Pope: Christians fight evil with love

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Christians are called to detach themselves from power, reject violence and sacrifice themselves for God and others out of love, Pope Francis said.

Christians must live the way Christ chose to: not as "persecutors, but persecuted; not arrogant, but meek; not as snake-oil salesmen, but subservient to the truth; not impostors, but honest," he said June 28 during his weekly general audience.

In fact, "Christians find repugnant the idea that suicide attackers might be called 'martyrs' because there is nothing in their purpose that can come close to the behavior of children of God," who are called always to act out of love, he told the estimated 12,000 pilgrims in St. Peter's Square.

In his weekly catechesis, the pope continued his series on Christian hope by focusing on what gives Christians strength and perseverance in the face of opposition, hatred and persecution.

NCC honored by Catholic Press Assn.

For weekly newspapers, circulation 25,000 or less: first place, Year of Mercy coverage; honorable mention, Newspaper of the Year.

Full story, page 2

NCC summer schedule

The bi-monthly publication of the North Country Catholic continues; the next issue of the paper will be dated July 19

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Madonna Barney, a PreK teacher at Saint Agnes School in Lake Placid, has been named the 2017 Outstanding Catholic School Teacher for the Diocese of Ogdensburg. She was honored June 26 during a luncheon hosted by Bishop Terry R. LaValley at the bishop's residence in Ogdensburg. Joining Mrs. Barney and the bishop were, from left, Catherine Bemis, principal of St. Agnes; St. Joseph Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, diocesan superintendent of schools; Father John Yonkovig, pastor of St. Agnes Parish who shares duties as principal of St. Agnes School; Karen Donahue, assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction; and Pamela Ballantine, assistant director of Catholic education for Christian formation and Catholic schools. Full story on page 4.

For service in 27 parishes

Lay Ministers Commissioned

Bishop Terry R. LaValley congratulates Michael Morrissey of St. James Parish in Gouverneur, one of 57 lay ministers commissioned June 25 during the Solemn Vespers for the Commissioning and Blessing of Lay Pastoral Ministers at St. Mary's Cathedral. The lay ministers had completed the two year diocesan Formation for Ministry program in one of three sites: Port Leyden, Peru or Clayton. Bishop LaValley's homily for the commissioning is published on page 3 of this week's NCC. The complete list of the lay ministers, their parishes and area of ministry begins on page 5. Congratulatory ads from parishes appear throughout the paper.
An honor to be honored at the NCC

I can’t deny that it’s thrilling to hear “first place” and the “North Country Catholic” in the same sentence during the annual awards banquet of the Catholic Press Association.

This year’s gathering of Catholic media from the United States and Canada was held June 20-23 in Quebec City. The conference is always a wonderful opportunity to share ideas, friendship and prayer with hundreds of Catholic press professionals who are all trying to figure out the best way to spread the good news of their dioceses or Catholic organizations in the 21st century.

Before leaving this beautiful city, with heads full of excellent ideas, we spent an evening looking back on what was accomplished in 2016. It was a good night for our little diocesan paper!

Our series “God’s Mercy in God’s Country” was the first-place winner for Best Coverage of the Year of Mercy, weekly diocesan newspaper, circulation 25,000 or less.

For this collections of stories, we took advantage of Pope Francis’ call for a Year of Mercy to report on the face of mercy in parishes and schools across the diocese.

The judges were particularly impressed with Kathleen Gallagher’s reflection on taking care of her mother: “Beautiful and touching writing pulls you into the human story of caring for an elderly parent.”

A couple minutes later, when the award for Newspaper of the Year award in our circulation category was announced, the North Country Catholic received an honorable mention.

For this award, we were among only six worthy products, consecutives newspapers. I’m sure our readers won’t be surprised that among our entries was the issue covering INSPIRE in Lake Placid which featured contributions from so many of our talented area reporters and photographers.

Christine Ward (the other half of our two-person staff!) and I are so grateful for the support we receive from Bishop LaValley, the diocesan staff, pastors, the writers, photographers, Father Muench, Msgr. Whitmore, Sister Bethany, and, especially, our readers, in our efforts to continue the 71-year tradition of this diocesan newspaper with a word that is short but full of strength. I think it’s fair to say that we’re all winners!

FATHER MUECH SAYS

Striving to live out a bold Catholic life

On a recent Sunday, the Scriptures for Mass pointed me toward speaking about living a bold Christian life in the Spirit of Our Savior, Jesus Christ.

This was close to the Feast of St. John the Baptist, who is obviously a perfect example of a bold Christian.

John the Baptist was called to prepare the way for the coming of Jesus into this world and he did this by speaking a challenging message: calling upon the people to change their lives through repentance and living a good life.

John’s mission is actually our mission. We are called to be bold Christians just like John by making the world more open to the message of Jesus. The best way we do this is by living a good Christian life, by being unafraid, like John the Baptist, to make the message of Jesus – the message of love and peace – influence the way we live our lives.

I then began searching for another good example of a bold, yet loving, Christian and Catholic.

Quite surprisingly, I came upon a Public Radio interview program one evening as the host was interviewing Martin Sheen. Sheen is the movie actor – I hope that you recognize his name. He acted in many film movies including the one called, “The Way.” It is a story that is about people walking the pilgrimage in Northern Spain – “camino de Santiago” – the walk to the Shrine of St. James. Actually, many from the North Country have traveled this site. In addition, Sheen portrayed the President of the United States on the television series, “The West Wing.” Again, you can find re­plays of this series – so be sure to check it out – it is great.

Sheen’s mission, as you can imagine, is to be for me to transform large crowds of people but that will not happen. I believe that, for us, our efforts to bring Jesus to our part of the world means living our Catholic faith as well as we can. It is the simple things that truly make the difference. Living the simple, the ordinary, well will bring the love and peace of our God to those we meet each day. Being a bold Catholic for us is about the little things that we do for those who need us. We do this because God loves us so much. A long time ago someone gave me a good definition of a saint: a saint is someone who does ordinary things, extraor­dinarily well.

Recognizing God’s love for us, recognizing God’s longing to be part of our lives, God’s readiness to dwell in our hearts – this is the Spirit that we must share with those we meet.

It is all about gratitude. We live our Catholic faith in gratitude for God’s great love for us. Our gratitude prompts us to accept the challenge of being a bold Catholic. Our prayer is a constant flow of thanksgiving to our loving God.
‘Roll up your sleeves... there’s plenty to do’

Bishop LaValley’s homily for the Commissioning of Lay Ministers
June 25 at St. Mary’s Cathedral

Pope Francis wrote that “The joy of the Gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus.” In his Apostolic Exhortation, The Joy of the Gospel, he goes on “to encourage the Christian faithful to embark upon a new chapter of evangelization marked by this joy, while pointing out new paths for the Church’s journey in years to come.”

As you know, our diocesan priorities are: Creating a Culture of Vocations; Strengthening Faith Formation in Family Life and Building Parishes with Living Stones. As we address these priorities we can do so with Gospel joy because each of us has developed an intimate relationship with Jesus. In a certain sense, these priorities that we have been addressing in our local Church have brought us to a new chapter of evangelization, that new path, about which the Holy Father speaks. We endeavor, with the joy of the Gospel, to be Christ-led, Christ-fed and Christ-laden every day, we want to bring to our families, parishes and community the joy of the Gospel and, as Pope Francis stated, “Without prolonged prayer, we lose energy as a result of weariness and difficulties, and our fervor risks dying out.”

My sisters and brothers in Christ, the Church urgently needs the deep breath of prayer. That’s how we stay focused as missionary disciples or we risk thinking that the ministry is about me, what I want, what I think, what works for me. Ours is an ecclesial responsibility. It’s about the Church, the Body of Christ. The primary reason for our ministry is the love of Jesus which we have received, the experience of salvation which urges us to ever greater love of Him.

If we do not feel an intense desire to share this love, we need to pray insistently that He will once more touch our hearts. We need to implore His grace daily, asking Him to open our hardened hearts and shake up our lukewarm and sometimes superficial existence.

Stand, kneel before Him with an open heart. Pope Francis said, “How good it is to stand before a crucifix, or on our knees before the Blessed Sacrament, and simply to be in His Presence. How much good it does us when He once more touches our lives and impels us to share His new life!”

We win people over to Christ by our Spirit-filled, joy-steeped witness, not by our arguments. I am confident that your joy-filled discipleship will be a source of encouragement for those in our parish families who are not currently active because, you see, each of us has a role to play as we live out our vocations in following Jesus. Each of us has a responsibility to actively address our diocesan priorities. First and foremost, as the Decree on the Laity teaches, it is in the workplace, in our homes, in our places of relaxation and recreation, in our schools and malls where the lay faithful live out their call to holiness. Additionally, you who are about to be commissioned lay ministers, will bear the responsibility to help build up the local Church through a focused ministry in your parish in close collaboration with your pastor and parish staff.

The Diocese of Ogdensburg and your home parish are so very proud of your commitment and strong faith. This is not a graduation ceremony, far from it, but a formal, public commitment of your continual discipleship. Never forget, that you are co-missioned—that is, missioned with you, sisters and brothers, members of the one Body of Christ. We never serve alone.

Thank you for learning more about your faith and committing to sharing it. The grace you received on the day of your baptism is being embraced and will multiply a hundredfold. This is truly an inspiring and exciting time for the Church of Ogdensburg.

We are grateful to your many instructors, to Deacon Pat Donahue for his leadership and our Christian Formation staff; we are grateful to your pastors who support your efforts and your family and friends who gather this day to celebrate this milestone in your faith journey. There’s plenty to do. We do it with deep faith, profound joy and unwavering hope in the Lord who beckons each of us: Follow Me.
Madonna Barney named 2017 Outstanding Catholic School Teacher for the diocese

St. Agnes School teacher is honored

OGdensburg - Madonna Barney, a PreK teacher at Saint Agnes School in Lake Placid, has been named the 2017 Outstanding Catholic School Teacher for the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

She was honored June 26 during a luncheon hosted by Bishop Terry LaValley at the Bishop’s residence. Mrs. Barney has extensive experience in the education and formation of pre-school age children. Prior to beginning her career in Catholic Schools, she taught for 18 years in the Head Start Program. Following her work at Head Start Mrs. Barney taught at St. Bernard’s School in Saranac Lake for five years. She has been a member of the faculty at Saint Agnes School since 2009.

In the application to teach at St. Bernard’s Mrs. Barney noted her desire “to teach religious values and beliefs as part of the daily curriculum.” Her dedication to these values and beliefs continues at St. Agnes.

In nominating Mrs. Barney, Catherine Beemis, principal at St. Agnes, said, “Madonna dedicates herself fully every day to providing excellence in the classroom. Madonna’s classroom is a lively and exciting place to be and she is able to balance the social, emotional needs of our youngest students hand in hand with the learning standards easily. She is able to weave the love of God into her daily teaching and elicits joy from every student.”

Mrs. Barney’s influence at St. Agnes extends beyond her classroom. She is a mentor to new teachers and a team player who contributes significantly to the total school program and environment.

Mrs. Barney’s experience in Catholic schools extends back to her early education when she attended and graduated from St. Joseph’s Academy in Malone. She continued her education at Trocaire College in Buffalo earning a degree in Education.

She was joined at the June 26 luncheon by Mrs. Beemis; Father John Yonkovig, pastor of St. Agnes; St. Joseph Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, superintendent of schools; Karen Donahue, assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction; and Pamela Ballantine, assistant director of Catholic education for Christian formation and Catholic schools.

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Immaculate Heart Central School Watertown, New York

Is seeking applicants for the position of HEAD OF SCHOOL with the title School Principal for grades Pre-K to 12

Applicants should:

- Possess a Master’s Degree in Education and/or Education Administration and Supervision;
- Be a practicing Catholic;
- Have successful experience(s) in a Catholic school;
- Have proven administrative leadership skills in Catholic identity, instructional evaluation, personnel management, finances, promotion and maintenance of an effective learning environment, and school advancement.

Applicants should send a cover letter expressing their suitability for the position, resume, salary requirements, transcripts and two letters of recommendation attesting to the candidate’s proven administrative ability and one letter of recommendation attesting to the person’s adherence to the Catholic Church, no later than August 1, 2017.

The school website is http://ihcschool.org

Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, SSJ
Superintendent of Schools
100 Elizabeth Street
PO Box 369
Ogdensburg, NY 13669

DOVS PILGRIMAGE

Join Bishop LaValley and other Catholics on the annual pilgrimage to pray for vocations.

When: October 10

Where: St. Mother Marianne Cope Shrine and Museum, Syracuse; holy hour and Mass for vocations at the newly renovated Syracuse Cathedral.

Cost: $80 (includes transportation, museum and Cathedral).

For more information or to reserve a spot call Connie at 315-265-2762 or Mary at 315-268-1016
Lay ministers commissioned for 27 parishes

CLAYTON SITE
The Catholic Community of Alexandria, Alexandria Bay
Eugene B. Kleinhans, Jr. - Catechetical Leadership and Liturgical Ministry

St. Cecilia's Church, Adams
Amanda Morgan - Catechetical Leadership
Denise B. Wallace - Liturgical Ministry and Catechetical Leadership

St. Vincent of Paul Church, Cape Vincent
Albert Goetz, Ill - Catechetical Leadership

St. Mary's, Clayton
Scott Beeles - Parish Life & Outreach
Elizabeth Y. Daugherty - Parish Life & Outreach
Gary Elliott - Parish Life & Outreach
Doreen Garrett - Parish Life & Outreach
Sandra M. Geiss - Catechetical Leadership

Maureen A. O'Connor - Parish Life & Outreach
Donna W. Orvis - Parish Life & Outreach
Mary Rose Warneck - Parish Life & Outreach

St. Patrick's Church, Colton
Elizabeth Fuller-Tarbox - Catechetical Leadership

St. James Church, Gouverneur
Michael P. Morrissey - Parish Life & Outreach
Brandy A. Parshley - Catechetical Leadership

St. John the Evangelist Church, LaFargeville
Jennifer Lucia - Parish Life & Outreach
Sarah McFadden - Catechetical Leadership

St. Andrew's Church, Norwood
Kathryn Anne Tebo - Parish Life & Outreach

St. Mary's Church, Waddington

Connie S. Miller - Liturgical Ministry
Mark J. Miller - Liturgical Ministry

PERU SITE
Church of the Holy Name, AuSable Forks
Nicole Maicus - Liturgical Ministry

St. Mary's Church, Champlain
Patricia Gladd - Catechetical Leadership

Church of the Immaculate Conception, Keeseville
Dulcie Semeraro - Catechetical Leadership
Thomas Semeraro - Youth Ministry

The Roman Catholic Community of Keeseville
William J. Sackett - Parish Life & Outreach

St. Ann's Church, Mooers Forks
Ken Lushia - Parish Life & Outreach

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE
Commissioning

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

The Catholic Community of Moriah
Debra A. Brady - Liturgical Ministry

The Roman Catholic Community of St. Alexander & St. Joseph, Morrisonville
Robin Thompson - Catechetical Leadership

St. Augustine’s, Peru
Daniel R. Ballantine - Parish Life & Outreach
Daniel Patrick Cayea - Liturgical Ministry
Shirley T. LaReau-Kemp - Catechetical Leadership
Linda D. Manchester - Liturgical Ministry
Robert M. Manchester - Parish Life & Outreach

The Roman Catholic Community of St. John the Baptist, Plattsburgh
James Bosley - Youth Ministry
Courtney Khristiansen - Youth Ministry
Justin B. Khristiansen - Catechetical Leadership
Catherine L. Witkowski - Liturgical Ministry

St. Bernard’s Church, Saranac Lake
Sylvia Lynn Hough - Parish Life & Outreach
Mark McCarty - Parish Life & Outreach
Roxanne McCarty - Catechetical Leadership

The Catholic Community of St. Philip of Jesus and St. Joseph, Willsboro
Deacon Patrick Donahue, program coordinator for the diocesan Formation for Ministry program, presents the candidates to Bishop LaValley for commissioning.

The Catholic Community of St. Philip of Jesus and St. Joseph, Willsboro
Christina Bigelow - Parish Life & Outreach

St. Joseph’s Church, Dannemora
Karen LeClair - Youth Ministry

St. Peter’s Church, Plattsburgh
James P. Carlin - Parish Life & Outreach

St. Peter’s Church, Plattsburgh, is blessed as James Carlin, shown with his son Leagon a seminarian for the Diocese of Ogdensburg and Brent Davison, shown with his wife Nikki, on the occasion of their commissioning by Bishop LaValley, joining the parish’s dedicated and committed Lay Ministers.

(Congratulations to Michael Moore, not pictured)

St. Cyril’s Church, Alexandria Bay
St. Francis Xavier Church, Redwood

The Catholic Community of Alexandria offers sincere congratulations and thanks to Gene Kleinhans and looks forward to his ministry in our community in the years ahead.
Congratulation
Albert Goetz, III
We are blessed to have your ministry.
The Roman Catholic Community of Cape Vincent, Rosiere and Chaumont

Our parish family is very grateful to
James Bosley
Courtney Khristiansen
Justin Khristiansen
Cathy Witkowski
for responding to the call to serve the church as Commissioned Lay Ministers.
May God bless you abundantly for all the good you have done and continue to do.
The Roman Catholic Church of Saint John the Baptist Plattsburgh NY

Sylvia Lynn Hough
Mark McCarty
Roxanne McCarty

Well Done,
Good and Faithful Stewards!
Congratulations
From the pastor and parishioners of St. Bernard’s Church, Saranac Lake

Father Chris Carrara, staff and parishioners of Saint Peter’s Church, Lowville, St Mary’s Church, Glenfield and Saint Hedwig’s Church, Houseville wish to thank and congratulate the following individuals who will be commissioned as lay ministers for service in our parishes.
We are grateful for their dedicated service!

St. Peter’s Church, Lowville
Deborah J. Domagala - Catechetical Leadership
Marc F. Laribee - Youth Ministry
Nadine Logan - Parish Life & Outreach
Debra A. Mullin - Catechetical Leadership
Sue Ellen Margaret Pappas - Catechetical Leadership
Fausta M. Poste - Catechetical Leadership
Kevin Michael Wener - Youth Ministry

St. Hedwig’s Church, Houseville
Edward Joseph Knapp - Parish Life & Outreach
Mary Ann Theresa Lepkowski - Parish Life & Outreach
### JOB Openings

**Augustinian Academy for the NYS**

Applications are now being accepted at: Augustinian Academy for the 2017-18 school year
- Full-time First grade classroom teacher
- Full-time Sixth grade classroom teacher responsible to teach Math grades 5-8
- Part-time Music teacher for PK-8 grade music classes and instrumental lessons.

Applications available on our website at www.caugustinian.org

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### JOB Openings

**Seton Catholic Middle and High School**

The Seton Schools
Discover the Difference

Seton Catholic Middle and High School is actively seeking qualified and experienced educators to join our expanding academic community for 2017-2018 academic school year in the following full-time subjects:
- Music
- Math
- ELA
- Art

NYS (7-12) teaching certification, Master’s Degree, and practicing Catholic strongly preferred.

Please submit letter of intent, professional résumé/CV, transcripts, and three professional references to: sgingrich@thesetonschools.org or Search Committee Chair, Seton Catholic Middle & High School, 206 New York Road, Plattsburgh, NY 12903 no later than Friday, July 14, 2017 for consideration.

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### JOB OPPORTUNITIES

St. James Elementary School in Gouverneur has the following job openings beginning September 2017.

- Part-time Morning Preschool Teacher
- Part-time Afternoon Prekindergarten Teacher
- Anticipated Part-time Elementary Art Teacher
- Anticipated Part-time Afternoon Prekindergarten Aid

**Important Forms**

“Important Forms” are available from our expanding academic community for 2017-2018 academic school year in the following full-time subjects:

- Music
- Math
- Science

- Art

Please mail application, resume, and letter of interest to: Clara Cummings
St. James School
20 S. Gordon St.
Gouverneur, NY 13642
or email to: principal@stjamesk-6.org.

**Deadline is:** July 19, 2017

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### Bishop’s Schedule

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 5</td>
<td>National Convocation of Catholic Leaders in Orlando, Florida</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 8</td>
<td>4 p.m., Mass at St. Patrick’s Church followed by a Dinner to honor Mr. Sam Tufo at the Savory Downtown in Watertown</td>
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<td>July 9</td>
<td>10 a.m., Installation Mass for Reverend Adrian Gallagher as Pastor of Holy Angels Church, Altona and St. Louis of France Church, Scotia at Holy Angels Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 10</td>
<td>7:15 a.m., Novena &amp; Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 11</td>
<td>9:45 a.m., Episcopal Council Meeting at the Bishop’s Residence 4 p.m., Mass at Camp Guggenheim in Saranac Lake</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 12</td>
<td>12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 13</td>
<td>10:50 a.m., Mass at St. Joseph’s Home in Ogdensburg 5 p.m., Gathering with the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart at Daubon Point in Cape Vincent</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 14</td>
<td>12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 15</td>
<td>11 a.m., Mass for Sister Victorine Brenon’s 75th Anniversary as a Sister of St. Joseph at the Sisters of St. Joseph’s Motherhouse</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 16</td>
<td>8:30 a.m., Mass at St. Philip of Neri Church in Westport 10:30 a.m., Mass at St. Philip of Jesus Church in Willsboro 12 p.m., Visit to Camp Dudley in Westport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 17</td>
<td>1 p.m., Jefferson/Lewis Deeney Listening Session at Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 18</td>
<td>9 a.m., Mass at the Cape Vincent Correctional Facility 4 p.m., Mass at Camp Guggenheim in Saranac Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 19</td>
<td>12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral</td>
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### Rest in Peace

**July 5** – Rev. Paul F. Ledermann, 2016
**July 9** – Rev. John Rodgers, 1887; Rev. Joseph H. Emard, O.M.I., 1924
**July 13** – Rev. George Garand, 1941
**July 18** – Msgr. Joseph Dominica Braut, 1966

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### 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; terrianneyanulavich@yahoo.com Phone: 518-483-3261; or Fr. James Seymour, the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy at 315-393-2920, ext. 1340

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### Protecting God’s Children

**The Diocese of Ogdensburg** has scheduled sessions for Protecting God’s Children for Adults. Pre-registration online is required in order to participate. Participants may preregister at www.virtus.org by selecting the registration button and following the directions. Further information is available from Atone­ment Sister Ellen Donahue, 315-393-2920, ext. 1440.

Upcoming sessions:
- **July 6** - 5:30 p.m., St. Augustine’s Church, Peru
- **July 23** - St. Bernard’s School, Saranac Lake

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### Environmental Stewardship

**A theological response to what’s happening to our ‘common home’**

In the next three editions of this column, Father John Yonkovig, pastor in Lake Placid, offers some reflections on this theme.

“God so loved the world that he gave his only Son… so that we may not perish” these are some of the most important words in the entire Bible! In many ways they sum up the love that our God has for us.

These words speak of the dynamic relationship that exists within God and with God’s creation.

Global climate change may seem an odd topic to connect with these words, but without doubt God’s love for the world is directly connected to the mystery of the Trinity.

There are scientific and political and economic ramifications regarding our stewardship of God’s creation but there are also profound theological implications.

The scripture readings that we hear on the feast of the Holy Trinity give us great insight into who God is.

We hear that God is a merciful and gracious God, slow to anger and rich in kindness and faithfulness.

We hear of God’s overwhelming love for the world and His gift of His Son.

First and foremost we much acknowledge that our relationship with God is based on love – not fear- but faithful love.

This loving relationship that we have with God means that if God loves us, it is only right that our response be one of love. If someone loves you and you respond with anger or rejection or cynicism, the balance is thrown off – the relationship is no longer right; it is off kilter.

We use the word ‘justice’ to describe this balance that exists in a loving right relationship and the word ‘injustice’ when the balance is off.

There is an essential connection between God, God’ creatures and all of creation – and divine order or harmony is part of God’s plan.

If the divine order or harmony is disrupted – if the balance is lost so is justice lost.

Continued in next issue
Bishop LaValley congratulates Kathryn Tebo from St. Andrew’s Church, Norwood. She traveled to Clayton every week for two years to complete the Formation for Ministry program.

**CONGRATULATIONS, LAY MINISTERS**

Sincere congratulations to our newly Commissioned Lay Ministers. We are proud of your wonderful accomplishment and know that with our already Commissioned Lay Ministers you are making a difference in our parishes. We are so proud of all of you and your ministry to build up the Church as Intentional Disciples.

**St. Mary’s Clayton**
Scott Beeles
Elizabeth Y. Daugherty
Gary Elliott
Doreen Garrett
Sandra M. Geiss
Maureen A. O’Connor
Donna W. Orvis
Mary Rose Warneck

**St. John’s, LaFargeville**
Jennifer Lucia
Sarah McFadden
A Priest and a Scholar

Msgr. Deno, born Sept. 21, 1931, grew up in a French speaking family on a farm in West Chazy.

He graduated from Mount Assumption Institute in Plattsburgh and began studies for the priesthood at Wadhams Hall Seminary in Ogdensburg. After completing studies at Mount Saint Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland, he was ordained a priest May 16, 1959 by Bishop James J. Navagh.

The priest continued his education, earning a master’s degree from St. Michael’s College in Winooski Park, Vermont, and a doctorate from the University of Notre Dame.

Msgr. Deno was appointed diocesan superintendent of schools by Bishop Stanislaus J. Broyuna in 1971 after earning a Ph.D. in educational administration. He had served as assistant superintendent from 1966 through 1971 under Father William LaVallee while also teaching at Wadhams Hall.

In his early years as a priest Msgr. Deno served as assistant pastor in Clayton, Morrisonville, Holy Family in Watertown, St. Alphonsus in Tupper Lake and St. Mary’s Cathedral in Ogdensburg. He began teaching in 1960 at the former Our Lady of Victory Academy, Plattsburgh and then at Holy Ghost Academy, Tupper Lake.

He was named a Prelate of Honor with the title monsignor in 1989.

Knights of Columbus Council 6067 and the parishioners of St. James Church in Cadyville would like to offer our gratitude to Msgr. Deno for his dedication in serving the council and the parish. We wish him a long and happy retirement!
God Bless you, Msgr. Lawrence M. Deno

Msgr. Lawrence M. Deno, is shown with the parishioners of St. James in Cadyville who planned his June 18 retirement party, held almost ten years after he could have retired.

Msgr. Deno will be remembered as an "educated man with a mathematics mind" who paid attention to the details that led to success in the life of the parish.

Msgr. Deno enjoys time with his family at his retirement reception held June 18. His sister-in-law, "Guma," seated at his left, owns the restaurant which catered the reception.

Msgr. Deno is surrounded by First Communion children. Parishioners noted that "he relates well with people of all ages and all walks of life."

A Gospel concert was held at St. James Church June 18 to honor Msgr. Deno for his 59 years of service to God and His people, especially for the last 17 years that were spent in Cadyville. During the concert, Tom Yenne of Bear Tracks finally persuaded Father Deno to come up and join them for a song. A reception at the parish hall, catered by Guma's Restaurant, followed the concert. Because people were constantly coming and going, it was difficult to count how many were in attendance but a very conservative estimate would be more than 300 at the reception alone.

Knights of Columbus Council 6067 and the parishioners of St. James Church in Cadyville would like to offer our gratitude to Msgr. Deno for his dedication in serving the council and the parish.

We wish him a long and happy retirement!
Fr. Clyde Lewis and the Parish Community of St. Mary’s Church, Champlain wish to extend their sincere congratulations to Patricia Gladd as a newly commissioned Lay Minister for our parish.

Daniel R. Ballantine
Daniel Patrick Cayea
Shirley T. LaReau-Kemp
Linda D. Manchester
Robert M. Manchester
St. Augustine’s Parish, Peru is blessed to have your ministry among us.

Bishop LaValley blesses the candidates before they approach the altar to receive their certificates. Assisting the bishop were Father Douglas Lucia and Leagon Carlin, a diocesan seminarian whose father, James, was commissioned for service at St. Peter’s Church in Plattsburgh.

The pastor and parishioners of St. Mary’s in Waddington extend prayerful best wishes to our new commissioned lay ministers

Connie Miller
Mark Miller

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Taking 'vital coverage' from those in need 'unacceptable,' says bishop

By Julie Asher
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) - The U.S. Senate must reject any health care reform bill that will "fundamentally alter the social safety net for millions of people," said the chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development.

"Removing vital coverage for those most in need is not the answer to our nation’s health care problems, and doing so will not help us build toward the common good," Bishop Frank J. Dewane of Venice, Florida, said in a letter to U.S. senators released late June 27.

He urged senators to reject such changes "for the sake of persons living on the margins of our health care system."

A day earlier, Bishop Dewane issued a statement saying that the loss of affordable health care under the Republican’s proposal was "simply unacceptable."

The Senate released its Better Care Reconciliation Act in "discussion draft" form June 22. In an analysis of the proposal aimed at replacing the Obama administration’s Affordable Care Act, the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office said the measure would leave 22 million more people without insurance.

In response to that report, Bishop Dewane said June 26 that "this moment cannot pass without comment. ... As the USCCB has consistently said, the loss of affordable access for millions of people is simply unacceptable. These are real families who need and deserve health care."

On the afternoon of June 27, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Kentucky, announced senators will not act on the bill until much later in July. News reports said McConnell and others determined they did not even have enough votes to begin debate on the measure. Senate leaders had hoped to vote on it before the July 4 recess.

In his letter to senators, Bishop Dewane reiterated initial concerns outlined by the USCCB when the draft was first released, namely that any health care reform bill must uphold several moral principles: affordability; access for all; respect for life; and protection of conscience rights.

The bishops also have stressed the need for U.S. health care policy "to improve real access" to health care for immigrants. Loss of coverage "will be devastating" to the people who can least afford it at a time "when tax cuts would seem to benefit the wealthy" and when increases in defense spending are being contemplated, he said in the June 27 letter.

The U.S. bishops do "value the language" in the Senate bill that recognizes "abortion is not health care," he continued, and it at least partially succeeds on conscience rights. But he said it needs to be strengthened to fully apply "the long-standing and widely supported Hyde Amendment protections. Full Hyde protections are essential and must be included in the final bill."

Bishop Dewane said the Senate’s Better Care Reconciliation Act "is a slight improvement in limited ways" over the House version passed in May, called the American Health Care Act. "Overall, however, those enhancements do not overcome the BCRA’s failure to address the needs of the poor," he said.

One part of the bill cuts the federal government’s share of funding for Medicaid to 57 percent of its cost over the next seven years. States have picked up the balance of the funding to date.

Under the Affordable Care Act, the government had guaranteed that its funding for adults newly eligible for Medicaid would fall to no lower than 90 percent of their costs. Many states expanded Medicaid coverage for all adults ages 18-65 with incomes up to 133 percent of the federal poverty level.

The bill also would defund Planned Parenthood for one year under the bill.

In his earlier statement, Bishop Dewane criticized the "per-capita cap" on Medicaid funding, which would no longer be an entitlement but have its own budget line item under the Better Care Reconciliation Act. The effect, he said, "would provide even less to those in need than the House bill. These changes will wreak havoc on low-income families and struggling communities, and must not be supported."

In other reaction to the Senate measure, 300 Sisters of Mercy voiced their strong opposition to the Senate proposal in a statement issued June 27 from Buffalo, New York, where they gathered for the religious congregation’s chapter meeting.

"Health care for all, especially the most vulnerable is one of our enduring concerns," said Sister Patricia McDermit, president of the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas. "The Sisters of Mercy have a legacy of advocacy for health care as a right, as well as providing care to generations of people. If the proposed legislation passes, health care ministries, social service agencies, and services for the elderly and family members will be impacted and suffer."
Says faith 'compels us' to fight opioid crisis

GREENSBURG, PA. (CNS) -- Bishop Edward C. Malesic of Greensburg in a pastoral letter called the opioid crisis in this country a scourge and urged the people of his diocese to take action against it.

In "A Pastoral Letter on the Drug Abuse Crisis: From Death and Despair to Life and Hope" issued June 29, he addressed the epidemic that last year killed more than 300 people in the four counties that comprise the Diocese of Greensburg and outlined the Catholic Church's local response to the crisis.

Besides efforts that focus on prayer and education, he also discussed the church's cooperative efforts with government and social service agencies that are already engaged in the fight against addiction.

Noting that rarely a day goes by without news of a death from a drug overdose, he wrote, "One especially deadly expression of the crisis of addiction, which is becoming more and more prevalent in our communities, is the current opioid epidemic."

"This is a plague that has come into the homes and families of every city, town and even the rural areas of our diocese," he wrote. "It has touched the very hearts and souls of our parishioners in the pews and the people living in our communities; it has affected men and women of every age, profession and state of life. Even more tragic is the reality that every one of those 319 deaths was preventable and did not have to happen."

In addition to the education sessions and prayer services planned for this summer, Bishop Malesic said the diocese will continue to work with the recently formed Bishop's Advisory Group on the Drug Crisis to continue developing and implementing a pastoral response to the opioid crisis and to work with existing programs rather than create new ones.

The diocese's pastoral response will include: ongoing educational opportunities for parish and school staffs; continued counseling, education and referrals by Catholic Charities for people and their families caught up in addiction; assistance in the development of family recovery groups; and helping people advocate with governmental entities to provide resources to prevent and treat drug abuse.

Bishop Malesic urged parishes to:

• Work with existing neighborhood, nonprofit and governmental organizations to promote safe communities and drug-free neighborhoods.

• Have priests and deacons continue to offer spiritual support and, when appropriate, speak about drug abuse in homilies and at formation opportunities.

• Consider developing support groups and maintain a list of treatment centers and contact information for referral purposes when needed.

• Use resources from the diocese to educate and form parishioners and community members to combat the opioid addiction epidemic in homes and families.

• Consider holding ongoing opportunities for prayer and healing related to the addiction crisis.

"The church must be present to all who suffer in any way," he wrote. "Jesus can and wants us to use his church to move our communities from being places of death and despair to places of life and hope."
AT THE CATHOLIC CONVOCATION

An attendee registers for the "Convocation of Catholic Leaders: The Joy of the Gospel in America" June 30 in Orlando, Fla. Leaders from dioceses and various Catholic organizations are gathering for the July 1-4 convocation. Bishop Terry R. LaValley led a delegation from the Diocese of Ogdensburg to the convocation including Father J. Douglas Lucia, Marika Donders, diocesan director of evangelization; Catherine Russell, coordinator of the diocesan vocation office; and John and Maura Felner who own a Catholic radio station in Lake Placid. The convocation, an invitation-only event, is meant to give the 3,000 participants expected to attend a better understanding of what it means to be missionary disciples in today’s world through workshop presentations, keynote addresses and prayer.

Reports from the convocation will appear in upcoming issues of the NCC.

In the next issue

The July 19 issue of the North Country Catholic will cover NFP Week and the Missionary Projects of the diocese.

Michael Morrissey & Brandy Parshley

Congratulation on your commissioning as lay ministers!

From the Pastor and Catholic Community of St. James Church, Gouverneur

Join Bishop Cunningham and the Catholic Sun on a pilgrimage to Ireland

O
ver the years, I have had the opportunity to lead many pilgrims to Ireland to experience the country’s rich spiritual and cultural history. Across the Emerald Isle, we visited churches and cathedrals, ruins and relics, the birthplaces of saints and scholars. We celebrated Mass together every day, prayed the rosary as we traveled, and allowed ourselves to be transformed by the Spirit during the remarkable journey.

I am pleased to lead a pilgrimage to Ireland again this fall. This year’s itinerary will take us to historic and scenic sites including the Rock of Cashel, Monasterboice, Giant’s Causeway, and the vibrant cities of Dublin and Belfast. Each day will include Mass and prayer, history and lore, and nourishment for soul and mind.

This pilgrimage is sponsored by the Catholic Sun, news media of the Diocese of Syracuse, and more information about the journey can be found on its website at thecatholicsun.com/ireland2017. You can also contact Editor Katherine Long directly with any questions at klong@thecatholicsun.com or (315) 422-8153.

I hope you will consider joining me on this unique journey of faith.

Most Rev. Robert J. Cunningham
Bishop of the Diocese of Syracuse

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Thank you for supporting the Mission Office
Holding on to hope for God’s dream for us

After a long, dark winter, we welcome the warmth of summer and the brighter evenings. Still, our concern for climate change, and the increasing divisions and uncivil behaviours in society, concern all of us.

The shadow of a world coming apart at the seams hangs over us like a dark cloud. There is unrest, if not outright war, in so many nations. Peace and harmony seem like an impossible dream.

In today’s first reading, Zechariah prophesies a coming Messiah who will bring us cause for rejoicing. Of course, Zechariah was ridiculed and thought insane in his time.

It wasn’t any better when centuries later, the Son of God actually came into the land of Israel.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus laments the blindness and rejection of the learned ones - pharisees, scribes, sadducees. Jesus was hurt and angered by their hostility.

Only the simple and uneducated seemed to believe His words and His mighty deeds of healing.

Jesus loved ordinary people, and He loved children, their innocence and their incredible openness to the things of God.

They readily believe in angels and the beauty of art and music much more than adults do.

Jesus found consolation in children and the child-like. He promised the kingdom of heaven for such as these.

It’s no different in our times. After all, our country was founded on a dream. Otherwise we would not have celebrated the Fourth of July this past weekend.

America’s dream is very like God’s dream and His plan for us. We are all entitled to be dreamers. We must never give up hope that God’s dream of peace will come true.

Freedom for all, born and unborn.

Our second reading urges us to live in the Holy Spirit, rather than in the ‘flesh’, meaning living in sin which keeps us in slavery to the “flesh”.

To live in the Spirit means to let our flesh be transformed into its true freedom.

As members of Christ, every good individual action strengthens the whole person.

More prayer, more getting out of ourselves to think of other people’s needs, brings lightness of heart and soul.

When we falter, we need only think of Jesus’ promise: “Come to me all you who labor and are heavily burdened and I will give you rest….for my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”
**Despicable Me 3**

By John Mulderig  
Catholic News Service

Director Pierre Coffin’s animated comedy “Despicable Me 3” (Universal) - the second direct follow-up to the 2010 original - turns out to be something of a disappointment, falling short when compared to its predecessors.

There is good news about the film, though, because its weak central plot is offset not only by amusing side stories but by strong values as well.

This time out, Gru (voice of Steve Carell), the once slightly wicked villain who turned thoroughgoing good guy over the course of the first two films, is up against an unlikely opponent. Baltazar Bratt - an ex-child actor whose 1980s TV show, “Evil Bratt,” was abruptly canceled when his voice began cracking and he developed acne - is out to wreak delayed vengeance by destroying Hollywood.

As Gru battles to thwart this plan, he also discovers that he has a brother named Dru (also voiced by Carell) that his unnamed mother (voice of Julie Andrews) never told him about. Predictably, the siblings quickly bond, though Dru tries to convince Gru to return to the dark side, citing their father’s career as a criminal as precedent for a family tradition.

Along with the newfound brothers’ mutual affection, clan closeness is also celebrated through scenes of Gru’s interaction with his supportive wife and crime-fighting partner, Lucy (voiced by Kristen Wiig), and their shared nurturing of their trio of adopted daughters, Margo (voice of Miranda Cosgrove), Edith (voice of Dana Gaier) and Agnes (Nev Scharrel).

Jokes riffing on Reagan-era fads and fashions - shoulder pads and the like - generally fall flat. But Agnes’ determination to find and take in a live unicorn -- and Gru’s reluctance to tell her the truth about her favorite creatures -- are endearing. So too is her bedtime prayer on the subject.

Additionally, the pixilated minions (voiced by director Pierre Coffin) who once carried out Gru’s bidding -- and who featured in their own 2015 film -- are on hand to get things back on track.

The references to puberty involved in Bratt’s show biz downfall might provoke some uncomfortable questions from little kids. Beyond that, Gru winds up in an embarrassing state of undress at one point and there’s some bathroom and body-parts humor. Since there’s also some danger portrayed along the way, parents of the smallest, most easily scared tykes may not find this a good cinematic choice. For everyone else, it makes acceptable if not outstanding summer entertainment.

The film contains characters in peril, brief partial nudity played for laughs, mild scatological and anatomical humor and a couple of vaguely crass slang terms. The Catholic News Service classification is A-II -- adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG -- parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.
ADIRONDACK

SUMMER RETREAT
Saranac Lake – Summer retreat “Praying with the Psalms of Creation” is set
Date: Aug. 11-13
Place: Guggenheim Lodge
Features: Facilitators are Paul Gibaldi, Adirondack Guide and photographer & Sister Bethany Fitzgerald, SSJ. Father Paul Kelly will celebrate Mass on Saturday evening. Like Jesus who often revealed lessons from the natural world, participants are invited ponder the mysteries of Creation revealed in the season of summer.
Cost: Suggested offering: $145 (includes all meals Friday evening through Sunday afternoon).
Contact: srbethssj@gmail.com or 315-212-6592, be Aug 9

CLINTON

CHURCH GARAGE SALE
Altona – Holy Angels Church to have a garage sale to benefit the roof fund.
Date: July 7 and 8
Time: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL
Altona – Holy Angels Church to have a breakfast and Blueberry Festival.
Date: July 30
Time: 9 a.m. to Noon
Cost: Adults, $6; Children 6-12, $3; under 5, Free
Features: Silent auction, theme baskets, pie raffle wheel, tour of the Power House at Feinberg park from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be tours, speakers and exhibits as well as Alice T. Minner Movie.

GOLF CLASSIC
Morrisonville – The RCC of St. Alexander & St. Joseph will be hosting their 13th Annual Golf Classic.
Date: July 14 (Rain or Shine)
Time: Shotgun start at Noon
Place: Barracks Golf and Country Club on the former Plattsburgh Air Force Base
Cost: $240-$50 for “Barracks” members - $60 for non-members; Hole Sponsor is $100 or Eagle Sponsor for $500
Features: Limited to the first 30 pre-paid teams. Deadline for pre-paid reservations is July 10. Festivities of the day include “FREE” Putting Contest with monetary prizes and Hole-n-One (for all who score a hole-n-one on a specific designated hole) which both are sponsored by Shumway Insurance of Plattsburgh! Registration fee includes gifts, greens fee, cart and BBQ chicken dinner!
Contact: Cheryl Dodds at 518-572-4622 or Jackie Black at 518-561-5039

HAMILTON-HERKIMER

GARAGE SALE
Wells – St. Ann’s to have a garage sale.
Date: July 14 and 15
Features: Collecting items for garage sale. All proceeds to help people in the community especially disadvantaged children, as well as buying candles for the Altar, Votives and Vigil Light, and various projects throughout the year. A new shed at the back of the church is ready to receive donations of gently used items, i.e. linens, blankets, sports items, appliances that work, kitchenware, etc. (no clothes though).
Contact: For pick up call Ronni at 924-7661 or Pam at 924-2041.

PARISH PICNIC
Speculator – St. James’ and St. Ann’s Sixth Annual Parish Picnic will be held.
Date: July 23
Time: 2 p.m. to 5
Place: Speculator Pavilion
Features: Coordinators of this year’s picnic are Linda Slack, Cathy Rogers and Deborah Walters. Sign up early

GOLF TOURNAMENT
Lake Pleasant - St. Ann’s and St. James will be holding their 6th Annual “Sum mer Heat” Golf Tournament.
Date: July 29
Time: 8 a.m. Shotgun start
Place: Lake Pleasant Golf Course
Cost: $50 per person / $200 per team
Features: Breakfast and Lunch. Snacks and Drinks all day. Many prizes.

JEFFERSON

APPRECIATION DINNER
Watertown - The Watertown Knights of Columbus, Council No. 259, Watertown, announced that it is co-sponsoring with the 4th Degree Knights of Columbus Bishop Conroy General Assembly, No. 699 a Testimonial and Appreciation Dinner for long time serving and local Knight, Sam Tufo.
Date: July 8
Time: 5 p.m.
Place: Savory Downtown Restaurant
Cost: $25, includes tax, tip and gift.
Contact: Tickets are available from any of the four Catholic parish offices or by contacting Mike Deline at 315-788-4791, John Mordia at 315-777-7917 or Jim Fraser at 315-782-4064.

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

LEWIS

SUMMER SOCIAL
Constableville – St. Mary’s Church to hold 11th Annual Summer Social
Date: July 12
Time: 5 p.m. to 7
Features: No price changes, same delicious picnic menu with all cart pricing.

ST. LAWRENCE

FOUNDER’S WEEKEND MASS
Ogdensburg – There will be a special Mass in honor of Founder’s Weekend.
Date: July 16
Time: 7:30 a.m.
Place: Fort La Presentation site on Van Rensselaer/Lighthouse Point
Features: The Mass will be outside along the St. Lawrence and Oswegatchie Rivers. As we celebrate our early heritage, part of the Mass will be in Latin, French and Mohawk. Several of the participants will be in period dress. Please bring lawn chairs. In case of rain, the Mass will be held at Notre Dame Church. All are invited and welcome to share in prayer at this special Mass.

DOVS PILGRIMAGE
Syracuse – Bishop LaValley and DOVS (Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocation Society) on the annual pilgrimage to pray for vocations.
Date: Oct. 10
Place: We will visit St. Marianne Cope’s shrine and museum and have Mass and holy hour at the newly renovated cathedral in Syracuse.
Contact: To reserve a spot or for more information, call Mary at 315-368-1016 or Connie at 315-265-2762.
OBITUARIES

Alexandra Bay — Paul W. Bogenschutz, 78; Funeral, June 29, 2017 at the Costello Funeral Home; burial St. Cyril's Cemetery.

Altona — Vernon H. Gokee, 82; Funeral Services June 29, 2017 at Church of the Holy Angels.

Brasher Falls - Sandra A. McLaughlin, 76; Funeral Services July 3, 2017 at St. Patrick's Church.

Brownville — Inge Barbara (Singer) Saur; Funeral Services June 26, 2017 at Immaculate Conception Church; burial in Brownville Cemetery.

Brownville — David M. West, 46; Funeral Services June 27, 2017 at Immaculate Conception Church.

Brownville — Charles F. Zeltwanger Jr., 47; Funeral Services July 2, 2017 at Immaculate Conception Church.

Carthage — Angelina M. (Cassoni) Cronk, 79; Funeral Services June 30, 2017 at the Lundy Funeral Home

Chazy — Nancy S. Ethier Bucker, 51; Funeral Services June 26, 2017 at Sacred Heart Church.

Copenhagen — Chad J. Pate, 43; Funeral Services June 19, 2017 at St. Mary's Church.

Croyhan — Daniel E. Horvath, 81; Funeral Services June 21, 2017 at St. Stephen's Church; burial in St. Vincent DePaul Cemetery, Belfort.

Dannemora — Rodney G. Moody, 73; Funeral Services June 21, 2017 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in Whispering Maples Memorial Gardens, Plattsburgh.

Gouverneur — Raymond Morse “Ray” Villeneuve, 81; Funeral Services June 29, 2017 at Green Funeral Home; burial in St. Michael's Cemetery, Antwerp.

Henderson — Teresa A. (Kuzbeki) Desmourea, 50; Memorial Services July 7, 2017 at Queen of Heaven Church.

Heuvelton — Myrna (Outman) White, 64; Funeral Services June 24, 2017 at St. Raphael's Church; burial in Hillcrest Cemetery.

Keeseville — John L. “Red” “Jack” Maloney, 89; Funeral Services July 20, 2017 at Immaculate Conception Church.

Lake Placid — Marie Goff Senecal, 94; Funeral Services June 23, 2017 at St. Agnes Church.

Louisville — James E. Love, 81; Funeral Services at St. Lawrence Church; burial in Louisville Community Cemetery.

Lyon Mountain — Earl F. Gregory, 73; Funeral June 23, 2017 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Lyon Mountain — Russell Andrew Wilson, 76; Funeral Services July 3, 2017 at St. Bernard's Church.

Malone — John J. “Jack” McCarthy, 92; Funeral Services July 1, 2017 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Massena — Mary Cecile (Noreault)

McElwain, 89; Funeral Services June 30, 2017 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Bombay.

Morrisonville — Eunice M. (Rushia) Dougherty, 100; Funeral Services June 27, 2017 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Morrisonville — Carol Lawliss Moore, 82; Funeral Services June 26, 2017 at St. Alexander's Church.

North Bangor — Elaine G. (Wood) Taverman, 69; Funeral Services June 29, 2017 St. Augustine's Church; burial in Burke Center Cemetery.

North Lawrence — Mary A. (Burns) Cook, 60; Funeral Services June 19, 2017 St. Lawrence Church; burial in Hillcrest Cemetery.

Ogdensburg — Robert L. Brown, 60; Funeral Services June 21, 2017 at the LaRue & Pitcher Funeral Home.

Ogdensburg — Michele (LaClair) Cline, 63; Funeral Services June 23, 2017 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Plattsburgh — John J. Harland, 85; Funeral June 16, 2017 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in parish cemetery

Redford — Betty (Taylor) Chartier, 82; Funeral June 7, 2017 at Church of the Assumption; burial in parish cemetery.

Star Lake — John Jacob Leffert, 88; Funeral Services June 28, 2017 at St. Hubert's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery, Rome.

Ticonderoga — Rosalind G. (Gallo) D'Attilio, 68; Funeral June 29, 2017 at the Wilcox & Regan Funeral Home; burial in Our Lady of Angels Cemetery, Whitehall.

Ticonderoga — Gary William Hotte, Jr., 35; Funeral Services June 24, 2017 at the Wilcox & Regan Funeral Home.

Ticonderoga — Matthew James Jordan, 32; Funeral Services June 26, 2017 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Parish cemetery.

Watertown — Merial Lyng (Yoder) Jewett, 91; Funeral Services June 27, 2017 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Brookside Cemetery.

Watertown — Alma Rose “Midge” (Simmons) Jones, 75; Funeral Services June 24, 2017 at TLC Funeral Home, Inc.; burial in Brookside Cemetery.

Watertown — Mary M. “Peggy” (Pepe) Marks, 99; Funeral Services June 23, 2017 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown — Brian L. Parker, 45; Funeral Services July 1, 2017 at St. Anthony's Church.

St. Peter Apostle Summer appeal

Growing the faith. Our own faith journeys seem like an ongoing cycle of growth: seeds of faith planted by our parents, nurtured by family and friends, strengthened by the seasons of our lives, especially times of trial when we cling close to the Lord's love and hope.

Each year the Society for the Propagation of the Faith/Society of St. Peter Apostle sends support for some 30,000 young men preparing for the priesthood in mission seminaries by providing textbooks, technology, housing, food and medical care for the students.

Once ordained, these young new priests will serve in the mission lands where they were born, raised and in some cases ordained. Although, some are also asked to serve in other areas of the world or even here in the United States, possibly landing here in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

You can help the Society for St. Peter the Apostle by offering prayers and sacrifices for these young men as they prepare for priesthood. We are all aware of the call for vocations and our global need for an increase in this need.

The St. Peter Apostle Appeal’s goal is to invite individuals to support the education of candidates for priesthood in the developing world. Since its inception in 1889, thousands of men globally have benefited from your generosity.

Can you help today? Know that you will also be contributing to growing the faith in the most vulnerable communities around the world through the witness and service of these future priests and religious in the Missions. I extend my gratitude for your generous missionary heart.

Know that you are in a special place in my prayers during these summer months.

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In preparation for the ordination of several new permanent deacons in October, the Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocations Society (DOVS) sponsored a holy card creating contest for young people. One of the goals of the contest was that students learn about the vocation of a permanent deacon. More than 40 entries were received from across the diocese including submissions from Catholic schools and parish catechetical programs. The top three holy card designs are pictured:

Garrett Weir, first place from Trinity Catholic, Massena; Anthony Semeraro, second place from Seton Academy, Plattsburgh; and Rose Gonas, third place from Immaculate Heart Central, Watertown. The DOVS mission is to pray for and raise awareness of vocations to priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life. Those who would like to share this mission by becoming an active member or a patron, should contact Connie at 315-265-2762 for more information.

Garrett Weir, first place winner in the DOVS holy card contest is shown with his principal, Kathy Behrens, principal at Trinity Catholic in Massena and DOVS officers. From left are Ms. Behrens, Connie Randall, president of DOVS; Marilyn DeCelles, vice president, Garrett, Ann Miller, secretary; and Mary Enslow, treasurer.