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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 72, Number 6

# NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

MAY 10, 2017

## Papal advice for keeping fit

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- A healthy Christian life is one that treasures a memory of the past, but is always moving forward and reaching out to others, inviting them to join the journey, Pope Francis said. "Don't walk with your eyes on what is behind you or you'll bump into something," the pope told some

70,000 members of Italian Catholic Action April 30. "Don't stare in the mirror; many of us are ugly so it's better not to look!"

Most of all, he said, "don't sit comfortably in an armchair; that makes you fat and it's bad for your cholesterol!"

The morning after returning from a two-day trip to

Egypt, Pope Francis spent more than an hour in St. Peter's Square with people celebrating the 150th anniversary of Catholic Action in Italy.

The organization, which is structured on a parish and diocesan level, emphasizes faith formation and social involvement.

Pope Francis told the group that his father and his grandmother were members of Catholic Action, which helps Christians "proclaim with their lives the beauty of God's love" and find ways in their daily lives to build "a society that is more just, more fraternal and marked by more solidarity."

## Catholic Charities appeal

The annual Catholic Charities Mother's Day Appeal will take place in all parishes of the Diocese of Ogdensburg May 13-14. Catholic Charities is celebrating 100 years of service in 2017.

"Celebrating a century of service reminds all of us of the church's consistent and historical responses to the most vulnerable members of our communities," said Sister Donna Franklin, director of Catholic Charities. "Our North Country Catholic Charities continues to build programs and services in response to the needs of our brothers and sisters."

FULL STORY, PAGES 8-9

## Environmental encouragement

Catholic Climate Ambassador comes to Plattsburgh, tells Catholics why they should care about climate

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

## THANK YOU, FATHER MANFRED



PHOTO BY DEACON GREG KANDRA

Bishop Terry R. LaValley thanks Father Donald Manfred for his presentation at the 2017 Deacon Convocation May 3 in Lake Placid. Father Manfred was appointed by Bishop Stanislaus J. Brzana in 1977 to establish the permanent deacon program in the Diocese of Ogdensburg. Forty years later, the Croghan pastor reflected on the early years of the program which he directed until 1985. See page three for more photos of this year's convocation.

**THE MONTH OF MARY:** Rosary crusade, May crowning, Fatima program, p. 5

## HEALTH CARE CONCERNS

Catholic leaders look at new bill



CNS PHOTO/PAUL BUCK, EPA

Signs point toward the emergency room at Cedars-Sinai Hospital in Los Angeles Jan. 4, 2008. The American Health Care Act that passed by a four-vote margin May 4 in the House has "major defects," said Bishop Frank J. Dewane of Venice, Florida, chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Domestic Justice and Social Development. "It is deeply disappointing that the voices of those who will be most severely impacted were not heeded," Bishop Dewane said. "The AHCA does offer critical life protections, and our health care system desperately needs these safeguards. But still, vulnerable people must not be left in poor and worsening circumstances as Congress attempts to fix the current and impending problems with the Affordable Care Act."

FULL STORY, PAGE 10

NORTH  
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## EDITOR'S NOTE

## Putting our faith into action

The history of our North Country church has been on my mind over the past few days as I was privileged to join the deacons who celebrated the 40th anniversary of the permanent diaconate in the diocese during their May 3-4 convocation.

Since I've been at the NCC for most of those 40 years, I have personal memories of many of the stories Father Don Manfred, the founding director, shared. I remember when the first group of men interested in becoming deacons met at Guggenheim and I remember

taking photos a few years later at the ordination of those who made it through the newly formed formation program. I also have memories of every ordination since.



Mary Lou  
Kilian

We have another special anniversary to celebrate in 2017 – the 100th year of Catholic Charities.

Although I can't look back on the first days of this incredible agency, I have been blessed with the friendship of the three most recent Catholic Charities directors whose tenure stretches back to nearly half of the past century. Msgr. Robert Lawler served in

Catholic Charities from 1959 to 1986, Father Stephen Gratto from 1986 to 1994 and Sister Donna Franklin from 1994 to today.

Over the next few months we will be celebrating the significant milestones of both the permanent diaconate and Catholic Charities with special issues of the NCC, offering opportunities to look back at the contributions of the deacons and of the charitable arm of our church.

In the meantime, though, we have to think about today.... and tomorrow.

One hundred years of service notwithstanding, we still have poor and vulnerable people in our midst who need Catholic

Charities, who need us. We have neighbors who don't have enough to eat, who can't provide basic needs for their children, who need rides or medicine or counseling.

In anticipation of the annual Catholic Charities Mothers Day Appeal this weekend, we present a centerfold spread highlighting all the critical work of the agency. On these pages, Bishop LaValley and Sister Donna make the case for generosity far better than I could.

But, the phrase in the center of the page should be all the convincing we need. By giving to Catholic Charities, *we put our faith in action.*

How could we possibly say no to that?

## FATHER MUENCH SAYS

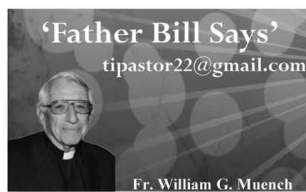
## The Emmaus story is our story, too

Luke 24: *Then they said to each other: "Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us."*

I am certain you remember this sentence. It is from the Gospel reading for the Third Sunday of Easter, the Emmaus Story. I paid special attention to that sentence as I prepared my homily, for that Sunday and have continued to meditate upon it. "Our hearts burning" – just what is this experience? The couple on the road to Emmaus had experienced a terrifying time. Jesus, their Lord and Master, was arrested and crucified; they were now anxious and disturbed.

At this time, Jesus himself, the risen Jesus, comes to be with them with words of peace and love. I am certain that they were overwhelmed. But with Jesus, their hearts were burning – they were calmed with peace.

The Emmaus Story is our story. So, how does the Lord make our hearts burn with peace and love? In prayer, Jesus touches our lives and becomes present to us. With Jesus, I believe our hearts burn like the couple on the road.



Each time we turn to the Lord in prayer, we are opening our hearts to the Lord's presence.

Prayer is always a transforming moment. At the Last Supper, Jesus declared: "Anyone who loves me, will keep my word and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our abode with him." It is a blessed moment.

Jesus taught them about Scripture – this is the Jesus they still did not recognize yet, the words seemed to come from the Lord. Jesus used Scripture to help them understand and at the same time to strengthen their faith and to give them peace. The couple agreed that it was then that their hearts were burning as Jesus opened the Sacred Scriptures for them.

For us, the Scriptures lead us into the Lord's presence. The Scriptures help us to discover

more about the Lord. At the same time, reading the Sacred Scriptures is a time of prayer, allowing Jesus to become part of our life. Each time, we celebrate the Holy Mass we begin with readings from the Scriptures. These Scriptures unite us as a community in the presence of Jesus. For me, I believe the singing of the psalm is a special moment drawing us closer to the Lord as we sing the words of these wonderful hymns. It becomes special when the psalms are sung.

Our Emmaus story then goes on to tell us that Jesus stayed with the couple. They finally recognized that it was Jesus in the breaking of the bread. For us, Catholics, this calls to our minds the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. Our participation in the Mass is another opportunity for us to recognize the presence of Jesus to each one of us.

The Gospels tell us that Jesus wants to be part of our lives. In the reception of Holy Communion, we are united with Jesus in a special, unique, sacramental way. This is a union that brings support and a stronger faith to live by. Each Mass is truly a source of great

joy as we unite ourselves with the Lord. The sacrament brings us happiness – making our hearts burn with the fire of God's love.

As you may remember, Eucharist means "thank you." Sharing in the Eucharist is our time to be grateful to our God for the great love that comes to us. We receive Holy Communion in gratitude to Jesus for giving of himself to bring salvation to us through his crucifixion and resurrection. This is a time of new confidence and stronger faith, a time that brings love to us. that make our hearts burn with love.

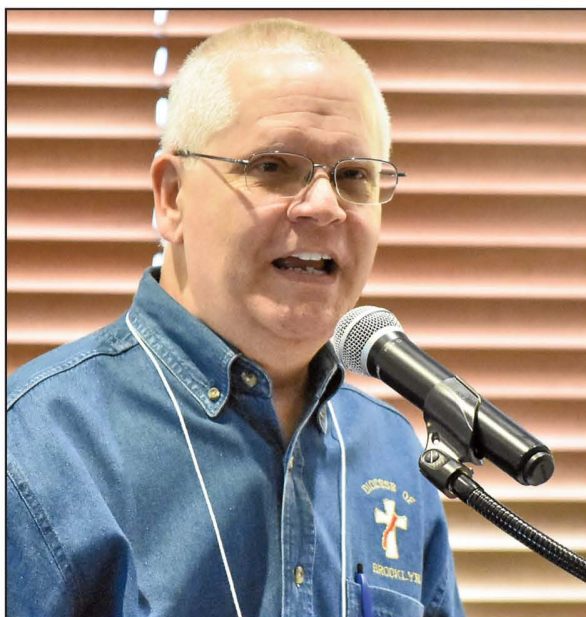
Finally, I want to suggest that joining with the Lord in the Eucharist is an important time to pray in gratitude for the many people that become gifts to us in our lives – family and friends – for whom we are deeply grateful.

How important it is as we approach the altar of the Lord to receive Holy Communion to remember in gratitude those important and life changing people who have transformed our own life. This is a moment that fills our own lives with love and peace because we have been so gifted.

DEACONS, DEACON CANDIDATES AND THEIR WIVES GATHER IN LAKE PLACID

# THE DEACON CONVOCATION

Permanent Deacons: 40 years in the Diocese of Ogdensburg



PHOTOS BY PAT HENDRICK

Deacon Greg Kandra, writer, blogger and internationally known lecturer was the principal presenter at the fourth annual Deacon Assembly held May 3-4 in Lake Placid. Deacon Kandra of the Diocese of Brooklyn, spent three decades in broadcast journalism, primarily for CBS News and currently serves as multimedi editor for the Catholic Near East Welfare Association. He talked about the role of the deacon in the church of the 21st century.



Father Jay Seymour, episcopal vicar for pastoral personnel, chats with Deacon Brian Dwyer of Chateaugay.



Deacon Larry Ambeau of Adams, chair of the Deacon Assembly planning committee, welcomes the deacons, their wives, and guests to the first session.



Madeleine and Deacon Tyrone Rabideau of Plattsburgh were among nearly 50 deacon couples who took part in the convocation. Bishop LaValley led a listening session with the wives after meeting with the deacons.



Workshops during the convocation were offered by Mary and Robert Farrington of Potsdam on spiritual direction, and Catherine Russell, the diocesan vocation coordinator, on vocations.



Deacon candidates who are preparing for ordination in October were invited to the convocation. Among those who attended were, from left, David Demers and William O'Brien of Ogdensburg and Thomas Yousey of Lowville.

## Catholic Climate Ambassador comes to St. Peter's in Plattsburgh

## Catholics urged to care for environment

By Shawn Ryan  
Staff writer

PLATTSBURGH - Planet Earth is sick. So sick in fact, she's running a temperature that is climbing year after year. We are her only doctor, and it's up to Catholics to see to it that she is healed.

That was the gist of a talk given at St. Peter's Church by Dr. Gerry Gacioch, a cardiologist and activist from Rochester, who is a leading voice for Catholic Environmental Stewardship.

Citing Pope Francis' ground-breaking *Laudato Si, Praise to You*, about Catholics' responsibility to protect the only Earth given to us by God, Dr. Gacioch gave both a strategy and a pep talk for those who hope to take up this mantle and run with it.

With fair warning given, the first part of Dr. Gacioch's talk and Power Point presentation chronicled the ills facing our globe. From steadily



PHOTO BY SHAWN RYAN

Dr. Gerry Gacioch of Rochester, Catholic Climate Ambassador, spoke at St. Peter's Church in Plattsburgh April 2, explaining why Catholics should care about the environment.

rising temperatures (2015 was the hottest year on record, only to be surpassed by 2016 as the hottest year

on record, and 2017 starting in its recent predecessor's footprints) to 20 million people displaced each year by

climate change, to children in the developing world living their entire lives in city-sized landfills, the picture he laid out is dire.

But according to both Dr. Gacioch and Pope Francis, change is possible. It starts right here, and starts with the people who he calls climate change believers.

Throughout the dioceses in the United States, numerous churches can be found who have already started down that road.

At St. Peter's for instance, an Environmental Stewardship Committee was started 10 years ago by Father John Yonkovic.

The group meets regularly to discuss everything from local energy-saving measures that can be enacted on a parish level, to national and world political activities geared towards positively affecting climate change.

Getting involved in committees that already exist, and starting them where they don't, is the type of

grass-roots activism that Dr. Gacioch points out has long ushered in change in this country. Educate yourselves in the facts he says, and speak out.

"The climate deniers are just like the people in the 1950s and 60s who wanted to get people to believe that cigarettes weren't bad for you," he said. "Start by thanking God for what we have, then roll up your sleeves and work on the problems. Even though we're doing O.K. now, the Pope says we can't rest on our laurels."

When getting involved in grass-roots education and activism, Dr. Gacioch warned people that Catholics will come up against an adamant, vocal and often confrontational fringe of climate change deniers.

His approach to these people is simple, and grounded firmly in Catholic tradition.

"Don't respond to hate with hate," he said. "We're going to love them to death, and we're going to win."

## To make a difference:

Dr. Gacioch offered 14 suggestions for Catholics Who are concerned about climate change:

- Thank God
- Roll up your sleeves
- Create a positive vision of the future
- Believe we can collectively make a difference
- Believe your individual efforts make a difference
- Do not be intimidated
- Have faith and act unceasingly
- Support the like minded
- Respectfully engage those with different views
- Organize, mobilize, hold our leaders (from local to national) accountable
- Remember life is a marathon, not a sprint
- Take care of yourself
- Laugh often
- Remember, you are not alone

## On the march in Plattsburgh

By Shawn Ryan  
Staff writer

PLATTSBURGH - Following closely on the heels of the recent Earth Day and the presentation by the Catholic Climate Ambassador at St. Peter's Church, downtown Plattsburgh was the site for an April 29 march and rally to bring attention to a variety of issues facing the planet, all centered on the issue of global warming.

Plattsburgh activists joined thousands across the United States to take part in the People's Climate March.

Many Catholics in Washington, New York City, Chicago and beyond, carried banners and signs with quotes from Pope Francis' encyclical "Laudato Si'," to call for moral and prayerful action to protect creation.

Marchers in Plattsburgh carried signs calling attention to among other things: tax subsidies for oil companies and other polluters, the polluting nature of meat, global warming, off-shore drilling and even non-specific crude behavior, to one praising penguins.

Event organizer Adam Guillette sees global climate change as the most important issue facing not just this country, but the world.

"I think climate change is the most pressing issue of the time. If we don't address climate change now, none of the other problems will matter," he said.

"You can't underestimate how important climate change is," he said, "National politicians have to understand, everyone needs clean water and air."

Though national politi-

cians were nowhere to be seen, Plattsburgh Council Member Rachelle Armstrong and Mayor Colin Read both addressed the crowd numbering more 200 from the city's rolling event stage.

After rallying the participants, marchers snaked their way from Trinity Park to the Plattsburgh State campus where more speeches were planned, including from local experts on climate change from the college.

More than anything, Guillette sees the modest gathering as a stepping-stone for more people to get involved in the movement.

"Take action...you are not alone," he counseled any aspiring environmental activists. "Be patient with people, and give them the information that they need, like people have done with me."

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# MAY: THE MONTH OF MARY



Carthage artist Robert Renaud has painted "Our Lady of the Rosary" for the annual Family Rosary Crusade to be held May 12 at St. James Church in Carthage. The crusade, marking the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Mary to the three shepherd children in Fatima May 13, 1917, opens with Mass at 5:15 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will follow at 5:55. Seven hours of praying the rosary will take place from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. Three complete rosaries are prayed each hour for a total of 21 Rosaries, in honor of the Blessed Mother's Seven Sorrows. Each hour is for specific intentions ending with the last hour of thanksgiving. A print will be given to each person who prays at St. James for at least three hours.



May Crowning took place at St. Mary's Church in Ticonderoga on May 5 immediately following first Friday Mass. Seen here is Lorelei Leerkes crowning a statue of Our Lady of Fatima with attendants, Shannon Jordan and Kiyanna Stockwell looking on.

## Parish to honor Fatima's 100th anniversary

**WATERTOWN** - St. Patrick's Church will honor the 100th anniversary of the first apparition of the Blessed Mother to the children at Fatima with events the week-end of May 13.

There is a shrine located on the south side of the Church on Massey Street which was erected by their family to the memory of Leo and Mollie Stumpf and their son Philip in 1951.

The parish will gather to recite the Rosary at 10 a.m. in front of the shrine on May 13. A rededication of the memorial will occur at that time with Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament taking place in the

Church during the two hour period of prayer.

Friday evening, May 12, at 7:00 pm, the parish will show the movie Finding Fatima in the Church. This powerful and in-depth documentary combines archival footage, dramatic reenactments, original interviews with Fatima experts, and stunning visuals to tell the whole story of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima.

During the 9:30 Mass on Sunday May 14, children of the parish will participate in the annual May Crowning ceremony.

The public is encouraged to attend both events at no charge.



A Fatima Shrine at St. Patrick's Church in Watertown will be the site for events during the weekend of May 13, the 100th anniversary of the first apparition of Mary to the children of Fatima.

## PRIESTS ARE APPRECIATED



The Knights of Columbus and Ladies Auxiliary of Saint Patrick's and Saint Lawrence Churches Council 2176 of Brasher Falls and North Lawrence hosted a Priest Appreciation Dinner April 28. The priests honored are shown, from left, Father Mark R. Reilly, Father Joseph W. Elliott (seated), Father Joseph W. Giroux, Father Garry B. Giroux, Father Tojo Chacko, Father Scott A. Belina, Bishop Terry R. LaValley, Father Andrew J. Amyot and Father John L. Downs; not pictured is Father John P. Kennehan. The celebration included recognition of Bishop LaValley's seventh anniversary as Bishop of Ogdensburg which occurred on April 30.

**Adult Children of Alcoholics**

Weekly meeting - Wednesdays at 7:30 PM  
St. Peter's Church, Plattsburgh  
Upstairs Room

Adult Children of Alcoholics is a recovery program for adults whose lives were affected as a result of being raised in an alcoholic or other dysfunctional family. It is based on the success of Alcoholics Anonymous and employs its version of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions.

For more information on ACA, go to [www.adultchildren.org](http://www.adultchildren.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 pre-register at [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org) by selecting the registration button and following the directions.

Upcoming sessions:

May 9 - 6 p.m., Immaculate Conception Church, Brownville

**Bishop's Schedule**

May 11 - 12 p.m., Priest Personnel Board Meeting at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg

May 12 - 10:50 a.m., Mass at St. Joseph's Home in Ogdensburg

May 13 - 4 p.m., Confirmation for St. Vincent de Paul, Rosiere, St. Vincent of Paul, Cape Vincent and All Saints, Chaumont at St. Vincent de Paul Church

May 14 - 9:30 a.m., Mass and Sisters of St. Joseph Chapter of Elections at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse in Watertown

May 15-17 - Presbyteral Assembly at the Crowne Plaza Resort in Lake Placid

May 17 - 1 p.m., Council of Priests at the Crowne Plaza Resort in Lake Placid

**Rest in Peace**

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

May 11 - Deacon Richard D. Hart, 2007

May 13 - Rev. Ladislaus J. Stasz, 1971; Rev. Edward E. Papp, 2016

May 14 - Deacon Vincent E. Irvin, 2003

May 15 - Rev. William Rossiter, 1908; Msgr. James R. McClure, 1960; Deacon William G. Schmidt, 2016

May 16 - Rev. Moses Legualt, 1908; Rev. John M. McIntyre, 1944

**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, PO Box 2446, Plattsburgh, NY, 12901; e-mail: [terrianneyanulavich@yahoo.com](mailto:terrianneyanulavich@yahoo.com) Phone: 518-483-3261; or Father James Seymour, the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy at 315-393-2920, ext. 1340

**Environmental Stewardship****What did you do?**

In one of his poems, Drew Dillinger wrote:

"It is 3:23 in the morning and I'm awake because my great-great-grandchildren won't let me sleep. They ask me in dreams 'What did you do when the planet was plundered? What did you do when the earth was unravelling? Surely you did \*something\* when the seasons started failing, as the mammals, reptiles and birds were all dying. Did you fill the streets with protest when Democracy was stolen? What did you \*do\* once you knew?"

In answer to that question here are a few responses from our Catholic leaders.

In 1971 St. John Paul II called for "global ecological conversion."

In 2011 the US Catholic Bishops wrote a statement entitled: Global Climate Change; a Plea for Dialogue, Prudence and the Common Good."

In 2009 Pope Benedict XVI wrote the book Ten Commandments for the Environment in which he speaks out for creation and justice.

Most recently Pope Francis asks in his encyclical *Laudato Si*, Chapter 1, "What is happening to our Common Home?"

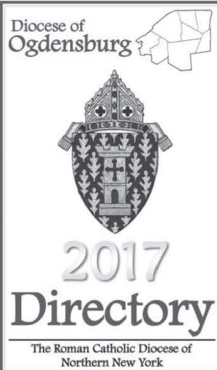
In subsequent chapters the pope looks at the root causes of its destruction and give suggestions for ways we can respond both in our individual lifestyles and in being a voice for the poor and the earth to our legislators.

Recently in our own local North Country hundreds of people including college and high school students gathered in Potsdam and Plattsburgh for the local People's Climate March on April 29, in solidarity with the Climate March in Washington, D.C.

Earlier that month, St. Peter's Parish in Plattsburgh hosted Dr. Gerry Gacioch of Rochester, a Catholic Climate Ambassador. See page 4 of this week's *North Country Catholic* for a full report.

Some begin young to speak for care for Creation: seven year old, Evan Beech from Westport was named an honorable citizen of the North Country for his work as an environmental advocate, even organizing a rally earlier in the year.

So, the question for each of us to ponder this week might be 'Now that I know, what would be my response to the question of our great-great-grandchildren?'

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*Puppeteer brings the Word of God to Watertown children*

# Solomon, Sunny Bright and Jesus

By Deacon Kevin Mastellon  
Staff writer

## WATERTOWN

- Search the internet for information about puppetry and you will be rewarded with all sorts of sources for designs, patterns, manufactured puppets and scripts. Puppetry is defined as "a form of theatre or performance that involves the manipulation of puppets—inanimate objects, often resembling some type of human or animal figure, that are animated or manipulated by a human called a puppeteer. Such a performance is also known as a puppet play."

Patrick Bates, a pastoral associate at Holy Family Church credits the Muppets for his interest in puppets. He just did not realize the interest was planted in his mind and heart while he was taught and entertained by Oscar, Miss Piggy, Kermit and the other characters on Sesame Street.

Years later Doug and Barbara Marlow introduced Bates to the puppet ministry. He learned from the Marlows how to reach children through the fantasy of puppets.

If a script with a Christian story or theme can be crafted and performed by a puppeteer who is familiar with the teachings of the Church, Bates contends, the result is entertainment that teaches children about our faith and holds their attention.

"Make some of the kids part of the cast if you can, junior puppeteers, and you are sure to get more kids involved and interested," he said.



Patrick Bates and his puppet Sunny Bright

"When Doug and Barb left the parish," Bates said, "I inherited a Christmas script, some puppets and

enough interest and desire to keep the ministry going."

When Bates, now 56, finished the program of Lay Ministry Formation in 2007 he hoped he would be retained on staff by the parish working in youth ministry. His pastor identified a pastoral need working with the sick and elderly though and that has been Patrick's principal focus since starting work in 2007.

But the lure of the puppet stage still attracted him. He refined a script; worked on learning how to create characters ( he calls some Solomon, Sweet Pea and Sunny Bright) and presented his ideas to Immaculate Heart Central Elementary Principal Gary West. West liked the idea and an annual show for third grade students and one for younger children was developed.

Bates also lends his art to the annual Vacation Bible School adapting a program to fit the theme of the school each year.

He will be happy to share his acquired knowledge about puppet ministry to anyone interested. You can contact him at The Church of the Holy Family in Watertown. His work load prevents him from taking any of his shows "on the road" just now; "maybe when I retire," he says. But he also points to the internet, as we did to research this article.

"There is a lot of information out there," Bates said. "Puppeteering is a wonderful way to bring the Word of God to children.

"I hope more people see the opportunity and explore it," he said.



## GO GREEN!

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# Catholic Charities Mother's Day Appeal - May 14, 2017

Dear Friends in Christ:

Catholic Charities throughout New York State is celebrating a century of service. This service has become a legacy of hope that remains vibrant and alive in the staff, volunteers and benefactors of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Many of our brothers and sisters live in the shadows. Struggling for financial stability, food, security, safe, affordable housing and other basic needs, they are welcomed at Catholic Charities. Reality teaches us that as long as one child is hungry, we are all hungry. As long as one elderly person is lonely, we are all lonely. As long as one immigrant suffers from violence, we all suffer from violence.

The mission of Catholic Charities mandates the agency to respond to the needs of our brothers and sisters. The mission invites people to join in doing works of charity and justice, encouraging people to build bridges to healthier lives.

Catholic Charities needs your support. Every financial gift provides part of the resources needed to ensure the future of services and programs that Catholic Charities offers. Your gift is a tangible expression of upholding the dignity and respect for human life at all stages.

The Catholic Charities annual Mother's Day Appeal will take place in all of the parishes of the Diocese on the weekend of May 13-14, 2017. Thank you for your generous support for this crucial ministry.



Gratefully yours in Christ,

*Terry R. LaValley*

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley  
Bishop of Ogdensburg

**Please help us reach our GOAL: \$ 165,000**



**Celebrating 100 Years of Service 1917-2017**

**Be a Part of the Legacy of Hope**





# Catholic Charities Mother's Day Appeal - May 14, 2017

## Your Faith in Action

**The three constitutive aspects of the Church are: word, worship and service. (Deus Caritas Est, Pope Benedict XVI)**

*Catholic Charities is the formal organization within the Church with the mandate to provide services to the most vulnerable members of our communities. Catholic Charities mission is based on gospel values and the two components of Christian Service: Direct aid and advocacy.*

**Poverty calls us to sow hope... Poverty is the flesh of the poor Jesus, in that child who is hungry, in the one who is sick, in those unjust social structures. (Pope Francis)**

*Where do you see hope? Where do you see unjust social structures? Where do you see Jesus?*

**The first principle of Catholic Social Teaching is the sanctity and dignity of all human life.**

*Every service and program provided by Catholic Charities is based on the commitment to the belief that every person's life is sacred and that everyone has the right to live with dignity.*

**To love God and neighbor is not something abstract, but profoundly concrete. It means seeing in every person the face of the Lord to be served... (Pope Francis)**

*Your financial gift to Catholic Charities is one of the ways you can put your faith into action. You can make concrete your commitment to seeing the face of Jesus in your brothers and sisters in need.*

*Dear Friend of Catholic Charities,*

*Celebrating a century of service reminds all of us of the Church's consistent and historical response to the needs of the most vulnerable members of our communities. Our North Country Catholic Charities continues to build programs and services in response to the identified and unmet needs of our brothers and sisters.*

*Catholic Charities cannot do this alone. We need our benefactors to be part of this mission of charity and justice. Your financial gift to Catholic Charities provides the resources for Catholic Charities to respond.*

*We respond to the needs of: the parents with a sick child who need help with transportation to Syracuse or Burlington; the father laid off from his job and needing help to purchase home heating fuel to keep his family warm; the parent and teen who are struggling to communicate and need a compassionate counselor; a senior citizen in need of assistance to pay a co-pay for an essential medication. These and hundreds of more individuals and families come to Catholic Charities. Often they are tired, anxious and weary. Catholic Charities uses your financial gift to meet the needs of people when there are no other resources available to them. This is most often: the working family, the veteran, the retiree and others who are just a little bit above the limit for assistance from traditional service agencies. Many of the emerging poor are proud, embarrassed and have never asked for help. Because of your financial gift, Catholic Charities can be there for them.*

*Thank you for your support in the past. We hope that you will be able to help out again this year. Remember, all of our benefactors are remembered in a Mass celebrated each month.*

*In gratitude for your support,*

*Sr. Donna M. Franklin, D.C.*

*Sr. Donna M. Franklin, D.C.  
Diocesan Director*

In 2016 Catholic Charities served over 18,000 people across the North Country. Many of the services and programs continue to be offered because you cared enough to provide financial support through your Annual Appeal gift. For just pennies a day, your gift will make a difference in the lives of your neighbors. For the cost of one soda, a cup of coffee, or snack foods each week for one year, you can provide the following:

\$ 40.00	will provide special formula for an infant with lactose intolerance
\$ 50.00	will provide a food voucher for a family
\$ 65.00	will provide gas money for a parent to travel to Syracuse or Burlington to be with their sick child
\$ 130.00	will provide two counseling sessions for a teen in crisis
\$ 200.00	will provide a safe new crib for an infant
\$ 250.00	will provide home heating fuel for an elderly couple
\$ 300.00	will prevent homelessness through rent/mortgage assistance
\$ 500.00	will subsidize the cost of counseling sessions for parents experiencing a crisis pregnancy
\$1,000.00	or more will support the Core services of Catholic Charities: counseling, maternity, parish and community outreach, and advocacy

You can change the world...one person at a time through your financial gift to Catholic Charities. This year more than ever, we need your help. Thank you for your caring and your support of Catholic Charities.

***Invest in the future of individuals and families through a generous financial gift to Catholic Charities***

### Your gift makes a difference

Catholic Charities will be there for your family member, neighbor and community when they need support in times of emotional, financial crisis.

⇒ You can make your donation online at [www.cathcharities.org](http://www.cathcharities.org).

For privacy protection, Catholic Charities is accepting credit card donations online only.

Our online donor program is a secure site.

**Or detach below and return with your donation**

I support the mission of Catholic Charities with my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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All donations to Catholic Charities are tax deductible.

**Mail to:**

Catholic Charities, Appeal 2016  
6866 State Highway 37  
Ogdensburg, NY 13669

**For more information about Catholic Charities and programs in your area visit our website:**

**[www.cathcharities.org](http://www.cathcharities.org) or call (315) 393-2255**

## U.S. bishops' committee chairman: Fix flaws in American Health Care Act

# Yeas and nays for new health care bill

By Mark Pattison  
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) - The American Health Care Act that passed by a four-vote margin May 4 in the House has "major defects," said Bishop Frank J. Dewane of Venice, Florida, chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Domestic Justice and Social Development.

"It is deeply disappointing that the voices of those who will be most severely impacted were not heeded," Bishop Dewane said in a May 4 statement. "The AHCA does offer critical life protections, and our health care system desperately needs these safeguards. But still, vulnerable people must not be left in poor and worsening circumstances as Congress attempts to fix the current and impending problems with the Affordable Care Act."

He added, "When the Senate takes up the AHCA, it must act decisively to remove the harmful proposals from the bill that will affect low-income people - including immigrants - as well as add vital conscience protections, or begin reform efforts

anew. Our health care policy must honor all human life and dignity from conception to natural death, as well as defend the sincerely held moral and religious beliefs of those who have any role in the health care system."

### Republican 'no' vote

One of 20 Republicans to vote against the bill was Rep. Chris Smith, R-New Jersey, co-chair of the Congressional Pro-Life Caucus.

"I voted no on the AHCA largely because it cuts Medicaid funding by \$839 billion; undercuts essential health benefits such as maternity care, newborn care, hospitalization and pediatric services; includes 'per capita caps' and weakens coverage for pre-existing health conditions -- all of which will hurt disabled persons, especially and including children and adults with autism, the elderly and the working poor," Smith said in a May 4 statement.

"Over the past several years, we have seen the flaws of Obamacare, including increased premiums and deductibles, diminishing health care options and patients losing plans they were assured they could keep. These very real problems underscore the need for meaningful bipartisan reform," Smith added.

### Vote falls short

Those opposing the bill cited reductions in coverage and cost increases. Those favoring the bill cited its pro-life provisions.

"The vote falls far short of protecting the millions of Americans who have insurance or gained it under the Affordable Care Act," said a May 4 statement from Dominican Sister Donna Markham, president and CEO of Catholic Charities USA. "It also fails to provide access to affordable health care for the millions who still live without coverage."

### System fails many

"The role of health care should implicitly be to provide the highest quality care for the largest number of people, in the interest of maintaining dignity and quality of life, as our faith calls us to do. It is immoral to restrict access to care for anyone, but especially for the most vulnerable, including those who need consistent treatment and our aging population," said a May 5 statement by Patrick Carolan, executive director of the Franciscan Action Network.

"As arguably the most powerful, developed country in the world, it is inexcusable that our health care system is failing so many. We can and must do better," Carolan said.

### Long overdue step

"Today's House vote marks the beginning of the end of the shell game Planned Parenthood plays with public money," said a May 4 statement by Father Frank Pavone, national president of Priests for Life. "That the American Health Care Act limits Medicaid funds to entities that don't kill people is entirely appropriate, not to mention a step that's long overdue," he said.

"Sending hundreds of millions of dollars a year to an organization that dismembers 320,000 unborn babies a year adds up to a travesty of justice," he added. "The scam of using public money to prop up abortion businesses needs to be terminated."

### Praise from Right to Life

"National Right to Life praises the Republican leadership for putting this bill together and making sure the most vulnerable members of our society are protected," said Carol Tobias, president of the National Right to Life Committee, in a May 4 statement. "Over 2 million Americans are alive today because

of the Hyde Amendment. This new health care bill ensures that we are one step closer to getting the federal government entirely out of the business of subsidizing abortion."

### Important first step

"This is a hugely important step, but it is just the first step to improving health care for all Americans, especially the vulnerable," said a May 4 statement by Louis Brown, director of the Christ Medicus Foundation, based in the Detroit suburb of Troy, Michigan.

"The American Health Care Act begins the process of increasing meaningful medical access for individuals and families across the country by returning focus to the doctor-patient relationship," Brown said.

"With today's vote in the House, our leaders in Congress have taken a giant step toward keeping the promise they made to voters last year to defund Planned Parenthood. Now it's time for the Senate and President Trump to get the job done," said Eric Scheidler, a national director of #ProtestPP, an anti-Planned Parenthood group, in a May 4 statement.

### Fears about Medicaid

"Protecting Medicaid is a priority for the faith community. The 'fixes' made to the AHCA do nothing to change the fact that millions of low-income Americans will lose their health coverage," said a May 4 statement by the Rev. David Beckmann, a Lutheran minister who is president of Bread for the World, the anti-hunger lobby.

"Medical bills often drive families, especially those who struggle to make ends meet, into hunger and poverty. We strongly urge the Senate to reject this bill."

Rev. Beckmann said the AHCA "will push millions of people into hunger and poverty. The AHCA takes

away health insurance from tens of millions of Americans and drives up costs for millions more. This is not what Americans were promised."

### Fears for farmers

"Since failing to pass the original AHCA, House leadership has made the legislation worse by providing even fewer protections for family farmers and rural Americans," said Roger Johnson, president of the National Farmers Union, in a May 4 statement. "NFU's priority for any bill is that it offers coverage for more people rather than fewer. We look forward to working with members of the Senate to defeat this legislation that would fail millions of people, especially family farmers and rural Americans."

### 'Tax cut not health care bill'

"This isn't a health care bill -- it's a half-a-billion-dollar tax cut for corporations, insurance executives, and the wealthiest Americans," said Communications Workers of America president Chris Shelton in a May 4 statement. "At least 24 million people will lose their health care and Americans age 50 and older will see their costs skyrocket under the 'age tax' the bill institutes, all to provide a big tax break for corporations and the wealthy."

### AHCA 'not the answer'

"We support efforts to strengthen and stabilize our nation's health care system and extend insurance coverage and protections," said Arthur C. Evans Jr., CEO of the American Psychological Association. "However, the American Health Care Act is not the answer," he said. "Accordingly, we call on the Senate to reject the bill due to its projected adverse impact on the well-being of our nation, particularly on individuals with mental health, behavioral and substance use disorders."

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# CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

## Pope Francis to meet President Trump at Vatican May 24

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- President Donald Trump will visit the Vatican and meet with Pope Francis May 24 as part of his first foreign trip as president. White House officials said the visit will be part of a trip that will include stops in Israel and Saudi Arabia before Trump attends a NATO meeting in Brussels May 25 and the G7 summit in Taormina on the island of Sicily May 26-27. The trip was an attempt to unite three of the world's leading religious faiths in the common cause of fighting terrorism, reining in Iran, and "unifying the world against intolerance," White House officials said May 4. The information was confirmed by Paloma Garcia Ovejero, vice director of the Vatican press office. The pope's meeting with Pope Francis was to take place in the Apostolic Palace and will include Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, and Archbishop Paul Gallagher, secretary for relations with states.

## Pope advances sainthood causes of U.S. priest, Vietnamese cardinal

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis advanced the sainthood causes of Wisconsin-born Capuchin Father Solanus Casey, five religious, four laypeople and two cardinals, including Vietnamese Cardinal Francois Nguyen Van Thuan. The pope approved the decrees during an audience May 4 with Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saints' Causes. Father Casey (1870-1957) was known for his great faith, humility and compassion and for his ministry as spiritual counselor. He gained a popular following during his lifetime, with healings attributed to his intercession both before and after his death. He was the sixth of 16 children of Irish immigrant parents. He was born on a farm near Oak Grove, Wisconsin, and as a young man worked as a logger, a hospital orderly, a streetcar operator and a prison guard before entering the Capuchins at age 26. He was ordained in 1904 as a "simplex priest," one who is unable to hear confessions or preach dogmatic sermons because he had not performed very well in his studies. He carried out humble tasks in the monastery and, while serving in Yonkers, New York, Father Casey was assigned to be the friary's porter, or doorkeeper, a ministry he would carry out for the rest of his life.

## Egypt is a beacon of hope and refuge, pope says at audience

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Just as it had been for centuries, Egypt can be a sign of hope for those who long for peace, Pope Francis said. During his weekly general audience May 3, the pope reflected on his recent visit to Egypt and said that because of its religious and cultural heritage as well as its role in the Middle East, Egypt has the task of promoting a lasting peace that "rests not on the law of force but on the force of law. For us, Egypt has been a sign of hope, refuge and help. When that part of the world suffered famine, Jacob and his sons went there. Then when Jesus was persecuted, he went there," he said. "Egypt, for us, is that sign of hope both in history and for today, this brotherhood." The pope's April 28-29 visit to Cairo began with a gathering organized by Egypt's al-Azhar University, Sunni Islam's highest institute of learning. The visit to the university, he said, had the two-fold purpose of promoting Christian-Muslim dialogue and promoting peace in the world.

## WASHINGTON LETTER

# Long-awaited executive order on religion has unclear path ahead

By Carol Zimmermann  
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- At a White House Rose Garden ceremony May 4, President Donald Trump told a group of religious leaders: "It was looking like you'd never get here, but you got here, folks," referring to their presence at the signing of the executive order on religious liberty.

And maybe some in the group wondered where "here" was since they hadn't even seen the two-page executive order they were gathered to congratulate and only knew the general idea of it from a White House memo issued the previous night with just three bullet points.

The order didn't seem to part any seas to make an immediate path to religious freedom, especially since it places decisions for how this will play out in the hands of federal agencies and the attorney general.

Catholic leaders in general seemed to view it with cautious optimism, praising the order as a first step but not the final word.

Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, who attended the White House ceremony also celebrating the National Day of Prayer, said immediately after the event that he had yet to see the entire executive order. He defined the principle of it: "There should not be an overly intrusive federal government" involved when people are exercising their religious freedom in the public square or institutions they run.

The two-page order, "Promoting Free Speech and Religious Liberty," was posted on the White House website hours after it was signed.

It devotes the most space to a promised easing of the Johnson Amendment -- a 1954 law that bans churches and nonprofit organizations with tax-exempt status from taking part in partisan political activity. Although it would take an act of Congress to do away with this regulation, Trump can direct the Internal Revenue Service not to enforce it.

Many people likely aren't familiar with the amendment by name, or they weren't before this executive order, but they support the idea of it, according to a May 4 poll by the Public Religion Research Institute.

In an interview with Catholic News Service at Reagan National Airport May 4 Cardinal DiNardo said the amendment was likely more important to evangelical Christians

than Catholics because, as he pointed out, the Catholic Church "has the tradition of 'Faithful Citizenship,'" which he said puts the Johnson Amendment in a bigger context. "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship," the U.S. bishops' document on political responsibility, guides voters not according to the stances of specific political candidates but Catholic social teaching.

Richard Garnett, professor of law at the University of Notre Dame, said in an email to Catholic News Service that the order's emphasis on weakening the Johnson Amendment did not seem particularly significant, noting: "It is already the case that the relevant agencies and officials are highly deferential - as they should be - to churches and religious leaders, especially when it comes to what's said in the context of sermons and homilies."

Commenting on another major point of the executive order - relief to employers with religious objections to include contraception coverage in their employees' health care plans -- Garnett called it "a good thing - and long overdue," but he also noted that "such regulatory relief was already probably on its way, as a result of the Supreme Court's decisions."

In a statement after the order was signed, Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price promised to take action "in short order" to "safeguard the deeply held religious beliefs of Americans who provide health insurance to their employees." The promise didn't give any specifics.

The lack of details in the order even caused the American Civil Liberties Union, which had been poised to sue, to change its course. In a statement issued hours after the order's signing, ACLU director Anthony Romero said the order had "no discernible policy outcome."

"After careful review of the order's text, we have determined that the order does not meaningfully alter the ability of religious institutions or individuals to intervene in the political process," he said.

But the group also stands ready to sue the Trump administration if the order generates any official government action. Religious groups, for opposite reasons, likewise stand ready to see if the order has any teeth.

As Knights of Columbus Supreme Knight Carl Anderson said in a statement: "This order marks an important step in restoring those constitutional principles guaranteed to every American," with the added caveat, "There is still work to be done."

## SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

# God's promise: we will never walk alone

In today's first reading, we see what could have been a serious division in the early Christian community become the cause for an important development in its growth.

There were two languages spoken by the new followers of Christ. Those called Hebrews by St. Luke spoke Hebrew and Aramaic, while those called Hellenists in this reading spoke Greek and often followed Greek cultural practices.

Tensions were bound to arise since each group had different ways of thinking and acting.

All this came to the boiling point when the Hellenists felt discriminated against in the care given their widows. Very wisely, the Twelve decided to formally establish a new ministry of "table servers" (later

known as deacons), so that they themselves could devote themselves entirely to prayer and preaching.

They imposed hands on seven men of outstanding reputation. Actually, when the Holy Spirit came upon them, they did much more than wait on tables. In this way, God used a crisis in charity to further the effectiveness of the Church in spreading the word.

This decision of the Apostles to establish the Order of Deacons is helping solve the shortage of Priests in our own day.

The role of deacons and commissioned lay ministers is emerging as an ever-more integral part of the Church of the 21st century.

The Holy Spirit is urgently calling more and more faithful Catholics to assume a

new level of leadership in the life of their local parishes.

There are signs of a "second Spring," a new flowering of faith and works within a re-structuring of both liturgical and community life under the authority of the "rock of Peter".

Pope St. John Paul II, Pope Benedict, and Pope Francis have all been of vital help to this ongoing process. Praise God!

The second reading from the first Letter of St. Peter uses the image of "stone" or "rock."

Peter, referring to Isaiah's prophecy, tells us that God the Father long ago had established His Son, Jesus, as the "cornerstone, chosen and precious."

Peter, with warm and welcoming tone, urges us to come with hope and trust to the living stone of salvation, and there to become ourselves holy temples.

Of course, there's a price

MAY 14

Fifth Sunday of Easter

READINGS

Acts 6:1-7

1 Peter 2:4-9

John 14:1-12

to pay. Through our own sufferings, we offer sacrifice and praise to the Father along with the Son. How do we do this? Through our Baptism and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Then comes a warning. Just as many have rejected this rock of salvation to their own condemnation, so too, if we attempt to bypass Christ, then we will ourselves stumble and fall. Peter quotes Isaiah as his authority for referring to Christ as a stumbling block to those who reject Him.

All this will become clear on the day of judgment.

The Gospel is taken from

the wonderful farewell address of Jesus to his apostles at the Last Supper. Here, he tells them not to be afraid, for after much trial, the kingdom with its many dwelling places will be theirs.

A good teacher loves students who ask a lot of questions. We're forever indebted to Thomas who complains to Jesus that he doesn't know the way to the kingdom. In answer, Jesus gives us one of his most quotable quotes: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through me". We could spend a lifetime exhausting the meaning of that sentence.

It's "Christology" in a nutshell. It means that we'll never walk alone, that God will guide and protect us against evil on the journey, and help us to overcome it.

What comfort and guidance we find in today's readings!

## PURSUING JUSTICE

## 'No' to retroactive change in statute of limitations

*This is the fifth in a series of articles on issues of Catholic social teaching as explained by the New York State Catholic Conference. The conference was founded to translate Catholic teachings into action in the public policy arena. These teachings, which are centered on the innate dignity of every human person made in the image and likeness of God, form the basis of the Conference's legislative agenda.*

*This week's issue is: Oppose a retroactive "window" in the civil statute of limitations related to child sexual abuse*

## Background

For well over a decade, legislation has been pro-

posed that would open a one-year window for survivors of child sexual abuse to bring a civil lawsuit no matter how many years ago the abuse has been alleged to occur. In most cases, due to protections in existing law, the retroactive look-back would not apply to those abused in public institutions, like schools, county health clinics and pools, and juvenile detention centers.

## Messages

- The sexual abuse of a child is a despicable crime, regardless of whether the offender is a member of the clergy, a teacher, counselor, or family member. Children must be protected from abuse in all cases, and survivors need to be helped on

their journey toward healing. We support an extension or elimination of the criminal statute of limitations in cases of child sexual abuse so that abusers can be brought to justice and for the safety of society.

We also support reasonable extension of the civil statute of limitations in such cases so survivors have more time to come forward to seek damages.

Such changes in law must apply equally in all cases of abuse, wherever it occurred.

- Proposals that would open up the statute of limitations for claims of sexual abuse that are decades old is contrary to justice.

It is impossible for institutions to defend claims that are 50, 60 or 70 years old when there are no witnesses, and evidence is long

ago lost. Such proposals have generally not included any caps in terms of time or monetary awards, meaning a local diocese, private school, Scouting council or Boys & Girls Club could be driven into bankruptcy, curtailing needed services and programs over actions that are alleged to have happened decades earlier and for which the current leadership of these organizations have absolutely no connection.

- The Catholic Church has a zero-tolerance policy for sexual abuse. No one – clergy, religious, or laity – who has been found to have abused a young person or vulnerable adult may serve in ministry in any form ever again. We will never turn our back on victims of clergy sexual abuse.

## Editor's note

Visit [nyscatholic.org](http://nyscatholic.org)  
Sign up for Catholic  
Action Network

We urge all survivors to report their abuse immediately to law enforcement and to the local diocese, no matter how long ago it occurred. If a report is not made to law enforcement, the local diocese will do so if the perpetrator is still living. Every diocese employs a Victims Assistance Coordinator to assist survivors in receiving the help that they need to heal. Counseling, pastoral care and other appropriate assistance is provided regardless of when the abuse occurred.

## AT THE MOVIES

# Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2

By John Mulderig  
Catholic News Service

Sound fundamental values underlie the spirited sci-fi follow-up "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2" (Disney). But thematic elements demanding discernment, together with some less than family-friendly dialogue, make this return to the stars best for grown-ups.

That's a shame because, in continuing to adapt a series of Marvel comics, writer-director James Gunn not only maintains the jaunty atmosphere of the 2014 original but adds an interesting allegory about the dangers of selfishness from which younger viewers might have profited.

This parable takes shape after the hero of the first film, Peter Quill, aka Star-Lord (Chris Pratt) encounters his long-lost - and previously unidentified - father, the "celestial" or demigod Ego (Kurt Russell). The creator and ruler of his own paradise-like planet, Ego, seems to have a lot to offer Peter, and the two quickly bond.

In one scene, for instance, they play a game of catch that, for all its apparent simplicity, nonetheless manages to highlight both this sequel's positive and more challenging aspects. On the



CNS PHOTO/MARVEL STUDIOS  
Chris Pratt stars in a scene from the movie "Guardians Of The Galaxy Vol.2."

plus side, the incident is touching because we know that, as a child, Peter yearned to share this iconic experience with his unknown dad.

The fact that Ego has taught Peter how to create things out of thin air, however, and that Peter has just used this inherited ability to bring the ball of light they're tossing around into existence suggests why impressionable moviegoers might be led astray. In the long run, initial appearances turn out to be deceptive, and Peter and Ego eventually find themselves at odds.

Family troubles also dog Gamora (Zoe Saldana), the alien Peter would like to make his girlfriend, as she pursues her longstanding rivalry with her scheming sister, Nebula (Karen Gillan).

In between these clan conflicts, the Guardians -- their membership rounded out by tactless musclebound extraterrestrial Drax (Dave Bautista), Rocket the racoon (voice of Bradley Cooper) and undersized tree-like creature Baby Groot (voice of Vin Diesel) - do battle with an array of adversaries.

One band of their opponents is led by Yondu

Udonta (Michael Rooker), the blue-skinned space pirate who raised Peter after his human mother, Meredith (Laura Haddock), died. Yondu ostensibly valued Peter for his ability to steal things by getting into small spaces. Yet, as is the case with Nebula, further disclosures reveal that Yondu is not the callous villain he seems.

Along with tackling the movie's mythology, mature patrons will need to sort through Gunn's somewhat ambiguous, though incidental, use of religiously themed music and imagery.

Religious moviegoers will want to see these touches as ironic, and they can be interpreted in that light. But the task of reconciling them with a positive view of faith is not one that can be casually entrusted to kids.

The film contains mostly stylized combat violence with little gore, some sexual humor, a few mild oaths and occasional crude talk.

The Catholic News Service classification is A-III -- adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 -- parents strongly cautioned.



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## CLINTON

## MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

**Lyon Mountain** – Lyon Mountain Knights of Columbus and Mission of Hope to have a Mother's Day Brunch.

**Date:** May 14

**Time:** 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Place:** American Legion Post #1623; For takes-outs call 518-735-4372

**Cost:** Adults, \$10; All Mothers, \$5; Children 6-12, \$5; under 5, Free

**Features:** Mass Will be held at St. Bernard's Church at 10:30 a.m.

## GARAGE SALE

**Plattsburgh** – Annual Seton Garage sale to be held.

**Date:** June 3 and 4

**Place:** Seton

**Features:** Drop offs are scheduled for Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for the 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 and 2:30 p.m. to 5. For the final two weeks leading up to the garage sale, the storage unit will be open every day. Heavy items will need to be scheduled through setonschoolisfamily@gmail.org. We will accept most items with the exception of TV's, computers, printers and mattresses. Please try to price your items.

## BIRTHRIGHT BENEFIT

**Plattsburgh** – An indoor garage sale for Birthright will be held on Mother's Day weekend

**Schedule:** May 11, 10 a.m. to 4 to drop off items; May 12, 9 a.m. to 4 for sale; May 13, 9 a.m. for sale, \$5 bag sale at noon.

**Features:** Organizers are looking for books, household items, toys, camping gear, etc (no clothes).

## SETON GALA

**Plattsburgh** – Seton Roaring Twenties Gala is set

**Date:** May 20

**Time:** 5:30 p.m. to 11

**Place:** PSU Angel Center

**Cost:** \$50 per person or \$400 for a table of 8 or \$500 for a Corporate table of 8 which has advertising opportunities

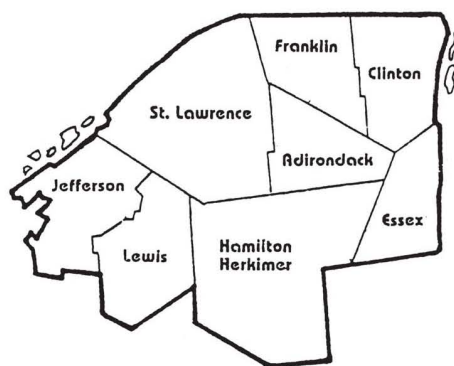
**Features:** Accepting donations for live and silent auctions, including gift certificates, items of experiences, activities.

**Contact:** Seton Catholic for more information, (518) 561-4031, ext. 7.

## ALUMNI WEEKEND

**Plattsburgh** – Graduates from St. John's Academy, Mount Assumption Institute and Seton Catholic Central are planning a joint reunion.

**Date:** May 26-28



The North Country Catholic welcomes contributions to "Around the Diocese."

Parishioners are invited to send information about activities to:

North Country Catholic, PO Box 326,

Ogdensburg, NY 13669; fax, 1-866-314-7296;

e-mail news@northcountrycatholic.org.

Items must be received in the NCC office by the Thursday before publication.

## FRANKLIN

## MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

**Brushton** – St. Mary's Mother's Day Breakfast Buffet to be held.

**Date:** May 14

**Time:** 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Place:** St. Mary's Parish Center

**Cost:** Adults, \$8; Seniors, \$7; Children 6-12, \$4; 5 and under, Free; Immediate Family of 5 or more (Mother, Father and school age children), \$25

**Features:** This event is sponsored by St. Mary's Catholic Church events committee. Take-out available by calling 518-529-6580

## IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

**Malone** – Five first Saturdays in honor of the Immaculate Heart of Mary are set

**Schedule:** 7:40 a.m., Rosary; 8 a.m., Mass

**Place:** Notre Dame Church

## HEARTS ON FIRE

**Malone** – Hearts on Fire to be held the first Friday of the month.

**Schedule:** 7 p.m., Praise & Worship Holy Hour; 8 p.m., Bonfire, snacks

**Place:** Notre Dame Church

## SATURDAY DEVOTION

**St. Regis Falls** – First Saturday Devotion and Holy Hour to be held

**Time:** after 4:30 p.m. anticipated Mass

**Place:** St. Ann's Church

## JEFFERSON

## FAMILY ROSARY CRUSADE

**Carthage** – The 15th annual Family Rosary Crusade at St. James Church will

be held

**Date:** May 12.

**Schedule:** The crusade opens with Mass at 5:15 p.m. with Father Donald A.

Robinson, pastor, presiding. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will follow at 5:55. Seven hours of praying the rosary will take place from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m.

**Features:** The crusade will mark the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Mary to the three shepherd children in Fatima May 13, 1917. Three complete rosaries are prayed each hour for a total of 21 Rosaries, in honor of the Blessed Mother's Seven Sorrows. Each hour is for specific intentions ending with the last hour of thanksgiving. Carthage artist Robert Renaud, who has organized the annual crusade, is painting "Our Lady of the Rosary" for this year's event. A print will be given to each person who prays at St. James for at least three hours.

**Contact:** Further information is available at Renaud's website, bobrenaundart.com or the parish website catholicsofcarthagecopenhagen.org.

## BEREAVEMENT MEETING

**Watertown** – Ecumenical Bereavement meeting to be held.

**Date:** May 22

**Time:** 7 p.m.

**Place:** Hospitality Center at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse

**Speaker:** Father William Muench, writer for the North Country Catholic, retired priest who lives in Sackets Harbor

**Topic:** "Jesus comforts those on their way to Emmaus"

## MINISTRY FAIR

**Clayton** – The Parishes of St. Mary's and St. John's invite all parishioners to a Ministry Fair.

**Dates:** June 4 after the 9 a.m. Mass

**Place:** St. Mary's Parish Center

**Features:** Learn about the many ministries active in our parishes. Speak with parishioners about their ministries. Explore where God might be calling you to share your faith, time, and talents. (Others, with the hopes of promoting ministries in their home parishes, are also invited.)

**Contact:** For more information, contact the parish office at 315-686-3398.

## SPAGHETTI SUPPER

**Watertown** – St. Anthony's Church Altar Rosary Society to have spaghetti dinner.

**Date:** May 25

**Time:** 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.; Take-outs begin at 4 p.m., please bring your own containers

**Place:** Msgr. Sechi Hall

**Cost:** Adults, \$8; Children, \$4; Children under 3, Free; Sauce, \$5 per quart; Meatballs, \$.75 each

## LIFERIGHT MEETING

**Watertown** – Liferight of Watertown meets the first Wednesday of the Month.

**Time:** 1 p.m.

**Place:** 870 Arsenal Street.

**Features:** pro-life videos, books and educational materials for borrowing.

**Contact:** Phone 315-788-4359

## LEWIS

## ST. PETER'S MAY FESTIVAL

**Lowville** – Plans for St. Peter's May Festival have begun.

**Dates:** May 19, 20 and 21

**Place:** Lewis County Fairgrounds

**Features:** Ontario Amusements will provide Carnival rides. There will be a special Saturday matinee with unlimited rides from 1 p.m. to 5. Friday is the Grand Opening at 5 pm; All weekend, the Festival will feature homemade food specialties including Shiskabob, Pizza, Chili, Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Fried Dough, and Pie & Ice Cream. Other booths will include "This-N-That", a Giant Bake Sale, and Games for all ages! Friday from 5 p.m. to 7, John Secor of Back of the Barn Antiques will be on hand to appraise your rare & unique treasures. Saturday is jammed packed. There is a Craft Fair that opens at 11 a.m., Mass will be celebrated on the grounds at 4 p.m. Sunday we feature a Chicken Barbecue from 11 a.m. until all are gone! We do have pre-sale tickets available, please call the office (376-6662). Cake walk will be at noon. at 3 p.m., the drawings begin for cash prizes totaling \$2000.

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

**Lowville** – Eucharistic Adoration to be held.

**Date:** May 18

**Time:** 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

**Place:** St. Peter's Church

**Features:** To Honor the Most Blessed Sacrament, all are invited to one hour of exposition, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, silent adoration, and benediction.

## HAM DINNER

**Harrisville** – Ham dinner to be sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

**Date:** May 10

**Time:** 4:30 p.m. to 6:30

**Place:** St. Francis Solanus Church

**Cost:** Adults, \$9; Children 5-12, \$4; under 5 Free; Take-outs available

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE



## The Pontifical Mission Societies of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, Inc.

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith  
 Sr. Mary Ellen Brett, SSI, Director  
 622 Washington St., Ogdensburg, NY 13669  
 (315) 393-2920; fax 1-866-314-7296  
 mbrett@rcdony.org

# On being a mother

*His Mother – by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow*  
*“Even He that died for us upon the cross, in the last hour, in the unutterable agony of death, was mindful of His mother, as if to teach us that this holy love should be our last worldly thought - the last point of earth from which the soul should take its flight for heaven. ....” A biblical reference to convey your undying love for mom.*

Mothing is defined by most dictionaries as to watch over, nourish, and protect maternally. Mothers give us life. Becoming a mother is often referred to as life's defining moment. The role of a mother can often be thankless work yet filled with joy. In 1950, Mother Teresa founded the Mission of Charity in India and for over 45 years, she ministered to the poor, sick, orphaned, and dying, while guiding the Missionaries of Charity's expansion, first throughout India and then in other countries. Mother Teresa, who died September 5, 1997 at the age of 87, was hardly a political figure in the normal sense. Yet she had a politician's sense of issues and timing: she knew that in modern-day India, a nation of over a billion overwhelmingly poor people, the biggest issue of all was poverty. She drew larger crowds and invited greater affection than any politician ever could. This was a testimony to her integrity, humility, and most of all, her grace.

Mother Teresa helped to bring people in touch with the reason for all our hope, Jesus Christ who is the heart of the Church's mission. The Catholic Church in mission countries is indeed often the only source of hope and help for the poorest and most vulnerable of souls. Her hope and spirituality brought Good News in a world of need.

Another Therese, Saint Therese of Lisieux, is considered to be the patron saint of the Missions. Born Marie Françoise Thérèse Martin in Alençon, France, on January 2, 1873, she was the youngest of nine children. At the age of 15, Thérèse entered the Carmelite convent at Lisieux, becoming a religious Sister two years later.

Although not a mother in the defined sense, she made many sacrifices, much like any mother does – but sacrifices were for the missions. She prayed for them while living a life of patience and vocation. “For me, prayer is a surge of the heart, it is a simple look towards Heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy.”, said Saint Therese. Her short life was cut short by illness. But even in her death, she asked that people contribute to the missions to support abandoned children instead of flowers at her funeral.

This Mother's Day, take the opportunity to remember those in the Missions who continue to be nourished and loved through our prayers and sacrifice at home. Many of the children there are orphans and the only mother they know are the missionaries who care for them. As the definition of mothering states “to nourish and protect”, may they know always the love of God. God Bless the one you call Mother on this special day.

## OBITUARIES

### Rita M. Edwards, 93

PLATTSBURGH – A Mass of Christian Burial for Rita M. Edwards, 93, mother of Father Guy (Bill) Edwards was held May 1 at St. John's Church.

She died April 27 at Meadowbrook Healthcare.

Mrs. Edwards was born in Albany, April 16, 1924 the daughter of Patrick and Mae (Mitchell) O'Neill. She has been a longtime resident of Peru, N.Y.

In addition to Father Edwards, she is survived by her son Gary Edwards and wife Nancy, and their children Shawn and wife Susan and Amy and husband Todd; a son Timothy Edwards and his children Zebulin and Stephanie and Otis; six great-grandchildren, a sister, Joan Provost and nieces Colleen Cringle, Freida Mooney and Linda Santor.

Memorial donations may be made to the Plattsburgh Animal Rescue and Welfare Service at PO Box 2341, Plattsburgh, NY 12901.

### David C. Shampine, 69

WATERTOWN – A Mass of Christian Burial for David C. Shampine, 69, was held May 8 at St. Patrick's Church.

An author, retired *Watertown Daily Times* reporter and a reporter for the *North Country Catholic*, Mr. Shampine, died May 2, 2017, following a two year bout with cancer. Burial was in St. James Cemetery, Carthage.

Mr. Shampine was born in Carthage, Feb. 25, 1948, the son of Clyde W. and Leona Perry Shampine. His elementary and high school educations were at Augustinian Academy, Carthage, where he graduated in 1966. He received an Associate of Arts degree in 1968 from Jefferson Community College, and continued his studies at Franklin Pierce College, Rindge, N.H., and SUNY Brockport, where in 1971 he was awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Shortly after his Brockport graduation, Mr. Shampine was hired as Carthage correspondent for the *Watertown Daily Times*. After six months, he was moved to the Watertown office to develop a

career which would span about 42 years. Most of his career was dedicated to crime reporting, but he also had brief terms as a court reporter and part of a two-person Fort Drum reporting team after the 10th

Mr. Shampine was married Sept. 15, 1972 to Lucille Ann Collier; she died April 11, 2012.

Surviving are two sons, Scott D., Clayton, and Steven A., with his wife Julie, Los Angeles, Calif.; a sister, Bette A. Shampine, Carthage two granddaughters, Jennifer and Lindsey Shampine, Altmar, and a step grandson, Lawrence Austin, Altmar.

Donations in his memory may be made to St. Patrick's Church, Watertown, St. James Church, Carthage or Hospice of Jefferson County, Watertown.

**Brownville** – Barbara M. Gunn, 74; Funeral Services May 1, 2017 at Immaculate Conception Church; burial in Dexter Cemetery.

**Brownville** – Helen C. “Honey Mullen, 95; Funeral Services May 2, 2017 at Immaculate Conception Church; burial in Dexter Cemetery.

**Carthage** – Michael J. Miterko, 90; Funeral Services May 5, 2017 at the Bezanilla-McGraw Funeral Home; burial in Black River Cemetery.

**Champlain** – Cynthia Marcia Ashline, 75; Funeral Services April 29, 2017 at St. Mary's Church.

**Chateaugay** – Edward “Paul” English, 79; Funeral Services May 9, 2017 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

**Colton** – Sally A. Murray, 69; Funeral Services May 9, 2017 at St. Patrick's Church.

**Lake Placid** – Audrey Ann Brown Personius, 87; Memorial Mass at St. Agnes Church.

**Lake Placid** – Helen E. (Gonyea) Rock, 89; Funeral Services May 5, 2017 at the Elderwood of Uihlein Chapel; burial in St. Bernard's Cemetery.

**Morrisonville** – Roldon N. Brown, 80; Fu-

neral Services May 3, 2017 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in Whispering Maples Mausoleum, Plattsburgh.

**Morrisonville** – Carol Anne (MacRae) Race, 74; Funeral Services May 6, 2017 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in St. Mary's of the Lake Cemetery, Cumberland Head.

**Ogdensburg** – Richard K. Fasset, 89; Funeral Services May 5, 2017 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** – Mary E. (Bergeron) Marek, 92; Funeral Services May 3, 2017 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** – Shirley E. Smith, 98; Funeral Services May 5, 2017; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Peru** – Dorothy G. (Rock) Dubuque, 87; Funeral Services May 4, 2017 at the Hamilton Funeral Home Chapel; burial in St. Augustine's Cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** – Denise F. Wells, 71; Funeral Services May 4, 2017 at Our Lady of Victory Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

**Saranac Lake** – Bernadette Harrigan Derby, 90; Funeral Services May 6, 2017 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in St. Bernard's Cemetery.

**Saranac Lake** – Thomas Richard Monroe, 78; Funeral Services May 5, 2017 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in St. Bernard's Cemetery.

**Watertown** – Samuel S. Biondillo, 88; Funeral Services April 29, 2017 at Holy Family Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

**Watertown** – Joseph W. Queoir, 93; Funeral Services at St. Patrick's Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.



*Support And Pray  
For Vocations*

# Around

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

## ST. LAWRENCE

### HEALING MASS

**Raymondville** — St. Raymond's will host a healing Mass.

**Date:** May 10

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

**Features:** Bishop Terry R. LaValley will be the main celebrant and homilist. The sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at 5:45 p.m. During Mass, there will be the Communal Anointing of the Sick. After Mass, there will be an opportunity for private group prayer for those who wish. Transportation will be available for those in the local area.

**Contact:** Parish office at 315-384-4242

### SPRING RETREAT

**Morristown** — A Spring retreat is set Scheduled: May 27 from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. or May 27, 9:30 a.m. to May 28 at 4 p.m.

**Place:** Cedarhaven, located along the St. Lawrence River

**Cost:** Saturday only, \$25 (includes lunch) or both days, \$85 (includes overnight and all meals)

**Features:** The theme is "Planting the Seeds of Compassion" facilitated by St. Joseph Sister Bethany Fitzgerald.

**Contact:** Call: 315-212-6592 or email sr-bethssj@gmail.com by May 24.

### ST. RAPHAEL'S FOOD PANTRY

**Heuvelton** — St. Raphael's Food Pantry will be open every Friday.

**Time:** 9 a.m. to 11

**Place:** Parish Center

**Contact:** Father O'Brien at 315-393-2920 or 315-344-2383.

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

**Massena** — St. Mary's & St. Joseph's hold Benediction and Adoration every Friday

**Time:** 9 a.m. to 10

**Place:** St. Mary's Family Room

## DIOCESAN EVENTS

### CATHOLIC MEN'S RETREAT

**Saranac Lake** — A diocesan Catholic Men's Retreat is set

**Date:** June 9-11

**Place:** Guggenheim Center

**Features:** The theme is "Be A Man: Becoming the man God created you to be."

**Contact:** Steve Tartaglia (startaglia@rcdony.org) or John Miner (jminer@roadrunner.com)

### RACHEL VINEYARD RETREATS

**Saranac Lake** — Two Rachel's Vineyard after-abortion healing retreats will be offered in the diocese in 2017.

**Dates:** The spring retreat will be June 16-18. The fall retreat will be Sept. 1-3.

**Place:** Guggenheim Lodge

**Features:** Fr. Thomas Higman will serve as the chaplain for the spring retreat and Father Mark Riley in the fall.

**Contact:** For more information and a confidential registration form visit [www.rcdony.org/prolife](http://www.rcdony.org/prolife). Dates and locations of retreats outside the diocese are available at [www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org).

### LATIN MISSA CANTATA

**Ogdensburg** — Bishop Terry R. LaValley will preach at a Sung Mass, commemorating the 10th Anniversary of the *Motu Proprio Summorum Pontificum*

**Date:** July 7

**Time:** 6 p.m.

**Place:** St. Mary's Cathedral

**Features:** *Motu Proprio Summorum Pontificum* is an Apostolic Letter of Pope Benedict XVI in which he expanded the circumstances in which priests of the Latin Church may celebrate the Tridentine Mass. Music for the liturgy will be directed by Lukas Gruber, current Director of Music at St. Mary's, Potsdam, accompanied by Marie-Claire d'Arcy, Director of Music and Organist at St. Andre Bessette Parish, Malone. A picnic on the cathedral lawn will follow

### CAMP GUGGENHEIM REGISTRATION

**Saranac Lake** — Registration for 2017 season for Camp Guggenheim is open

**Dates:** First Week is July 1-7

**Cost:** \$300

**Features:** Weeks one through five are designated for 12-15 year olds, while Week Six is just for 16-18 year olds.

**Contact:** For more information contact the Office of Youth Ministry at 315-393-2920 or [vlalonde@rcdony.org](mailto:vlalonde@rcdony.org) or visit camp website: [rcdony.org/camp/guggy](http://rcdony.org/camp/guggy)

### HOSPITALITY WORKSHOP

**Potsdam** — The Offices of New Evangelization and Formation for Ministry are sponsoring a practical one day workshop on creating hospitable parishes.

**Date:** June 3

**Time:** 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Place:** SUNY Potsdam

**Cost:** \$35, includes materials and lunch

**Features:** A hospitable community doesn't "just happen." Hospitality takes effort and intentionality and work. It isn't just the responsibility of a select few on a hospitality committee. It requires each and every parishioner.

**Contact:** For details, information and to register, see <http://rcdony.org/hospitality> or contact Marika Donders at [mdonders@rcdony.org](mailto:mdonders@rcdony.org)

### CATHOLIC HEART WORKCAMP

**Plattsburgh** — Catholic Heart Workcamp (CHWC) has announced that it will be coming to Plattsburgh this summer, Dates: June 25-30.

**Place:** Seton Catholic Central

## MISSION-MINDED KIDS



SCHOOL PHOTO

These young men from St. Agnes School in Lake Placid counted coins they collected for the Missionary Childhood Association. From left are Nolan Clark, Jack Morgan, Jordan Deforest and Jack Wright.

**Features:** the week-long service camp is open to high school (entering 9th grade in Fall 2017) and college students. The 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 Plattsburgh 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.

**Price:** The cost is \$375 per person, which includes meals, lodging, transportation to the work sites, t-shirts and snacks.

**Contact:** Jocelyn Kelly and Samantha Poulin at [chwc.ogdensburg@gmail.com](mailto:chwc.ogdensburg@gmail.com) or call Jocelyn at 518-651-0786. Additional information about CHWC can be

found at [www.heartworkcamp.com](http://www.heartworkcamp.com).

### FAMILY GUGGENHEIM

**Saranac Lake** — Family Guggenheim registration is now open.

**Dates:** Session 1: August 17 - August 20, Session 2: August 24 - August 27, Session 3: October 6 - October 8,

**Features:** families of all dimensions invited to enjoy a weekend in the Adirondacks, fun family workshops and activities, liturgy and special prayer services. Take time for great outdoor activities like paddle boat rides, beach volleyball, and hiking.

**Contact:** Register online at: <http://www.rcdony.org/familylife.htm>

## NEIGHBORING DIOCESES

### SHRINE OPENS

**Isle LaMotte, Vt.** — St. Anne's Shrine will reopen for the 2017 pilgrimage season.

**Schedule:** May 20, Mass at 7 p.m., May 21, Mass at 10:30 a.m.

**Features:** A 9 a.m. Sunday Mass will be added June 18 and an 11:15 a.m. daily Mass begins June 26

**Contact:** Call, email or stop at office for calendar of events, (802) 928-3362, [fs-tanne@pshift.com](mailto:fs-tanne@pshift.com)



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