God is always showing the way

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Christians always have hope, no matter how bleak, bad or uncertain the journey, because they know God is always by their side, Pope Francis said. In fact, "even crossing parts of the world (that are) wounded, where things are not going well, we are among those who, even there, continue to hope," he said at his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square April 26. Just a few days before his visit to Cairo April 28-29, the pope continued his series of talks on the nature of Christian hope, saying it is rooted in knowing God will always be present, even to the end of time.

The Gospel of St. Matthew, he said, begins with the birth of Jesus as Emmanuel -- "God with us" -- and ends with the risen Christ telling his doubtful disciples to go forth and teach all nations, assuring them that "I am with you always, until the end of the age."

The apostle shows how "ours is not an absent God, sequestered in a faraway heaven. Instead he is a God 'impassioned' with mankind," so tenderly in love that he is unable to stay away, the pope said.

Bishop Brzana Chapter of the K of C

For nearly two decades the Knights of Columbus in the Diocese of Ogdensburg have made significant contributions to diocesan programs through their charitable arm, the Bishop Stanislaus J. Brzana Chapter.

Thousands of dollars have been raised through an annual ball and auction and given to Catholic schools, right to life agencies and other programs including Guggenheim, INSPIRE and the North Country Catholic. This year's ball is set for June 10 in Tupper Lake.

Priesthood ordination

Bishop LaValley has announced the priesthood ordination of Deacon Michael Jablonski May 27 at 11 a.m. at St. Mary's Cathedral.
On a virtual pilgrimage or two

When I first joined Facebook a few years ago I was quite proud of myself for keeping up with the kids in my life. It wasn’t long before I realized that the biggest beneficiaries of the Facebook experience are people like me: old kids who have collected friends through the decades, friends who – for some reason (l) - have scattered far from our home towns.

Staying connected with people I love from childhood, college and work – both online and in person – has been a great gift. Facebook has its well documented problems of course but, for me, the blessings have far outweighed any concerns.

One huge bonus of social media is the ability to “travel” right along with Facebook friends who are making their way through Europe, along beaches in the Caribbean or in the good old USA. It’s been a particular joy in recent weeks to follow friends who have been making pilgrimages around the world. That’s how I first saw that Father Chris Looby had the opportunity to meet Pope Francis after concelebrating Mass with the Holy Father in his private chapel.

Among the hundreds of comments posted by Father Looby’s friends was mine: “please send me a copy of the photo for the paper”.

It arrived in my email just in time for this week’s issue. I’ve also been enjoying scenes from France shared by Father Timothy Canaan of Plattsburgh and breathtaking views of the Holy Land from Marika Sanders, our evangelization director.

My next door neighbor and cathedral parishioner Kathy Hannan Wears has taken her friends along on her weeks of walking the Camino de Santiago in Spain.

We all shared her joy, if not her blisters, when she arrived in Santiago in time for the Pilgrim’s Mass last Wednesday.

A year ago, I was the one posting pilgrimage photos during our Year of Mercy pilgrimage to Italy with Bishop LaValley.

What a privilege it is to travel to the other side of the world, and experience sights and foods and languages so different from what we know in northern New York.

Who knows... maybe we’ll just have to do it again.

The powerful gift of my faith

Easter is about faith. I know that I have spoken about faith in my homilies often during this Easter time, so let us talk about faith today.

I experience a faith moment each time I go to anoint a dying person. This morning I was asked to visit a woman at the Hospice Home here in the city. The woman’s family was there and everyone gathered around her bed for prayers and the anointing. She was in a deep sleep.

At the beginning of the ritual, the prayers invite all to place their hands on the person and to pray silently. I want you to know that today at that moment there was something special. I experienced a deep faith in that room with that family. I must admit that it touched me deeply.

I remember that later I had a thought that one day when my time comes that there will be someone or many there to place their hands on me during those prayers. It was a faith moment; each person was silently sharing a deep faith with each other of us.

Each time I read the Scriptures of the Passion and Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus – privately or at Mass – I can only assume that those apostles went through a real crisis of faith. Each of them were friends of Jesus. They were convinced of his message, he was their spiritual leader. They found their faith in God and life through the message and life of Jesus. Then everything crashed. Jesus was arrested and crucified.

Remember the story about St. Thomas. After the crucifixion of Jesus, we are told that Thomas was not with the other apostles, especially when the risen Jesus comes to them. Thomas just wanted to be alone. All of his hopes for the Kingdom were destroyed. Even when he finally joins the apostles again, he is still annoyed; their renewed happiness at seeing the Resurrected Jesus annoyed him.

“Unless I see the marks of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe,” Thomas said.

Jesus does come again and Thomas believes – “My Lord and my God.”

Jesus then proclaims to us all, “Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.”

Faith is such a powerful gift. When we come to place our belief and confidence in God, everything changes about us. Pope Francis tells us, “Faith makes us open to the quiet presence of God at every moment of our lives, in every person and in every situation.”

I recognize I am the person I should be and have been able to live out my life in the way of Jesus because I have faith. I have accepted Jesus as my Lord and Master. With Jesus I recognize the changes that I have made in my life every day. Pope Francis reminds us that as people of faith, “Don’t get tired of bringing the mercy of the Father to the poor, the sick, the abandoned, the young people and families.”

As a priest, I have been with people, with families in truly terrible situations, tragedies, crises, and such. There have been times in the hospital, at accident scenes, at a home with family problems – and I have worked their way through. It has been amazing to watch. I have asked some individuals how they have done it, how they worked their way through what seemed an impossible situation. So often the answer was “Father if it wasn’t for my faith, I could not have made it.”

My faith has been strengthened and even over my years by my association with so many wonderful families in the various parishes I have been assigned. They have been a powerful example. They have truly transformed me. And there have been so many.

Every time I celebrate Mass, each time I pray, even every day I walk through a Church building I pray to the Lord for a stronger and more alive faith. I know only too well my turn is coming and I know that I want the power of strong faith to meet that time.
A chapter of knightly charity

Knights of Northern Conference make charitable donations through Bishop Brzana Chapter

With encouragement from Bishop Paul S. Loverde, the Northern Conference of the Knights of Columbus formed a charitable arm to direct fundraising efforts to support programs in the diocese.

Nearly two decades later, the Bishop Stanislaus Brzana Chapter continues to hold annual balls to raise funds for Catholic schools, right to life agencies within the diocese and other programs of the Knights’ choice.

Proceeds from the 2016 ball provided support for the INSPIRE Summit in Lake Placid, Camp Guggenheim, Trinity Catholic School in Massena, Lifighthouse of Watertown and the Champlain Valley Right to Life.

The 19th annual charity ball and fundraiser will be held June 10 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Tupper Lake.

The 19th annual charity ball and fundraiser will be held June 10 in Tupper Lake

Proceeds this year will benefit St. Mary’s School in Canton, various right to life agencies in the diocese, Camp Guggenheim and St. Anne’s Shrine in Isle LaMotte, Vermont, where the diocesan Knights hold an annual pilgrimage.

Colonel William C. Ose of Adams, first and current president of the Bishop Brzana Chapter, and chairman of the ball calls the evening “a wonderful time of camaraderie, prayer, dinner and dancing.” He will also conduct the ‘Colonel’s Auction,’ a highlight of the program.

The evening opens with Mass at 4 p.m. at St. Alphon­sus Church in Tupper Lake. The liturgy is followed by a cocktail hour, dinner, officer’s oath of office and a short program, the auction and then dancing.

The dress is formal and the cost is $25 per person. Checks, made payable to the Bishop Brzana Chapter Knights of Columbus may be sent to Bill Ose, 10667 US Rt. 11, Adams, NY, 13605. Dinner choices of chicken or roast beef should be noted.

Special rates have been arranged for overnight accommodations at the Sh­nee­en Motel in Tupper Lake if calls to 518-359-3384 are made by June 1.

Bishop Terry LaValley receives a donation from the Bishop Brzana Chapter of the Knights of Columbus NY State Council’s Northern Conference, given by Dr. Charlie Robinson, the chapter’s treasurer, current Northern Conference chairman and former NY K of C state secretary. The check was given to help defray the cost of the INSPIRE Summit in Lake Placid and to help support Camp Guggenheim. This donation came from the net proceeds of the 2016 Chapter’s Charity Ball and Auction in Tupper Lake.

Trinity Catholic School in Massena, Champlain Valley Right to Life, and Lifighthouse of Watertown also received donations. The Bishop Brzana Chapter serves as the charitable arm of the Knights in the Diocese of Ogdensburg. The 2017 Chapter Ball has been set for June 10.

David Clark of Plattsburgh, a deacon candidate, past Northern Conference chairman and past Fourth Degree Master presents a check to Deacon Jack Lukasiewicz of Plattsburgh to support the Champlain Valley Right to Life.

Bill Boulio, right, a Bishop Brzana Chapter Trustee, presents a check from proceeds of the 2016 Chapter Ball to Bette Ann Honan, president of Lifighthouse of Watertown. Chapter president Bill Ose is shown at left.
May 13, 2017 is the 100th anniversary of the apparitions

Our Lady of Fatima

By Mary Ellen Shevalier
Parishioner, Queen of Heaven, Henderson

May 13, 2017 marks the 100th anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima Apparitions. This is the first of a series that will be featured in the North Country Catholic from May 2017 to October 2017 to honor Our Blessed Mother’s monthly appearances to three children in Fatima, Portugal.

The Little children are prepared by an angel to meet their Heavenly Mother

“In June 1916, a nine year old girl named Lucia, and her younger cousins, Jacinta and Francisco were in the fields tending to her father’s sheep, playing, eating their lunch and saying the Rosary as was their daily custom.

“About mid morning, a drizzle began to fall,” Lucia said. “Seeking shelter, we climbed the slope, followed by our sheep. It was then that we first entered the cave that was to become so sacred.”

“The rain stopped,” Lucia continued, “and the sun shone brightly, but we spent the day in the cave. We had our lunch and after the Rosary we started to play jacks.”

A sudden wind shook the trees and the children looked above the trees and saw a light, whiter than snow.

“It was the form of a young man, transparent, more brilliant than a crystal pierced by the rays of the sun...” Lucia remarked; “As he approached, we began to distinguish his features. We were so surprised and half absorbed, and we could not utter one word.”

“He came near us and said: “Fear not! I am the Angel of Peace. Pray With me!”

“The angel knelt on the ground and bowed very low.”

“The three children imitated him as he said: “My God, I believe, I adore, I hope, and I love Thee. I ask pardon for all those who do not believe Thee, do not adore Thee, do not hope in Thee, do not love Thee.”

“He repeated this prayer three times.”

A woman dressed all in white appeared to the children three times to prepare their hearts for what was to come which was to be visits from Our Heavenly Mother, The Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Part 1 - The first Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima; May 13, 1917.

“On Sunday the thirteenth of May, 1917, during the midst of the First World War, God sent to earth His own beautiful Mother, Mary, whom we address as Queen of the May.

“This day, Lucia and her two little cousins met as usual at the small bog beyond the village. It was almost noon when they sat for lunch and afterward said their Rosary.

“They chased their sheep up the hill and then began to play among the rocks... shortly after, as told by Lucia; “A sudden bright shaft of light pierced the air.”

“The children were frightened and decided to start for home before it rained.

Half way down, another shaft of light split the air and towards their right, standing over the foliage of a small holm oak they saw a most beautiful lady.

“It was a lady dressed all in white,” Lucia records, “more brilliant than the sun, shedding rays of light, clear and stronger than a crystal glass filled with the most sparkling water, pierced by the burning rays of the sun.”

“Fear not! The Lady said, “I will not harm you.”

“I come to ask you to come here for six consecutive months on the thirteenth day at this same hour. I will tell you later who I am and what I want. And I shall return here again a seventh time.”

The Lady asked the children; “Do you want to offer yourselves to God to endure all of the sufferings that He may choose to send you, as an act of reparation for the sins by which He is offended and as a supplication for the conversion of sinners?”

Promptly Lucia answered for all three; “Yes, we want to.” ...the Lady again spoke to them; “Say the rosary every day to bring peace to the world and the end of the war.”

“She began then to elevate herself serenely,” Lucia said, “Going in the direction of the east until She disappeared in the immensity of space, still surrounded by a most brilliant light that seemed to open a path for Her through the myriad galaxies of stars.”

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Editor’s note

(*Excerpts derived from:
The True Story of Fatima by John de Marchi, I.M.C. (imprimatur, James Cassidy, Bishop, Fall River, Mass, aug.11,1947,Victor Lyndoh, Bishop of Nongstoin, Meghalaya, India, March 12, 2009)
SPRINGTIME SCENES IN SCHOOLS AND PARISHES

FACES OF FAITH

Father Christopher Carrara, pastor of St. Peter’s Parish in Lowville, baptizes Ivan Branigan at the Easter Vigil April 15 at St. Peter’s. Ivan and his brother Owen completed the preparation process with instruction by high school senior catechists William Beyer and Caden Larbee.

St. Hedwig’s Catholic Church in Houseville held a Divine Mercy Sunday celebration with Father Thomas Ward, pastor of Christ our Hope in Boonville. Deacon James Chaufty and Deacon Ronald Pominville assisted. A covered dish dinner was held after the service. Pictured, from left, are Deacon Chaufty, Father Ward and Deacon Pominville in front of the altar.

Collin Clancy was a proud server at St. Joseph’s Church in Dannemora on Easter Sunday morning.

The students and teachers of Seton Academy of Plattsburgh are enjoying the new Children’s Bible that they received as part of a grant from the diocesan Bishop’s Fund. Above, Natalie Wylie looks through the Bible with Ella Forrence, Hayden Boyle and Oliver Church.

The grow lab at St. Mary’s School in Ticonderoga is up and running. St. Mary’s Kindergarten class, including Issac Romana and Tristan Jalonack, planted pumpkin, spinach, basil, and sunflower seeds in their grow lab and will be watching closely for the first signs of green sprouting leaves.
St. Mary’s School, Canton announces new principal

CANTON - Father Douglas J. Lucia, pastor of St. Mary’s Parish has announced the appointment of Michele Meyers as new principal at St. Mary’s School for the fall of 2017.

Several new initiatives for the 2017-18 school year have also been announced.

Mrs. Meyers has recently retired as the Director of Special Education for Canton Central School, where she has also taught in special education and elementary general education.

In addition, Mrs. Meyers has been Director of Special Education and Elementary Principal in Massena.

Prior to her tenure in public schools, she was Director of Religious Education for St. Mary’s and St. Thomas More Newman Parishes in Canton.

Mrs. Meyers earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology and elementary education, along with a master’s degree in special education from SUNY Potsdam. Mrs. Meyers has also received a Certificate of Advanced Study and a Master’s degree from St. Lawrence University in Educational Leadership. She holds permanent New York State certification as both an Elementary Teacher and Special Education Teacher, and a School District Leader.

New initiatives

Some of the new initiatives for the next school year will be:

- The appointment of a Family Catechist (formerly Director of Religious Education) who will oversee and direct both the school and parish Christian Formation programs focusing on getting families more involved in parish and school life.
- Beginning Sept. 1, St. Mary’s Latch Key will become a year-round program both morning and afternoon with services being provided during school and summer vacations.
- This summer St. Mary’s School will be receiving a new interior look and the school is seeking volunteers to help with this endeavor. Included will be a new paint job meant to capture a child’s imagination, a computer lab, renovated office space, a new faculty room, and an office and storage space for the Family Catechist.
- St. Mary’s School is now accepting registrations for Pre-K through Grade 4 and will be offering a 5% early registration discount through Monday, May 15.

Father Lucia, said that the changes are meant to make St. Mary’s School even more “Christ-centered, Family-focused, and Values-oriented.” He expresses his gratitude to Mrs. Meyers for her accepting the charge to oversee this overhaul of St. Mary’s School program.

Father Lucia is grateful also to Miss Pamela Neal, the current principal for all she has done to foster the mission of St. Mary’s School and is looking forward to her return as the second grade teacher for the 2017-18 school year.

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Rest in Peace

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

- May 3 - Rev. Carmac Walsh, O.F.M., 1977
- May 4 - Rev. J. Napoleon Pelletier, O.M.I., 1935
- May 6 - Rev. P.A. Lynch, O.S.A., 1927
- May 7 - Deacon Thomas R. Finnergan, 1996

Environmental Stewardship

Voice of a generation

My generation is one of subtle controversy. Recent advances in technology have been openly accepted by youth, and because of this, we have become the most social generation in history.

Our interconnectedness may come with a few negative effects, but there are also significant positive outcomes that result from our social nature.

We are more mindful, more aware, and have more opportunities to support each other.

I do not believe it is a coincidence that the generation I am a part of has arrived at the same time in history as human-induced climate change. We now have the tools we need to communicate the effects of climate change and fully understand the science behind it. We have the capacity to build a network around climate science and climate education in the battle for sustainability.

It is time we take advantage of the opportunities we have created for ourselves to fight this battle with full force. An attitude of realism as opposed to negativity is what will carry us through. It is important that we look to future generations as a source of hope when we feel discouraged by setbacks on the road to sustainability. Our greatest defense in this fight is an increase in climate literacy, so that future leaders are better prepared to catalyze positive change.

Climate change is one of the greatest challenges we have faced because it is an issue that will impact every single human being and living thing now, and for millions of years to come. This is the case, how can we not do everything in our power to combat it? In accepting our responsibility to educate future generations by utilizing all of the resources we have, the next generation will be more capable to combat this challenge. They are a source of hope during this period of ecological and social change.

Written by Saranac Lake native Gina Fiorio, a junior at the University of Vermont studying environmental studies and public communication.

Gina describes herself as a “proud Catholic who is passionate about the issue of climate change.”
Catholic leaders decry fourth Arkansas execution in eight days
WASHINGTON (CNS) -- After Arkansas executed its fourth death-row inmate in eight days April 27, Sister Helen Prejean, a longtime opponent of capital punishment, said "future generations will look back upon the events unfolding in Arkansas tonight with horror. The barbarity is overwhelming." Sister Prejean, a Sister of St. Joseph of Medaille, tweeted that message 30 minutes after Kenneth Williams was pronounced dead. His lawyers unsuccessfully petitioned the U.S. Supreme Court for a stay, saying the inmate should not be executed because three health care professionals had determined he was "intellectually disabled." Relatives of a man killed by Williams in a crash during his 1999 escape from prison also pleaded with the governor to call off his execution.

"There is nothing pro-life about the state-sanctioned killing of an intellectually disabled man," was just one of the many messages Sister Prejean tweeted during Williams’ final hours.

Catholic leaders warn against changes to health care bill
WASHINGTON (CNS) -- U.S. Catholic leaders are warning that proposed changes to the American Health Care Act will harm poor people. "It is deeply disappointing to many Americans that, in modifying the American Health Care Act to again attempt a vote, proponents of the bill left in place its serious flaws, including unacceptable modifications to Medicaid that will endanger coverage and affordability for millions of people," said Bishop Frank J. Dewane of Venice, Florida, chairman of the bishops’ Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development. Sister Carol Keehan, president and CEO of the Catholic Health Association, similarly said an amendment to the legislation was "a giant step backward that should be resisted," noting that it would "take significant funding allocated by Congress for health care for very low-income people and use that money for tax cuts for some of our wealthiest citizens." The proposed amendment to the health care legislation was approved by the House Freedom Caucus April 26, a group of conservative representatives who rejected the House plan to repeal President Barack Obama’s Affordable Care Act in March when it was withdrawn by House Republicans because it fell short of the necessary votes for passage.

In TED talk, pope urges people to make real connections
VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- While searching for a connection today often means looking for Wi-Fi, Pope Francis said real connections between people are the only hope for the future. "How wonderful would it be if the growth of scientific and technological innovation would come along with more equality and social inclusion," he said in a video talk played April 25 for 1,800 people attending TED 2017 in Vancouver, British Columbia, and posted online with subtitles in 25 languages. "How wonderful would it be, while we discover faraway planets, to rediscover the needs of the brothers and sisters orbiting around us," the pope said in the talk that TED organizers had been advertising as that of a “surprise guest.” Pope Francis spoke to the international conference about combating the current “culture of waste” and “techno-economic systems” that prioritize products, money and things over people. "Good intentions and conventional formulas, so often used to appease our conscience, are not enough," he said. "Let us help each other, all together, to remember that the other is not a statistic or a number. The other has a face."

True faith means loving others to the extreme, pope tells Egypt's Catholics

CAIRO (CNS) - The only kind of fanaticism that is acceptable to God is being fanatical about loving and helping others, Pope Francis said on his final day in Egypt.

"True faith," he told Catholics, "makes us more charitable, more merciful, more honest and more humane. It moves our hearts to love everyone without counting the cost."

The pope celebrated an open-air Mass April 29 in Cairo’s Air Defense Stadium, built by the anti-aircraft branch of the Egyptian armed forces.

The pope concelebrated with Coptic Catholic Patriarch Ibrahim Isaac Sedrak of Alexandria and leaders of the other Catholic rites in Egypt. After spending the first day of his visit in meetings with Muslim leaders, government officials, diplomats and members of the Coptic Orthodox Church, the pope dedicated the second day of his trip to Egypt’s minority Catholic community.

Arriving at the stadium in a blue Fiat, the pope was slowly driven around the stadium’s red running track in a small and low golf cart, far from the thousands seated in the stands high above.

Yellow balloons and a long chain of blue balloons tied together like a rosary were released into the sky as a military helicopter circled high above the venue.

Surrounded by security, the pope managed to personally greet only one small group of children who were dressed as pharaohs and other traditional figures. They hugged the pope affectionately as security tightly closed in on the group.

In his homily, the pope used the day’s Gospel reading of the two disciples’ journey to Emmaus to highlight how easy it is to feel disappointment, despair and defeat when one is trapped by a false notion of who God really is.

The disciples could not believe that the one who could raise others from the dead and heal the sick could “end up on hanging on the cross of shame,” the pope said. Believing Jesus was dead, all their dreams died with him on the cross and were buried in the tomb.

"How often do we paralyze ourselves by refusing to transcend our own ideas about God, a god created in the image and likeness of man," he said.

"How often do we despair by refusing to believe that God’s omnipotence is not one of power and authority, but rather of love, forgiveness and life."

Like the disciples, he said, Christians will never recognize the true face of God until they let their mistaken ideas die on the cross, rise up from the tomb of their limited understanding and shatter their hardened hearts like the “breaking of the bread” in the Eucharist.

“We cannot encounter God without first crucifying our narrow notions of a god who reflects only our own understanding of omnipotence and power,” the pope said.

True faith "makes us see the other not as an enemy to be overcome, but a brother or sister to be loved, served and helped," he said, and it leads to dialogue and respect and the courage to defend the rights and dignity of everyone, not just oneself.

“God is pleased only by a faith that is proclaimed by our lives, for the only fanaticism believers can have is that of charity. Any other fanaticism does not come from God and is not pleasing to him," he said.
Closely following the Good Shepherd

This fourth Sunday of Easter supplies us with very rich images for our meditation. Jesus calls himself the "good Shepherd" as well as the "gate" to eternal life. He is the only way through which we have access to the Father.

His listeners were very familiar with the crucial role that shepherds in Israel played in training sheep. They would spend hours alone with each lamb, making sure that every one had a name different from any other in the flock, and would respond only to the voice of the shepherd calling out that name.

In the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, Peter is speaking at Pentecost, assuring his listeners that his fellow apostles are not drunk, but rather filled with the Holy Spirit. He tells them that, if only they repent of crucifying their Lord and Messiah through their sinfulness, they will be forgiven, Jews and Gentiles alike. If they allow themselves to be baptized, they too will receive the Holy Spirit.

Amazingly about three thousand persons heeded Peter's preaching, and were baptized that day.

The second reading today is taken from another sermon of Peter in which he urges his listeners to model their lives on the patience of Jesus who "when he suffered, did not threaten...He himself bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness".

We see a vast change in Peter and the other apostles after Pentecost. When the Holy Spirit shook not only the Cenacle on that day, but also their understanding of the resurrection, they came to realize that this man Jesus was really divine, that He was really God. Unlike human friendships, Peter could have distanced himself from His Lord out of greater awareness of his own sinfulness. Just the opposite happened.

In these readings this week, his preaching is all about the true effect of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection on the new path our lives must take. All of us must now believe, and, in living our belief, suffer much as Jesus did, that we may ourselves experience resurrection to glory.

In the Gospel, Jesus tells us that He and no other is the shepherd of the sheep, the only voice we should recognize and follow. He is also the gate of the sheepfold, protecting all of his own from marauders and thieves.

How clearly this image blends in with the recent emphasis on the mercy of Jesus, who, in taking into His own body the sins of the world, laid down his life to pay the price for our sins.

If our faith means anything, it means that we must follow the Good Shepherd ever more closely, and listen when He calls our name. “My Jesus, I trust in thee.”

Making Sense of Bioethics

Considering the ethics of new medicine

Patients who face serious illnesses are sometimes attracted to alternative medicines, also referred to as “holistic” or “new-age” medicines. These can include treatments like homeopathy, hypnosis, “energy therapies” like Reiki, acupuncture, and herbal remedies, to name just a few.

These approaches raise various medical and ethical concerns. An important 1998 article in the New England Journal of Medicine sums it up this way: “What most sets alternative medicine apart, in our view, is that it has not been scientifically tested and its advocates largely deny the need for such testing. By testing, we mean the marshaling of rigorous evidence of safety and efficacy, as required by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the approval of drugs and by the best peer-reviewed medical journals for the publication of research reports.”

Beyond the fact that their clinical efficacy has not earned a passing grade using ordinary methods of scientific investigation, the basic premise behind some alternative medicines can also be highly suspect, raising concerns about superstitious viewpoints or misguided forms of spirituality motivating certain therapies.

If we consider acupuncture, this technique does appear to provide benefit in certain cases of pain control. Yet similar results have been reported using “sham” needles — tapping the skin in random places with a thin metal tube. Brain scans have demonstrated that treatment with genuine needles, as opposed to the sham needles, does cause detectable changes in the brain. But, when researchers ignored acupuncturists’ recommendations “meridian placements” of needles, and instead did random placement in the skin, the same brain effects were observed. Hence, it is unclear whether the results seen from acupuncture arise mostly from the well-known “placebo effect” or not. Further research should help resolve this question.

Even if the observed effects are not placebo-related, acupuncture’s non-rational justification for its purported effectiveness remains a concern. It is based on energy principles that neither science nor faith affirm. Glenn Braunstein, M.D. described it critically in the following: “Chi, the invisible nutritive energy that flows from the universe into the body at any one of 500 acupuncture points, is conducted through the 12 main meridians [channels] in (ideally) an unbroken circle. Meridians conduct either Yín energy (from the sun) or Yang energy (from the earth). All maladies are caused by disharmony or disturbances in the flow of energy.”

Clearly, then, some alternative therapies, beyond the basic issue about whether they work, raise serious spiritual concerns as well.

Another new-age therapy known as Reiki, developed in Japan in the late 1800s, claims that sickness can be caused by a disruption or imbalance in a patient’s “Reiki” or “life energy.”

Reiki practitioners try to heal a patient by placing their hands in certain positions on the body in order to facilitate the flow of Reiki from the practitioner to the patient.

A 2009 document from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops stresses, "In terms of caring for one's spiritual health, there are important dangers" that can arise by turning to Reiki.

The document notes that because Reiki therapy is not compatible with either Christian teaching or scientific evidence, it is inappropriate for Catholics to put their trust in the method, because to do so would be to operate "in the realm of superstition, the no-man's-land that is neither faith nor science.”

Scientific investigations of another new-age therapy, the popular herbal remedy known as echinacea (taken early to ward off a cold) have revealed no difference between echinacea and a placebo in controlled studies involving several hundred subjects.

While some herbal remedies may be harmless and inert placebos, others may have more serious health consequences if ingested.
The Circle

By John Mulderig
Catholic News Service

Big Brother is watching you, and he has nothing to do with the government.

Such, at least in part, is the conflict with principles of Christian teaching.

While perfectly acceptable for a wide swath of grown-ups, director James Ponsoldt’s adaptation of his co-writer Dave Eggers’ novel includes a crucial scene that probably puts it over the line for all but the most mature teens.

Emma Watson plays San Francisco office worker Mae Holland. Bored with her job at a traditional firm, Mae is thrilled when her friend Annie (Karen Gillan), an employee of the titular company, the world’s leading social media outfit, gets her an interview there.

Once on the inside, however, Mae finds herself conflicted about her new environment.

She’s drawn to the charismatic figure of Eamon Bailey (Tom Hanks), the most visible of the Circle’s three founders. And she’s grateful when the Circle’s inhouse medical staff arrange to have her parents, Bonnie (Glenn Headly) and Vinnie (Bill Paxton), added to her health insurance plan. Since Vinnie suffers from multiple sclerosis, this is a real boon.

But Mae also quickly discovers that the Circle’s corporate culture is unsettlingly cult-like.

The Circle’s stated goal of enlisting every person on the planet as a member is obviously problematic since it raises troubling issues about privacy and the power of big business. Yet, although overworked Annie recognizes this, Mae does not.

Instead, taking her cue from Eamon, she buys into such Circle slogans as “Secrets Are Lies.” Mae even suggests that the government should make membership in the Circle a prerequisite for voting.

Though already awakened to the Circle’s dark side, Mae still has enough ardor to agree to go fully “transparent,” that is, to have her life made totally available online 24/7 to be witnessed and commented on by millions of Circle subscribers.

This experiment in privacy denial soon has negative consequences for Bonnie and Vinnie and even worse ones for Mae’s would-be boyfriend, gadget-shy woodcarver Mercer (Ellar Coltrane).

As all of this suggests, Mae never seems to come down on one side or the other of the movie’s philosophical divide. Even after a climactic crisis, and a gotcha plot twist, her stance remains unclear.

So it’s hard to guess what the ultimate takeaway is meant to be. And the fact that the proceedings are lacking in energy throughout leaves the audience with little motive to exert themselves trying to solve this thematic puzzle.

The film contains brief semi-graphic marital lovemaking, some sexual humor, a few uses of profanity, at least one rough term as well as several crude and a couple of crass words.

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

New medicine

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

above certain dosages due to ingredients of unknown potency derived from natural substances.

Sometimes a remedy can be borrowed from Chinese, Indian or another medical tradition, but it should be chosen for its efficacy, safety, and reasonable mode of action, and not be in conflict with principles of sound medical science or Christian teaching.

Health improvements that arise from alternative remedies may be due not only to the placebo effect, but also to the fact that patients are usually given more time, attention and focused concern by alternative practitioners than by traditional physicians. This can translate into modified habits and changed lifestyles, leading to various health benefits.

Modern medicine can be legitimately faulted for downplaying this dimension, so that, in the memorable words of pediatrician Jay Perman, “Doctors tend to end up trained in silos of specialization,” in which they are taught “to make a diagnosis, prescribe a therapy, and we’re done. But we’re not done.”

The famous Greek physician Hippocrates once noted the same point: “It is more important to know what sort of person has a disease than to know what sort of disease a person has.”

Today’s physicians-in-training, fortunately, are seeking to incorporate more and more of these “patient-centric” and “holistic” aspects into their own traditional medical practices to improve patient care and outcomes.

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K OF CAUCTION AND FLEA MARKET

Tupper Lake – Knights of Columbus Council #2177 will be sponsoring an Auction and Flea Market.

Date: May 7
Time: 9 a.m. for the Flea Market, Noon for the Auction
Place: Holy Ghost Parish center
Features: To benefit the Guggenheim Summer Camp Scholarship Fund, the Catholic Community Youth Group, and the K of C Home Association and Community Program. Food and Drink served; bake sale. Cash prizes awarded every hour starting at 1 p.m. Raffle for a combination Gas and Charcoal Grill. Raffle for a pair of Adirondack Chairs.

VOlUNTEER TRAINING

Lake Placid—Mercy Care for the Adirondacks is recruiting new volunteers and has scheduled a Friendship Volunteer Training Program.

Dates: May 2 and May 9
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

MOTHER’S DAY BRUNCH

Lyons Mountain – Lyons 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 take-outs call 518-735-4372.
Cost: Adults, $10; All Mothers, $5; Children 6-12, $5; under 5, Free

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 – Mark your calendars for the Seton Roaring Twenties Gala.
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 and items of experience and 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
Schedule: Weekend opens with a Seton Golf Tournament May 26, followed by a Welcoming Reception at Valcour Bisinger Company. Saturday there is a bike ride planned from the Plattsburgh State Field House to Seton Catholic where alumni memorabilia will be available. Saturday evening, features dinner at Harmony Golf Course and Sunday Mass at St. Peter’s Church
Contact: Susan Fitz-Patrick Pellerin, spellerin@thestetonschools.org with contact information

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Peru - St. Augustine’s Knights of Columbus Council 7273 Bill McBride Jr. Memorial Golf Tournament is set
Date: June 16
Place: Adirondack Country Club
Features: The tournament is dedicated to its former chairman, Bill McBride Jr., who died Feb. 28. Shotgun start at 10 a.m. Obtain entry forms and information from Greg Lombard at 593-2652 or email gnelombard@charter.net

FRANKLIN

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 for 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, bobrenaudart.com or the parish website catholicsofcarthagecopenhagen.org.

MINISTRY FAIR

Clayton – The Parishes of St. Mary’s and St. John’s invite all parishioners to a Ministry Fair.
Date: 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 315-666-3398.

SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL DINNER

Evans Mills – A Spaghetti and Meatball dinner to benefit Indian River Knights of Columbus to be held.
Date: May 6
Time: 4 p.m. to 7
Place: St. Mary’s Parish Center
Contact: 315-629-4678

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, $5 each

LIFERIGHT MEETING

Watertown – Lifefight 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

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Lowville – Eucharistic Adoration to be held on First Friday of May.
Date: May 5
Time: 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Place: St. Peter’s Church
Features: To pray for vocations and world peace, you are invited to join us in morning prayer, Mass, and Eucharistic Adoration.

DIVINE MERCY

Hounsfield – Divine Mercy Devotions for the month of May will be held.
Date: May 7
Time: 3 p.m.
Place: St. Hedwig’s Church
Features: At 2:25 p.m., before the monthly devotions, Episode 3, The Suffering Servant, from the DVD Series: The Second Greatest Story Ever Told, by Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC will be aired. At 3 p.m., the program includes: Vespers, (Evening Prayer), Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and Benediction.

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 p.m.; All weekend, the Festival will feature homemade food specialties including Shishkabob, Pizza, Chili, Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Fried Dough, and 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 Seor 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. Don’t leave too early; at 3 p.m., the drawings begin for cash prizes totaling $2000.

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
MC A helps church provide AIDS help

HIV is the human immunodeficiency virus which causes the disease AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). HIV damages the body’s defense system by disabling certain types of white blood cells that fight infection. While there is still no cure it is possible to be infected with HIV and never develop AIDS due to many medical advances. In spite of these advances many people are still suffering and dying from HIV/AIDS most especially in poor and developing countries.

Nearly 37 million people worldwide are now living with HIV. 2.6 million are under the age of 15. 2.1 million adolescents (10-19 years) were living with HIV in 2013, more than 80% of whom live in sub-Saharan Africa, and many of whom still do not know their HIV status. Globally, 17.7 million children (0-17 years) have lost one or both parents to AIDS; the vast majority of these deaths are in sub-Saharan Africa and East Asia. This number is expected to remain fairly constant over the next few years.

The Church’s Response

The Catholic Church is the largest provider of care to HIV/AIDS patients in the world. The United Nations reports that as of 2013 Catholic Church related organizations provide approximately a quarter of all HIV treatment, care, and support throughout the world and run more than 5,000 hospitals, 18,000 dispensaries, and 9,000 orphanages, many involved in AIDS-related activities. In fact, the Catholic Church has launched initiatives against the pandemic in 62 countries throughout the world -28 in Africa, 9 in America, 6 in Asia, 16 in Europe and 3 in Oceania. The Church and her missionaries offer wide-ranging services for those affected by HIV/AIDS including awareness and education programs, counseling and spiritual support, nutrition centers, orphanages, hospital treatment, and home and prison care. Most importantly, through the witness of missionaries and local priests, Religious, and lay catechists, people in the Missions who suffer from HIV/AIDS learn about Jesus’ great love for them.

This article is provided by the Pontifical Mission Society’s interactive app experience, Mission found at www.mission.org. Source: amJAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research

Please remember “The Society for the Propagation of the Faith” when writing or changing your Will.

www.rcdony.org/missionoffice

OBITUARIES

Alexandria Bay – Daphne Jane Senecal Pierce, 86; Funeral Services April 28, 2017 at St. Cyril Church.

Cadyville – Lee P. Sabin, 74; Funeral April 25, 2017 at St. James Church; burial in Lakeview Cemetery, Tupper Lake.

Canton – James Rett Radway, 86; Funeral Services April 26, 2017 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Crary Mills Cemetery.

Constableville – Mary Anne (Stoffle) O’Brien, 77; Funeral Services April 27, 2017 at St. Mary’s Church.

Elizabethtown – Sheila Mary (Keith) Phalen, 90; Memorial Services April 25, 2017 at St. Elizabeth’s Church; burial in Lewis Cemetery.

Glenfield – Haver James Dydesen, 91; Funeral April 26, 2017 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Old Glendale Cemetery.


Madrid – Francis B. Pryce, 86; Funeral Services April 26, 2017 at St. John the Baptist Church; burial in Evergreen Cemetery, Canton.

Malone – Dorothy Mills LaBelle, 95; Funeral Services May 3, 2017 at the Brusodenoys Funeral Home; burial in St. Patrick’s Cemetery, Chateaugay.

Malone – Michael R. Pregent, 68; Funeral Services April 24, 2017 at St. Mary-Murphy-Wilcox Funeral home; burial in St. Patrick’s Cemetery, Rouses Point.

Massena – Michele "Mike" Ferri, 83; Funeral Services April 28, 2017 at Phillips Memorial Home.

Mooers Forks – Toshia N. Lapan, 26; Funeral Services April 29, 2017 at St. Ann’s Church.

Ogdensburg – Gloria J.”Koko” (Dupree) Gilbert, 74; Funeral Services April 24, 2017 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Erle S. LaGombr, 69; Funeral Services April 24, 2017 at Notre Dame; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

Plattsburgh – Virginia “Ginny” (Manory) McBride, 85; Funeral Services June 10, 2017 at St. Peter’s Church.

Plattsburgh – Veronica M. “Veron” (Wells) St. Denis-Light, 89; Funeral Services April 29, 2017 at Our Lady of Victory Church.

Redford – Thomas V. Pelleties, 85; Funeral Services April 21, 2017 at Church of the Assumption; burial in parish cemetery.

Ticonderoga – Jean Helen (Willey) Bevilacqua, 90; Funeral Services April 18, 2017 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in St. Mary’s Parish Cemetery.

Waddington – Robert S. Bouchard, 83; Funeral Services April 24, 2017 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park, Ogdensburg.

Watertown – Mark S. Cole, 55; Funeral Services April 26, 2017 at Holy Family Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

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**Around**

**LEWIS**

**CHICKEN BARBECUE**

Lyons Falls - There will be a chicken BBQ to support St. Martin’s and St. John’s Catholic Church  
Date: May 9  
Time: 2 p.m.  
Place: Stewarts  
Features: Dinners include, 1/2 chicken, macaroni salad, homemade baked beans. Cost, $10 a dinner or $7 a half.

**EUCARISTIC 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.

**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

**ITALIAN FEST**

Gouverneur – St. James School is holding an Italian Fest and school open house  
Date: May 4  
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 6:15  
Place: St. James School  
Features: Chefs Joe and Carolyn Pistolesi will prepare a spaghetti dinner, take outs available, also featured will be raffles, games, face painting, fried dough, Italian dessert sale.  
Prices: Adults, $10; Children 12 and under, $5; under five, free.

**DIOCESAN EVENTS**

**RALEIGH VINEYARD RETREATS**

Saranac Lake - Two Raleigh’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. Dates and locations of retreats outside the diocese are available at 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 Missa. 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 the Mass.  
Contact: For details, information and to register, see http://rcdony.org/hospitality or contact Marika Donders at mdoners@rcdony.org

**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

**NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY AT IHC**

The Immaculate Heart Jr./Sr. High School in Watertown held its annual National Honor Society induction dinner on March 23 at the Italian American Club. There are a total of 21 members, current and newly inducted. Students must carry a minimum cumulative average of 90.00, a record of service, show leadership qualities, and exemplify good character. Guest speaker was Father Donald Robinson, who emphasized what an honor and responsibility it is to be part of this prestigious chapter. Pictured, from left, are Nicholas LaPointe, Vincenzo Alteri, Tyler Pound, Marisa Marcellus, McKenzie Kramer and Brendan Kelly; second row, Marissa Dermody, Maddie Kalamas, Camille Dondale, Bryana Dunigan, Nicholas Byard, Erin Jank and Julia O’Brien; third, John Montondo, NHS Moderator, Yefe (Alina) Wang, Ani Hocutt, Gwyneth Rowland, Natalia Putnam and Hannah Rentz; back, Griffin Morris, Nicholas Draught and Daniel Malinowski.

PHOTO BY SISTER MARY ANNE CROITZ, SSJ.