Bishop’s Fund meets its goal

Bishop Terry R. LaValley has announced that the 2015-2016 Bishop’s Fund Appeal has reached its goal of $1,280,000. As of April 19, the Bishop’s Fund has collected $1,295,903.63 in contributions from more than 9,800 households. At this time, an additional $53,406.23 remains to be collected in pledges promised. Any funds received over the goal will be used to provide emergency grants to individuals and families in need through the Bishop’s Good Samaritan Fund.

Bishop LaValley said, “I join my prayers of gratitude with those of the many individuals and families of our North Country who have benefited from such generosity. Our donors understand what it means to be United As One Family.”

The words of Pope Francis

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Christians must look to their own sins and failings and not fall into the temptation of hypocrisy that causes them to believe they are better than others, Pope Francis said. “The relationship of salvation with God cannot move forward if people justify themselves and look at the mistakes of others instead of fixing their gaze on the Lord, he said at his weekly audience April 20.

The pope reflected on one aspect of mercy exemplified in Jesus’ encounter with a woman who was considered sinful. While Jesus dined with one of the Pharisees, she entered the house weeping, bathed his feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. “Her many sins have been forgiven; hence, she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little,” Jesus said.
Of the Holy Father and holy doors

It will take a while for the 56 pilgrims who took part in the Year of Mercy pilgrimage through Italy to process and fully appreciate all we have experienced.

The 12 days – framed by two arduous ones of international travel – were packed from early morning wake-up calls through late-evening dinners. From Venice to Assisi to Rome and so many spots along the way, we gathered at sites of immense religious, historical and cultural significance.

We prayed, we walked, we listened, we learned... and we walked some more.

Our travels have been recorded in the thousands of photographs taken and in each of our individual memories.

On our last night together in Rome, a question went around our table at the restaurant: “what was your favorite part of our pilgrimage?”

It took me awhile to narrow my choice to one or two experiences but, there was no doubt that everyone’s list of favorites would include the April 13 papal audience.

With expert guidance from our tour manager, we stood just feet away from Pope Francis as he entered St. Peter’s Square on his popemobile.

And we were close enough to see Bishop LaValley among the bishops and cardinals who had the chance to greet Pope Francis at the conclusion of the audience.

I know that the people in our group were just as thrilled as the bishop was when that happened.

In the end, it would be impossible for me to limit my description of this adventure to a mere list of all the amazing places we visited.

This trip through Italy was certainly a vacation of a lifetime but first and foremost it was a pilgrimage, a journey focused on sharing and deepening our faith.

Every morning, Father Doug Lucia led us in prayer on the bus as we traveled to places where St. Francis preached and St. Peter and St. Paul.

Each day Bishop LaValley presided at Mass – at the crypt of St. Mark’s in Venice, at the cathedral church of St. John Lateran in Rome, at St. Peter’s Basilica and in so many other glorious churches.

We pilgrims walked through Holy Doors – at the four major basilicas in Rome – and all across the country, found English-speaking confessors and, most importantly traveled together in a community filled with love and concern for each other.

I know I join 55 jet-lagged friends in thanking our God for this amazing privilege.

EDITOR’S NOTE

‘Joy of Love’: the pope writes on families

Just today, I was asked to celebrate Mass for the students at the Intermediate level of Immaculate Heart Central, the 4th, 5th and 6th graders.

I have been reading Pope Francis’ apostolic exhortation on the family, “Amoris Laetitia,” so I decided to talk about family during the homily and ask some questions about family of the kids. They were great and gave me all sorts of ideas on what it means to be a family.

I noticed that Pope Francis had a section on three important words in family life. The kids went all over the place trying to figure them out. Finally, we got somewhere and caught up with Pope Francis. “Please...Thank you...Sorry.”

Have you had the opportunity to read some of Pope Francis’ Letter on Family? I hope so. It is great. However, I worry that sometimes many simply rely on others to tell them about what is in the letter – like magazine articles or maybe a teacher or pastor – and they never get to Pope Francis’ words at all. The result is that they get more than

Pope Francis; they get someone else's analysis.

Pope Francis’ Letter is long but it is such a good message on family life, perfect for our time. It is easy reading, really. Many of you probably avoid papal letters or encyclicals.

You think that such writings will be difficult to understand, filled with complex theology.

This exhortation will surprise you: someone told me that reading this is like having Pope Francis sitting with you in the room and sharing with you. Pope Francis writes for us.

His style is meant for us, ordinary Catholics. You will find Pope Francis’ Letter is like a meditation on Family Life.

You may remember that over the past couple of years that Pope Francis called two synods on family with discussions on how the Catholic Church can best serve families and how the Church can be a family.

Pope Francis listened to and analyzed the discussions and presentations at these synods given by bishops and people from every country in the world. Then he prepared the exhortation titled, “Amoris Laetitia” – that is, “The Joy of Love.”

Many clergy and other people in the Catholic Church have anxiously awaited this letter from our pope. Many, I am sure, wondered how Pope Francis would react to these presentations. Would there be changes in the Church’s regulations about marriage or something like that?

I don’t know of any changes that he made, but, Pope Francis did make it clear in this letter that the Catholic Church should be more open and welcoming. He encouraged all of us to be ready to accept the challenges that our modern world brings to family life.

Pope Francis begins with sacred scripture. He leads us to understanding that love is such a central part of being family. Let me share with you one paragraph from this exhortation about this message:

Paragraph #27.

“Christ proposed as the distinctive sign of his disciples is the law of love and the gift of self for others. He did so in stating a principle that fathers and mothers tend to embody in their own lives. ‘No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.’ Love also bears fruit in mercy and forgiveness. We see this in a particular way in the scene of the woman caught in adultery; in front of the Temple, the woman is surrounded by her accusers, but later, alone with Jesus, she meets not condemnation but the admonition to lead a more worthy life.”

This apostolic exhortation contains so much more. There will be plenty of discussion – maybe even debate – over what Pope Francis has written – and how it affects the teaching of the Catholic Church.

I suspect there will be some challenging concerns that must be solved. I like what Pope Francis has written. I believe it...
Bishop’s Fund Appeal reaches goal

Bishop Terry R. LaValley has announced that the 2015-2016 Bishop’s Fund Appeal has reached its goal of $1,280,000.

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At this time, an additional $53,406.23 remains to be collected in pledges promised.

Any funds received over the goal will be used to provide emergency grants to individuals and families in need through the Bishop’s Good Samaritan Fund.

Bishop LaValley said, “I join my prayers of gratitude with those of the many individuals and families of our North Country who have benefited from such generosity. Our donors understand what it means to be United As One Family. Their support has a far reaching impact through the ministries and programs of the annual Bishop’s Fund Appeal,” he said. “I also wish to extend my deep appreciation to our pastors whose strong leadership and personal sacrifice supports this critical appeal each year.”

In its 56th year, the Bishop’s Fund Appeal through the generosity of so many faithful Catholics, continues to provide the following vital programs and ministries of the Diocese of Ogdensburg: Education of Seminarians; Family Life; Natural Family Planning; Respect Life Ministry; Formation for Ministry Program; Office of the New Evangelization; Continuing Education and Formation of Priests; Priests’ Graduate Studies; Vocations; Permanent Deacons; Deacon Formation; Also, Tuition Assistance Program; Campus Ministry Program; Matching Gifts to Catholic Schools; Department of Faith Formation; Youth Ministry; Young Adult Ministry; Guggenheim Center; Department of Worship and the Bishop’s Good Samaritan Fund.

Those who pledged to this year’s appeal are encouraged to complete the pledge before June 15.

Additional donations can be mailed to: Bishop’s Fund Appeal, PO Box 150, Ogdensburg, NY 13669 or online at www.rcdony.org/development.

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- Week 4: July 17 - July 22
- Week 5: July 24 - July 29
- 16 - 18 year olds
- Week 6: July 31 - August 5

Need more Info? Call the Office of Youth 315-393-2920 ext 1411
Or Visit us online www.rcdony.org/youth
Funeral held for Mary Curran, DHM

HOLYOKE MASS — A Mass of Christian Burial for Mary Ann Elizabeth Curran, a Daughter of the Heart of Mary, age 82, was held April 6 at the Marian Center Chapel.

She died March 31 at the Marian Center, Holyoke, the retirement home of her religious community, in the 50th year of her religious life. Burial was in at St. Jerome Cemetery.

Mary was born to Philip and Helen (Burleigh) Curran in Philadelphia, Penn., and was educated at St. Athanasius grade school; Little Flower High School and St. Joseph’s School of Nursing, in Philadelphia. She pursued studies in religious education at Ecole Catechistes in Paris, and earned a Master’s degree in religious studies from LaSalle University in Philadelphia.

Mary took a nine months course in gerontology at Our Lady of the Woods, IN, simultaneously with a course in “Smiles Clown School.”

She applied her nursing skills at St. Joseph’s Hospital for two years, then enlisted in the U. S. Army in August 1955, earning the rank of Captain.

She served in Korea with a MASH unit and in a U. S. Army Hospital in Verdun, France, for which she was awarded a commendation for outstanding service. She chose an honorable discharge after two terms of military service to answer a call to the consecrated life with the Daughters of the Heart of Mary.

In 1963 Mary went to Paris where she entered the international religious congregation of the Daughters of the Heart of Mary and professed vows in 1966.

From Paris, Mary was sent on mission to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; then to Karachi, Pakistan, as a nurse at the DHM Marie Adelaide Leprosy Clinic.

Mary returned to the United States in October, 1972, taking assignments in Philadelphia, PA; St. Paul, MN; Tuckerton, NJ and Plattsburgh where she staffed the Regina Maria Retreat House.

Mary was assigned to the Marian Center in Holyoke in May, 2011.

Predeceased by her parents and three brothers John, James, Philip and his wife, Theresa, Mary is survived by her sister and brother-in-law, Nancy and James Kallmeyer, the Villages, Fl.; her sisters-in-law, Joan Curran, Canonsburg, PA and Elizabeth Curran, Colonia, NJ.; several nieces, nephews, grand-nieces and grand-nephews; the Delgado family of Dalton and the Najimy Family of Pittsfield; the Marian Center staff who provided her with outstanding care, and her religious community, the Daughters of the Heart of Mary.

Memorial Mass set May 6 at Wadhams Hall for Rev. Hunt

OGDENSBURG — A Memorial Mass for Rev. John M. Hunt will be held May 6 at noon at the Chapel of the Presentation at Wadhams Hall.

Bishop Terry R. LaValley will preside with priests of the Diocese of Ogdensburg and the Diocese of Buffalo will serve as homilist.

Rev. Hunt died April 16 at his home in Pompano Beach, Florida. Internment of his remains took place in his family plot in Glenwood Cemetery in Watertown.

Rev. Hunt was born in Watertown June 5, 1943, son of the late John and Margaret Bennett Hunt. After graduating from Immaculate Heart Central, he attended Wadhams Hall Seminary with further studies and graduating from St. Bernard’s Seminary in Rochester, NY in 1969. He was ordained at St. Mary’s Cathedral, Ogdensburg on May 24, 1969 by Bishop Stanislaus J. Brzana.

Hunt’s first assignment was assistant pastor at St. Mary’s, Champlain and St. Alexander’s in Morrisonville. In 1974 he was appointed to the faculty at Wadhams Hall. In 1980, in a cooperative ministry venture, Rev. Hunt was pastor of St. John’s, Keeseville and associate pastor at Immaculate Conception, Keeseville.

In 1986, he was pastor of St. Francis of Assisi, Potsdam, pastor at St. Patrick’s in Watertown in 1991 and pastor at Notre Dame Ogdensburg in 1995. In 1999, he was administrator of both campus parishes of St. Francis of Assisi in Potsdam and St. Mary’s, Canton.

In 2001, Rev. Hunt was pastor of St. Henry’s, Dekalb and Sacred Heart, Edwards. In 2004 he was pastor at St. Bartholomew, Old Forge, and St. Anthony of Padua, Inlet. He retired from ministry in May, 2006.

Rev. Hunt is survived by his brother William Hunt and several relatives.
Christian music pioneer, TV host John Michael Talbot coming to Peru May 5 & 6

PERU—Christian music legend John Michael Talbot is coming to St. Augustine’s & St. Patrick’s Parish for two evenings, May 5 and 6.

Each evening begins at 7 p.m. and includes an inspiring message and sacred music.

Talbot is also a best-selling author and host of The Church Channel’s TV show “All Things Are Possible.”

His ministry began over 35 years ago with a vision.

“God gave me a vision of an itinerant ministry walking on foot from parish to parish in a time of great need in our culture,” he said. “I believe that our current ministry is fulfilling that vision. We are rebuilding the church one parish at a time, and renewing hearts one life at a time.”

John Michael Talbot is one of the pioneering artists of what has become known as Contemporary Christian Music. He is recognized as Catholic music’s most popular artist with platinum sales and compositions published in hymnals throughout the world.

A respected and prolific author, Talbot’s 28th book, “Monk Dynasty” was published February, 2016. He is seen weekly as host of The Church Channel’s popular TV series “All Things Are Possible” and is a frequent guest on faith and Diocesan networks around the world.

He leads his very active ministry from the Little Portion Hermitage in Arkansas and St. Clare Monastery in Texas where he is the founder and Minister General of the Brothers and Sisters of Charity. His artistic and humanitarian efforts have been recognized with awards from the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, the Gospel Music Association, Mercy Corps and the Mother Teresa award.

Today, John Michael Talbot is one of the most active evangelists traveling throughout the world inspiring and renewing the faith of Christians of all denominations through sacred music, inspired teaching and motivational speaking.

Further information about the concert at St. Augustine’s is available at the parish office at (518) 643-2435. Tickets are not required but offerings will be accepted each evening to support the ministries of John Michael Talbot and the Brothers and Sisters of Charity.

FOR K OF C HOME CORPORATIONS

The NY State Northern Conference of the Knights of Columbus sponsored a workshop on home corporations April 17 in Saranac Lake. The Supreme Advocate John Marella and his staff presented the workshop for 50 members from 12 councils in the diocese with home corporations. Pictured, front from left, are Father Thomas Higman, host parish parochial vicar; Supreme Advocate John Marella, NY State Deputy Robert Weitzman, Supreme Director and NY Past State Deputy Art Harris and NY State Advocate Gary Leonard; back, K of C Associate General Counsel Brian Gedicks, K of C Brand Management Specialist Tyler Kuhn, diocesan Moderator of the Curia and attorney Father Kevin O’Brien, canon lawyer Father Garry Giroux, host pastor and chaplain Father Patrick Ratigan, and Northern Conference Chair and former NY State Secretary Dr. Charles Robinson. Not shown is workshop organizer and former NY State Warden Lt. Col. (ret) Bill Ose.

JOB OPENING

Trinity Catholic School in Massena is seeking a full-time Custodian year-round from 8 am - 5 pm daily. The School Custodian is responsible for maintaining a clean and fully functioning environment for all students, employees and visitors at TCS. This person will maintain the school campus and perform other daily operational tasks, in addition to overseeing part-time custodial employees. Trinity Catholic School is an equal opportunity employer. Send letter of interest, resume and completed application by 5/2/16 to:

Kathy Behrens
188 Main Street,
Massena, NY 13662.
Questions? 769-5911.
For more details/application, visit TrinityCatholicSchool.net.

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1000 Military Turnpike
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Bp’s Heritage Circle supports diocese’s extraordinary needs

By Scott Lalone
Director, Diocesan Development Office

Established in 1995 by Bishop Paul S. Loverde to assist in funding certain extraordinary needs of the Diocese and to enhance the heritage handed down to us, the Bishop’s Heritage Circle continues to grow under the leadership of Bishop Terry R. LaValle.

Each member of the Heritage Circle must be a practicing Catholic or the spouse of a practicing Catholic. It is expected that the individual or couple will have made and will continue to make generous contributions to their local parish, the diocese and the Universal Church.

Membership in the Heritage Circle is attained by a minimum gift of $2,500 for the first two years, then $1,000 each consecutive year.

Typical needs requested by Bishop LaValle are the Specialeducationof Priests, the Education of Seminarian Endowment Fund and Capital improvements/needs of the Bishop’s Residence.

Since its inception, over $430,000 has been generously contributed to assist in the extraordinary needs.

There are currently 20 households (30 active members) of the Bishop’s Heritage Circle.

Bishop LaValle and the Diocese would like to thank its current members:

Mark Barie and Christine Racine of Rouses Point, Therese Bruyere of Ogdensburg, Jim and Allison Chadwick of Ogdensburg, James and Elizabeth Couglin of Malone, Thomas Fiacco of Norwood, Ben Kernan of Panama City Beach, FL; Arthur LeFevre of Morristown, Patricia Lewis of Plattsburgh.

Also, Honorable Robert G. Main, Jr. of Malone, John and Maureen Missert of Ogdensburg, Janet Murnane of Plattsburgh, Patrick and Sheila Murnane of Plattsburgh, Mike and Kathy O’Connor of Plattsburgh, Dr. Celine Paquette of Champlain, Honorable Kevin Ryan of Plattsburgh, William and Mary Ughetta of Lake Placid, Ed and Tracy Valentine of Watertown, as well as anonymous donors.

Further information regarding the Bishop’s Heritage Circle, is available from Scott Lalone in the diocesan Development Office at 315-393-2920 Ext. 1330 or email slalone@rcdony.org.

Protecting God’s Children

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has scheduled sessions for Protecting God’s Children for Adults. Pre-registration online is required in order to participate. Participants may preregister at www.virtus.org by selecting the registration button and following the directions. All employees and volunteers who participate in church sponsored activities with minor are required to participate. Further information is available from Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, 315-393-2920, ext. 1440.Upcoming sessions:
May 7 – 9:30 a.m., Immaculate Heart Central High School, Watertown

To Report Abuse

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

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Environmental Stewardship

“Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.”
Ps. 100

This month of April began in the midst of Easter joy and with the hint of springtime around us.

On April 4 we celebrated the Feast of St. Isidore, patron of farmers. April’s universal prayer intention of Pope Francis is: that small farmers may receive just compensation for their invaluable work.

Also during this month we, as a Nation, celebrated Earth Day on April 22 and Arbor Day on April 29.

We might ask the question: Are there any common threads connecting these seemingly unrelated events?

It would seem that there are two threads present. The first thread is: the invitation to celebrate and give thanks for the beauties of Creation that includes both the natural world and human family.

Pope Francis states, “It is our humble conviction that the divine and the human meet in the slightest thing...of God’s Creation, in the last speck of dust of our planet.” Laudato Si (#9)

The second thread is: the challenge to recognize our responsibility towards all Creation. Pope Francis, quoting Patriarch Bartholomew, says we are called to acknowledge “our contribution, smaller or greater, to the disfigurement and destruction of creation...for human beings to contaminate the earth’s waters, its land, its air, and its life...these are sins” ft.15...

For “to commit a crime against the natural world is a sin against ourselves and a sin against God.” ft.16

What seeds of new life might I plant that could bring healing both to the natural world and to the human family?

Some suggestions: plant a tree; plant a garden; support my local farmers by purchasing local produce; supporting small farmers globally by purchasing fair trade products, that guarantee fair prices to the farmer, such as, coffee, chocolate, tea. (Google - Catholic Relief Services Fair Trade)
Funeral held for Filippini Sister

MORRISTOWN, NJ – A Mass of Christian Burial for Filippini Sister Margaret Pierro, 90, was held April 11 at St. Lucy Chapel, Villa Walsh.

She died April 7 at Morristown Medical Center; burial was in Ave Maria Cemetery. Born in Bristol, CT Sister Margaret entered the Religious Teachers Filippini on April 27, 1945. She received the religious habit on June 30, 1946 and made her final religious profession on September 11, 1949.

Sister Margaret was awarded a BA degree in Physical Science from Seton Hall University.

A science teacher in the middle school and high school, Sister Margaret taught in the Archdiocese Newark New Jersey; in the Dioceses of Trenton, NJ, Camden, NJ, and Baltimore, Maryland.

Sister Margaret will be remembered as an excellent Science teacher, spirited and conscientious.

Sister Margaret also served as principal at St. Anthony School in Watertown.

At the request of Mother General Sister Margaret was stationed at our mission in England.

Sister Margaret ministered for many years at St. Joseph Hall Infirmary, serving as Coordinator of Infirmary and director of Recreational Activities.

Because of her heart troubles Sister Margaret became a resident of St. Joseph Hall, Villa Walsh, Morristown, NJ until her death.

Prayers for Baby Christian

LAKE PLACID - Jessica and Casey Field's lives changed forever March 30 at 7:05 a.m., as they welcomed their baby boy, Christian Thomas Field, into the world. But this was an unexpected arrival as Christian was born at only 23 weeks and six days weighing just 1.6 pounds.

With his mother and father at his side, the baby has been hospitalized in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) in Burlington, Vermont, for what will be a lengthy stay.

While caring for their son, the Fields will be out of work.

Friends including the staff at St. Agnes School where Mrs. Fields is a teacher are offering financial assistance.

Father John Yonkovic, pastor of St. Agnes Church, said “Jessica is an exceptionally loving woman, a gifted teacher and now a mom who needs our help! She and her husband Casey are first time parents with ne born Christian but their challenge is far greater than most 'first time parents.'”

“The costs of travel and housing alone will be very significant,” he said. “Prayer and fundraising are essential!”

The teachers at St. Agnes held a rummage sale earlier this month to offer financial assistance and friends have set up a Go-Fund-Me-Page titled “Prayers for Baby Christian.”

The parents have set up a Facebook page “Christian Thomas Field: Journey of a Fighter” where they post when they are able. One post says “You never realize how strong you are until being strong is the only choice you have.”

Christian's parents refer to him as their little super hero, decorating his incubator with Captain America and Hulk items.

Their most recent post states: “Christian continues to make good improvements daily and has all the nurses on their toes all day. There is no question that this little man is a fighter and will continue to improve.

“We cannot thank everyone enough, please keep our little family in your thoughts and prayers as we are certain this has been what keeps us strong and pushing forward,” the Fields wrote.

FABULOUS FOUL SHOOTER

Grand Knight Thomas McDonald of Knights of Columbus Council 2301 of Au Sable Forks, presents a check for $200 to Jack Thomas, age 9, son of Mike and Monica Thomas of Jay in recognition of Jack's achievement and sportsmanship in the recently completed Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship competition. Jack finished third in the state level contest at West Point, April 10, making 20 of 25 free-throw attempts. He had earned the chance to compete at the state level after winning the local level competition in Au Sable Forks and the district level contest in Massena, and after posting the best score of any competitor – 22 of 25 attempts – at the regional competition in Syracuse. The annual Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition is open to boys and girls ages 9 to 14 years of age, and last year drew more than 120,000 sharpshooters in over 3,600 local competitions.

JOB OPENING

Part-time Extended Day Coordinator is needed at Trinity Catholic School. The Extended Day Coordinator will lead children in table activities, supervise snack and outdoor play, assist children with day-to-day needs, maintain a clean environment, and lead group activities Monday-Friday only from 7:00 - 8:15 am and 2:45pm – 5:30 pm, and some half-days.

Trinity Catholic School is an equal opportunity employer. Send letter of interest, resume and completed application by 5/9:

Kathy Behrens
188 Main Street,
Massena, NY 13662.
Questions? 769-5911.
For more details/application, visit TrinityCatholicSchool.net.
FOR THE YEAR OF MERCY

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

Bishop LaValley leads group of pilgrims on spiritual tour of Italy through Venice, Florence, Assisi and Rome

During the April 13 general audience of Pope Francis, Bishop LaValley joined other bishops and cardinals on the stage section of St. Peter’s Square. At the conclusion of the audience the bishop had the opportunity to meet the pope and, here, kiss his ring.

The group prepares to enter the Holy Door of St. Peter’s Basilica.

Along with tours of the great churches of Italy, the pilgrims took advantage of many cultural offerings of the country. Here John and Laura West of North Creek and Dave Shampine of Watertown enjoy a gondola ride through the streets of Venice.

The Ogdensburg pilgrims take a few minutes to pray before the tomb of St. Paul in St. Paul Outside the Walls Basilica, one of the four major basilicas in Rome.
**Deacon pilgrims**

**By Deacon Kevin Mastellon**

On the last of our 12 days of pilgrimage Deacon Tom Kilian asked if we heard Our Lord whisper “I love you.” He reminded the 56 pilgrims “these are the words God first whispered to us at baptism and, if we listen, we will hear them repeated often in our lives.”

The setting was a small local church in Rome, Italy, that serves the resident population in the area of our hotel. The pilgrims Tom was addressing in his homily were attending their final Mass before leaving Italy to return to Ogdensburg.

The church was simple; dedicated to martyrs. The appointments and décor in dramatic contrast to the numerous holy places we had celebrated Mass with Bishop Terry LaValley and Father Douglas Lucia on this journey.

There were three of us deacons on the trip - Deacon Thomas F. Kilian who serves at Notre Dame Church in Ogdensburg and works as a chaplain in the New York State Corrections Department; Deacon Henry Leader, an attorney who ministers at St. James Church in Gouverneur and Deacon Kevin Mastellon, a pastoral associate at St. Patrick’s Church in Watertown.

With our wives, we deacons made the pilgrimage sponsored by this paper to Venice, Florence and Rome with important and spiritually significant visits in smaller communities along the way. We deacons were privileged to travel with our Bishop and to serve him at each Mass on the journey. We were also privileged, at Bishop’s request, to preach at Mass on occasion.

Permanent deacons are ordained to serve the people of God, assist at liturgy and to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The joy of being given the opportunity to serve and preach in some of the oldest and most revered basilicas and cathedrals in Italy is impossible to transmit.

Deacon Kilian called it “an honor”. Deacon Leader used the word “breathtaking”. I would add “humble”.

As part of the formation program for deacons we prepare to preach through courses in public speaking and preaching, called homiletics. We each preach in our parishes in a rotation with our pastor, priest associates and other deacons. There is a comfort and a challenge preaching to a congregation of people you know and visit with regularly. It is different when the ambo is in a great basilica or cathedral, the bishop is seated in the presider’s chair and the congregation is composed of people you are just beginning to develop a relationship and friendship with.

The link, the glue that enables a preacher to overcome any butterflies is the Word of God. A preacher is, after all, only a servant to the Lord who shares His message to each individual through the preacher. Deacon Leader preached in a cathedral in Orvieto where a Eucharistic Miracle occurred. My location was the Basilica of St. Francesco in Assisi.

Richard and Kathy Burns from Potsdam traveled with us. Rich is a candidate in formation for the diaconate. He said he learned from watching the ordained deacons serve and preach.

“It was also a very spiritual trip for me,” Burns said. “Assisi in particular, the home of St. Francis, a deacon, drew me to pray about my vocation.”

Each of us, the deacons on the pilgrimage and candidate Burns, was in the company of our wives. The permanent deacon, when ordained, is configured to Jesus the suffering servant. However his first vocation remains his marriage and family. So it was fitting for Mary Lou Kilian, Dayna Leader and Kathleen Mastellon to serve as lector at the Masses when each deacon husband preached.

Deacon Tom asked us if we heard the Lord whisper to us.

This deacon heard “I love you” from the Lord many times during this pilgrimage, in the places we visited, the Holy Doors we passed through, the pilgrims we shared time with, the prayerful leadership of Father Lucia and the confidence of Bishop LaValley in us as deacons.
Pope looks at nitty-gritty of family life

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Pope Francis' hymn to love and family life is more like a country song than a Disney tune.

In "Amoris Laetitia" Pope Francis reviews the whole arc of married life from new and exciting young love to old age, sitting on the porch watching the grandkids play.

In "Amoris Laeetitia" ("The Joy of Love"), Pope Francis' postsynodal apostolic exhortation on the family, there is passion and devotion, but also heartache and sweat. The "magic" he wrote about is not momentarily sparkly, but the result of prayer, grace, hard work and a willingness to apologize -- time and time again.

"Committing oneself exclusively and definitively to another person always involves a risk and a bold gamble," he wrote. But the payoff is huge.

The papal reflection on love, family life and the importance of marriage and child-rearing has sections that are deeply theological, pristinely poetic or even homiletic, like his reflection on the meaning of each line of the passage from the First Letter to the Corinthians, Chapter 13, used at millions of weddings each year: "Love is patient, love is kind ...."

But it also got into the nitty-gritty business of life when a man and a woman leave their parents' home and try to make one of their own. However, while it quoted from some of his past speeches on family life, it did not include references to "plates flying" during arguments and refrained from making mother-in-law jokes, as he has been known to do.

Pope Francis reviewed the whole arc of married life from new and exciting young love to old age, sitting on the porch watching the grandkids play.

"Young love needs to keep dancing toward the future with immense hope," he wrote. "Hope is the leaven that, in those first years of engagement and marriage, makes it possible to look beyond arguments, conflicts and problems and to see things in a broader perspective."

While realistic about late nights and colic, the papal document is lyrical in its reflections on the blessings and challenges of welcoming children into families. He invited readers to join him standing in awe of God's gift of children, marveling that "God allows parents to choose the name by which he himself will call their child for all eternity."

Running after toddlers, supervising homework, trying to figure out how to be close to adolescents without smothering them and, finally, negotiating the "empty nest" syndrome all feature in the papal text.

Reaching together the later stage of family life, he insisted, is possible and beautiful.

"Although the body ages," he said, "it still expresses that personal identity that first won our heart. Even if others can no longer see the beauty of that identity, a spouse continues to see it with the eyes of love and so his or her affection does not diminish."

The path to the porch won't be easy, the pope wrote. But "each crisis has a lesson to teach us; we need to learn how to listen for it with the ear of the heart."

The pope's hymn includes the twang of yearning for that perfect, forever love. That yearning, present in most people from every culture and religion, shows that a stable, faithful union is what responds to human nature and to God's plan for humanity.

"Lovers do not see their relationship as merely temporary," he wrote. "Those who marry do not expect their excitement to fade. Those who witness the celebration of a loving union, however fragile, trust that it will pass the test of time."

To turn that dream into reality, try a little tenderness, the pope advised. Tenderness is a virtue "often overlooked in our world of frenetic and superficial relationships."

A loving gaze also is essential, he wrote. "How many times do spouses and children sometimes do in order to be noticed? Much hurt and many problems result when we stop looking at one another. This lies behind the complaints and grievances we often hear in families: 'My husband does not look at me; he acts as if I were invisible.' Please look at me when I am talking to you! 'My wife no longer looks at me, she only has eyes for our children.'"

Pope Francis' ballad on family love, life and loss urges Catholics to be patient and merciful with themselves as well as with their spouses and children.

"No family drops down from heaven perfectly formed," so all must learn to grow together, including by making frequent use of the words, "Thank you," "please" and "sorry."

"The right words, spoken at the right time, daily protect and nurture love," the pope wrote. Finding the right words also is Pope Francis' exhortation to the church as a whole. While standing tall for the family, the church needs to stop whining about how often its teaching on love and marriage is attacked, he said.

"We should not be trapped into wasting our energy in doleful laments, but rather seek new forms of missionary creativity."

Family life always has been challenging, the pope wrote. Just read the Bible, which "is full of families: births, love stories and family crises."

But the Bible, he said, also holds out the promise of "the goal of their journey, when God will wipe away every tear from their eyes and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore."
Wuerl: Politically correct 'choice' rhetoric hides ugly truth of abortion

By Mark Zimmermann
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) - One day after Planned Parenthood's president, Cecile Richards, spoke at Georgetown University, Washington Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl celebrated a University Mass for Life for college students at a nearby Catholic church, encouraging them to stand up for God's gift of human life.

A Georgetown student group's invitation to Richards, the head of the nation's largest abortion provider, to speak April 20 at the country's oldest Catholic university drew nationwide criticism and was countered by a week of pro-life activities at the school.

The events included panel discussions on the dignity of life and the importance of outreach to women facing crisis pregnancies, and talk by Abby Johnson, the former director of a Planned Parenthood clinic who is now pro-life and speaks out about the reality of that agency's abortion practices.

In his homily at the April 21 Mass at Epiphany Catholic Church, Cardinal Wuerl warned about a powerful politically correct movement and environment "all around us.... It says to set aside such things as the value of human life and substitute the politically correct position that actually you should be free to choose to kill the unborn child. But the word of God says to us, 'Don't conform yourself to this age.'"

In his homily, Cardinal Wuerl encouraged students not to be deceived by the politically correct rhetoric that uses words to hide true meaning. Those in favor of killing the unborn child often speak of ‘the product of conception’ as opposed to the ‘life in the womb. They speak about ‘facilitating the conclusion of the life cycle’ instead of ‘assisting a suicide.’ So it is with that buzz word 'choice.' When you use the word 'choice,' you have to complete the sentence. What is it you choose?"

He noted that students aren't free to smoke in the university cafeteria or park wherever they want without consequences. "Choice only makes sense when you complete the sentence," Cardinal Wuerl said. "The word 'choice' is a smokescreen behind which those killing unborn children take refuge. Every chance you get, blow that smoke away, so everyone knows what it is we're talking about." In her Georgetown address, Richards -- whose Planned Parenthood organization provided 327,653 abortions in the United States in fiscal year 2014 -- compared the struggle for "reproductive rights" to the nation's history of fighting for civil rights.

Cardinal Wuerl in his homily said, "Do not ever be convinced by the rhetoric of liberation that killing unborn, innocent children is in any way similar to the great social justice struggles that our nation has faced -- many times enlightened by the Church's social teaching. Whether it was the fight against slavery, racial discrimination or unjust working conditions, the Church's proclamation of the dignity of all human life was at the center of the struggle."

Then the cardinal added, "Do not let anyone reduce for you the greatness of the American dream to the level of free contraceptives. We're worth so much more. The dream is so much bigger." Cardinal Wuerl noted that the students had joined together at that night's Mass "because we share a very different view of life, one that recognizes it truly as a gift from God."
Understanding the nature of the Church

Today’s readings give us very important lessons about the nature of our Catholic Church.

If we are to understand what Pope Francis is doing today, we need to pay careful attention to what the Holy Spirit said in the very first Council in Jerusalem and to what the Holy Spirit is saying to us today.

Paul and Barnabas and Peter encountered shocking actions of the Holy Spirit in their missionary work. They found the Holy Spirit converting Gentiles before the Apostles got to them.

So what had happened to the law of Moses? The first Council in Jerusalem had to grapple with this. It was there that a courageous decision was made to welcome non-Jews into the Church without requiring that they be circumcised or made to follow the law of Moses (except for a few exceptions). Only the power of the Holy Spirit present at that council could have guided that decision. In speaking for the whole Church, they were preserving unity between the Jewish half and the Gentile half of the Body of Christ.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus prepares his apostles for his Passion. He tells them that when He leaves them, the Holy Spirit will teach them everything they need to know, and will remind them of everything He himself had taught them.

Jesus knew that all the time He had spent preaching and healing would be in vain without the transforming power of the Holy Spirit. Even as He tried to prepare them for His great ordeal, He knew that only the Holy Spirit could give them the courage they would need to baptize and preach the Good News to all the world.

Today, we Catholics are reminded today that the Holy Spirit still guides the Church to conform to the words of the Gospel even when some in the Church feel confused at what our Popes may be telling us. Trust the Holy Spirit, and be faithful to the gifts of our Confirmation. They urge us to protect the poor, the sick, the needy, and the stranger. We must always be loyal to faith in Christ, while maintaining charity in the bond of Unity.

Embracing the art of ‘aging gracefully’

It seems odd, even a bit repulsive, when we encounter tales of elderly men running after women who are young enough to be their granddaughters. The wheelchair-bound billionaire oil tycoon J. Howard Marshall was 89 years old when he married the 26 year old Anna Nicole Smith. He had met the Playboy model and reality TV star in a strip club. Anna insisted that she really did love the old man, and wasn’t in it for the money. With age should come wisdom. It’s appropriate and fitting for older men to leave behind their former ways, and no longer live and act like college frat boys.

It’s right to expect growth in self-control as we mature, and to expect a more reflective and sober approach to life.

Growing old invariably offers us the opportunity to redirect our focus, and as our body weakens, our mind and soul can be drawn to consider matters we may have previously avoided, like death and that which awaits us beyond death’s threshold.

Our later years can powerfully provoke us to come to terms with our destiny and with higher truths.

By letting our infirmities existentially speak to us, and coming to realize how true it is that we have no permanent dwelling here, we begin to grapple with that mysterious truth that heaven and home are synonymous.

In a recent column, Father Ron Rolheiser, quoting James Hillman, speaks to the graces that aging and infirmity can bring our way: “Why have God and nature so structured things that as we age and mature and are finally more in control of our lives, our bodies begin to fall apart, and we need a bevy of doctors and medicines to keep functioning? Is there some wisdom in the very DNA of the life process that mandates the breakdown of physical health in late life?” Hillman says, yes. There’s an innate wisdom in the process of aging and dying: the best wines have to be aged in cracked old barrels. The breakdown of our bodies deepens, softens, and matures the soul.”

The comment, I thought, reflected a healthy, positive attitude toward aging and infirmity. Unavoidably, our bodies decline. Our strength wanes. We get hemorrhoids and warts and cancers and high blood pressure and male pattern balding.

In the midst of it all, we can accept our lot with grace and gratitude. A serene acceptance of our struggles, and even of the specific death that awaits us, is surely a great virtue. But aging gracefully is not something many of us tend to do well. We resist the idea. We may cling to the fantasy of eternal youth. Some in our society even push the notion that we shouldn’t have to put up with the challenges of infirmity, and instead ought to receive help from the medical system so we can beat a hasty retreat to the exit.

By pushing for physician-assisted suicide, they encourage us to dispise the good of our own lives and to reject the graces that arise from our struggles by choosing to ingest any of a number of doctor-prescribed poisons.

On the other hand, by embracing our particular path into death, and by offering up our trials, we acquire a poise of soul and human maturity that orients us towards our destiny, a destiny in the hereafter that so many seem largely oblivious to. By letting our infirmities existentially speak to us, and coming to realize how true it is that we have no permanent dwelling here, we begin to grapple with that mysterious truth that heaven and home are synonymous.

Aging gracefully also involves recognizing and accepting the shortening of the time ahead of us and the lengthening of the time behind us. Even as we achieve a much-sought independence in our lives, we begin to cycle back towards a renewed dependence on others, on caregivers, family and the community, and we may even come to the realization that our own mind will have to be surrendered if dementia comes our way.

All of this can instruct us, if we accept it with grace, in the wisdom of relinquishing our own willfulness once again like little children, and returning to a humble framework of interdependence in our shared destiny with others and with God.

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Father Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, MA, and serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.ncbcenter.org.
**THE JUNGLE BOOK**

By Joseph McAleen
Catholic News Service

Forest, fauna and beast never looked as good as they do in "The Jungle Book" (Disney), a lavish retelling of the 1894 collection of stories by British author Rudyard Kipling.

What makes this "live-action" 3-D adaptation particularly compelling is that, apart from the "man-cub" Mowgli (Neel Sethi), everything on screen, from the breathtaking jungle landscapes to the meticulously detailed creatures great and small, was created on a computer.

A cheeky line at the end of the credits, "Filmed in Downtown Los Angeles," attests to this surprising fact.

Hence, this "Jungle Book" has much in common with another in-house creation, Disney's beloved 1967 animated take on the tales. In fact, director Jon Favreau ("Chef") and screenwriter Justin Marks pay homage to that movie with moments of humor and by incorporating its toe-tapping tunes, "The Bare Necessities" and "I Wanna Be Like You."

A few scary sequences aside (the jungle is a dangerous place, after all), this version makes delightful, good-natured, heartfelt entertainment for the entire family.

Kipling's basic plot endures: Mowgli, orphaned as a baby, is discovered by a kindly panther, Bagheera (voice of Ben Kingsley). He brings this child to a pack of wolves which raises him as one of their own, instilling a strict moral code and respect for family and other critters. Fortunately for Mowgli - and the audience - all of the anthropomorphic animals speak perfect English. But danger lurks in the guise of Shere Khan (voice of Idris Elba), a menacing tiger who threatens the peaceable kingdom. Man is a threat, he warns, especially the "red flower" he commands - fire.

Shere Khan demands that the wolves surrender Mowgli, now 10 years old, to him for killing. "How many lives is a man-cub worth?" he challenges.

Mowgli decides to leave home to protect his wolf family and, with Bagheera's help, makes his way toward the distant "man village." An accident separates the duo, and Mowgli is swept deep into the jungle, where he is threatened by Kaa (voice of Scarlett Johansson), a seductive python.

All hope seems lost until Mowgli encounters a happy-go-lucky bear named Baloo (voice of Bill Murray). An unlikely friendship strikes up, which will serve Mowgli well in a showdown with Shere Khan and another would-be despot, King Louie (voice of Christopher Walken), boss of all primates.

"The Jungle Book" barrels to an action-packed conclusion that may frighten the youngest moviegoers. But ultimately it's all good escapist fun.

Besides possible scares, parents also may want to take note of a passing reference to a non-biblical creation story. This myth could serve as the opportunity to discuss, in an age-appropriate way, the Christian understanding of life's origins. Amid the "sturm und drang" generated by most Hollywood blockbusters, "The Jungle Book" presents a welcome opportunity, as Baloo croons, to "forget about your worries and your strife."

The Catholic News Service classification is A-II -- adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG -- parental guidance suggested.

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**Order your 2016 Diocesan Directory!**

The Official 2016 Directory of the Diocese of Ogdensburg includes detailed information about parishes, schools and other Catholic organizations.

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$15.00 each
WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES
Saranac Lake - The team that represented the Diocese of Ogdensburg at the World Meeting of Families is presenting a day of Adoration.

Date: May 6
Time: Immediately following the morning Mass.
Place: St. Bernard's Church
Features: Holy Hour with a short presentation in the evening with an opportunity to meet the team members, ask questions and receive resources from the World Meeting of Families. This is a regional event and everyone is invited.
Contact: Fr. Higman at 518-891-4616

FRIENDSHIP VOLUNTEER TRAINING
Saranac Lake – Mercy Care for the Adirondacks is recruiting new volunteers and has scheduled a Friendship Volunteer Training Program.

Date: May 3 and May 10
Time: 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (both mornings are required to complete the training)
Features: If you are able to give some of your time to make elders' lives a little happier, help them enjoy their community more, or make things somewhat easier for them to live independently, please consider becoming a Mercy Care Friendship Volunteer. Anyone in the Tri-Lakes, Keene, Keene Valley, Wilmington, or other surrounding communities who is interested in becoming a Mercy Care Friendship Volunteer is invited to take the training in Saranac Lake. Mercy Care's Friendship Volunteer Training Program is free of charge but pre-registration is required.
Contact: To register for the training, contact Jenn Grisi at Mercy Care by calling 518-5583 or email jgrisi@adkmemory.org.

CLINTON

JOHN MICHAEL TALBOT
Peru - Christian Music Pioneer and TV Host, John Michael Talbot, is coming to Peru.

Date: May 5 & 6
Time: 7 p.m.
Place: St. Augustine's Church
Features: John Michael Talbot is a Christian music legend, best-selling author and host of The Church Channel's popular TV show "All Things Are Possible." A love offering will be received each evening to support the ministries of John Michael Talbot & the Brothers and Sisters of Charity.
Contact: Jackie Torkerill 518-643-2435

SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER
Morrisville – St. Alexander Church and the Knights of Columbus 7248 and 6067 will host a spaghetti dinner fundraiser for vocations to the priesthood.

Date: April 30
Time: 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Place: St. Alexander's Jubilee Hall
Cost: Adults, $8; Children 6-12, $3; under 5, Free

BAG SALE
Peru - Roger's Thrift store will be having a bag sale.

Schedule: April 28 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and April 29 and 30 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Features: Customers may fill a bag provided for $5. Merchandise will include household items, toys, books, tools, etc.
Contact: Jean Ryan at 518-643-9386 or at jjr45@chartier.net

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
Plattsburgh – Eucharistic Adoration is held throughout the year every Wednesday day, Thursday, and Friday.
Place: St. John's "Holy Family" Adoration Chapel, downstairs
Time: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Contact: call 518-561-5083 or email sjohnsadoration@aol.com

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

SPRING RETREAT
Morristown - Spring Retreat Day . "Nurturing the God-Seed Within" has been set.
Date: May 7
Time: 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Place: Cedarhaven located along the St. Lawrence River
Features: In springtime the gardener plants seeds and cares for them; at this retreat We will consider ways that we might tend the God-Seed that the Sower has planted in us.
Cost: $25 for retreat day (lunch included) Additional $25 for overnight with dinner and breakfast included.
Contact: Space is limited. To register call 315-212-6502 or email srbethss@gmail.com by May 4
CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE
Gratitude for your Lenten gifts

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

I am most grateful for your Lenten sacrifice which is such a blessing to the Church as it serves the poor of the Missions.

Throughout the world, day after day, we find suffering of all kinds. The media reminds us daily of profound hunger, poverty, illness, disease, war and violence. There is also the suffering that comes from not knowing of the great love of our Lord.

In the Missions, local priests, Religious Sisters, Brothers and lay catechists reach out to the suffering in Jesus’ name, offering them His love and His message of hope. They remind them that God does not abandon us, helping them to experience in their “Good Friday” world, the hope and joy of Easter Sunday.

By your prayers, and your gifts to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, you accompany those who bring this Good News to the poor and suffering. As I ask your continuing prayers for our mission family, know that you and those you love remain in my prayers.

Know that I am grateful for your generous missionary heart. With a grateful and prayer-filled heart of my own, I accept your prayers and help for the Missions. May you and those you love know hope and great joy! Thank you for making this Lenten Appeal 2016 another success for the Mission Lands. May the Lord bless you abundantly!

OBITUARIES

Altona — Roger A. Lucia, 91; Funeral Services April 13, 2016 at Holy Angels Church; burial in Holy Angels Cemetery.

Altona — Joseph S. Sorrell, 72; Funeral Services April 18, 2016 at Holy Angels Church; burial in Holy Angels Cemetery.

Black River — Kaycie Ann Beaver, Infant; Funeral Services April 23, 2016 at St. Paul’s Church.

Black River — Charles H. Wilton, 87; Funeral April 20, 2016 at St. Paul’s Church; burial in Black River Cemetery.

Brushton — Katherine M. (Jock) Scharf, 64; Funeral Services April 15, 2016 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Champlain — Margaret (Maher) Viens, 89; Funeral Services April 21, 2016 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Chateaugay — Helen M. (Smith) Wideski, 69; Funeral April 9, 2016 at St. Patrick’s Church; burial in St. Patrick’s Cemetery.

Chazy — Barbara (Laramie) Carpenter, 78; Funeral April 14, 2016 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Croghan — Esther G. Mattis, 98; Funeral Services April 12, 2016 at St. Stephen’s Church; burial in St. Peter’s Cemetery, New Brennan.

Dannemora — Carlton L. Gilroy, 95; Funeral at April 22, 2016 at St. Joseph’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Elizabethtown — Robert H. LaVigne, 88; Funeral Services April 11, 2016 at St. Elizabeth’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Ellenburg — Harry P. Malark, 80; Funeral Services April 21, 2016 at St. Edmund’s Church; burial in Whispering Maples Memorial Gardens.

Ft. Covington — Robert William Black, 80; Funeral Services April 8, 2016 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Ft. Covington — Barbara J. (Drumm) Bennett, 80; Funeral Services April 12, 2016 at St. Joseph’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Gouverneur — Christine A. (Marsh) McIntosh, 58; Funeral Service April 22, 2016 at St. James Church; burial in the new St. James Cemetery.

Hogansburg — James Thompson, 95; Funeral Services April 14, 2016 at St. Regis Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Keevskville — Janice M. (Hamlin) McCulloch, 80; Memorial Services April 7, 2016 at the Hamilton Funeral Home.

Keevskville — Sally (Bennett) Ryan, 78; Funeral Services April 13, 2016 at St. John’s Church; burial in Port Douglas Cemetery.

Madrid — Stephanie (Hassler) Tischler, 83; Funeral Services April 7, 2016 at St. John’s Baptist Church; burial in St. Mary’s Cemetery, Potsdam.

Massena — Christine Dubois Comeau, 100; Funeral April 16, 2016 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena — Roy S. Rush, 88; Funeral Services April 11, 2016 at St. Joseph’s Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena — Carl J. White, 92; Funeral Services April 18, 2016 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Morristown — Mary Katherine (Ward) Hackett, 84; Funeral Services April 23, 2016 at St. John’s Church.

Morrisville — Marie Magdeleine Bernardette (Laramie) Gennett, 91; Funeral Services April 7, 2016 at St. Alexander’s Church; burial in Sacred Heart Cemetery, Chazy.

Norwood — Susan (Granger) Perry, 64; Funeral Services April 16, 2016 at St. Andrews Church.

Ogdensburg — Gary T. Skelly, 78; Funeral Services April 11, 2016 at Notre Dame Church.

Ogdensburg — Sylvia J. (LaFave) Tebo, 78; Funeral Services April 14, 2016 at St. Mary’s Cathedral; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Peru — Josephine Lillian Meyer, 76; Funeral Services April 7, 2016 at the Hamilton Funeral Home.

Peru — Jean T. Clemon-Nelson, 53; Funeral Services April 13, 2016 at St. Augustine’s Church.

Plattsburgh — Rolland B. Barber, 81; Funeral Services April 8 at the Brown Funeral Home; burial in Union Cemetery.

Plattsburgh — Alfred J. Bedard, 88; Funeral Services April 7, 2016 at St. Peter’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Plattsburgh — Jane M. (Zygmont) Buhr, 78; Funeral Services April 14, 2016 at St. Peter’s Church; burial in Pointe AuRoche Cemetery.

Plattsburgh — Elizabeth A. (Cloutier) Cole, 81; Funeral April 12, 2016 at St. Peter’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Plattsburgh — Donald R. Cook, 66; Funeral Services April 9, 2016 at Our Lady of Victory Church.

Plattsburgh — Mary Virginia Fitzgerald, 86; Funeral Services April 15, 2016 at Our Lady of Victory Church; burial in St. James Cemetery, North Creek.

Plattsburgh — Paul J. Kyea, 82; Funeral Services April 18, 2016 at St. Peter’s Church; burial in St. Mary’s Lake Cemetery, Potsdam.

Plattsburgh — Athelie M. (Dubray) Lash, 87; Funeral Services April 7, 2016 at St. Peter’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Plattsburgh — Daniel R. Mitchell, 85; Funeral Services April 9, 2016 at St. John’s Church; burial in Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

Plattsburgh — John Serenko, 82; Funeral April 8, 2016 at Blessed John XXIII Newman Center Parish.

Port Henry — Jean (Stoddard) Yukalis, 81; Funeral Services April 18, 2016 at St. Patrick’s Church; burial in St. Patrick’s Cemetery.

Port Henry — Douglas Martin McLaughlin, 56; Funeral Services April 23, 2016 at St. Patrick’s Church; burial in Union Cemetery.

Saranac Lake — Sandra (Beyle) Cassavaugh, 66; Funeral Services April 13, 2016 at the Fortune-Keough Funeral Home; burial in St. Paul’s Cemetery, Bloomingdale.

Scotia — Donald J. Dubé, 70; Funeral Services April 19, 2016 at St. Louis of France Church.

Star Lake — William “Bill” Schmidt, 83; Funeral Services April 9, 2016 at St. Hubert’s Church; burial in Blair Memorial Park, Bellwood, PA.

Star Lake — Donald Pomerville, 85; Funeral Services April 7, 2016 at St. Hubert’s Church.

Ticonderoga — Beth Ann (Feccio) Logan, 59; Memorial Services April 9, 2016 at St. Alphonsus Church.

Tupper Lake — Frances Ann Manning, 59; Memorial Services April 9, 2016 at St. Alphonsus Church.

Tupper Lake — Berta (Shurtleff) Shumway, 64; Funeral Services April 11, 2016 at St. Alphonsus Church; burial in Gale Cemetery.

Tupper Lake — Paul Joseph Thibault, 100; Funeral Services April 20, 2016 at Holy Name Church; burial in St. Alphonsus Cemetery.

Watertown — Nicholas R. Canale, 69; Funeral Services April 7, 2016 at St. Anthony’s Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown — Dr. Diana Reid Nemerurg, 41; Funeral Services April 30, 2016 at Holy Family Church.

Watertown — Beverley J. (Seymour) Sugue, 80; Funeral Services April 21, 2016 at St. Patrick’s Church; burial in Brookside Cemetery.

Willsboro — Kenneth E. Coonrod, 89; Funeral Services April 12, 2016 at St. Philip of Jesus Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.
**A R O U N D  T H E  D I O C E S E**

**ST. LAWRENCE**

LIFECHEST

Potsdam – Lifechest to be held.

Date: May 7
Time: 1 p.m. to 2 (Gather at 12:45 p.m.)
Place: Market and Main Streets (Meet in the parking lot across from the Roxy Theater to pick up your signs.

Features: Bring your whole family. Rain or Shine.

Contact: Dan Paladin & Christina Tartaglia; daniel_paladin@gmail.com; dkarias@yahoo.com

**DIOCESAN EVENTS**

DIOCESE OF OGDESTBURN

LIFECHAIN

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VOCATION PILGRIMAGE

Join Bishop LaValle, Father Bryan Stitt, the Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocations Society, and Catholics from across the Diocese to pray for vocations in this Year of Mercy.

Date: Oct. 11-13
Cost: Single Occupancy $460, Double Occupancy $335/each
Features: Itinerary includes: Mass and tour at Divine Mercy Shrine in Stockbridge, MA, Holy Hour, Mass and tour of Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Albany, visit to Norman Rockwell Museum, 2 dinners, 2 breakfasts, and 1 lunch, buses with pick-ups in Water- town, Ogdensburg, Potsdam, Plattsburgh, Schroon Lake. Space limited, sign up today! (Non-refundable payment due August 27. Any proceeds from the trip will be used for the promotion of vocations within the Diocese of Ogdensburg.)

Contact: For more information contact Call Anne at (315) 333-2950 or Connie at (315) 265-2762.

**PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY**

Father Andrew Amyot will be hosting an 11-day pilgrimage to Italy to celebrate the Holy Jubilee Year of Mercy.

Date: Oct. 31 – Nov. 10, 2016
Cost: $2989 from Montreal Round trip Air from Montreal, taxes and airline surcharges, first class/select hotels, most meals, services of a professional tour director, and comprehensive sightseeing, all hotel services charges, porterage fees and entrance fees.

Features: Venice, Florence, Assisi and Rome

CATHOLIC HEART WORKCAMP

Ogdensburg – Catholic HeartWorkcamp (CHWC) has announced that it will be returning to Wadhams Hall

Date: June 26 to July 1
Cost: The cost is $375 per person, which includes meals, lodging, transportation to the work sites, t-shirts and snacks.

Features: CHWC is a national organization whose mission is to inspire young people to live as disciples of Christ through serving others and to foster the Catholic faith of each participant. During the week, campers will volunteer at various sites throughout the Ogdensburg area during the day and participate in fun, faith-building programs in the evening. Daily Mass, adoration, penance and prayer nourish campers for their work in the community.

Contact: For information about the Ogdensburg camp or to register, please contact managers Jocelyn Kelly and Samantha Poulin at chwcogdensburg@gmail.com. For additional information, www.heartworkcamp.com.

INSPIRE: CALLED TO LOVE

Lake Placid - The diocesan vocation summit with internationally known speakers has been set.

Date: Sept. 25
Time: 9 a.m.
Place: Olympic Center Complex

Features: INSPIRE: Called to Love, is a free all day conference with keynote speaker Bishop Robert Barron, the creator and host of the Catholicism series. Other speakers include George Weigel (biographer to Pope St. John Paul II), Mrs. Jennifer Fulwiler (author and radio host), Bishop Christopher Coyne (Bishop of Burlington, VT and Chairman of the USCCB Communications Committee).

Come pray together and be inspired by our speakers and each other so that together we can cultivate a culture of vocations.

Contact: For more information, full schedule and to register, go to www.inspirecalledtolove.org.

RACHEL’S VINEYARD

Saranac Lake - The spring Rachel’s Vineyard yard after-abortion healing retreat will be offered.

Date: June 3-5
Place: Guggenheim Lodge

Features: A Rachel’s Vineyard retreat offers a safe, non-judgmental environment of hope and healing for those suffering after abortions. The chaplains for the spring retreat are Father Mark Reilly and Father Thomas Higman

Note: The fall Rachel’s Vineyard retreat will be held over Labor Day weekend Sept. 2 – 4. Confidential registration forms will be available soon.

Contact: For a list of retreat locations or for more information about Rachel’s Vineyard visit www.rachelsvineyard.net and for local information www.rcdony.org/pro-life.

**HAPPY EARTH DAY**

Over 30 members of the Catholic Community of Burke & Chateaugay Youth Group celebrated Earth Day April 19 by painting flower pots and planting flowers in them. They also planted flowers in the front of the church. After their hard work they enjoyed pizza and snacks and talked about ways we can help care for our earth. Shown above are Ainsley Crawford, Drew Crawford and Luke Dalton at snack time.

**JOB OPENING**

**Full-time Administrative Assistant** is needed for Trinity Catholic School. This individual will be responsible for all aspects of the day-to-day operations of the school office. The successful applicant should have excellent interpersonal, telephone, written communication and organizational skills, and be proficient in Microsoft Office products, as well as Quickbooks. Trinity Catholic School is an equal opportunity employer. Send letter of interest, resume and completed application by 5/9

Kathy Behrens
188 Main Street, Massena, NY 13662.
Questions? 769-5911.

For more details/ application, visit TrinityCatholicSchool.net.