked.

Catholics cannot allow their parishes or the church to become a "closed ecclesial micro-environment," the pope said, but must have the courage to reach out to others with humility and respect.

Humility is one of the keys to Christian life and a virtue taught simply by St. Therese of Lisieux, he said. "God is not known through grand ideas and extensive study, but rather through the little-ness of a humble and trusting heart."

Being a child of God means living simply, relying on God and delighting in the surprises God has in store, he said.

"Blessed are those Christian communities who live this authentic Gospel simplicity! Poor in means, they are rich in God," Pope Francis said.

"Blessed are the shepherds who do not ride the logic of worldly success, but follow the law of love: welcoming, listening, serving."

College president urges 'zeal' in defending religious liberty

ROCHESTER, N.Y. (CNS) -- A pharmacy in Olympia, Washington, loses its court challenge to a state law requiring the owners to violate their religious beliefs by supplying emergency contraceptives. A Colorado bill proposes to deny significant state funding for religious colleges and universities if they don't remove perceived discriminatory policies against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students, faculty and staff. These recent cases reflect a decreasing ability for people in this country to exercise their constitutional right to religious freedom, according to John Garvey, president of the Catholic University of America in Washington.

"This political and cultural climate has become increasingly hostile toward people of faith," Garvey, one of the nation's leading scholars on religious liberty, told a gathering of approximately 300 people during his presentation, "The New Religion Wars," at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Rochester, Garvey, who delivered the second annual Catholic Courier lecture Sept. 15, described a trend of increasingly coercive actions toward those who, because of their religious beliefs, refuse to submit to the established order -- even though, he said, our nation's Founding Fathers emphasized the freedom to practice such beliefs.

U.S. bishops carefully unpacking, teaching 'Amoris Laetitia'

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- Leaders of the U.S. Catholic Church have been proceeding carefully in their efforts to understand and implement the pope's exhortation on marriage and family, according to a report issued Sept. 27. The report, from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, is based on responses from 59 dioceses and 18 national organizations. Philadelphia Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, a member of the 2015 Synod of Bishops on the family, is chairman of the U.S. bishops' ad hoc committee studying implementation of the exhortation. A number of dioceses and Catholic groups said they are spreading the word about the document through articles or columns by bishops in diocesan newspapers, websites and social media outreach. Several national organizations have been conducting webinar presentations and some dioceses have provided online toolkits with resource guides and supplementary materials for Catholics and church leaders.
The best ways to show gratitude: pray and share

Have you ever given an expensive gift to a visiting nephew, only to find the same gift the next day in the wastepaper basket? I have, and I still feel his lack of gratitude.

God must often feel that way.

There are two great stories in this Sunday’s readings that point this out.

The first reading is really a shortened version of the very exciting story of God’s healing an "outsider" named Naaman, a foreign military commander, who has contracted leprosy.

His wife’s Jewish slave had suggested that she seek help from the prophet Elisha. He goes to the King of Israel loaded with gifts and letters of introduction from his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king. Fearful of a plot, the King sends him to his own king.

When He sends them to the priests for official rein­statement into society, He also heals them during their journey. One of them, a Samaritan, returns immediately, and falls down in thankful adoration at Jesus’ feet. Luke emphasizes how disappoointed the Master is that only one of them comes back. “Where are the other nine? Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God?”

Both of today’s readings deal with God’s disappoint­ment with His special children, the ones to whom He calls His chosen people.

As disciples of Jesus, we have ample proof that we are His special ones, His chosen ones. Yet, over and over again we have been disobedient complainers.

Often we have even turned to false gods of money or possessions, and neglected to love Him and to serve Him. God must be so disappointed when we don’t show our gratitude for His favors. On the contrary, we are often resentful that God hasn’t done more for us. Like spoiled children, we just take God for granted!

This ingratitude in the face of His gifts and our in­difference in response to His love is what hurts God the most.

We need to ask ourselves today, “Am I really grateful for God’s constant love and mercy?”

The best way to show our gratitude is to say so in prayer...and then to share our gifts with those in some kind of need.

Forgive us our past ingratitude for your many gifts, Lord. Help us to reach out in love to those who are poor or need of God’s healing.

Visit our website
www.northcountrycatholic.org
- Read Bishop LaValley’s columns
- Search archived papers
- View diocesan events and much more

Find us on Facebook!
At the Youth Rally

By Kelly Donnelly
Diocesan Youth director

Inspire Youth Rally was such an amazing and spiritual experience! Nothing compares to being surrounded by other teens who value faith. To see adults leading their families in religion creates my own personal aspirations for my future leading a life in Christ! As a teen, it can be tempting to put your faith on the back burner, especially without constant peer validation. But spending time with other teens at the rally excites me to continue to spread the Good News!

This was the reaction of Taylor Ormasen, of Governor, who attended the youth rally held at the Vocations Summit.

Over 380 youth attended the rally. Teens had a chance to view the exhibits at the arena and heard Bishop Barron’s keynote before going to Lake Placid High School for the youth rally events.

After eating lunch, teens had a chance to participate in an interactive park. The interactive park included a variety of activities designed to meet teens’ different interests. A Respect Life corner included materials to make cards for expecting mothers and building blocks for toddlers, which will be donated to Gabriel Project and Maggie’s Place, as well as information on those organizations. There were materials for teens to learn how to make wrist rosaries. The photo booth corner included Scripture passages from the day’s Gospel with props for teens to take photos acting out various parts of the Gospel. Activities held in the gymnasium of the interactive park were designed to help teens work on teambuilding and communication through human foosball, a rolling marble maze, and tennis ball tarp. Additionally, a carbon walk, in which teens could follow the life of a carbon atom and learn about environmental issues, was paired with excerpts from Laudato Si.

A prayer corner was also available during the interactive park. The prayer corner included an area for teens to write prayer intentions and read Scripture, a prayer map that had information about various current events and prayers to be offered for the situations, and saint icons in an adult-coloring style, along with brief biographies of the saints.

The youth rally concluded with an interactive concert by Full Armor Band. The Catholic band performed songs that got the teens up and involved, as well as some more prayerful songs. In addition to the band’s ability to get the youth involved in the music and expressions of faith, they were a wonderful witness of young, faithful Catholics who began a band to spread the faith when they were in high school.

At the conclusion of the youth rally, teens went back to the arena to take part in Mass. The youth rally had high numbers of attendees and there was great energy throughout the event as the youth came together with the Church at large to be inspired to live out their vocations.

Behind the scenes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

soon became part of the vendor scene too.

Exhibitors were given the opportunity to set up their location on Saturday afternoon. Upon arrival, I saw other vendors bustling around - carrying items in, using hand carts to transport boxes.

As I entered the Olympic Center, I caught my first glimpse of the Mass venue. The athletic arena had been transformed into a beautiful worship space with a large hanging crucifix, altar, flowers atop pillars and even holy water fonts at the street level and mezzanine entrances.

Name tags - put together by the Sisters of St. Joseph were lined up in small boxes. Signs had been placed above the doorways and in the halls to give direction for the breakout sessions of the three afternoon speakers.

Outside the mezzanine level of the arena, there was a display featuring the history of the chalice which would be used at Mass. It was hand crafted by a friend of the pope, Adrian Palarols, a silversmith from Argentina by melting down silver pieces donated by Americans across the US.

The chalice was made to commemorate Pope Francis’ visit to New York City last September, used at the papal Mass at Madison Square Garden and was not used again until Inspire.

Excitement was in the air as people chatted while going about their duties, hearing the practicing organist in the background. Religious orders, with a variety of habits, were setting up their tables, too. Once tables were completed, they were covered with a sheet, in anticipation of the next day’s crowd.

It was a chilly Sunday morning for an outdoor registration but no one seemed to care. We were there to celebrate our faith and learn from a variety of speakers.

Guides put on their florescent yellow vests, Inspire Guide buttons and began leading the bus loads of faithful to the arena.

The thousands of Catholics who came enjoyed socializing, meeting old friends - there were many hugs and laughs - and at the end of the day all shared in holy Mass. Inspire was a fun, faith-filled, fall, Adirondack day.
QUEEN’S CLOSET SALE
Saranac Lake — Queen’s closet sale to be held to benefit CDA Court St. Bernard.
Date: Oct. 22
Place: St. Bernard’s School Cafeteria
Features: Gently used sweaters, scarves, jewelry and accessories. Tea and crumpets will be served.

ROSARY RALLY
Saranac Lake — Rosary Rally to Our Lady of Fatima to be held. Date: Oct. 15
Time: Noon
Place: St. Bernard’s Church
Features: Meet at 11:45 a.m. We will pray outside at Our Blessed Mother’s Statue on River St. or inside if inclement weather. Bring a chair for outside.
Contact: For more information call Viv at 891-1884, Sister Carol 891-2286 or Mary Lou 891-1308.

CRAFT SHOW
Moosic — St. Ann’s Sodality 29th Annual Craft show.
Date: Oct. 15
Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Place: Moosic Fire Station
Features: Craft and non-craft vendors, hot food & baked goods. Raffle and prizes. Gladly accepting non-perishable food items for Moosic Food Pantry.

HARVEST DINNER
Chazy — Turkey Harvest Dinner to be held.
Date: Oct. 16
Time: 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Place: Sacred Heart Parish Center
Features: Sinners’ Den Pantry for “sinfully” delicious goodies. Raffle

EATING MASS
Ellenburg — Healing Mass to be held.
Date: Oct. 15
Time: 10 a.m.
Place: Our Lady of the Adirondack House of Prayer
Features: Confessions at 9:30 a.m. with Communal Anointing of the sick during Mass and after Mass time for private prayer for those who wish.
Contact: 518-594-3253 for lunch reservations

SPAGHETTI DINNER
Lyon Mountain — All you can eat spaghetti dinner is set
Date: Oct. 8
Time: 4 p.m. to 6:30
Place: American Legion

SSF LAY ASSOCIATE PROGRAM
Plattsburgh — The Sisters of St. Joseph invite you to a meeting about the Lay Associate Program.
Date: Oct. 16
Time: 11:00 a.m.
Place: St. Joseph’s Parish Center
Features: Take-outs available for pickup or delivery from 1-2 p.m. Children 5-12, $5; under 5, Free
Features: Turkey dinner to be held in the Parish Center. Bishop LaValley will speak.
Contact: Please RSVP by October 5 through the Formation for Ministry Office at (315) 393-2920 or jgruzzello@rc-dony.org.

PULLED PORK DINNER
Peru — Join us for a pulled pork dinner.
Date: Oct. 22
Time: 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Place: St. Augustine Parish Center
Cost: $6 for adults $3 for students under 12, $8 for non-walkers ($4 for non-walkers under 12 & under)
Features: Raffles and prizes. All proceeds will benefit North Country Mission of Hope and The Jamaica Project.

HARVEST DINNER
Ellenburg - CDA Court Little Rose #1300 to have their Annual Pork & Roast Beef Harvest Dinner.
Date: Oct. 9
Time: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Place: St. Edmund’s Church
Cost: Adults, $10; Children 5-12, $5; under 5, Free
Features: Raffle tickets to be sold. Take-outs available.

HARVEST DINNER
Dannemora — St. Joseph’s Annual Harvest Turkey Dinner is set
Date: Oct. 9
Time: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Place: St. Joseph’s Church
Cost: Adults, $10; Children 5-11, $7; under 5, Free
Features: Live music, country and craft store, Chinese auction, raffle, and 50-50.

YANKEE POT ROAST
Chateaugay — 35th Annual Yankee Pot Roast Dinner to be held.
Date: Oct. 16
Time: 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. (continuously serving)
Cost: Adults, $10; Children 6-11, $5; under 5, Free
Features: Take-outs available for pickup or delivery from 1 p.m. to 4. Quilt tickets are $1 donation each. Prize tickets are available, drawings will take place at the conclusion of the dinner. Additional tickets are available at the rectory office at 497-6673. Proceeds will be used for necessary restorations and fuel expenses for both our Churches.

LaValley. All diocesan commissioned lay ministers, are welcome as well as priests deacons and religious of the three deaneries. Dinner will follow in Parish Center. Bishop LaValley will speak.
Contact: Please RSVP by October 5 through the Formation for Ministry Office at (315) 393-2920 or jgruzzello@rc-dony.org.

TURKEY DINNER
Fort Covington — St. Mary’s to have their Annual Turkey Dinner.
Date: Oct. 23
Time: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Place: St. Mary’s Parish Hall
Cost: Adults, $10; Children under 12, $6; under 5, Free
Features: Country store, baked goods, canned goods, fresh produce & flea market items, raffles, Chinese auction.

HAMPTON-HERKIMER
M*A*S*H & CANDLEDAY ROSARY
Inlet — Mass & Candlelight Rosary Procession to be held.
Date: Oct. 7
Time: 6 p.m.
Place: St. Anthony’s Church
Features: Desserts welcome for the reception to follow.

DAYS OF DISCERNMENT
Old Forge — Discerners are invited to consider the call to the priesthood.
Date: Oct. 16, 19, 23
Time: 3 p.m.
Place: St. Bartholomew’s Rectory
Features: Reflection, Vespers & dinner. Open to men who are Juniors in high school and older.
Contact: Fr. Howard Venette, pastor.st-barts@roadrunner.com/ 315-369-3554;

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Missionary cooperation

Each summer, the Diocese of Ogdensburg invites in to our churches 16-20 mission aid societies to participate in our Mission Coop Program. This past summer, the East Side Deaneries in our Diocese hear from missionaries from around the globe.

What does this mean to you?

Your support of this program is appreciated and the impact of local generosity is felt around the globe.

Since the 1930’s, dioceses around the country have been implementing Mission Coop plans. First started in the Archdiocese of Newark, it’s original purpose was to help send mission societies to solicit funds for their mission efforts to appeal for vocations to their communities. Up to this point, churches often received request by missionaries to allow societies to make appeals to their parishes. Then, the Society for the Propagation of the Faith took over these programs. Pastors embraced this idea because it took the burden of personal choice out of their hands and gave it to a priest who was only there for a few days enabling their parishioners to hear of missionary experience to promote a universal spirit.

One such organization that visited this summer recently wrote to the Mission Office telling of how they use their funds donated to them through the Mission Coop program. The Congregation of the Holy Spirit, with over 300 years of presence felt in the world, they have expanded from Africa, Asia and South America/Caribbean into China, India, Vietnam and Taiwan. With over 3,000 Spiritan priests, brothers, and lay associates, their work never ends. With help received from the Mission Coop Plan they are able to support formation programs and construct new theology residence buildings for seminarians. With six members of their Congregation on the pathway to sainthood, they have a “rich reservoir of missionary spirituality” and are always thrilled to share their charisma.

October is Mission Month. Please keep the thousands of busy hands around the world doing work in the Mission in your thoughts and prayers. Take note of their example as they are living life through such a simple and spiritual existence.
October is Respect Life Month

We are inviting you to consider sponsorship of a full page advertisement with the theme "Moved By MERCY"

"We are called to show mercy because mercy has first been shown to us."  -Pope Francis

to appear in our October 19th issue of the North Country Catholic.

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

Must be returned to the NCC by October 7, 2016

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

Name ____________________________
Address ____________________________
City __________________State ______ Zip ______
Phone __________________

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

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

Around

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

JEFFERSON

PRO-LIFE PRAYER
Watertown - During the entire month of October, including weekends, there will be an hour of prayer for Pro-Life.

Time: Noon to 1 p.m.
Place: Planned Parenthood on Stone St.
Features: Join us as we pray for renewed respect for all human life
Contact: 788-4359

SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL DINNER
Evans Mills - Spaghetti & Meatball dinner to be held.
Date: Oct. 8
Time: 4 p.m. to 7
Place: St. Mary's Parish
Cost: Adults, $7; Senior Citizens, $6; Children under 12, $5; under 5, free
Features: Benefit Theresa Free Library

ST. LAWRENCE

CLM ANNUAL DINNER MEETING
Norfolk - Commissioned Lay Ministers of St. Lawrence, Franklin and Adirondack to have annual dinner meeting.
Date: Oct. 26
Time: 5:15 p.m.
Place: Church of the Visitation
Cost: $12 per person
Features: Father Mark Reilly will be the guest speaker
Contact: Jeannie Grizzuto @ 393-2920 or Ext. 1413 or email grizzuto@rcdony.org by Oct. 17.

ROSARY INVITATIONAL
Ogdensburg - St. Mary's Cathedral and Notre Dame will be hosting a Rosary Invitational.
Date: Oct. 28
Time: 3 p.m. to 10
Place: St. Mary's Cathedral
Features: For more information and how to register a family or group, please contact Bill O'Brien by email: billob315@gmail.com or call 528-0461.

HOLIDAY BAZAAR AND BAKE SALE
Star Lake - Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale to be held.
Date: Nov. 5
Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Place: St. Hubert's Parish
Features: Live wreaths, gift baskets, children's shoppe, coffee & donuts, a.m. to 11 a.m.; Lunch 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

RUMMAGE SALE
Canton - Rummage sale to be held.
Schedule: Oct. 7, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Bag sale Oct. 8, from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Place: St. Mary's School Gym

HEALING MASS
Raymondville - Healing Mass to be held.
Date: Oct. 20
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: St. Raymond's Church
Features: Confessions at 5:45 p.m. with Communal Anointing of the sick during Mass and after Mass time for private prayer for those who wish.

FALL FESTA ITALIANA
Massena - Trinity Catholic is holding a Fall Festa Italiana, elegant Italian dinner.
Date: Oct. 22
Time: Two seatings 5:30 p.m. and 7:30
Place: River Road Restaurant at the Massena Country Club
Cost: $35 per person, only 200 people
Features: Tickets will go on sale at Amici’s and the Trinity office.

EVANGELIZING ADORATION
Massena - St. Mary's & St. Joseph's hold Benediction and Adoration Thursdays.
Time: 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.
Place: St. Mary's Church

PARISH VOCATION MINISTRY
Norfolk - A program on supporting vocations ministry in parishes is set.
Date: Nov. 5
Time: 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Place: Visitation Parish Center
Features: Rhonda Gruenewald, author of "Hundredfold: A Guide to Parish Vocation Ministry" Will present the "how to" and give time to work in parish groups to get started.
Contact: Register at http://www.rcdony.org/vocations

YOUTH BUSES FOR LIFE
Washington DC - Registration for High school pilgrimage to the Jan. 26-28 March for Life is opening.
Date: Oct. 1
Cost: $150 includes transportation, hotel, breakfast, dinner & shirt
Features: Three coach buses will travel to the March for Life. Pickup locations include Massena, Canton, Gouverneur, Watertown, and Schoon Lake.
Contact: www.rcdony.org/pro-life for registration forms. Call 518-524-0774/518-891-2309