Pope: Be grateful to parents, never insult them

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Honoring mothers and fathers means being grateful for the gift of life and Christians should never insult anyone’s parents, Pope Francis said.

“Among us there is also the habit of saying awful things, even profanity. Please, never, never, never insult other people’s parents. Never! Never insult a mother, never insult a father,” the pope said Sept. 19 during his weekly general audience.

“Make this decision: from today forward, I will never insult someone’s mom or dad. They gave life! They should not be insulted,” he told those gathered in St. Peter’s Square.

During the general audience, the pope continued his series of talks on the Ten Commandments and reflected on the obligation to “honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.”

To love and respect one’s father and mother, he said, means “recognizing their importance with concrete actions that express dedication, affection and care.”

“Honor your parents: they gave us life. If you have distanced yourself from your parents, make an effort and return, go back to them, perhaps they are old. They gave you life,” the pope said.

October event to bolster families

Recognizing families of faith are the answer to troubling times, the Diocese of Ogdensburg is inviting men, women and teens to a one-day event designed to strengthen them in becoming beacons of hope, faith and love to the world.

Sponsored through the diocese and Women of Grace, the event, “Catholic Families: God’s Answer for Our Time,” will be held Oct. 13 at St. Mary’s Cathedral.

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

Hashtag spreads hope

#WhyImCatholic looks to highlight hope for church

FULL STORY, PAGE 9

BLUE MASS PLANNED

PHOTO BY RYAN GRANT

Representatives of local, state and federal law enforcement agencies, as well as Canadian law enforcement, process their agency flags into the 2017 Blue Mass, celebrated at St. Patrick’s Church in Watertown. This year’s Blue Mass will be held Sept. 30 in Plattsburgh. See page 3 for the complete story.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

VATICAN, CHINA REACH DEAL: Agreement on bishops signed... Page 15
It’s a good time to thank the good priests

“Do you think a priest is the proper person to (participate in a public ministry)?”

The question, posed by a priest I’ve come to adore, stopped me in my tracks.

It’s a tough time to be Catholic. I think we can all agree on that. But as I’ve worked to process my own feelings about recent news, I hadn’t much thought about its impact on our priests.

That question, posed in an email, made me think about it.

My answer to that question: “There’s never a bad time for the world to hear from a good priest.”

Since I started working for the diocese, I’ve had the opportunity to meet and work with a fairly substantial number of priests. I’ve met brilliant priests, funny priests, compassionate priests, priests who are very pastoral and priests who are a bit more administrative. They truly run the gamut in terms of personalities, strengths and weaknesses.

I’ve met good men, who love the Lord and try to bring Him to others and others to Him.

We have priests among us who are doing amazing things. I know of a priest who has been ministering to individuals struggling with alcoholism and addiction. I know priests who bring Jesus to individuals in prisons and in hospitals and nursing homes. I know priests who help feed the hungry. I know priests who continually show mercy and kindness. I know priests who have helped me with my personal struggles of faith.

That question, posed to me in that email, made me realize I probably don’t do enough to thank those priests and to let them know how much they are valued and loved.

While I stand by my answer of, “there’s never a bad time for the world to hear from a good priest,” I feel like I should add, “there’s never a bad time to thank a good priest.”

In fact, as our priests and our church face these tough times, it seems like they can use our love and support more than ever.

Considering Jesus’ cross and our crosses

Jesus teaches us, as the Gospels report, that holiness may mean a cross. During this past month our Catholic Church celebrated a Feast Day in honor of the Holy Cross. The Sunday Gospels during this month often remind us of the importance of the “cross” for each of us Christians. Jesus challenges his followers to take up our own cross. Actually, we are asked to take up his cross.

Today, I would like to reflect with you a little about the importance of the cross for us who follow Jesus. The cross is essential to Catholic spirituality. We, Catholics, place crosses over our Churches. We place the cross over the altar of the Eucharist in our Churches. We, Catholics, like to place a cross on a chain around our neck as a remembrance of Jesus. Before we pray, we begin with the sign of the cross.

For us, the cross has become a powerful sign of God’s great love for us. Actually, the cross seems a curious symbol for us to use. In those early days, the cross was an implement of torture and of death for criminals. However, Jesus accepted the cross and died for us on a cross. So, the cross is sacred for us. We were saved, and our sins were forgiven because of the cross of Jesus. Jesus made the cross a symbol of love, God’s love for us all.

In one of the Sunday Gospel readings this month, we are told a story concerning St. Peter. He makes it very clear that he understands who Jesus is — “You are the Christ.” Each time we enter a church, we must take the time to remember just who Jesus is; we must understand who Jesus is for us. How does Jesus make my life different? Do I realize just what it means to believe in Jesus as my Lord and Savior?

In that same Gospel reading, St. Peter becomes very upset with Jesus. Jesus has gone on to explain to him and the apostles that he will have to suffer, that his life is being threatened, that he will die and will truly rise again. The very thought that Jesus would suffer and be put to death was too much for St. Peter to accept. He does not want anything like this to happen to Jesus. He does not want Jesus to suffer. He can’t accept this, even from Jesus.

Jesus has so much to teach St. Peter. At this moment, he boldly rebukes him, saying, “Get behind me Satan.” I know if that response were aimed at me, I would have been broken hearted. Jesus, the Son of God, wanted St. Peter and all of us to realize that suffering would be a necessary part of Jesus’ life on this earth. The cross was to become a universal sign of God’s great love for us all. God sends Jesus to our world not only to live among us but also to suffer and die for us. Jesus was to show people of all time that the cross was to be a powerful symbol of God’s love and concern for us all.

Jesus goes on to call upon each of us to follow Jesus by bearing our crosses each day. Jesus shows us the way by walking before us to the cross.

When we hear the word “cross,” or the phrase “taking up our cross,” we often think of the crosses of pain and suffering that are such a part of life. We will find a time of uniting ourselves with the Lord during that moment and learn how Jesus will be ready to walk with us and strengthen us in those times of difficulty. With the Lord’s help, we strive to live in Christian love and peace despite the sufferings that may be part of our lives.

One thing more to add here: a cross – the cross of Jesus – may be for us a challenge from Jesus, a call from the Lord to bring Christ’s love into our lives and our world. Jesus makes it clear that often we are needed and challenged by our Savior to do something – possibly something difficult and unselfish to help another – to truly make our world a better place.

This can be a cross. But with the help of our Lord, we will successfully transform our lives and our world.
Blue Mass: Pray with, for law enforcement

PLATTSBURGH – Bishop Terry R. LaValley will celebrate the diocese’s third annual Blue Mass at 2 p.m. on Sept. 30 at St. Peter’s Church.

“The Blue Mass is an opportunity to unite in prayer with and for our law enforcement and corrections officers,” said Bishop LaValley. “In this Mass, we thank them for their service, pray for their safety and celebrate their roles in the Body of Christ, the church, as well as in our communities.”

The Mass will include numerous representatives of the law enforcement community, including New York State Police, New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision, Clinton County Sheriff’s Department, Plattsburgh City Police, University Police from SUNY Plattsburgh, U.S. Border Patrol, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Drug Enforcement Administration, and other state, federal and local agencies, as well as law enforcement representatives from Canada.

“After the escape from the prison at Clinton, I think we all became much more aware of the pressures and stress our law enforcement and corrections officers are under, how hard they work and the dangers they face,” said Father Christopher C. Carrara, chair of the Blue Mass Committee and chaplain for Jefferson County Sheriff’s Department. “These law enforcement and corrections officers are our brothers and sisters, who live in our communities. This Mass started as a way to show them our support and join with them in prayer.”

Previously held in Malone and Watertown, this is the first year the Blue Mass will be held in Plattsburgh.

Uniformed personnel from the involved agencies attend the Mass, with some serving as ushers, lectors, extraordinary ministers and color guard.

The event will include Presentation of the Colors, including various agency flags, the United States and Canadian flags, the state flag, as well as the papal flag.

It will also include the laying of a memorial wreath, honoring those who’ve lost their lives in the line of duty.

Bagpipers will play during portions of the service.

The Blue Mass is planned by a committee comprised of law enforcement representatives and local church officials.

The event is open to people of all faiths.

“Anytime the folks that put their lives on the line day after day are honored is a great day and a day to celebrate,” said New York State Police Captain Brent M. Davison, a member of the Blue Mass Committee.

“These folks so often miss family events, so they can serve and protect their communities. They deserve our honor and appreciation. Thank you, Bishop Terry R. LaValley and all involved in putting this together, for honoring our law enforcement community.”

Visit our website

www.northcountrycatholic.org
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- Search archived papers
- View diocesan events and much more

Find us on Facebook!

Father Justin Thomas and Father Howard J. Venette recently visited diocesan seminarians studying at Christ the King Seminary in Buffalo. Pictured are, from left, Father Thomas, Jude Nnadi, Matthew Conger, Father Venette and John Kennedy Ojuok.
October event aimed at bolstering families

OGdensburg – Recognizing families of faith are the answer to troubling times, the Diocese of Ogdensburg is inviting men, women and teens to a one-day event designed to strengthen them in becoming beacons of hope, faith and love to the world.

Sponsored through the diocese and Women of Grace, the event, “Catholic Families: God’s Answer for Our Time,” will be held Oct. 13 at St. Mary’s Cathedral.

This family event includes guest speakers Johnette Benkovic Williams, Susan Brinkmann and Thomas K. Sullivan, morning prayer, Mass, a healing Rosary service and special breakout sessions for teens.

Co-organizer for the event and Regional Coordinator for Woman of Grace Mary Dillenback described it as a day filled with opportunities to pray together, have holy conversation and be inspired by speakers solidly grounded in church teaching.

“We live in a time of great challenges,” she said. “It seems that what we cherish most is under daily attack from our secular world in which we live. We must not get discouraged or underestimate the role and importance of family.”

She cited the words of St. Pope John Paul II who said, “As the family goes, so goes the nation and so goes the whole world in which we live.”

There are many daily demands on parents and children that leave little time for them to spend quality time together, she said.

The event offers a time for families to come together and celebrate the

Johnette Bankovic Williams

Thomas K. Sullivan

Susan Brinkmann

gift they have in one another and in their faith.

“It is often said that Catholics should be the most joyful people on earth,” she said. “Therefore, we must immerse ourselves and our families in all that our Catholic faith gives us to strengthen us. We, as Catholics, have a tremendous gift and responsibility to prayerfully become beacons of hope and light to our world.”

Continuing to cite St. Pope John Paul II, she explained that in his “Gospel of Life,” Evangelium Vitae, he said, “The family has a special role to play throughout the life of its members, from birth to death. It is truly the sanctuary of life: the place in which life – the gift of God can be properly welcomed and protected against the many attacks to which it is exposed and can develop in accordance with what constitutes authentic human growth.

Because of this, the role of the family in building a culture of life is ‘decisive and irreplaceable.”

The Catholic family is a countercultural witness bearing the love and light of Christ to the world, she said. This event aims to strengthen families and help them learn to “suit up” for the spiritual battle of good against evil.

Keynote speaker Benkovic Williams, founder of the apostolate Women of Grace, will speak twice. The first will center around Genesis with the creation of man and woman, the fall from grace and the promise of hope and restoration.

Her second talk is titled “The Catholic Family: Beacon of Hope in an Age of Confusion.”

Brinkmann, author of Young Women of Grace Study and award-winning journalist, will give a talk entitled “A Catholic Family Survival Guide,” as well as speak to teen girls in one of the breakout sessions.

Sullivan, author of “Called to Knighthood,” will present “The Rosary: Your Weapon for Spiritual Warfare,” and also speak to teen boys in a presentation titled, “Knighted By Christ: Ignited by the Holy Spirit.”

According to Dillenback, the mission of Women of Grace is to transform the world one woman at a time by affirming women in their dignity and vocation as daughters of God and their gift of authentic femininity.

The apostolate has previously sponsored conferences with Benkovic Williams, however this time Dillenback said she believed it was not only women who needed to hear her words, but families as well.

More information and registration can be found by going to https://www.rcdony.org/evangelization/workshops-and-events/family-event.html.
Sister Mary Catherine professes final vows

By Deacon Kevin Mastellon
Contributing Writer

WATERTOWN – Sister Mary Catherine Pham, a Sister Adorer of the Precious Blood, professed final vows as a consecrated religious on Sept. 14.

Bishop Terry R. LaValley presided at the ceremony and celebrated Mass with 10 concelebrants at St. Patrick’s Church in Watertown.

The Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood are contemplatives, who live their lives in prayer. "Called to a way of sanctity rooted in the wisdom of the past, yet adapted to needs of our present day," the Sisters live and pray in their Monastery in Watertown.

Sister Mary Catherine is a native of Vietnam. She is one of nine children.

In her vocation story, published in the community’s newsletter, Cloister Echoes, Sister Mary Catherine wrote, "we (she and her siblings) were among those later known as the ‘boat people’ who escaped communism in the 1980s."

She grew up in California and earned a degree in biochemistry.

Her vocation journey led her to Watertown in January 2012 for a two-week "Come-and-see" visit. She received the habit of the Community in 2013, the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Watertown Monastery.

The Order has Monasteries in Manchester, New Hampshire; Portland, Maine; and Brooklyn, New York, as well as in Canada and Japan.

The Sisters came to Watertown from New Hampshire at the invitation of Most Reverend Leo R. Smith, then Bishop of Ogdensburg.

If you wish to buy tickets by mail, please fill out the form & enclose your check made out to:
ST. AGNES CHURCH
169 HILLCREST AVE
LAKE PLACID, NY 12946

NAME ____________________________
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Phone__________________ E-Mail ____________________________
Number of Tickets _______ Amount of check $________
$20 EACH or 6 for $100
You do not have to be present to win. 

For more information: www.lifechain.net
Youth Buses for Life win funds to attend conference

Youth Buses for Life participants will have an extra day of faith, community and praying for and learning about the pro-life movement this year, as the Respect Life office received a scholarship to allow participants to attend the Students for Life of America Conference in Maryland the day after the March for Life in Washington, DC.

This year’s Youth Buses for Life will leave the North Country on Thursday, Jan. 17. The Northern Bus will pick up participants in Massena, Canton and Gouverneur. The Western Bus will pick up participants at Immaculate Heart Central in Watertown.

The March for Life will be held Jan. 18, and the Students for Life of America Conference runs from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Jan. 19.

Diocesan Respect Life Co-Chair Colleen Miner said the scholarship possibility was first discussed after last year’s Youth Buses for Life trip.

“Each year, we book a guest speaker for our first dinner of the Youth Buses for Life pilgrimage,” Miner said. “Last year, we booked Students for Life of America. After the conference, the presenter, who is the Northeast regional coordinator of Students for Life, Kate Maloney, informed me of a scholarship opportunity. She really loved our group of students and wanted them to participate and benefit from the SFLA conference.”

Miner completed the application and waited. She was recently notified that the Ogdensburg group would be awarded funding.

The funding will help pay for another day of bus transportation, as the conference will push the trip into the early hours of Sunday, Jan. 20.

“We’ll board the buses after the conference and drive home,” Miner said. “We will arrive in the North Country on Sunday at approximately 6 a.m. Massena and 4 a.m. in Watertown. The conference will not raise the student cost of the pilgrimage.”

To learn more about the conference, visit http://sflalive.org.

The cost of the Youth Buses for Life pilgrimage is $150 and includes transportation, lodging, meals and a shirt, as well as participation in the conference.

Registration opens October 1 and can be found at www.rcdony.org/prolife. For more information, call 518-524-0774.
FACES OF FAITH

Bishop Terry R. LaValley installs Father Christopher J. Looby as pastor of St. Patrick’s and St. Anthony’s churches in Watertown.

Members of our faith community gathered to remember children lost to abortion at the 6th annual national Day of Remembrance for aborted children held in Plattsburgh on Sept 8.

Father Joseph W. Giroux sits in a dunk tank for St. André Bessette Parish’s Holy Harvest Festival.

The Patnode family arrives for the first day of school at Holy Family School in Malone. Though school is in session, Holy Family continues to accept new students.
The Catholic Family: God’s Answer for Our Time

Join us for this one-day family event for men, women & teens at St. Mary’s Cathedral in Ogdensburg Saturday, October 13, 2018

for details and registration:
www.rcdony.org/familyevent

Keynote Speaker: Johnnette Benkovic Williams, Founder of Women of Grace

MORNING:
It All Started in the Garden With A Man and a Woman - But It’s All About Eve

AFTERNOON:
The Catholic Family: Beacon Of Hope In An Age Of Confusion

Presenter: Thomas K. Sullivan

AFTERNOON:
The Rosary: Your Weapon for Spiritual Warfare

EVENING
DISCUSSION WITH TEENAGE BOYS:
Knighted by Christ: Ignited by the Holy Spirit

Presenter: Sue Brinkman

MORNING:
A Catholic Family Survival Guide

EVENING
DISCUSSION WITH TEENAGE GIRLS:
Unleashing the Genius Within You

includes:
• Morning Prayer  • 4 presentations for adults/families  • Box Lunch  
• Mass with Bishop LaValley  • Healing Rosary Service  
• 2 evening presentations for teens (one for boys, one for girls)

For more information contact: Mary Dillenback mdillenback@womenofgrace.com or 315-771-1377
#WhyImCatholic aims to share hope for church

CHICAGO (CNS) – Catholic Extension has launched a new social media campaign called #WhyImCatholic to offer “hope and unity” for Catholics by inviting them to share their positive stories about faith and community "during this difficult chapter in the church."

As U.S. Catholics “struggle with the painful issues facing the church today, particularly the abuse crisis,” Catholic Extension “recognizes that it is a difficult time to be Catholic.”

“We must face hard truths together in order to change and grow stronger in love. It will hurt. It will be hard. And we will endure as a family of faith,” the Chicago-based national organization said in a Sept. 20 news release announcing the social media campaign. "It's times like this we should join together, as a faith family looking toward positive examples, to unify people and provide support."

Catholic Extension is inviting people to share their stories, including short videos, photos or a written post on social media using the hashtag #WhyImCatholic.

They also can submit them to www.catholicextension.org/whyimcatholic.

Stories will be gathered and shared on the Chicago-based organization’s Facebook page, Twitter account (@CathExt) and website (www.catholicextension.org).

The stories are meant to illustrate "what makes people proud to be Catholic and gives them hope for the future."

"To be Catholic is to be part of a faith community that really believes in one another – that really believes in the world in which we live," Father Jack Wall, president of Catholic Extension, said in a statement. "As a family, we will bond together in the difficult moments, but we will build a stronger future together, through hope."

AG’s new legal directive may speed up deportations

WASHINGTON (CNS) – U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions issued a decision Sept. 18 curtailing the powers of U.S. immigration judges in deportation proceedings, a move that may make it easier for the Trump administration to deport immigrants.

The news agency Reuters reported Sept. 19 that Sessions set limits on the ability of judges to terminate deportation cases and said the judges “have no inherent authority to terminate removal proceedings even though a particular case may pose sympathetic circumstances.”

If a judge terminates or dismisses a case, in some circumstances, the move may buy some time for the person under deportation proceedings to pursue a different way to remain in the country.

Some worry that the new directive paves the way for speedier and more abundant deportations, perhaps signaling upcoming aggressive moves by the Trump administration on the immigration front.

In mid-September, in discussing with Hill.TV how a monument in Pennsylvania marking where one of the planes involved in the 9/11 attacks went down inspired him, President Donald Trump spoke of the “gorgeous wall where the plane went down in Pennsylvania, Shanksville,” hinting also at the border wall he wants to build between the U.S. and Mexico.

The 9/11 memorial has a series of walls.

"I’ll be doing things over the next two weeks having to do with immigration, which I think you’ll be very impressed at," he told Hill.TV Sept. 18, the same day Sessions announced the directive.

The American Immigration Lawyers Association, on its website Sept. 20, said the administration "has implemented policies that will undermine the independence of immigration judges and weaken due process in the immigration court system.

"Immigration courts play a key role in affording noncitizens an opportunity to present claims for relief and stay in the United States," the statement continued. "The changes adopted by (Department of Justice) since last year – including steps to impose numerical quotas on immigration judges and attempts to curtail procedural safeguards – threaten the integrity of the immigration courts."
N.Y. Archdiocese taps judge to review protocols

NEW YORK (CNS) – New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan has named a former federal judge to study archdiocesan policies and procedures with respect to sexual abuse by clergy and recommend enhancements directly to the cardinal.

Cardinal Dolan introduced Judge Barbara S. Jones, his first special counsel and independent reviewer, at a Sept. 20 news conference at the New York Catholic Center.

He said Jones will have complete access to records, personnel and himself to “conduct an independent, scrupulous review” of how the archdiocese deals with accusations of alleged abuse of a young person by a priest, deacon or bishop.

Jones said her preliminary review indicates the archdiocese has a robust infrastructure in place, developed after the adoption of the bishops’ 2002 “Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.”

She and her team at Bracewell, an international law firm, will have unfettered access to examine existing protocols and identify potential deficiencies or noncompliance to the cardinal, she said.

“The cardinal told me to leave no stone unturned,” she added.

Cardinal Dolan said the archdiocese has made progress in dealing with abuse of minors, but needs to develop a policy to respond to allegations of abuses of power and position.

Jones said she would not have accepted the paid contract if Cardinal Dolan had not promised to take expeditious action on her recommendations.

Jones is a former prosecutor and assistant U.S. attorney who served 16 years as a judge in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York.

She served as chair of a congressional panel on sexual misconduct in the military, conducted a full-scale review of the New York City Police Department’s discipline policies, and was appointed special master in the recent case of Michael Cohen v. United States.

In that capacity, she rendered decisions related to 3.7 million documents seized in the execution of search warrants and established procedures and protocols the review materials and make findings and recommendations to the court.

Jones described archdiocesan protocols already in effect for receiving, reporting, investigating and acting on claims, as well as prevention and safety programs in schools. She said encouraging people to report abuse is “one of the most important things in any program and a part I want to make sure is robust.”

Cardinal Dolan said the archdiocese’s Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program, now beginning its third year, had provided “a sense of fair resolution and compensation with almost 300 victim-survivors.”

It also “helped us uncover previously unknown cases of misbehaving priests, like (Archbishop) Theodore McCarrick, who are now permanently removed from ministry.”

Cardinal Dolan recommended the “proven program” for all institutions: church, state, private, educational. “Our attention and sensitivity must be to the victim-survivors, not to institutions,” he said.

He said the Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program would continue. “We want to give all the time and space for victims to come forward,” he said. The program has paid nearly $60 million in its first two phases.

Cardinal Dolan said the program had surfaced new reports of past abuse, “the vast majority of which” were known to the archdiocese. He said there have been no reports of new abuse.

Cardinal Dolan said the appointment of Jones is a response to parishioners’ pleas for accountability, transparency and action by the archdiocese and an effort to prevent their loss of trust in him. “If I lose the trust of my people and this community, I don’t have much left,” he said.

“Referencing the Sept. 19 statement of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Administrative Committee on actions to address abuse, Cardinal Dolan said bishops must be held to the same accountability and oversight as their priests when they commit abuse or are negligent in dealing with it.

“We have to get to the bottom of the McCarrick affair,” he said, crediting the Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program for bringing to light allegations of abuse by Archbishop McCarrick and leading to subsequent “allegations of irresponsible behavior with seminarians and young priests.”

The former cardinal-archbishop of Washington, now 88, was ordained as a priest for the New York Archdiocese. In late June, the prelate said he would no longer exercise any public ministry “in obedience” to the Vatican after an allegation that he abused a teenager 47 years ago in the Archdiocese of New York was found credible.

He proclaims his innocence.

Since then, several former seminarians have claimed that the then-cardinal would invite groups of them to a beach house and insist individual members of the group share a bed with him.

On July 28, Pope Francis accepted his resignation from the College of Cardinals and ordered him to maintain “a life of prayer and penance” until a canonical trial examines accusations that he sexually abused minors.

Cardinal Dolan said the apostolic visitation requested by Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the USCCB, would be particularly effective, but he did not know if or when it would take place.

Cardinal DiNardo and other U.S. prelates met with Pope Francis at the Vatican Sept. 13 to discuss the ongoing clerical sexual abuse crisis.
Moses needed help, our parishes need laity

So Moses needed help! That’s what we hear in the Book of Numbers. No wonder! The Israelites in the desert constantly grumbled at his leadership. Occasionally there was outright rebellion. So, Moses, tired and discouraged, begged the Lord for help. God heard his prayer and poured out the Spirit of prophecy on 70 elders. Two of the elders were not present at the ceremony but received the Spirit anyway.

When they began prophesying on their own Moses’ young assistant, Joshua, became envious. “Moses, stop them!” he cried. Instead of stopping them, Moses praised the two, and told Joshua he wished everyone had that gift. Jesus, in today’s Gospel, teaches the same lesson. When some of his disciples complained to Jesus that some, not of their company, were driving out demons, Jesus, like Moses, rebukes his followers for being so exclusive, “Whoever is not against us, is for us” became Jesus’ rule for his church.

Years ago, pastors often did not welcome help from the laity. They did not see them as necessary, or even desirable. How different is our experience today!

Ordained deacons have become essential in many parishes. These, together with hundreds of commissioned lay ministers in our diocese and many Catholics who take their baptismal consecration seriously and have become trained in various ministries in our parishes are helping overworked priests.

Today’s pastor welcomes these people with open arms, urging even more laypeople to become involved in visiting the sick and shut-ins, teaching religion to children, and becoming youth leaders.

The present sexual crisis has angered and distressed all of us. But we must not think for a moment that the church will die. We all would die without the truth of Christ, the strength of the Eucharist, and the love that compels us to share our faith with all people will continue to the end of time. The ever-vibrant energy of our youth and young adults, with your encouragement, will become the committed, informed, and courageous leaders of the Church of the 21st century. And the gates of hell will not prevail against it!

Finding friendship in Jesus and like Jesus

By Andrew Lauria
Contributing Writer

I was reflecting on a visit I had recently with an old friend of mine and the reality that I find his company to be so satisfying.

I have been blessed with many deep and lasting friendships in my life, and I see those relationships as the greatest treasure of my life. “Satisfying” is the word that keeps coming to mind.

I took this feeling of satisfaction to prayer in thanksgiving for my friend and it hit me; I think the apostles found their relationship with Jesus and each other to be very satisfying.

I have always found it to be interesting that Jesus traveled with twelve apostles. Jesus could have had a vice president, a treasurer and a secretary. He could have had a Robin to his Batman. He could have had a board of directors or a planning committee. Or he could have just done the job solo; he is God, after all. But he didn’t. He had twelve dudes from various walks of life who were generally unprepared for the task at hand yet completely and totally willing and committed, even to the point of death.

Friendship. That is what defined their work and relationship with Jesus. They loved Jesus and they loved each other. We know that because they stayed together until the end, until it was their turn as individuals to bring the love they experienced with each other out into the world.

They were all called to preach the Gospel, which can be understood simply as spreading the love that was revealed to them but also directly experienced together with their beloved, Jesus.

I was thinking about their friendship in relationship to St. Peter saying “To whom shall we go?” Jesus has the words of everlasting life, but those words were more than just words, they were action, too. The words of everlasting life were demonstrated through Jesus’ relationship with his apostles, giving himself to them, even to the point of death.

Even when things are hard, I can say the same of my close friends. If not them, then who? To whom shall I go? I don’t want to leave their love, going through life pursuing ambitions without their support. The apostles did not want to leave the company of Jesus because they found what they were looking for. They were in relationship with him and with each other and they were satisfied.

I find it increasingly difficult to engage with my peer group regarding religion or faith in general. I think our faith seems foreign for no other reason than that people cannot relate to the intimacy found between Jesus and his apostles because they live in a world that lacks intimacy of real relationship in general.

Faith is cultivated and developed through relationship with other people.

Faith is cultivated and developed through relationship with other people. Our faith comes out of the relationship of the Trinity.

Our lives, our friendships should be lived as an extension of this divine commune.

Our faith came out of a profoundly deep and real relationship between persons who loved deeply. It wasn’t an easy thing and it still isn’t today. (Let’s remember that the apostles denied Jesus, fell asleep when asked to keep watch, hid from the crowds, etc.) But it is real. It is real in a way that cuts through the complexity and vagueness of modern life.

I can feel it when I say goodbye to my best friend and send him off at the airport.

It hurts because it is real. And in that truth, in that love there is Jesus.
Almost two million Americans are now addicted to opioids. The National Institute on Drug Abuse notes that more than 100 people die each day in the U.S. from opioid overdoses. This unprecedented level of abuse – which involves not only heroin, but also prescription medication use – has become a national crisis.

Reportedly, about 80 percent of heroin addicts first misused prescription opioids. Yet for many patients, no pain-relieving options more effective than opioids exist.

Figuring out how to use these powerful pharmacological agents in an appropriate and ethical manner is urgent and imperative.

At a minimum, a three-pronged approach is required.

One prong involves working with medical professionals to limit the use and availability of these drugs by modifying prescribing practices.

A second involves making patients more aware of the risks of addiction and increasing their involvement in monitoring their medications and assessing the need for pain relief.

A third involves making effective addiction treatment and outreach programs accessible to those caught in the throes of chemical dependency.

With regard to reducing opioid availability, in recent years medical professionals have been seeking to establish guidelines for prescribing opioids that take into account the number of pills typically needed to get through a surgery or treatment.

For example, recovery from more complex stomach surgeries might require 60 opioid pills, while an appendectomy or hernia might only require 15-20. Although prescription guidelines can be helpful, they clearly can’t be fixed in stone, as individual patients will have varying pain management needs.

Some nurses recall well the days when concerns about addiction could result in under-medicated patients watching the clock and withering in pain until the time of the next dose. Unmanaged pain is a spiritual assault on the dignity of a person, and plays right into the hands of assisted suicide advocates.

Careful titration of pain medications, whether for surgery or chronic pain, also helps to avoid over-prescribing patients and rendering them lethargic or semi-comatose; in terminal situations, patients still have the right to prepare for their death while fully conscious, and they should not generally be deprived of consciousness or alertness except to mitigate excruciating or otherwise uncontrollable pain.

In certain cases, of course, it may not matter if a person becomes addicted to pain medications.

If a patient has only a few weeks of life remaining, and he or she is experiencing intractable pain such that high doses of opioids are the most effective approach, addiction during his or her final days and hours would not generally raise ethical concerns.

There are alternatives to the use of opioids that may be suitable for some patients.

These include the use of less-addictive or non-addictive drugs such as acetaminophen, ibuprofen, naproxen, or anesthetics and blockers at the pain site. Cognitive behavioral therapy, stress management and relaxation techniques can help patients learn how to modify triggers that increase pain.

Specialists sometimes remind us that bringing pain down to a tolerable level should be the goal, rather than trying to eliminate it entirely, which in many cases may not even be possible. Some patients may require assistance to come to accept even a limited amount of pain.

A San Diego-based pilot program to reduce the over-prescription of opioids included the novel step of notifying physicians when one of their patients had died from an overdose.

The San Diego medical examiner would send health care professionals a letter in this format: “This is a courtesy communication to inform you that your patient [Name, Date of Birth] died on [Date]. Prescription drug overdose was either the primary cause or contributed to the death.”

In follow up studies, physicians who received these letters were found to prescribe at significantly decreased levels, and they were also less likely to start new patients on opioids at all.

Researchers speculated that, like everyone else, physicians tend to assess health and safety risks differently when bad outcomes spring readily to mind.

At the same time, taking steps to restrict opioid availability can backfire, with devastating consequences for chronic pain patients who may now end up being refused opioid prescriptions they need and have relied on for years.

The proper use of pain medications, in the final analysis, requires a balanced approach, attending to objective indications from the patient, so clinicians can offer sufficient comfort and remediation of their pain.

Patients must also take responsibility for their own pain management decisions, becoming informed about, and aware of, the challenges and risks.

When the goal is to provide the lowest dose of opioids for the shortest amount of time, in direct response to the level and severity of the pain, patients are likely to have better treatment outcomes with diminished risks of addiction.

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Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did postdoctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, MA, and serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.ncbcenter.org
The House with a Clock in Its Walls

NEW YORK (CNS) – For all its spells and incantations, the witchcraft-themed fantasy “The House With a Clock in Its Walls” (Universal) lacks magic. Though some of the humor works, the film makes little impression and registers as only passable entertainment.

Too scary for tots, director Eli Roth’s adaptation of the first in a series of books written by John Bellairs and illustrated by Edward Gorey is acceptable for most others. Parents, however, may not appreciate the quasi-profanities that occasionally and – given the target audience – needlessly crop up in Eric Kripke’s screenplay.

After his parents are killed in an accident, 10-year-old Lewis Barnavelt (Owen Vaccaro) goes to live with his eccentric Uncle Jonathan (Jack Black), who turns out to be a warlock. Having mastered some of the rudiments of his new guardian’s craft, Lewis assists him and his best friend, nice witch Florence Zimmerman (Cate Blanchett), in trying to locate and stop the time-piece of the title.

As flashbacks show, Isaac was traumatized by his service in World War II and turned to the dark side. The completion of his scheme requires someone to use black magic to revive the recently deceased Isaac, a part of the plot that may not sit well with Christian believers. And then there’s the seemingly inevitable potty humor characteristic of so many movies for kids. Since this mostly involves a not-yet housebroken topiary griffin that comes to life only to make a nuisance of himself, grownups may slough it off easily enough, though.

Jonathan and Florence trade sometimes-witty jibes. But when the proceedings turn serious any sense of freshness or engaging adventure is absent.

Instead, for all the long-standing popularity of its source material – which dates back to the 1970s – the screen version feels routine. Its apprentice wizard, its gothic setting, its dustups between the characters will all likely strike viewers as derivative.

That may be unfair to Bellairs since his work long preceded the Harry Potter juggernaut, for instance. But, unlike their villain, the folks behind “The House with a Clock in Its Walls” can’t reverse the onward march of chronology.

The film contains occult themes, considerable peril, some scatological humor and a few mild oaths.

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

Sioux City, Iowa (CNS) – Ron Clements is a renowned animator, screenwriter and producer-director of award-winning Disney films, including the 2017 blockbuster “Moana.”

But at heart, he will always be a Midwesterner and grateful for his Catholic education, he told students at his alma mater.

Clements, a 1971 alum of the Bishop Heelan High School in Sioux City, visited with students Sept. 13.

He was in Sioux City as a major presenter at the Sioux City International Film Festival, held Sept. 12-16.

As a Crusader, the school’s mascot, Clements was recognized for his artistic talent as the staff cartoonist at the Heelan student newspaper, Heelan Highline.

Journalism teacher Mary Castle, who attended Clements’ video presentation, insisted she knew her student would flourish in his life’s work.

“He was quiet, but clearly had tremendous gifts,” the former instructor, now 91, told The Catholic Globe, Sioux City’s diocesan newspaper. “You could tell the talent was there and I knew that he would be taking one step after another in a successful career.”

At 15, Clements worked at KCAU-TV, Channel 9, the Sioux City ABC affiliate, where another Heelan graduate George Lindblade and Heelan parent Bill Turner – both associated with the station – helped Clements with his journey to Disney.

“I had done some Super 8 films on my own and brought them down to Channel 9 with the idea of maybe we could do some commercials,” Clements said. “And then I asked them if I could use the equipment to do my own film, and they said, ‘Sure!’”

Clements crafted a hand-drawn, 15-minute film in which he did all the aspects, including the voices. “Shades of Sherlock Holmes” caught the attention of folks at Hanna-Barbera, a cartoon producer.

That led to where Clements has spent the bulk of his career – at Disney Animation Studios in Los Angeles.

With John Musker, Clements co-directed “Moana,” “The Little Mermaid,” “Aladdin” and “The Princess and the Frog” – all films nominated for Academy Awards. He also helped supervise, animate or write “The Great Mouse Detective,” “Hercules” and “Treasure Planet,” to name a few.

“The films that we make are meant to be films for everybody and they’re films that I think are for all ages and for people everywhere,” he said. “We want those films to resonate.”

In the Kiddie Crusaders Preschool across the street from the high school, Clements waxed nostalgic about taking art classes in the same building more than four decades ago, taught by Sister Mary de Lourdes, a Sister of Christian Charity.

The kids serenaded Clements with the hit song “How Far I’ll Go,” while “Moana” played on a large screen TV.
BLESSING OF THE ROSES
Saranac Lake — Blessing of roses to be held.
Date: Sept. 30
Time: 4 p.m.
Place: St. Bernard’s Church
Features: please join members of the Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites for a holy hour including Eucharistic Adoration, Vespers, Benediction, and a blessing of roses to be distributed. There will be light refreshments at the conclusion.

FISHERS CLUB
Plattsburgh — The Lakesiders Fishers Club to have their fall discernment meeting.
Date: Oct. 7 & 21; Nov. 4 & 18; Dec. 2
Time: 3 p.m.
Place: St. Peter’s Upper Room
Features: Discernment, Evening Prayer and Dinner for high school juniors and older.
Contact: Father Venette (hvennette@gmail.com) or Father Lucia (dlucia@rdcony.org)

HEALING MASS
Dannemora — St. Joseph’s Church to have a Healing Mass.
Date: Oct. 2
Time: 5 p.m., Reconciliation; 6 p.m., Mass
Features: Sacraments will be available. Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick and Holy Eucharist during Mass

HARVEST DINNER
West Chazy — St. Joseph’s Church to have their 45th Annual Harvest Dinner.
Date: Oct. 7
Time: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Place: St. Joseph’s Parish Center
Cost: Adults, $10; Children -12, $5; under 5, Free
Features: Turkey Dinner, Country Store and much more. Take-outs available
Contact: St. Joseph’s Parish Office at 518-493-4521

FEAST OF THE HOLY ROSARY
Keeseville — Immaculate Conception Church to honor our Queen of the Rosary.
Date: Oct. 7
Time: 11:30 a.m.
Features: Bishop LaValley will celebrate Mass and the Most Holy Rosary with blessing of candles during Mass. Immediately following Mass, we will pray the living Rosary. After the Rosary, everyone is invited to join us for a free luncheon at the Elks Club.

TURKEY DINNER
Dannemora — St. Joseph’s to have their Annual Roast Turkey Dinner.
Date: Oct. 14
Time: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Cost: Adults, $10; Children, $7; under 5 Free
Features: Dinner, Music, Chinese Auction and Country Store.

WELCOME TO THE FEAST
Plattsburgh — Six week Continuing Formation event to be held for All Commissioned Lay Ministers.
Date: Oct. 4 — Nov. 15
Time: 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Place: St. Peter’s Church
Cost: Dinner only, $10; Scripture only, $17; Both Dinner event and Scripture Study, $27
Features: This is opportunity to deepen our understanding and learn how to lead a scripture study. Bishop LaValley will be the guest speaker.

HARVEST DINNER
Chazy — Sacred Heart to have a Turkey Harvest Dinner.
Date: Oct. 21
Time: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Place: Sacred Heart Parish
Cost: Adults, $10; Children under 12, $5; under 5, Free; Take-outs, $10
Features: Shop for treats and take a chance on our raffle.

ESSEX
HARVEST DINNER
Elizabethtown — St. Elizabeth’s Church to have a Harvest Dinner.
Date: Oct. 30
Time: 2 p.m. to 6
Place: St. Elizabeth Parish Center
Cost: Adults, $10; Children 5-12, $5; under 5, Free
Features: Roast Beef with all the trimmings. Take-outs available at 1:30 p.m.

FALL ECO-FEST
Watertown — Annual Fall ECO-FEST Presentation to be held.
Date: Oct. 30
Time: 1:30 p.m. to 3:30
Place: Sisters of St. Joseph Hearthside Hospitality Center
Features: The Science Behind Pope Francis’ Laudato Si: Care for Our Common Home
Features: As a scientist and a person of faith, Aileen will reflect on Pope Francis’ encouragement of people to examine the pressure humanity has been putting on our world and actively take steps to reduce and mitigate that pressure. Sponsored by: Watertown Faith and Community Trust
Contact: call 315-212-6592 or email: evansbox@77project.com

LEWIS
TURKEY DINNER
Copenhagen — St. Mary’s to have their Annual Turkey Dinner.
Date: Oct. 4
Time: 4:30 p.m.
Place: Copenhagen Fire Hall
Cost: Adults, $5; Children 6-12, $4.50; under 5, Free; Take-outs, $8
Features: Bazaar & Bake Sale, Raffle Items ($500 and more), $50/50
Contact: St. Mary Ellen Brett at 315-688-2683 or email: stmarylutheran.org

SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL DINNER
Evans Mills — The Indian River Knights of Columbus to have a Spaghetti and Meatball dinner.
Date: Oct. 6

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16
What the Mission Society does for you

As we head next week into Mission Month, I thought this may be a good time to educate our readers on the Mission Office’s main objectives. The Pontifical Mission Societies of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, Incorporated, is located in the Chancery Offices in Ogdensburg on Washington Street. The Mission Office operates as an arm of the National Church in the Diocese. As Catholics, we are called to be missionaries by virtue of our baptism. Looking back on our beginnings, if you say or hear the word Mission, most think of Africa and Asia. What you should be thinking is that Mission is wherever there are those in need of prayers and resources, and that is where the “Good News” of Jesus is being shared so they, too, may experience the Lord’s great love through the work and witness of missionaries.

We celebrate our rich missionary history and reflect with gratitude on the debt we owe to the Diocese of Ogdensburg parishioners who support the missions.

**Pontifical Mission Societies consist of the following:**
- Society for the Propagation of the Faith – (World Mission Sunday Appeal) Seeks prayer, sacrifice and financial support for the Church’s missionary work, and provides ongoing help for the pastoral and evangelizing programs in third-world countries.
- Missionary Childhood Association MCA – Guiding young Catholics in Mission toward a universal missionary spirit.
- Society of St. Peter Apostle SPA – For the support of Mission Vocations
- Missionary Union of Priests and Religious – A spiritual apostolate that informs and forms Religious men and women so they may better animate others in the Missionary Spirit.

In addition to the Pontifical Mission Societies, the Pontifical Mission Society of the Diocese of Ogdensburg also conducts mission activities through local avenues:

**The Missionary Projects of the Diocese of Ogdensburg:**
1) to provide continued financial support of our former mission parish in Mollendo, Peru;
2) to support the U.S. Bishops’ annual appeal for Latin America;
3) offering support to the Diocese of Latakia, Syria
4) to help any other missionary projects throughout the world that the Diocese of Ogdensburg might deem part of its evangelization effort.

**The Missionary Cooperation Plan (COOP)**
This annual summertime appeal gives the faithful in a parish the opportunity to meet a missionary representative and to learn about the mission vocation while offering prayers and sacrifices.

### OBITUARIES

- **Champlain** – Jacob Arthur Ashline Sr., 65; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 20, 2018 at St. Mary’s Church.
- **Chateaugay** – Joyce M. (Dumas) Silveri, 86; Funeral Services Sept. 20, 2018 at Chateaugay Funeral Home; burial in Whispering Maples Memorial Gardens, Ellenburg Dept.
- **Clayton** – Phillip A. Lake, 96; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 21, 2018 at St. Mary’s Church.
- **Clayton** – Stephen F. Liebig, 65; Mass of Christian Sept. 17, 2018 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in St. Mary’s Cemetery.
- **Constable** – John A. Soucia, 95; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 22, 2018 at St. Francis of Assisi Church; burial in St. Francis Cemetery.
- **Heuvelton** – Helen L. Havens Todd, 75; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 19, 2018 at St. Raphael’s Church; burial in Pine Hill Cemetery.
- **Lowville** – Nancy A. (Welch) Renodin, 80; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 17, 2018 at St. Peter’s Church; burial in Beaches Bridge Cemetery.
- **Madrid** – Rita J. (Halladay) Russell, 83; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 18, 2018 at St. John the Baptist Church; burial in parish cemetery.
- **Mineville** – Patricia A. (Fuller) Nephew, 64; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 17, 2018 at Church of All Saints.
- **Ogdensburg** – A. Therese (Brown) Bruyere, 92; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 15, 2018 at St. Mary’s Cathedral; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.
- **Plattsburgh** – Russell J. Latour, 97; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 17, 2018 at Our Lady of Victory Church; burial in St. Peter’s Cemetery.
- **Plattsburgh** – Suzanne P. Perrin, 89; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 21, 2018 at St. John’s Church; burial in Mt. Carmel Cemetery.
- **Schroon Lake** – Clifford J. Rocque Sr., 62; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 24, 2018 at Our Lady of Lourdes Church; burial in Saratoga National Cemetery.
- **Star Lake** – Jane C. (Loomis) Burns, 97; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 19, 2018 at St. Hubert’s Church; burial in St. Hubert’s Cemetery.
- **Ticonderoga** – Irene T. (Mercier) Kent, 90; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 21, 2018 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Ironville Cemetery, Crown Point.
- **Watertown** – Robert F. Comenole, 81; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 22, 2018 at St. Patrick’s Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.
- **Watertown** – Carol (Hills) Goodfriend, 92; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 19, 2018 at Holy Family Church; burial in Turin Cemetery.
- **Westville** – Richard L. “Pete” Gravelle, 87; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 17, 2018 at Our Lady of Fatima Church; burial in North Bangor Cemetery.

### Vatican signs deal with China on naming bishops

**VILNIUS, Lithuania (CNS) – For the first time in decades, all of the Catholic bishops in China are in full communion with the pope, the Vatican announced.**

Pope Francis lifted the excommunications or irregular status of seven bishops who had been ordained with government approval, but not the Vatican’s consent, the Vatican announced Sept. 22. A few hours earlier, representatives of the Vatican and the Chinese government signed what they described as a "provisional agreement" on the appointment of bishops.

"With a view to sustaining the proclamation of the Gospel in China, the Holy Father Pope Francis has decided to readmit to full ecclesial communion the remaining 'official' bishops ordained without pontifical mandate,’ the Vatican said, listing their names.

Regularizing the bishops’ status, the Vatican said, Pope Francis hopes "a new process may begin that will allow the wounds of the past to be overcome, leading to the full communion of all Chinese Catholics," some of whom steadfastly have refused to participate in activities or parishes under the leadership of bishops not recognized by Rome.

In recent years, most bishops chosen by the Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association have sought and received Vatican recognition before ordination.

Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, said in a statement that "the objective of the Holy See is a pastoral one: the Holy See intends just to create the condition, or to help to create the condition, of a greater freedom, autonomy and organization, in order that the Catholic Church can dedicate itself to the mission of announcing the Gospel and also to contribute to the well-being and to the spiritual and material prosperity and harmony of the country, of every person and of the world as a whole."
**October is Respect Life Month**

We are inviting you to consider sponsorship of a full page advertisement with the theme **Every Life**

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**Around the Diocese**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14**

**annual Harvest Turkey Dinner.**

**Date:** Oct. 7  
**Time:** 11:30 a.m.  
**Cost:** Adults, $10; Children and under, $4

**DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS**

Houseville - Divine Mercy Devotions to be held for the month of October.  

**Date:** Oct. 7  
**Time:** 3 p.m.  
**Place:** St. Hedwig’s Church  
**Features:** Recitation of the Rosary, Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction. All are welcome.  
**Contact:** 315-348-6260.

**POLISH FESTIVAL**

Houseville – St. Hedwig’s to have their Polish Festival.  

**Date:** Oct. 14  
**Time:** Noon, following the 11 a.m. Mass  
**Features:** The festivities include: The Serving of a Tasty Polish Platter $10, Bake Sale Items, Polish hot Dogs $1, Ice Cream Sundaes $1, Theme Basket Raffles and a 50/50 Raffle. Take outs are available. Proceeds to benefit church programs, repairs and restoration.  
**Contact:** 315-348-6260.

**GUN AND KNIFE SHOW**

Brasher – A Gun and Knife Show to be held.  

**Date:** Oct. 6, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. & Oct. 7, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
**Place:** Knights of Columbus Hall  
**Cost:** $3; under 12 free  
**Features:** Many dealers will be present with all kinds sporting items. Concession stand open all day, breakfast served 8 a.m. to 11. All guns must be checked in at door. Plenty of parking.  
**Contact:** Phil Davis at 315-389-4627 or Mike Hoag at 315-389-4318

**CLMA DINNER**

Norfolk – The Annual Dinner hosted by the Commissioned Lay Minister Association to be held.  

**Date:** Oct. 21  
**Time:** 5:15 p.m.  
**Place:** Church of the Visitation  
**Cost:** $12 per person  
**Features:** Spouses welcome. Mass, dinner and guest speaker Fr. Bryan Stitt will be speaking on Understanding People’s Temperaments as a Catholic in the 21st Century.  
**Contact:** For more information or to register call Jeannie Grizzuto at 315-393-2920, Ext. 1413 or email jgrizzuto@rcdony.org.

**DESTINATION CONFIRMATION**

Norfolk – Destination Confirmation to be held with Bishop LaValley.  

**Date:** Oct. 21  
**Time:** 10:30 a.m.  
**Place:** Parish of the Visitation  
**Features:** After Mass, Bishop LaValley will talk about the role of parents as the first teachers of faith for their children and how they can assist in the preparation for the celebration of the sacrament of Confirmation. Bishop will also share with the students how Confirmation is not a graduation. It’s a new beginning and a call to continue even more passionately their journey of faith.  
**Contact:** silppinco@rcdony.org or call the Regional Office at 315-782-3620 by Oct. 12

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**DIOCESE EVENTS**

**YOUTH LEAD**

Saranac Lake – The 2018 youth leadership weekend to be held.  

**Date:** Sept. 28-30  
**Cost:** $70, Workshops, meals, and accommodations, included  
**Features:** Bring your family to the most meaningful weekend of the year! Hike, swim, pray, play...be.  
**Contact:** Visit https://www.rcdony.org/familylife/familyguggenheim.html to register. Deacon Henry and Dayna Leader for information at 315-323-0827 or dleader@rcdony.org

**LIFECFAIN**

Stand up for life at this year’s LIFECHAIN offered in 5 different locations across our diocese.  

**Date:** Oct. 7  
**Schedule:**  
- Massena - Main Street at Route 37, 3 p.m. to 4 - Charles Shearer 315-769-0898  
- Plattsburgh - Smithfield Blvd at Route 3, 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 - Jack Lukasiewicz 518-562-1175  
- Potsdam - Market Street at Main Street, 2 p.m. to 3 - Tylor Starkey 315-265-9680  
- Saranac Lake - Bandshell Park at River St., 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 - The Miners 518-524-0774  
- Schroon Lake - Route 9 and Main at Fairfield Ave., 2 p.m. to 3 - Dorothy Bean 518-834-7958  
**Features:** A peaceful, prayerful, public, pro-life presence. Signs are provided. We stand for life rain or shine. Bring a friend!  
**For more info:** www.lifecchain.net

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**Cherished • Chosen • Sent**

to appear in our October 10th issue of the North Country Catholic

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