Youthful face of mercy

KRAKOW, POLAND (CNS) - The youthful face of God's mercy can change the hearts of people who have lost hope, Pope Francis said.

A young person who is touched by Christ is "capable of truly great things," the pope told thousands of young men and women July 28 at the welcoming ceremony of World Youth Day in Krakow.

"Today the church - and I would add, the world - looks to you and wants to learn from you, to be reassured that the father's mercy has an ever-youthful face and constantly invites us to be part of his kingdom," the pope said.

Arriving at Blonia Park in his popemobile, Pope Francis was enveloped in a sea of red, yellow and blue as pilgrims donned brightly colored ponchos to shield them from the rain.

Taking his seat on the main stage, the pope was welcomed by Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz of Krakow and six young men and women representing Europe, Asia, North America, South America, Africa and Australia.

After presenting the pope with a custom pilgrim's backpack, a group of young performers from around the world entertained the pope and the crowd by dancing traditional dances.

INSPIRE to feature bishop of Burlington

Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, bishop of Burlington, Vermont, and chairman of the USCCB Communications Committee, will be among four nationally recognized speakers to address participants at the INSPIRE: Called to Love summit to be held Sept. 25 in Lake Placid.

Bishop Coyne's topic will be "Spirituality of the Church and Vocation."

The bishop spoke recently with the NCC about faith, family, vocations, holiness, and how social media can support the mission of the Church.

NORTH COUNTRY PILGRIMS IN POLAND

Eight young adults were part of the World Youth Day pilgrimage team from the Diocese of Ogdensburg who joined Pope Francis and hundreds of thousands from around the world in Krakow, Poland, July 25-31.

The diocesan group was accompanied by chaplains Father Scott Belina and Father Bryan Stitt, and Mariika Donders, diocesan director of New Evangelization. Pictured above in front of a statue of St. John Paul II are, from left, Father Belina, parochial vicar of St. Andre Bessette Parish in Malone; Lilia Woolslager, St. Stephen's, Croghan; Ms. Donders, Anna Fisher, St. Peter's, Plattsburgh; Emily Stauble, St. Patrick's, Nashua, N.H.; Keven McCullough, Holy Family, Watertown; William Corbett, Holy Family, Little Falls, N.Y.; Leagon Carlin, St. Peter's, Plattsburgh; Sam Bashaw, Catholic Community of Keeseville; and Carter Pierce, St. Raphael's, Heuvelton.
EDITOR’S NOTE

‘The Ursulines are really irreplaceable’

Once again, we have to say goodbye.
Once again, our hearts are breaking.
This time it's our beloved Ursuline Sisters who are leaving us as the order adjusts to the painful reality of a diminishing number of sisters.

For our Catholic family members in the Malone area—who have been loved and taught by the Ursulines for more than 100 years—the departure is especially heart wrenching.

For generations, the rambling house on Elm Street was bustling with holy women determined to get everyone in town to heaven.

Now even the smaller convent, which housed Sister Teresa Byrne and Sister Sheila Murphy, stands quiet.

In his homily at the farewell Mass July 17, Bishop LaValley talked about some of the contributions that the Ursulines have made to the faith life in the North Country.

Our 144-year-old diocese was only 26 when Mother Stanislaus Janisse arrived in Malone with three other nuns on June 17, 1898.

Sixth months later they opened Ursuline Academy for 100 children.

The teaching ministry of the Ursuline Sisters expanded throughout the 20th century as they established St. Joseph Academy and Notre Dame School and taught religion in every parish in the area.

The closure of Catholic schools didn’t slow these sisters down.

They figured out what the people in their community needed and then determined how these needs should be met—in parishes, hospice programs, Catholic Charities, diocesan departments and more.

As part of our coverage of the Ursuline departure, many parishioners from Malone shared personal reflections on the impact that the sisters made on their lives.

The words of Judy Pelkey, a graduate of St. Joseph’s Academy, were typical of comments made to our reporter: “The Ursulines are really irreplaceable. They taught me so much about our faith. Without them, I might not be involved with the Church today.”

Thank God these sisters were in our midst for so many years.

A PASTOR’S PERSPECTIVE

The Our Father: a transformative prayer

My friend, Joe, a Catholic layman, shared this story with me ages ago. On this particular day of the story, he was driving somewhere and came upon an automobile accident. Actually, he was among the first to stop. He immediately noticed a man who had been thrown clear of the car—but was alert.

Joe went over and talked with him; he knew only too well that he shouldn’t try to move him at all. So, he told him he would stay with him until the rescue squad arrived.

On this summer day, I would like to think about this prayer. You and I memorized the Lord’s Prayer. Jesus begins teaching them by sharing with them the Lord’s Prayer.

‘Father Bill Says’

Father William G. Muench

Jesus began teaching them by inviting them to say the Lord’s Prayer with me.

Consider this wonderful prayer. Jesus begins the prayer by making certain that the apostles and we know exactly who God is—Our Father. Our God is the God of Jesus. Our God is not an Old Testament God of fear and punishment. Our God is a loving and caring Father.

As a priest, I’m certain we could join together and say over and over the Lord’s Prayer. I think Jesus taught us how we must live in this relationship with Our God, who is Our Father. The challenge for us is to allow God to be Our Father—to be a part of all we do. Jesus’ Lord’s Prayer—that is such a part of our life that we say it over and over again—begins with us to praise Our God, to remind ourselves how much God Our Father constantly helps and guides us.

Each time we pause to pray and say over and over the Lord’s Prayer—that wonderful prayer, may the presence of God the Father become so real and alive in our lives. This wonderful prayer is so transforming.
‘With gratitude and much love in our hearts’

Bishop LaValley’s homily for the Farewell Mass for the Ursuline Sisters at St. Andre Bessette Parish in Malone July 17

On June 17,1898, the Feast of the Sacred Heart, Mother Stanislaus Janisse accepted the invitation from the Second Bishop of Ogdensburg, Bishop Gabriels, “for religious to carry on work in this large and struggling diocese.”

We do give thanks to God today for the presence of the Ursuline Sisters here in Malone and in our diocese these past 118 years.

We were a young diocese, only 26 years old, when Mother Stanislaus arrived in Malone with three companion nuns. Just six months later, the Ursulines opened their Academy, a day and boarding school, with an enrollment of 100 pupils. Deep faith, tremendous courage and strong perseverance characterized these four valiant women.

From the very early days, the Sisters also taught religion in both Notre Dame and St. Joseph parishes and, later, St. John Bosco, as well. This tiny nucleus of four dedicated women developed into a whole network of holy women who served so faithfully the folks of our beloved North Country.

Beginning in Malone, establishing St. Joseph’s Academy and teaching at Notre Dame Parochial School, they also led religious instruction in the parishes. Their catechetical ministry stretched out to Burke, Bangor, Constable, Trout River, Scio, Redwood, Black Brook, Fort Covington, Raymaville, and Witherbee.

As I was reading some of the history of the Ursulines, I came upon their Statement of Purpose: “the inculcating of a thirst among the young for a higher knowledge in literature, science, art, and the virtues of domestic economy, charity and patriotism.”

Their mission did not end when our Catholic schools closed. Reading the sign of the times through the decades, they have been a great gift in their service in other diocesan ministries. Beyond the formal education ministry, the Ursulines served as school guidance counselors, pastoral associates, Home Health Aides, HOSPICE volunteers. They’ve served on our Board of Trustees for Catholic Charities — where I first met Sister Teresa Byrne, worked in the diocesan Department of Worship and the Deacon Formation Program — where I first met Sister Maureen Welch, as well as lovingly serving the needs of the marginalized in social outreach ministry.

These sisters enabled and encouraged the laity to form Christian homes and families imbued with Christian ideals.

The Ursuline sisters live their charism so faithfully as they weave their personal contemplation of Christ with their apostolic works, each enhancing the other.

Today’s familiar Gospel story of Mary and Martha illustrates so well that charism of integrating contemplation and active ministry. The love discovered and embraced in their personal relationship with Jesus is enfleshed, made real, within the sisters’ community life and in their apostolic ministries.

In his letter to the Corinthians, Paul writes: “It is Christ whom we proclaim, admonishing everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone perfect in Christ” — how closely do these words reflect the ministry of the Ursulines these many years in our diocese! They’ve been about the proclamation of Jesus Christ.

These sisters met courageously the challenges and struggles of a fledgling diocese and were instrumental in the proclamation of Jesus Christ and the growth of the Church, particularly here in the Northern Tier.

In the homily he delivered here in Malone on the occasion of the Ursuline’s centennial anniversary celebration, Bishop Loverde cited a popular phrase of years ago that is just as appropriate on this occasion: “For all that was, thanks; for all that will be, yes.”

We do give thanks to God today for the presence of the Ursuline Sisters here in Malone and in our diocese these past 118 years. We do give thanks to all the Ursuline Sisters beginning with Mother Stanislaus Janisse and her companions and their many faith-filled successors, including Sisters Sheila and Teresa, whose absence we will greatly miss, for enriching the faith of generations of families here in our beloved North Country.

We do give thanks to all the Ursuline Sisters beginning with Mother Stanislaus Janisse and her companions and their many faith-filled successors... for enriching the faith of generations of families here in our beloved North Country.

A couple of years ago, I attended a Bishops’ Meeting in New Orleans. Before Mass at the cathedral, we visited the Old Ursuline Convent in the French Quarter of New Orleans which is now a beautiful museum with wonderful photos of Ursuline Sisters sharing their faith through the years, in so many ways and settings. Their inspiring legacy was on display.

You and I see and experience that legacy in the faces of faith of those who call the North Country “home” and we give thanks to Almighty God for their presence among us.

With gratitude and much love in our hearts for the Ursulines, we say thank you and promise our prayers, particularly at the altar.

From our own pastoral experiences, we know that times come when change becomes necessary. But we know dear sisters, that as you say “yes” to all that is to come, the Lord will reward you for such loving ministry among us and that He has nothing but good in store for those who trust and love Him. You have chosen the better part and we have been blessed in the process.

May God be praised. Forever, may God be praised!
MSC Father Joseph Christy looks back on his time in Watertown

As mission ends, priest heads home to India

By Dave Shampine
Staff Writer

WATERTOWN—Missionary of the Sacred Heart Father Joseph Christy had spent all 12 years of his priesthood in the city of his birth and upbringing, Bengaluru, India, when in 2013 it was “suggested” to him the time for a geographic transfer had come.

But this was not a move anywhere else in India’s state of Kamataka, of which Bengaluru, where more than eight million people live, is the capital city. Nor to anywhere else in India.

The Provincial of Father Christy’s order, the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, wanted the 41-year-old priest to go to a nation in desperate need of missionaries due to a serious decline in vocations—the United States.

And since the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart are a fixture in Watertown, Jefferson County was to be Father Christy’s destination.

“It would be a good experience, to come and see,” Father Christy said in a recent interview as he reflected on the assignment that concluded at the end of July.

He expected to be reunited with his 83-year-old mother, Mary Francina, four bothers and a sister in Bengaluru on the first of August.

“I have no regrets about coming here,” he said of Watertown, where he has been parochial vicar at St. Anthony’s and St. Patrick’s churches. “There are good people here who are strong in their faith. The lay people are generous in sharing their time and talents.”

And all have been so accommodating to him, he said. “The people have been very outreaching in faith and fellowship.”

He made special note of the two pastors he has assisted at the linked parishes, Father Donald Robinson and Msgr. Robert Aucoin. “They have been very good to me, and easy to approach.”

The youngest of six children, he was ordained June 20, 2001, in Bengaluru, which is also referred to as Bangalore.

He served about two years as an assistant pastor, then two more years as a pastor before being appointed in 2005 as superior of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart “Formation House,” the equivalent of a seminary, in Bengaluru.

Father Christy was elevated in 2009 to “Union Superior,” or regional provincial, of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart in India.

He remained in that position until he was ticketed for a trip to the United States.

Leaving administrative positions in his homeland to serve as an assistant pastor in Watertown was an insignificant move, he said.

“Even though this is not something that I miss my home in India, like family. “

That visa expires Aug. 2, prompting his decision to leave now.

“If I extend my stay, I have to stay for six months,” he said. “I’m not fully happy that I am leaving, but due to the situation, it is time to go.”

He said he is not ruling out a return to the United States.

“If I want to, I can come back here after two years. But I’m not sure right now because my mother has been ill.” Currently, she is doing “very well,” he said.

A return will not come until he has completed his studies in Canon Law, for which he is working toward a master’s degree.

“If my provincial agrees, I can come back, but when and where, I do not know,” he said. “The good and wonderful experience I’ve had here gives me the courage and desire to come back. “

“I have thoroughly enjoyed my stay here in these two parishes,” he said. “I will say that I miss my home in India, but Watertown has become my home, like family.”

Father Christy took advantage of his time here to visit Syracuse and Niagara Falls, fishing on the Black River and at Clayton and Alexandria Bay, and learning how to play golf under the tutelage of Father Vincent Freschi, former pastor of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church.

“I’m getting better at it,” he said, his ever-present smile broadening.

His new assignment in India has not yet been revealed, he said, but he said a return to the Formation House or serving on a marriage tribunal are possibilities.

Vocations in India are so far going well, he said, “but we can see in families not as many going to church as before. In about 15 years we will be facing in India what we can see in families not as active in their churches as are the people here, he said.

Notwithstanding, he said, the mission field remains active.

“It is active in India. It is always an active mission field.”

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On faith, family, holiness

By Suzanne Pietropaoli
Staff Writer

The Bishop of Burlington is no stranger to Lake Placid. He has visited often, and enjoys the walk around Mirror Lake. So when Bishop Christopher Coyne speaks at INSPIRE: Called To Love in September, he will be in a place he knows well.

Likewise, when he presents “Spirituality of the Church and Vocation,” Bishop Coyne will be in territory he has known as pastor, Bishop, and scholar.

Bishop Coyne spoke recently with the North Country Catholic about faith, family, vocations, holiness, and how social media can support the mission of the Church.

NCC: Could you share your own vocation story?
BISHOP COYNE: I grew up in a Catholic family in Woburn, Massachusetts, the middle of seven children. The first Catholic school I attended was seminary, at age 23. But we were educated and formed in faith at home and through religious ed classes at the local church.

Our family was very involved in the parish, where we were all altar servers. But my parents were not just parishioners - they were disciples! We were as much Catholic Christians at home as at Church. Our parents taught us our prayers, and Mom faithfully sat down with us to review our catechism lessons. Our parents were devout, and their faith was authentic; they were very generous, always giving to others—as my mom still does today at age 86.

Priests were regular visitors and dinner guests in our home. I first found the priesthood attractive through this association with good parish priests. I thought of going into the seminary a couple of years after I graduated from high school, but the priest I consulted told me I wasn’t ready; he advised me to go to college first. Throughout college I remained active in the parish, lectoring and teaching religious ed. Then I became friends with another priest through young adult and social outreach ministries.

“Give the seminary a try,” he advised, “and see where it takes you.” Even then I had to ask myself why I wanted to be a priest—for power and position, or to serve the Church and her people?

Through good formation I chose to become a priest to become a servant, and, thank God, the Church chose me!

NCC: What is the significance of your episcopal motto, “Trust in the Lord”?
BISHOP COYNE: When I was 15, my 19-year-old brother Terence died of a brain tumor after two and a half years of suffering. It was a terrible time for our family, as all of us were affected.

Fortunately my music teacher would spend 45 minutes of each lesson just letting me talk. Also, our parish priests were very attentive to our family. One in particular kept reminding me: “You have to trust in God. However this plays out, God’s plan will get you through.”

He instilled this in me: like Jesus in Gethsemane, we must trust in God’s bountiful love and want his will to be done. Our home is not in this world, but in heaven.

NCC: The upcoming summit focuses on the universal call to holiness. How would you explain that term?
BISHOP COYNE: The universal call to holiness is the call to become like God, to be of God by engaging with holy things and with the sacraments. We have all had the experience of wanting to be in the presence of another person because s/he has found the way into the good and the holy.

The universal call to holiness reminds us to be that kind of person, so in love with God and so filled with the joy of the kingdom, even when things are not going well.

The parish is very important to this as the spiritual home of Catholics, the place where we come together to be nourished by word and sacrament. It is the place from which we go out to live the call to holiness, to become the domestic church in our homes and to so act in our workplaces that we might bring others to Christ and to the Church.

Much more than the diocese, the parish is the heart of the Church in the world.

NCC: How do you see your role as Bishop?
BISHOP COYNE: I try to be a pastor, and to see the diocese as my parish. My task is to proclaim salvation in Jesus Christ, and the faith of the Church, and to bring that to people so that they can come to know what I know and to receive what I have received.

We are blessed to have talented people assisting in this, people who focus on the mission of proclaiming the Good News. I see myself as cooperator with priests and deacons, and I try to support and affirm them.

Here in Burlington we also focus on the common good, discovering ways we can support existing care efforts.

Among the challenges: Vermont now has its lowest birthrate since the Civil War; people seem astonished that anyone likes and wants children. Shrinking families means shrinking parishes. We also have the second oldest population in the U.S.

NCC: You chair the USCCB Committee on Communications, and have a long history of social media presence. How did this begin, and how does a bishop keep up with it?
BISHOP COYNE: I have always been a computer geek and liked technology. In college, I bought new products and dove right in. As pastor, people liked my columns so I started a blog which became very popular. I have had lots of good help to get me connected and to keep me going on Facebook and Twitter.

As Bishop, I have had the same desire to use technology to serve the mission of the Church. It is an opportunity to reach great numbers of people, and the response is quite positive.

I ration my screen time carefully: each morning after my Holy Hour, I spend half an hour on digital media. I do not do business there, though I do pray for intentions when asked. We are now a culture of the image rather than of the word, which challenges us to use the new media to bring the gospel to the world.
Funeral held for Rev. G. McGrath

FORT LAUDERDALE, FLA. — A Mass of Christian Burial for Rev. Gerald Francis McGrath, 90, was held July 28 at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church.

He died July 20, burial was in St. Mary’s Cathedral Cemetery in Ogdensburg.

Father McGrath was born October 25, 1925 in Norwood. He studied for the priesthood at Wadham’s Hall Seminary and at St. Mary’s Seminary in Baltimore, Maryland.

He was ordained to priesthood by Bishop James Navagh, D.D. on May 31, 1958. He served at Immaculate Heart Central School in Watertown and parishes in Gouverneur, Brownville, Lyon Mountain, Malone, Watertown, Evans Mills and North Bangor.

After a leave of absence, Father McGrath was incardinated in the Archdiocese of Miami in 1978 where he continued to serve.

Father McGrath is survived by his sister, Norma Demers.

Bishop’s Schedule

Aug. 6 - 4 p.m., Installation Mass of Reverend Shane Lynch as Pastor of St. James Church, Gouverneur, St. Hubert’s Church, Star Lake and Sacred Heart Church, Edwards at St. James Church

Aug. 9 – 5 p.m., Essex Deanery Bishop’s Fund Reception at St. Patrick’s Parish Center, Port Henry

Aug. 10 – 5 p.m., Adirondack Deanery Bishop’s Fund Reception at McKenzie’s Grille, Saranac Lake

Aug. 11 - 5 p.m., Clinton Deanery Bishop’s Fund Reception at St. Augustine’s Parish Center in Peru

Aug. 12 – 5:15 p.m., St. Lawrence Deanery Priest Gathering at St. Andrew’s Church in Norwood

Aug. 13 – 11 a.m., 1st Profession of Vows for Sister Patricia Carmella at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse in Watertown

Aug. 14 – 11:15 a.m., 140th Anniversary Mass of the Dedication of St. Mary’s Church in Canton

Aug. 15 – 5 p.m., Lewis Deanery Bishop’s Fund Reception at St. Peter’s Parish Center in Lowville

Aug. 16 – 5 p.m., Franklin Deanery Bishop’s Fund Reception at the Malone Golf Club in Malone

Aug. 17 – 5:00 p.m., Hamilton-Herkimer Deanery Bishop’s Fund Reception at St. Anthony’s Parish Center in Inlet

To Report Abuse

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

Environmental Stewardship

Have you ever wondered??

Have you ever wondered why you feel more relaxed at the beach? Science may hold one of the keys. When we breathe in the sea air, we inhale minerals and negatively charged ions that reduce stress and improve alertness and concentration.

In her book, *Gift from the Sea*, Anne Morrow Lindbergh reflects on her experience of going to the ocean. Laden with a bag full of unread books, overdue unanswered mail, lists and good intentions, she finds only too soon that her tired body takes over. She is forced, against her mind’s sense of responsibility, back into the primal rhythms of the seashore. Her advice to her reader is: “One should lie empty, open, choiceless as a beach — waiting for a gift from the sea.”

Summer days seem to invite us to slow down and pay more attention to the gifts of nature that surround us. Pope Francis, faithful to Scripture, encourages us to see nature as “a magnificent book in which God speaks to us ….” (Laudato Si #12). Whether these days of summer take us to the shores of the ocean or one of the many lakes, rivers, streams in our own North Country, spending time near water seems to refresh us. Perhaps, like Anne, we find that, when we can shed some of our unnecessary baggage and to-do lists, we find a place of stillness and centeredness. Momentarily, we may feel a shift from our “take control” approach to one of “dwelling with” approach. This shift may feel more free and peace-filled with less need to manage and possess the world around us. In this space we may be more aware of the awesomeness of God and desire to utter our own hymn of praise and thanksgiving.

Car Raffle

Our Annual Car Raffle is underway. Tickets will be sold after the Saturday and Sunday Masses. They are also available at the rectory Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The drawing will be held after the 10 a.m. Mass on Sunday October 9, 2016 and the winner may choose the car or $15,000 in cash.

The price for the ticket is $20 or six (6) tickets for $100 with all proceeds going to St. Agnes School.

The car this year is a 2016 Subaru Outback fully equipped from Jerry Stack of Central Garage here in Lake Placid. If you wish to buy tickets by mail, please fill out the form & enclose your check made out to St. Agnes Church

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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:

Aug. 2 – 12:30 a.m., St. Peter’s Church, Plattsburgh
Aug. 13 – 9:30 a.m., Immaculate Heart Central School, Watertown
Sept. 10 – 10 a.m., Seton Academy, Plattsburgh
Sept. 14 – 6 p.m., Seton Academy, Plattsburgh
Ursuline spirit lives on in the vibrant presence of Ursuline Associates (Malone and Witherbee) and in the alums who hold dear their Ursuline education. "We are grateful to all who supported our ministry here, and we carry all of you in our hearts," she said. These feelings were certainly reciprocated by the many who came to say goodbye.

'They gave us something precious'
Mary Hart was educated, K-12, by the Ursulines. "It was very moving to see the sisters here today," she said. "They gave us all something precious. The sisters were always flexible and willing to listen. Thank God they were here when we needed them!" Sandy Marshall, too, feels blessed by her Ursuline education. "My siblings and I just loved the sisters. They taught us well, but they also cared about us and encouraged us. They made school a happy place."

Alum Dan Benware connects his happy memories with the day's events. "I am overwhelmed by the history of these women in this community, by all they have done. With the sisters, 'We remember; we celebrate; we believe.'"
Deacon Bryan Bashaw has a special reason to remember. "Because of my vision problem, only the Ursulines would take me in kindergarten—and they kept me through all twelve grades," he said. "Their patience and help made all the difference for me and allowed me to get a very good education. I owe my life to them!"

Alum Neil Seymour agrees. "The Ursulines are really irreplaceable. They taught me so much about our faith. Without them, I might not be involved with the Church today."

Ursuline Associates
"They recently joined the ranks of Malone's Ursuline Associates, lay people who participate in the spirituality and good works of the order: "The Ursulines have had such an impact on this community. I wanted to be part of this group that carries on their work."

Neil's daughter, Colleen Scott, has fond memories of these great-aunts. "They tutored me, taught me to make rosaries, and to crochet—and that was all outside of school! It is very moving to be here today; the Ursulines will be very much missed!"
Sue Walsh is likewise saddened by their departure. "I have seen these women and the great good that they do in this community. I have been inspired by them!"
Alum Judy Pelkey notes that, "The Ursulines are really irreplaceable. They taught me so much about our faith. Without them, I might not be involved with the Church today."

Ursuline farewell: end of an era

By Suzanne Pietropaoli
Staff writer

MALONE - An era ended here on July 17th. One hundred and eighteen years after the first Ursulines arrived in Malone to establish Catholic schools, a capacity crowd filled Notre Dame Church to bid farewell to Sister Teresa Byrne and Sister Sheila Murphy.

The Mass was celebrated by Bishop Terry LaValley, joined by pastor Father Joseph W. Giroux, parochial vicar Father Scott A. Belina, and former pastor Msgr. Dennis J. Duprey.

Among the many Ursuline sisters present for the occasion was their Provincial, Sister Jane Finnerty. In her welcoming remarks, she praised the many sisters who labored so long in northern New York.

"They have adapted with courage and graciousness, Sister Jane said. "With the departure of these sisters who have served so faithfully, the

By Bishop Terry LaValley

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Ursulines

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

For St. Joseph Sister Mary Eamon Lyng, “The Ursulines were our fellow-religious in Malone for many years, and they always made us Sisters of St. Joseph feel welcome. We shared daily Mass with them.

“The Ursulines had a wonderful ministry in Malone and leave behind a strong legacy of faith,” she said.

Father Belina also recognizes the Ursuline legacy and acknowledges their departure as “a sign of the times. I am very sorry to see them go.”

Father Giroux, too, recalls “the deep and lasting impact of the Ursulines on our local Catholic community.

Of the last two sisters to serve in Malone, he says, “Sister Teresa and Sister Sheila have become part of the fabric of St. Andre's Parish: bringing communion to the homebound, assisting with liturgical ministries at Mass, coordinating the local Ursuline Associates—always teaching the ways of faith and justice not only in word, but in the witness of their lives.

“We will miss the sisters,” Father Giroux said, “but we send them with our prayers and gratitude.”

“Thank you all for your love, your dedication, and your prayers,” Sister Teresa Byrne concluded in her final remarks. “This is the age of the laity. You are the ones who will ‘carry’ the Church in this area.

“You, the baptized, are the bearers of the Christian message,” Sister Teresa said. “You are the ones who by your lives of charity and fidelity bear witness to Jesus Christ. In (St.) Angela’s words: ‘To God alone the glory.’

Parish honors pastor with a ‘Big Birthday Bash’

Submitted by Pam Boiles
St. James Major Church, Lake Pleasant

Lake Pleasant—Although he didn’t have 60 candles on his cake to blow out, Father Sony Pulickal, pastor of St. Ann’s and St. James’ Churches in Wells and Lake Pleasant, had almost 100 well-wishers at his birthday dinner held June 12 at The Inn in Speculator.

Father Pulickal was presented with a gift bag containing a golf course membership for next year and many gift certificates for local restaurants, so he can eat a good meal without having to cook.

The evening was full of impromptu toasts and compliments towards the guest of honor as well as an overflowing basket of cards.

Ronni Royal shared a presentation on Father Pulickal’s life story, illustrated with maps pinpointing all the places he had been, from when he was born, on June 17, 1956 in Kothamagaim, Kerala, India, to his current life with his parishioners in the North Country.

In April of 1983 he was ordained a priest and took his first assignment as parochial vicar in Kerala, India. After one year, he moved on to Milan and Rome, Italy, as a parochial vicar in charge of Claretian Philosophy students.

He spent the following three years assigned to St. Peter’s Church in Lowville and then he moved on as pastor of St. Mary’s Nativity Church in West Leyden. In 2004, he was assigned to Indian Lake where he was pastor at St. Mary’s Church for seven years, until coming to St. Ann’s and St. James’ in 2011.

Following the talk, two cakes were brought out prompting a loud rendition of “Happy Birthday” to be sung; not a crumb of cake was left after everyone had been served.

A better time could not have been had and parishioners and friends alike were happy to have the opportunity to wish Father Sony a very happy birthday.
IN THE NORTH COUNTRY AND BEYOND

FACES OF FAITH

Padre Andre Jose Marquez blesses a truck for St. Martin de Porras Parish in Moliendo, Peru. The truck was purchased with funds raised from the 2015 Missionary Projects of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. See story on page 15.

Deacon Ronald Ste. Marie of St. Anthony/Joseph Parish in Herkimer, N.Y., a former deacon of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, was honored at Hart’s Hill Inn, Whitesboro, N.Y., July 13 by Health Friends, Inc., as “Health Friend of the Year 2016.” The honor was given in recognition of a “lifetime of pastoral care, enriching the lives of people in the parishes and communities Deacon Ste. Marie served in Inlet and Old Forge during the years that he resided there.

Knights of Columbus Council 2301 of Au Sable Forks celebrated its 95th anniversary of providing charitable service to the community with a Mass at Holy Name Church on July 17. At a luncheon following the Mass, the council installed its newly elected officers, and recognized Henry E. Coolidge as its Knight of the Year. At left, Thomas L. McDonald, Grand Knight, right, presents the Knight of the Year Award to Mr. Coolidge, who serves the council as Deputy Grand Knight. Pictured in the photo above left are, front, Mike Thomas, Henry Coolidge, Joseph Kostoss and Jack Monigan; middle, Norman Hatch, Donald Light, James Akey, Mike Fitzsimmons and Dale Walton; and back, Tom McDonald, Maurice Pelkey, Deacon John Ryan, Father Kris Lauzon, Ken Borgers and Ed Winslow.
Pope Francis: Cruelty did not end at Auschwitz

By Ianno Archo Esteves
Catholic News Service

In downtown Krakow, Poland - Humankind’s cruelty did not end with the Holocaust, but rages on in the suffering of those living through war, homelessness and persecution, Pope Francis said.

“This cruelty exists today. We say: ‘Yes, we have seen cruelty, 70 years ago; how they died shot, hanged or gassed.’ But today, in so many places in the world where there is war, the same thing happens,” the pope told a crowd gathered late Tuesday morning Mass July 29 outside the archbishop’s residence in Krakow where he was staying during World Youth Day.

The pope’s words came at the end of a day focused on the suffering of innocents. He had begun the day with a silent prayer at the Auschwitz-Birkenau Nazi death camp in Oswiecim, followed by a visit to a local children’s hospital and participation in the Way of the Cross with young people at Blonia Park. (See story on page 11)

Calling it “a day of sorrow,” the pope said that in following the Way of the Cross, Christians were united in Jesus’ sufferings.

However, Christ not only suffered 2,000 years ago, but continues to suffer in today’s world.

“So many people suffer: the sick, those who are in war, the homeless, the hungry, those who are doubtful in life, who do not feel happiness, salvation or who feel the weight of their own sin,” he said.

Before unspeakable horrors and suffering – especially the pain of children who suffer – Christians may ask themselves why it happens, he continued.

“There are no answers for that question,” the pope said.

The pope also said his visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau was a reminder of “such pain, such cruelty” that human beings are capable of inflicting.

“Is it possible that we men and women, created in God’s likeness, are capable of doing these things? These things were done. I do not want to make you bitter, but I have to say the truth. Cruelty did not end in Auschwitz, in Birkenau. Even today, people are tortured; so many prisoners are tortured to make them talk.

It is terrible!” he exclaimed.

“What I am telling you is a bit sad, but it is reality. But the fact that Jesus has taken upon himself all these things is also a reality,” the pope said.

Jesus loves everyone despite their sins, he concluded, inviting the young people to pray together for those who suffer from “so many bad things, so much wickedness.”

“When there are tears, a child seeks out his or her mother. We sinners, too, are children; let us look for our mother and pray to Our Lady together,” he said.

Expresses shock over violence in French church

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - The murder of a priest in northern France, taken hostage with a handful of other faithful during a Wednesday morning Mass July 26, is another act of “absurd violence” added to too many stories of senseless violence and death, said the Vatican spokesman.

Pope Francis was informed about the hostage situation at the church in Saint-Etienne-du-Rouvray near Rouen and the murder of 85-year-old Father Jacques Hamel, said Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman.

“With pain and horror” for the “absurd violence,” Pope Francis expressed his condemnation of “every form of hatred” and offered his prayers for all those involved.

“We are particularly stricken because this horrible violence occurred in a church -- a sacred place in which the love of God is proclaimed -- with the barbaric killing of a priest,” Father Lombardi said.

Police said two men, armed with knives, entered the church during Mass. They reportedly slit the throat of Father Hamel. They said another person present at the Mass was in serious condition at the hospital.

An Interior Ministry spokesman said the attackers were killed by police, ending the hostage situation.

A nun who witnessed the attack described the scene to French radio station RMC.

"In the church, everyone screamed 'Stop, you don't know what you're doing.' They didn't stop. They forced him to his knees; he tried to defend himself, and it was then that the drama began," said the nun, who identified herself as Sister Danielle.

"They recorded themselves (on video). They did a little video sermon - around the altar in Arabic. It was a horror," the nun said.

The sister managed to escape the church and flag down a car for help, RMC reported.

She told the station about her respect for her colleague. "If they killed the priest, he knew that this was an extraordinary priest," Sister Danielle told RMC. "That's all I want to say. He's great, Father Jacques."

The Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the attack via its news site, though the group's involvement has not been confirmed by French police.

French President Francois Hollande suggested the group was behind the attack.

Hollande called Pope Francis to express "the grief of the French people after the odious assassination of Father Jacques Hamel by two terrorists," said a statement from the president's office.

Archbishop Dominique Lebrun of Rouen, who was in Krakow, Poland, with World Youth Day pilgrims when the attack occurred, said he would return to his archdiocese.

"The Catholic Church can take up no weapons other than those of prayer and brotherhood among people of goodwill," the archbishop said in a statement from Krakow.

He said that while he would leave Poland, hundreds of young people from his diocese would remain. "I ask them not to give in to violence, but instead "become apostles of the civilization of love."

Msgr. Olivier Ribadeau Dumas, secretary-general of the French bishops' conference, also was in Krakow for World Youth Day. He told media: "We know now they were both terrorists."

"We believe that evil and violence will not have the upper hand, and all the French bishops share this opinion," he said.
Follow Jesus' Way of the Cross through works of mercy, Pope Francis says

By Junno Ancho Esteves
Catholic News Service

KRAKOW, Poland (CNS) - By embracing the hunger, thirst and loneliness of others, young people can touch Jesus' cross and experience the light of the resurrection, Pope Francis said.

It was Jesus who chose to identify with people who suffer pain and anguish, especially those fleeing violence and persecution, by "agreeing to tread the way of sorrows that led to Calvary," the pope told young men and women July 29 participating in the Way of the Cross at World Youth Day.

The reflection on Jesus' passion and death capped an emotional day that included a visit to the Auschwitz concentration camp and a stop at children's hospital in Krakow before his arrival at Blonia Park. Police stood shoulder-to-shoulder at some crossing points into the park and would not let people pass, sending them to other entry points on the grounds. Thousands of people still were streaming to the service from the crowded streets 30 minutes into the service.

Dancers, acrobats, painters and other artists performed interpretations of each key moment leading up to Christ's crucifixion, death and burial.

Each significant event of Jesus' crucifixion was linked to a corporal or spiritual work of mercy. A group of nuns dressed and painted completely in white acted out Simon of Cyrene helping Jesus carry his cross, while wall climbers seemed to stumble as they climbed and formed a cross on the wall, representing Jesus falling for the first time.

The first station - Jesus sentenced to death - related to sheltering the homeless and refugees who share in that same suffering through humanity's indifference. About two dozen young people from the Sant'Egidio Community from Italy, Argentina, Ukraine and Pakistan carried a wooden cross to the first station. They were accompanied by two formerly homeless Poles and a couple who fled the war in Syria.

"In the last few years, you have been sentenced to death in the persons of 30,000 refugees. Sentenced - by whom? Who will agree with this sentence?" a young woman prayed at the first station.

Following the Stations of the Cross, Pope Francis, who had watched from the stage, began his address by welcoming the Syrian refugees "with fraternal affection and friendship."

"By embracing the wood of the cross, Jesus embraced the nakedness, the hunger and thirst, the loneliness, pain and death of men and women of all times. Tonight, Jesus - and we with him - embrace with particular love our brothers and sisters from Syria who have fled from the war," he said.

The pope said that suffering of refugees, the sick, and exploited children could often lead to questioning God's presence. While those questions "humanely speaking have no answer," Christ does have an answer.

"Jesus' answer is this: 'God is in them.' Jesus is in them; he suffers in them and deeply identifies with each of them," he said.

The pope emphasized the importance of both corporal and spiritual works of mercy, which can bring young people to touch Christ's "sacred flesh" and determine whether they're Christians.

"In welcoming the outcast who suffer physically and welcoming sinners who suffer spiritually, our credibility as Christians is at stake. Not (just) in ideas," he said.

"Humanity today needs men and women, and especially young people like yourselves, who do not wish to live their lives ‘halfway,’ young people ready to spend their lives freely in service to those of their brothers and sisters who are poorest and most vulnerable, in imitation of Christ, who gave himself completely for our salvation," he said.

Pope Francis called on all young people to be at the forefront of serving others, a path of "personal commitment and self-sacrifice" that "is the Way of the Cross."

"The Way of the Cross is not sadomasochistic," he said. "The Way of the Cross is the only thing that conquers sin, evil and death, for it leads to the radiant light of Christ's resurrection and opens the horizons of a new and fuller life."
The absurdity of not having faith

Forty years ago there was a play on Broadway called “Waiting for Godot.” In it, the two main characters are Vladimir and Estragon, clowns who claim to be waiting for Godot (obviously, God). He never comes. The plan was a clever attack on the absurdity of belief in the promises of Scripture about an afterlife. This Sunday’s readings are all about faith.

They speak of the importance of being prepared for the Lord’s second coming, and His judgment on our faith, or the lack of it. The second reading from Hebrews says it all: “Faith is the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen.” If our faith is strong, we will endure anything rather than miss out on the day of the Lord’s coming.

The first reading from the Book of Wisdom recalls the Passover night before the flight of the Israelites from Egypt to the Promised Land. Faith alone in what God promised could have given them the courage to endure the desert. God rewarded their courage with miracles to assist in their escape. The Gospel points out that we are to live in this world as strangers who are on their way home. People who live in tents travel light. Too many possessions distract them, and slow down their progress to their new home. Jesus told them, “for where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.” The final section warns them to be ready for that day. “Be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.”

The best preparation, of course, is for us to love our neighbor by feeding the poor, sheltering the homeless, listening to a child who is hurting. Comforting a friend who is lonely.

The Theater of the Absurd that I spoke of earlier had it all wrong. It is truly absurd to abandon belief in the promises of the Word of God who speaks to us in today’s readings.

Commandments: source of real freedom

In Exodus we read that God gave the Ten Commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai. It’s no mistake that the very first commandment says “I am the Lord, your God. Do not have any false gods.” After all, God had just freed the Hebrews from slavery in Egypt and from the influence of all the false gods that the Egyptians worshipped. It’s easy to just gloss over this concept because we’ve heard it so many times, but it is important to slow down and take a closer look at the process that God used to save the Hebrews. It isn’t just God acting. The Egyptians had all kinds of false gods. They had the gods of the Nile, of the frogs, of the sun, of the sky, of fertility, of healing, and the god of sheep. One by one through the plagues He sent, God systematically discredited the false gods of Egypt and set the Israelites free. The best part of the story is the fact that the Egyptians worshipped Aries, the god of sheep. The Egyptians abstained from killing sheep, and had a very low opinion of shepherds. The Israelites were commanded to slaughter the sheep and spread its blood over their doorways, the part that goes up and down and the part that goes across, reminiscent of the Lamb of God shedding His blood on the cross.

When we abide by the rules and laws that God has given us, we are free to experience the immense joy that He wants for us and we are able to do some incredible things.

This was done in full view of their Egyptian neighbors, and this blood stained their doorways and could not be cleaned off. It was permanent. The Hebrews were not just freed from slavery by the power of God. They had a part to play in all of it as well. They were required to live in reality, to overcome their fears, to stand up and choose God and make a permanent, visible, provocative opposition to the most powerful government in the world and the false gods of that society.

They were able to do this because they had already experienced God’s love for them and His power. This is what the eternal, all-powerful, unchanging God, asks of us and our families today.

At the World Meeting of Families, Bishop Barron said that wealth, power, pleasure, and our own egos have all played the role of false gods over the course of the human drama, but today especially, freedom itself, in the sense of doing whatever a person wants to do, has emerged as a major false god.

The propaganda here is the word “choice.” It’s my choice. And what this boils down to is that our lives belong utterly to us, that we become great projects of self-creation and self-determination, and we can do whatever we want, any time we want to. This is not real freedom because ultimately it closes us in upon ourselves and it leaves a trail of wreckage in its wake.

It might seem to people that the commandments and the rules of the Church are just meant to be restrictive and to take away their freedom. On the contrary, Bishop Barron said that they actually cause us to have real freedom, which empowers us to love God and love others.

He explained that when we abide by the rules and laws that God has given us, we are free to experience the immense joy that He wants for us and we are able to do some incredible things.

What are the false gods that we’re worshipping, and what are the consequences of worshipping false gods?

At the very least, we miss opportunities to spend time with each other and build love between us. I enjoy video games, so it hit the bullseye for me when Pope Francis mentioned, in Amoris Laetitia, the situation where one spouse falls asleep waiting for the other to finish up what they are doing on an electronic device. But other situations are far more serious and can have disastrous effects on marriage and families. We’ll take a look at these situations in the upcoming articles when we examine the other commandments.

Socrates said that the unexamined life is not worth living. Families can have the weekly meeting where they consider each of the commandments and how well they have kept them as a family. My family does our meeting on Sundays, but sometimes I think it would be better to do it on Saturday morning so that we can go to Confession and make a fresh start to a new week and renew our decision to worship God with Sunday Mass.

After the Hebrews were freed Joshua gave an ultimatum, saying that the Hebrews had to choose between life and death. “If serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve...But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”
ICE AGE: COLLISION COURSE

By John Mulderig
Catholic News Service

Weakly constructed and inappropriate, in some respects, for its target audience, "Ice Age: Collision Course" (Fox) has little to recommend it.

This fifth installment of the animated franchise for children that dates back to 2002 also is tainted by a vaguely anti-religious undertone that seems to exalt science at the expense of faith.

Believing moviegoers will sense that ill-defined vibe from the start, since the narration over the opening scenes purports to tell the real story of how the universe came into existence. In fact, what follows merely shows us how Scrat, the acorn-obsessed squirrel whose dialogue-free antics have been one of the series' assets, somehow wound up in outer space, where his frantic pursuit of his favorite food item caused various, humorously portrayed changes in our solar system.

Scrat's chase also gets the plot rolling when he inadvertently sets a giant asteroid on a potentially cataclysmic collision course with the Earth. Down on terra firma, that spells trouble for all existing life forms, including Manny (voice of Ray Romano), the good-hearted but gloomy wooly mammoth who has featured in all the "Ice Age" films.

As an overprotective dad, Manny is already struggling to cope with his sunny daughter Peaches' (voice of Keke Palmer) engagement to her boyfriend, Julian (voiced by Adam Devine). Despite the best efforts of his level-headed wife, Ellie (voice of Queen Latifah), to foster good relations between them, Manny resents Julian and rebuffs his soon-to-be son-in-law's displays of affection.

Such minor domestic discord is, of course, put in the shade once the cosmic threat becomes apparent. What to do to save the world? The unlikely answer involves a journey to a field of magnetic rocks that Manny and company hope can be used to divert the asteroid.

This implausible scheme is the brainchild of eccentric, British-accented weasel Buck (voice of Simon Pegg) who goes on to serve as the family's not-always-reliable guide along their quest. Directed by Michael Thurmeier and Galen Tan Chu, the scattershot proceedings also take in lonely sloth Sid's (voice of John Leguizamo) search for love.

While the slapstick comedy around which the shaky story is built is obviously aimed at kids, some of the vocabulary and humor is unsuitable for them. And the problematic outlook on religion resurfaces when the travelers encounter Shangri Llama (voiced by Jesse Tyler Ferguson), a guru who is reputed to know everything but turns out to be no help at all.

Science celebrity Neil deGrasse Tyson is also thrown into the mix and given an alter ego, Neil deBuck Weasel. Since Tyson identifies as an agnostic, and is on record as rejecting the idea of a benevolent God, his presence will not be reassuring to parents intent on passing on the faith to their youngsters.

The Catholic News Service classification is A-II -- adults and adolescents.

The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG -- parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

PHOTO BY STEFANIE WILSON

ADIRONDACK

“VACATION WITH THE LORD”
Saranac Lake – A summer retreat is set Place: Guggenheim Lodge Dates: Aug. 12 – 14 Cost: $150 Features: Facilitated by Sr. Bethany Fitzgerald, SSJ and Paul Gibaldi, Adirondack guide and published nature photographer; A time to enjoy nature as “a magnificent book in which God speaks to us and grants us a glimpse of His infinite beauty and goodness,” Laudato Si (#12) and a time to discover lessons for life from the “Gospel of Creation” (Laudato Si. Chap. 2). Father Paul Kelly will celebrate Mass Contact: Call 315-212-6592 or email sr.bethssj@gmail.com

SETON SCHOOLS
Plattsburgh - Families of students from Pre-Kindergarten (3 & 4 year olds) through Grade 12 can arrange for a private, personalized campus tour. Contact: Development Office at (518) 561-4031 or email admissions@setonschools.org.

REDFORD PICNIC
Redford – 161st Annual Redford Picnic to be held. Dates: Aug. 21 Place: Grounds of the Parish Center at Church of the Assumption Schedule: Events start at 11:30 a.m. beginning with “Saranac Hollow Jammers” until 1:30; “Roy Hurd” from 2 p.m. to 4 followed by “Bob, Anne Marie & The Backroads Band” from 4:15 p.m. to 6:15. Drawing for the $5000 cash prize will be at 6:15 p.m. Features: Ham and Roast Beef dinners will be served in the gym. Games, Fancy Booth and rides on one of the oldest merry-go-rounds in North America raffle sale and numerous other events.

OLA FOUNDERS DAY
Ellenburg Center – Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer to celebrate Founders Day. Date: Aug. 27 Time: 11 a.m. Features: Bishop LaVallee will offer Mass and a lunch will follow Contact: For reservations or information call 518-594-3253 or email olahouse@gmail.com

SETON ALUMNI REUNION
Plattsburgh – Seton Catholic’s Alumni Reunion weekend to be held.

THE NORTH COUNTY CATHOLIC welcomes contributions to “Around the Diocese.” Parishioners are invited to send information about activities to: North County Catholic, PO Box 326, Ogdensburg, NY 13669; fax, 1-866-314-7296; e-mail news@northcountrycatholic.org.

Address:

Date: Aug. 12-14
Features: Class of ’91, Class of ‘96, Class of ‘01 and the Class of ’06 Contact: Facebook.com/SetonCatholicAlumniReunion2016

HOST PARENTS WANTED
Plattsburgh – Seton Catholic is seeking host families for international students Features: Seton is currently accepting applications for fall 2016. Each family receives a monthly stipend to offset the expense of hosting a student. Contact: Call Seton Catholic for more information at (518) 561-4041.

CLOTHES, SHOES DONATION CENTER
Plattsburgh – Drop unwanted clothes, shoes, sheets, blankets, bedsprads, towels, curtains and stuffed animals in our BLUE drop box. Place: Seton Catholic Features: Seton receive 5 cents per pound of donations. You can also donate cans and bottles in our redemption box.

PROGRAMS AT OLA
Ellenburg Center – Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer program for the coming months has been announced.
Schedule: Each first Saturday through Nov. Rosary will begin at 11 a.m. (with confessions available) and Mass will be offered at 11:30 a.m. followed by lunch. Each third Saturday (except Aug.) there will be a retreat day on a theme of Mercy starting at 10 a.m. with Mass and lunch. Reservations are required. The House of Prayer will be opened each weekday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Contact: call 518-594-3253 or email olahouse@gmail.com

RENOVATION GOLF TOURNAMENT
Plattsburgh – 6th Annual St. Joseph’s Church (Dannemora) Building Renovation Golf Tournament to be held. Date: Aug. 12 Place: Bluff Point Course Cost: $60 per person which includes golf, cart, meal and prizes. Features: 4 person scramble. Proceeds will go to the Renovation Fund. Contact: Teams or individuals may contact Deacon Ed at 563-0828 or Fr. Mickey at 492-7118 for an application.

K OF C GOLF TOURNAMENT
Ticonderoga – K of Council #333 is hosting its annual Donald Giganto Memorial Golf Tournament. Date: Aug. 13 Time: 8 a.m. Place: Ticonderoga Country Club Features: Day of golf open to all golfers; dinner and awards at K of C pavilion. Contact: John Lenhart at 585-3544, Tracy Smith at 569-0947 or Sue Liddell at 585-6280

SSJ APPRECIATION MASS
Fort Covington – Mass of Appreciation for the Sisters of St. Joseph is set Date: Aug. 14 Time: 11 a.m. Place: St. Mary’s of the Fort

FREE SUMMER CONCERT
Alexandria Bay – 8th Annual Free Summer Concert: Raising a Joyful Noise. Date: Aug. 28 Time: 4 p.m. Place: St. Cyril’s Church Features: Please join the world traveled St. Cyril’s Choir, under the direction of Rebecca Rose. The choir will be performing a program of religious and patriotic music all revolving around the theme of Ubi Caritas - peace and love.

LAY MINISTER PICNIC, PRAYER
Cape Vincent – Please join fellow commissioned lay ministers on the shores of Lake Ontario for a picnic lunch and reflection offered by Deacon Patrick Donahue. Date: Aug. 6 Time: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Place: Sablon Point Cost: $10 per person Contact: Please contact Jeanie Grizzuto at jgrizzuto@rcny.org – 393-2920, Ext. 1413 by Aug. 3rd.
Mission accomplished

In the Spring of 2015, the Mission Office started to plan for its annual summer appeals and collections. It was brought to our attention by a number of local priests, some of whom had recently visited our former Mission Church in Mollendo, Peru that their parish truck had indeed seen better days. Through some investigation, we discovered that their parish truck was in excess of 30 years old.

A Tale of Truck for a Town in Peru

With pictures they forwarded at our request, we could see the deterioration, the rust and obvious wear to this poor old truck. Mollendo is a rugged, mountainous terrain with a volatile climate. Any vehicle would be put to the test there so you can imagine the condition of a very old truck used daily with millions of miles must be like!

The Missionary Projects of the Diocese of Ogdensburg collection came to answer to their need. The MPDO collection is held at the end of July every summer. One of the collection’s purposes is to provide continued financial support of our former mission parish in Mollendo, Peru. Timing is everything so the Mission office found a focus for its Summer 2015 MPDO collection. It was to help San Martin De Porras Church purchase a new truck.

A promotion for the truck ensued. The collection was held. It was initially slow to come to fruition. Yet a miracle occurred. Prayers were answered, sacrifices were made, gifts of love and resource came through, and even a birthday party was held with a purpose: no gifts – just help buy the truck.

As the financial books closed, we could not believe our eyes. Prayers had been answered. It was decided that we would not only help to buy a truck, but that we would be able to buy the truck for them. With much homework, trans-lating, and diligent decision making, a truck was purchased through a dealership in Arequipa, Peru. On July 11, 2016 Padre Andre Jose Marquez took delivery of their much needed, long overdue and incredibly appreciated new truck! Almost a full year from the date of last MPDO collection but good things come to those who wait patiently.

This week we received messages of gratitude, note of thanks and love from our Parish in Mollendo. Their pastor, Padre Andre Marquez is so full of appreciation for the great gift of the people of the Diocese of Ogdensburg have bestowed upon them. The abundance of generosity is immeasurable. The people of the Diocese of Ogdensburg should be proud knowing the happiness, relief and joy they have brought to our former Mission Church in a rural community on the side of hill, thousands of miles away. This year’s theme for MPDO is “Give Local – glean global good”. Feel good about yourselves everyone. We have spread good cheer and love to our friends so far away. Padre Andre sends his thanks! Enjoy and God Bless the Diocese of Ogdensburg. (See photo on page 9)

OBITUARIES

Alexandra Bay – Daniel Carrasquillo, 25; Funeral Services July 21, 2016 at St. Cyril’s Church; burial in St. Francis Xavier Cemetery, Redwood.


AuSable Forks – Gloria Janet (Cusson) Bujiick, 86; Funeral Services, July 18, 2016 at Holy Name Church; burial in Holy Name Cemetery.

AuSable Forks – Linda Marie (Reed) Roy, 60; Funeral Services July 25, 2016 at Holy Name Church.

Bloomingdale – Grace Lee Jettrow, 10; Funeral Services July 27, 2016 at St. Paul’s Church; burial in St. Paul’s Cemetery.

Canton – Allie Rose Kirkpatrick, 4 ½ months; Funeral Services July 25, 2016 at St. Mary’s Church.

Canton – M. Rita (Smith) Mayhew, 86; Funeral July 22, 2016 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Evergreen Cemetery.

Chateaugay – Thomas R. Harrigan, 90; Funeral Services July 23, 2016 at St. Patrick’s Church; burial in St. Patrick’s Cemetery.

Chazy – Alfred J. “Fred” Trembley, 90; Funeral Services June 25, 2016 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Colton – Gordon M. Norman, 94; Funeral Services July 29, 2016 at the Buck Funeral Home; burial in St. Patrick’s Cemetery.

Dannemora – Malcolm V. Gilroy, 88; Funeral Services July 28, 2016 at St. Joseph’s Church; burial in St. Peter’s Cemetery, Plattsburgh.

Deferey – Margaret A. “Maggie” (Ginger) Brotherton, 75; Funeral Services June 26, 2016 at St. Rita’s Church; burial in Black River Cemetery.

Elizabethtown – George Arthur Vanderhoof, 84; Funeral Services July 19, 2016 at St. Elizabeth’s Church.

Evans Mills – James J. Bertrand, 83; Funeral Services July 21, 2016 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Omar Cemetery.

Harrisville – Shirley A. (Ritz) Benson, 76; Funeral Services July 25, 2016 at St. Francis Solanus Church.

Hoganburg – Reginald “Reg” Mitchell, 81; Funeral Services July 27, 2016 at St. Regis Church; burial in St. Joseph’s Cemetery, Hoganburg.

Hogansburg – Marie (Mitchell) Smith, 73; Funeral July 21, 2016 at St. Regis Church; burial in St. Joseph’s Cemetery.

Keeseville – Ralph Edward Jarvis, 98; Funeral Services July 28, 2016 at St. John’s Church; burial in St. Augustine’s Cemetery, Peru.

Louisville – Robert G. Tyo, 93; Funeral Services July 22, 2016 at St. Lawrence Church; burial in St. Lawrence Cemetery.

Louv­il­le – Frederick H. Phinney, 97; Funeral Services July 22, 2016 at St. Peter’s Church; burial in Reed Cemetery.

Lyon Mountain – Thomas Walter Kowalowski, 73; Funeral Services July 21, 2016 at St. Bernard’s Church; burial in St. Bernard’s Cemetery.

Malone – Joan Teresa Ikeler Dupree, 82; Funeral Services July 27, 2016 at Notre Dame Church.

Malone – Lillian (Gravel) LePage, 98; Funeral Services July 28, 2016 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Massena – Shirley A. (Roy) Palmisano, 79; Funeral Services July 27, 2016 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery, Norwood.

Massena – Alfred Pomainville, 86; Funeral Services July 23, 2016 at St. Joseph’s Church.

Mineville – Elizabeth A. “Libby” (Schryer) Karlofski, 82; Funeral Services July 20, 2016 at All Saints Church; burial in St. Peter and Paul Cemetery, Moriah.

Norwood – Patricia A. (Grady) Gilbert, 72; Funeral Services July 18, 2016 at St. Andrew’s Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery, Ogdensburg.

Norwood – Elizabeth M. “Betty” (Heil) Schonberger, 88; Funeral Services July 27, 2016 at St. Andrew’s Church; burial in Visitation Cemetery, Norfolk.

Ogdensburg – Bethany M. (Catlin) Fisher, 78; Funeral Services July 22, 2016 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Redwood Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Mildred “Millie” B. Martin, 77; Funeral Services July 27, 2016 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Pine Hill Cemetery, Elvira.

Ogdensburg – Kyralea K. Poore-Mcintosh, 3; Funeral Services July 19, 2016 at the Fox & Murray Funeral Home.

Ogdensburg – M. Nancy Thomas, 86; Funeral Services July 28, 2016 at St. Mary’s Cathedral; burial in Evergreen Cemetery, Canton.

Peru – Doris (Butler) Fuller, 84; Funeral Services Aug. 1, 2016 at Hamilton Funeral Home; burial in Port Douglas Cemetery.

Peru – Nila D. (Macey) Lamoy, 65; Funeral Services Aug. 1, 2016 at Hamilton Funeral Home.

Plattsburgh – Florence P. (Lemieux) Hay, 100; Funeral Services July 26, 2016 at St. Peter’s Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Port Henry – Carol Dupuis, 74; Funeral July 21, 2016 at St. Patrick’s Church; burial in St. Patrick’s Cemetery, Moriah.

Potsdam – George E. Burkum, 91; Funeral July 19, 2016 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Visitation Cemetery, Norfolk.

Redford – Thomas J. Campbell, 33; Funeral Services July 23, 2016 at Church of the Assumption.

Ticonderoga – Gerald Elbridge Abbott, 94; Funeral Services July 28, 2016 at St. Mary’s Church.

Ticonderoga – Paul Edward Kenney Jr., 31; Funeral Services July 29, 2016 at the Wilcox & Regan Funeral Home.

Ticonderoga – John “Jack” Ferrell Ryan, 86; Funeral Services July 23, 2016 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in St. Philip Neri Cemetery, Westport.

Tupper Lake – Janet L. (Youmell) Chartrand, 90; Funeral Services July 26, 2016 at St. Alphonsus Church.

Watertown – Angelina C. (Pecori) Marconi, 88; Funeral Services July 21, 2016 at St. Anthony’s Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Willsboro – William Henry Thompson, 89; Funeral July 18, 2016 at St. Philip of Jesus Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.
**TIME FOR REFLECTION, COMMUNITY SHARING**

**REFLECTION**

Reflection, community sharing and researching new possibilities describe the recent visit of the Leadership Team from the Sisters of the Cross in India. Pictured, from left, are Father Kevin O’Brien, Moderator of the Curia; Sister Jaqueline Sellappan, Sisters of the Cross, Watertown Foundation, Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, Vicar for Religious; Sister Caroline Fernandes, Provincial; Bishop Terry LaValley and Sister Eugene O’Souza, Major Superior of the Sisters of the Cross of Chavanod.

**APPLEFEST CARD**

**Benefit of St. Augustine’s & St. Patrick’s Church**

3035 Main Street, Peru, New York 12972

Donation $10 per card

Early bird drawing $500 on September 18th at 6 p.m.

Drawings Daily for $100 (Oct. 1 – Oct. 30)

Final Drawing on Oct. 31st for $500

32 Chances to Win $4000 in Cash

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Seller:

Please make checks payable to St. Augustine’s Church

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**ST. LAWRENCE**

**FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY**

Massena – Sacred Heart Church is holding a rosary to mark First Saturday.

**Features:** The Rosary to Our Lady of Fatima will be prayed in reparation to Her Immaculate Heart and for World Peace.

**Immaculate Heart and for World Peace,**

** Roman Massena - Sacred Heart**

13; Dec 4; Jan 29; Feb 12; Mar 5; Apr 2

13; Aug 6

**ST. LAWRENCE**

**DIOCesan EVENTS**

**DAYS OF DISCERNMENT**

Potsdam – Discerning men are invited to come together & consider the call the Roman Catholic Priesthood.

Dates: Sept 4 and 18; Oct 2, 16, 30; Nov 13; Dec 4; Jan 29; Feb 12; Mar 5; Apr 2 and 23; May 7

13; Aug 6

**MEN'S DISCERNMENT RETREAT**

Star Lake – Men’s Discernment retreat to be held.

**Features:** For young men (18-35) discerning the priesthood. With Fr. Howard Venette and Fr. Bryan Stitt.

Contact: Fr. Bryan Stitt, bbsitt@rcdony.org, 518-593-6044

**MEN'S RETREAT**

Saranac Lake – Catholic Men’s Retreat to be held.

**Features:** If you or a friend are suffering after an abortion, consider attending a Rachel’s Vineyard retreat. Chapellain for the fall retreat is Fr. Bryan Stitt. A confidential registration form is located at www.rcdony.org/pro-life.

Contact: Colleen Miner 518-524-0774

**VOCAtion PILGRIMAGE**

Join Bishop LaValley Will lead a pilgrimage to pray for vocations.

**Venue:** Olympic Center Complex

**Features:** 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 Watertown, Ogdensburg, Plattsburg, Schroon Lake. Space limited, sign up today! (Non-refundable payment due August 27)

Contact: Call Anne at (315) 353-2950 or Connie at (315) 265-2762.

**RACHEL'S VINEYARD**

Saranac Lake – After-abortion Healing Retreat to be held.

**Features:** With other faithful families! You will enjoy engaging workshops, free time for the beach and nature and rest, fishing, liturgies, family rosary, campfires, a variety show, prayer, and lots of time to play.

Contact: Deacon Henry and Dayna Leader, dleader@rcdony.org 315-287-2874

**INSPIRE: CALLED TO LOVE**

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

**Venue:** Olympic Center Complex

**Features:** F 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), 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.

**Visit our website**

www.northcountrycatholic.org

- Read Bishop LaValley’s columns
- Search archived papers
- View diocesan events and much more

Find us on Facebook!