FATHER, SON ORDAINED TOGETHER

On Saturday, Oct. 9, through the laying on of hands and the invocation of the Holy Spirit, Bishop Terry R. LaValley ordained two men, James and Leagon Carlin, to the Order of Deacon at St. Peter's Church in Plattsburgh. James Carlin will serve as a permanent deacon while his son, Leagon Carlin, is a transitional deacon as part of his formation for the priesthood. The ordination was the second in two weeks. On Oct. 2, Bishop LaValley ordained 12 men to the permanent diaconate. For more photos of both ordinations, see Pages 8 & 9.

CELEBRATING MARRIAGE & CONSECRATED LIFE

On Oct. 3, Bishop Terry R. LaValley celebrated the Marriage & Consecrated Life Jubilee Mass honoring married couples celebrating anniversaries and religious sisters marking jubilee milestones. Because the jubilee Mass could not be held in 2020 due to the pandemic, sisters who celebrated jubilees last year were also honored at this year's Mass. Celebrating jubilees in 2021 are Sister Diane Marie Ulsamer, SSJ, 50 years; Sister Shirley Anne Brown, SSJ, Sister Mary Juliana Raymond, SSJ, Sister Judy Adams, SSJ, Sister Carol Louise Kraeger, SSJ, Sister Cecilia Marie Hermann, SSJ, Sister Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ and Sister Mary Gregory Munger, SSJ, 60 years; and Sister Mary Denise Wilke, RSM, 70 years. Celebrating jubilees in 2020, and honored at this year's Mass were Sister Carolyn Madden, RSM, 75 years; Sister Mary William Argy, SSJ, 70 years; Sister Anne Hogan, SSJ, and Sister Judith Baumert, SSJ, and Sister Catherine Mary Cummings, RSM, 65 years; and Sister Norma Bryant, SSJ, and Sister Mary Bethany Fitzgerald, SSJ, along with Sister Janet Peters, RSM, 60 years. FULL STORY, PAGES 5 & 6

Pope to name St. Irenaeus doctor of the church

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Pope Francis said he intends to declare as a doctor of the church St. Irenaeus of Lyon, the second-century theologian known for his defense of orthodoxy amid the rise of gnostic sects.

During a meeting Oct. 7 with members of the St. Irenaeus Joint Orthodox-Catholic Working Group, the pope praised the group’s efforts in creating a space for dialogue between Catholics and Orthodox Christians, much like their namesake. “Your patron, St. Irenaeus of Lyon — whom I will soon declare a doctor of the church with the title, ‘doctor unitatis’ (‘doctor of unity’) — came from the East, exercised his episcopal ministry in the West, and was a great spiritual and theological bridge between Eastern and Western Christians,” he said.

According to its website, the purpose of the St. Irenaeus Joint Orthodox-Catholic Working Group is “to investigate the profound differences in mentality, ways of thinking and of doing theology which are related to current problems in Orthodox-Catholic dialogue, to understand their character, and to try to see how both traditions can enrich each other without losing their own identity.”

St. Irenaeus, the group’s website said, “is revered as a patristic father in both the Eastern and Western churches” and “thus represents an example of the spiritual connection between the churches in East and West, which the working group seeks to promote through its discussions.”

Born in Smyrna, Asia Minor – now modern-day Turkey – St. Irenaeus was known as a staunch defender of the faith.
Some variation of it has been said at least a handful of times in the last several weeks:

“I know you’ve written about being tall, but I didn’t expect you to be this tall.”

I’m a six-foot-tall woman. It’s a regular topic of conversation when I first meet people. When I was young, I was self-conscious about my height and the attention that can come with it. Now, I’m pretty comfortable with who I am, and I usually find it entertaining.

The regular questions (and the answers to them):

“Do you play basketball?” I did when I was young. “Is your husband tall, too?” No. He’s normal sized.

Are your parents tall? Dad is. I have to bend down to put my chin on top of my mom’s head.

“Can you reach that (grocery item) toward the back on that top shelf for me?” I sure can!

Recently, though, a man I was chatting in a local business asked a question I hadn’t heard before.

“You’re just not the kind of woman who is meant to blend in in a crowd, are you?” Ha! No, I am certainly not.

I thought of that question as I attended two ordinations in two weeks. I was blessed to be a witness as 14 men from our diocese said “yes” to God’s call and were ordained as deacons. The group of 14 included one transitional deacon who is continuing his preparations to be ordained as a priest, God willing.

These men have given up their spot “in the crowd.” They can no longer blend in. While we’re all called to bring Christ and be Christ to one another, these men are called to do that in a special way. They’re called to be servant leaders in the Church, in the diocese, in their parishes, in their communities and in their families. They’re called to stand front-and-center and deflect the focus off of themselves and onto Christ. I can’t think of much that stands out more than that.

Please join me in praying for the 14 men who were ordained as they continue in their ministries and thanking them — and their wives and families — for their willingness to serve.

I look forward to working with you all. If you don’t know me, I’m the tall lady with the camera.

Appreciation for sisters and deacons

I was truly please with the Priest’s Appreciation issue! I enjoyed seeing the parishes of the North Country pay honor and appreciation to their pastor and priests. Today I would like to personally share my appreciation for the religious sisters who serve in the parishes and schools of our diocese. In addition, I want to offer my appreciation to the permanent deacons of our diocese.

Today, a tip of the hat to you, sisters, and to you, permanent deacons.

When I think of the religious sisters across the Diocese of Ogdensburg, I begin by offering my appreciation to our own sisters, the Sisters of St. Joseph. I recently noticed the list of the Sisters of St. Joseph who are celebrating their Jubilee anniversaries this year. I am reminded of just how long so many of the sisters have given in ministry and service to the Church in the North Country. I’m certain that the people across the diocese join me in our appreciation for the dedication of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

Personally, I have been blessed to work with many Sisters of St. Joseph in the various parishes and schools where I have been assigned over the years. I have recognized just how special and outstanding these teachers are; many of their former students have often mentioned a sister to me. In recent years, many sisters began acting as associates in parishes, offering their talents to assist the pastor in ministry. Certainly, the Diocese of Ogdensburg has been served well by the Sisters of St. Joseph.

I would like to take the time to send my appreciation to the permanent deacons of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. Our diocese is blessed with many faith-filled and dedicated deacons, the permanent deacons who serve in our parishes. These parishes find such great service with their ministry.

This month, another class of new deacons has been ordained by Bishop LaValley. I congratulate this new group of deacons. Our diocese welcomes you and looks forward to your ministry in your parishes.

I hope you realize how much you bring to your parish and to this whole diocese. Through your dedication, you will fill your parish with peace and the joy of the Lord. This will bring a huge response of happiness for the people of your parish.

I have had the opportunity of recognizing how valuable these deacons are. I have traveled often to many of the parishes of the diocese. I want to thank these deacons for their dedication and time that they give — a gift given so generously.

A prayer from Paul’s Letter to the Ephesians: God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ by grace you have been saved — raised us with him, and seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.
‘A synodal Church is a Church that walks together’

Back on Valentine’s Day in 2013, the Diocese of Ogdensburg set out on a quest for clarity of mission. Given my desire for a deeper dialogue with the faithful, I established an Envisioning Team to help assess our needs and priorities as a diocese. You recall that sessions were held throughout the North Country. This gave me an opportunity to hear from a broad cross-section of folks and learn of our parishioners’ experiences and concerns.

In my Pastoral Letter, “Find Your Home in Christ,” I indicated that our Envisioning Process has energized us to recommit ourselves to Jesus Christ and to share our faith with our sisters and brothers. Through the priorities and goals that we established, the faithful became invested partners, building up, in a focused way, this Church we love.”

Pope Francis has convoked a Synod of Bishops that will run from October 2021 to October 2023 with the theme: “For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission.” This synod will begin locally in each diocese, then move to a continental phase, and finally conclude with an Assembly of the Synod of Bishops in Rome in 2023.

The synodical phase will begin next Sunday, October 17, with the Synod’s Opening Mass held at 11 a.m. at St. Mary’s Cathedral in Ogdensburg. Every diocese throughout the world will celebrate similar Opening Masses on this date. This Mass will be followed by Listening Sessions to be held in several locations throughout the diocese, not unlike our 2013 Listening Sessions held as part of the Envisioning process.

The Holy Father understands the synod as an institutional way to invite ongoing dialogue with all people, rooted in a spirituality of listening and discernment. It is best understood as a way of being the Church, offering the faithful a sense of shared responsibility for her mission. A synodal Church is a Church that walks together. Pope Francis sees the synod as nothing other than the journeying together of God’s flock along the paths of history towards the encounter with Christ the Lord.

Once these Listening Sessions are concluded next spring, a summary of the fruits of the dialogue will be sent to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops along with summaries from all the other dioceses in the nation. After further dialogue, a summary document from the Bishops of the United States will be forwarded to Rome in preparation for the Bishop’s Synod to be held there in 2023.

Through the process of this synod, Pope Francis hopes that there will be a greater appreciation for the laity being “co-responsible” for the Church’s wellbeing and action. The current Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, Archbishop Christophe Pierre, sees this as “a way of living that respects the vocations and charisms of all the baptized, while promoting the spirit of collegiality and communion.”

As our diocesan plans are finalized, I am grateful for your participation in our local process, beginning with the Opening Mass next Sunday as we seek to strengthen our communion as Church.
Respect Life Sunday: A ‘gift of God’s goodness’

One of the privileges I enjoy as your bishop is to visit our students in our Catholic Schools. I especially enjoy visits to the second graders as we discuss the important sacraments they are preparing to celebrate for the first time – Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist. They are eager to share with me their eagerness to celebrate the sacraments and illustrate their readiness. When we discuss Reconciliation, inevitably we talk about sin. Sin – something rarely discussed today.

Because we live in a fallen world, we get used to sin. We get so used to sin, in fact, that we can easily forget just how evil and destructive it is. In a certain sense, sin is wishing that God didn’t exist so that we would be free to rebuild the universe according to our own selfish and arrogant design. When we purposely disobey the moral law, the order that God has built into the universe, we cut ourselves off from the very source of our existence, like an astronaut on a spaceship who cuts away his or her lifeline.

As you know, October is Respect Life Month. We, as Catholic Christians, have been raised to believe – and we know – that all human life, even if weak and suffering, is always a splendid gift of God’s goodness. All human life, from conception to natural death, is a sacred gift from the Heavenly Father.

I know we have all heard this before, but we can see how moral standards of the world have become rotten and decayed. We are constantly bombarded by the false teaching of me-first, the so-called precious freedom of choice, choice to abort a pre-born child of God, the choice to rid from this world the old and feeble, the undesirable, the developmentally disadvantaged, the terminally ill. This isn’t a far-fetched idea, but the reality of the tragic situation in which we find ourselves today.

Just look at some of the unbelievable legislation that is gaining widespread support. What makes it even worse, if that’s possible, is that so many of our Catholic neighbors, including government leaders and politicians, are on the front lines, promoting such evil-doing.

My friends, sometimes it seems that the Church is becoming extinguished in our human souls. The ways of the world are converting us instead of us evangelizing the world in the ways of God. The Catholic faith must come into its own again in our souls and the souls of our family members. We must give our souls back to God. We are a pilgrim people. We, Christians, are in the world, but not of the world. But we are here for a reason. We need to be more zealous in our faith; clearer in our convictions, not muddier; and more Catholic, not less. The Catholic faith should take root in our hearts like the mustard seed of Jesus’ parables.

We, as Christians know God’s law. We know right from wrong. We know God’s law must be respected and obeyed to the best of our ability. We know that life, our own and that of others, is most sacred. Nothing can destroy that sacredness—nothing can overshadow the goodness of God in creating and sustaining life. No human law, no decision of the U.S. Supreme Court, no politician, no governor or president can go contrary to God’s law, no matter what the polls say. That’s not forcing my religion on anyone. It is simply obeying the natural, God’s law, to whom everyone is accountable, else our society continues its rudderless free-fall.

Lord Acton once wrote, “Freedom is not the power of doing what we like, but the right of being able to do what we ought.” We have been sold a bill of goods – one which erroneously tries to teach us that whatever is practical, pleasurable, or financially feasible, is good, if that’s what I want. We have lost our moral compass, our ground of values. It’s legal, so it’s OK – if that’s what I or my neighbor wants. BUT, my sisters and brothers, SIN MATTERS and it abounds! It might be legal, but it’s not OK!

Rightly so, we in America, defend individual liberty. One of the greatest teachings of God’s Church is the defense of the freedom of will, the right to do as one sees fit, even if we should, by our sins, choose something contrary to the will of God. This freedom of choice, of course, sounds so nice and it strikes a harmonious note in our American hearts. But, we have allowed the idea of freedom to become so warped that nothing can stand in its way. I have a right to be unburdened with the cares of a child. I can do what I want with my own body or that of a loved one.

For all of us who are here today, having been given life and breath, what does God want from us? A respect for human dignity, a respect for human life in all its forms. The pre-born, the poor, the old, the physically and mentally challenged, the dying, everywhere and every time to be treated as a man, a woman, to be considered as a child of God. Life is the most precious gift that God has ever given to us, all of us.

We all need the mercy and love of a Savior. It is our responsibility as God’s children to foster and protect His divine teachings; to correct and instruct the misinformed; to show the way to God’s Kingdom. It is our responsibility to be counted either with Jesus Christ or against. “You cannot serve two masters.”

There is no non-government institution that has provided more educational, charitable, and social services than the Catholic Church. I know you’ve heard me share this teaching before. We proclaim life not without hardened, harsh, judgmental hearts, but with hope-filled hearts because we know it is the Lord’s will and we who continue to speak out on behalf of the pre-born, the poor, the marginalized, the elderly, will not go away. We simply cannot go away because SIN MATTERS and our God is a God of and for life!

Congratulations
Deacon Randy Besio
on your ordination to the diaconate!

We are blessed to have you join St. Peter’s Parish as a deacon. Thank you for your vocation and God bless you!

Fr. Scott A. Belina & Fr. Deepak Baru
St. Hedwig’s is very blessed by your presence.
Married couples from around the diocese gathered at St. Mary’s Cathedral on Oct. 3 to celebrate anniversaries at the Marriage & Consecrated Life Jubilee.

Couples celebrate anniversaries at Jubilee Mass

70 YEARS:
Phil & Phyllis St. Am & St. Peter’s, Massena

65 YEARS
Richard & Marilyn Mattie St. Patrick’s, Brasher Falls

Brock & Patsy Morley St. Mary’s Cathedral, Ogdensburg

62 YEARS
Deacon Lawrence & Margaret Connelly Church of the Visitation, Norfolk

60 YEARS
Charles & Virginia Hotzler St. Mary’s, Canton
Peter & Mary Palamar St. Cyril’s, Alexandria Bay
Dr. Joseph & Ruth (S&i) DiGiovanna St. Mary’s, Potsdam

56 YEARS
Fred & Carolyn Trimbach St. Bartholomew, Old Forge

50 YEARS
Deacon Lawrence & Diane L. Morse St. James, Gouverneur

52 YEARS
Norman & Linda Dibble St. Ann’s, St. Regis Falls

51 YEARS
Richard and Susanne Ares St. Ann’s, St. Regis Falls

48 YEARS
Deacon Pat & Sandy Lyons St. John’s, Morristown
Edgar & Laura Higgins Jr. St. Mary’s, Clayton

45 YEARS
Paul & Mary Dalton St. Mary’s, Waddington

44 YEARS
Donald & Barb Kohler St. James, Carthage

40 YEARS
Gary & Connie Menard St. Ann’s, Mooers Forks

35 YEARS
Eric & Joanne Molnar Church of the Visitation, Norfolk

33 YEARS
Jeffrey & Joanne Menard St. Ann’s, Mooers Forks

27 YEARS
Michael & Diane Ferrucci St. Cyril’s, Alexandria Bay

19 YEARS
Jim & Sara Tartaglia St. Mary’s, Canton

15 YEARS
Larry & Juanita Blakemore St. Mary’s, Waddington

9 YEARS
George & Eileen Desgroisellier St. Peter’s, Hammond

Mark and Katherine Calcagno St. Raphael’s, Heuvelton

Deacon Joseph and Beryl Szwed St. Bernard’s, Saranac Lake
Christopher O. & Margaret K. Stewart Holy Cross, Plattsburgh

Deacon Lawrence & Diane L. Morse St. James, Gouverneur

Deacon Pat & Sandy Lyons St. John’s, Morristown

Edgar & Laura Higgins Jr. St. Mary’s, Clayton

Paul & Mary Dalton St. Mary’s, Waddington

Donald & Barb Kohler St. James, Carthage

Gary & Connie Menard St. Ann’s, Mooers Forks

Brandon & Valerie LaClair St. Mary’s, Clayton

Gerard and Virginia Szatkowski Our Lady of the Pines, Aspen Park, Colorado

St. Raphael’s, Heuvelton
Church of the Visitation, Norfolk
St. Cyril’s, Alexandria Bay
St. Mary’s, Canton
Our Lady of the Pines, Aspen Park, Colorado
MARRIAGE & CONSECRATED LIFE JUBILEE

DIOCESE CELEBRATES MARRIED COUPLES, SISTERS CELEBRATING MILESTONES

PHOTOS BY DARCY FARGO & JESSE SOVIE
Congratulations to Deacon Lee Trudeau!

Thank you for answering God’s call, and thank you for your willingness to serve the Lord, our Church and our parishes!

The Roman Catholic Community of St. Augustine in North Bangor & St. Mary in Brushton

We welcome letters from readers of the North Country Catholic.

- Letters are limited to 500 words.
- We cannot accept letters which support ideas which are contrary to the teachings of the Catholic Church.
- Send letters to North Country Catholic, PO Box 326, Ogdensburg, NY, 13669 or e-mail to news@northcountrycatholic.org.
- Join the conversation!

Letters to the Editor

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

Oct. 14 — Rev. James Alexander Hagarty, 1903; Deacon Frederic A. Brousseau, 2019
Oct. 17 — Rev. Antoine Anselm Thomas, 1900; Rev. Athanase Marion, O.M.I., 1935

Rest in Peace

The Diocese of Ogdensburg uses the training, Protecting God’s Children for Adults. There are no live trainings scheduled. If you need to complete VIRTUS training, contact Jean Grizzuto, jgrizzuto@rcdony.org or 315-393-2920 x 1413.

To Report Abuse

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact Victims Assistance Coordinator, Terri-anne Yanulavich, Ph.D., LMHC, 5050 Route 374, Merrill, NY 12955; terri-anneyanulavich@yahoo.com; Phone: 518-651-2267 days; 518-569-0612 evenings; or Father Christopher Carrara, the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy, ccarrara@rcdony.org Phone: 315-393-2920 ext. 1340. If you have a complaint of suspected sexual abuse or related misconduct by the bishops, contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at 800-276-1562 or www.ReportBishopAbuse.org.

Bishop’s Public Schedule

Oct. 13 — 8:30 a.m. — Prayer Service with the elementary students at Immaculate Heart Central in Watertown followed by classroom visits
Oct. 14 — Noon — Mass at Notre Dame Church in Ogdensburg
Oct. 15 — 9:30 a.m. — Mass with the students at Augustinian Academy in Carthage followed by classroom visits
Oct. 16 — 4:30 p.m. — Mass and the 50th Anniversary of the Dedication of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church in Watertown followed by dinner at the Hilton Garden Inn
Oct. 17 — 8 a.m. — Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral
11 a.m. — Diocesan Opening Mass of the Synod at St. Mary’s Cathedral
Oct. 18 — Noon — Mass at Notre Dame Church in Ogdensburg
Oct. 19 — 9:45 a.m. — Episcopal Council Meeting at Bishop’s Residence
Oct. 20 — Noon — Mass at Notre Dame Church in Ogdensburg

Environmental Stewardship

“Life by the yard is hard, life by the inch is a chinch.” This familiar saying can apply to our efforts to create an action plan to respond to Laudato Si Action Plan Goal 1, “Response to the Cry of the Earth.”

This week’s suggestions will focus on passive solar heating. Attempting to incorporate the use of renewable energy into your home energy plan can seem to be a daunting challenge. However, there are a few simple things that can be done to take advantage of the sun. All of the windows in your home that face south to any degree can be used to capture the thermal energy which the direct rays of the sun carry.

First, it is necessary to maximize the amount of sunlight that enters each window or glass on a door. Because of the lower angle of the sun during winter, trees or tall shrubs may have to be pruned back to some degree to prevent their shade from limiting the amount of light striking the panes of glass during our cooler seasons. Second, it is important to ensure that the windows are as clean as possible. Any layer of dirt or dust will reduce the intensity of the sunlight that the glass transmits into your home.

Finally, it is vital that the sunlight strikes dull and dark surfaces as it tracks across the room. Light colored and smooth or polished surfaces can easily reflect a fair amount of the solar radiation back outside rather than capturing it and converting it into thermal energy.

It is also wise to install retractable, tight-fitting window shades on each window. This allows the sunlight to enter during the day, and helps to contain heat loss at night after they have been drawn.

Passive solar heating is one way to take advantage of a renewable energy source that does not require much of an initial investment, but can help to some small degree with winter heating needs. Every small reduction in the amount of heating oil, propane or natural gas used does add up to help our common home.

Submitted by Tom Kalenowski, St. Bernard’s Church, Saranac Lake Faith and Ecology Member
Fourteen men ordained as deacons

OGDENSBURG – On October 2, through the laying on of hands and the invocation of the Holy Spirit, Bishop LaValley ordained to the Order of Deacon Randy Besio, Gerald Bouchard, Brent Davison, Daniel LeRoy, Michael Lieber Jr., Kenneth Lushia, Roderic Roca, Lee Trudeau, Robert Uttendorfsky, Noel Voos, Mark Webster and Peter Woolschlager.

This weekend, on Saturday, Oct. 9, Bishop LaValley will ordain James P. Carlin and Leagon J. Carlin to the Order of the Deacon at 10 a.m. at St. Peter’s Church in Plattsburgh, New York.

James Carlin will serve as a permanent deacon, while his son, Leagon, is a seminarian for the Diocese of Ogdensburg and will be a transitional deacon.

Videos of the ordination can be found on the diocesan YouTube channel.

PHOTOS BY DARCY FARGO & JESSE SOVIE
October is Respect Life Month

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

We are inviting you to consider YES! through natural death. Your donation helps to appear in our October 27th issue of the

North Country Catholic

For $25 your name will appear as a supporter of human life from conception through natural death. Your donation helps to support the material printed in the NCC.

Must be returned to the NCC by Oct. 20, 2021

YES! I/We would like to support a Respect Life Page in the North Country Catholic.

Name ___________________________ Phone ___________________________
Address ___________________________ State ______ Zip __________
City ___________________________

Mail Checks payable to: North Country Catholic
PO Box 106, Canajoharie, NY 13317

Meet the new deacons

OGDENSBURG – On October 2, through the laying on of hands and the invocation of the Holy Spirit, Bishop LaValley ordained to the Order of Deacon Randy Besio, Gerald Bouchard, Brent Davison, Daniel LeRoy, Michael Lieber Jr., Kenneth Lushia, Roderic Roca, Lee Trudeau, Robert Utendorfsky, Noel Voos, Mark Webster and Peter Woolschlager.

Last weekend, on Saturday, Oct. 9, Bishop LaValley ordained James P. Carlin and Leagon J. Carlin to the Order of the Deacon at St. Peter’s Church in Plattsburgh. James Carlin will serve as a permanent deacon, while his son, Leagon, is a seminarian for the Diocese of Ogdensburg and will be a transitional deacon.

Videos of the ordinations can be found on the diocesan YouTube channel.

Below, meet some of the men who were ordained to the diaconate.

Deacon Randy Besio

Family: Married to Tammy Besio for 35 years as of August. We have one son, Aaron, of Boston, Massachusetts.
Parish: St. Peter’s in Massena
Background: I am retired from the New York Power Authority. I am a product of Catholic schools, and I am grateful for that. After that, I attended Jefferson Community College and received two degrees that I never used, but I don’t regret the time and the friends that I made.

How have you changed through your participation in the formation process? I would say that the formation experience has made me a more confident and refined person who can approach things in a new way. I have learned a lot about myself and the world around me. I have grown a lot in my faith and my understanding of the Catholic Church.

How will you serve your parish as a deacon? I will serve wherever they need me the most. I will serve in whatever capacity my pastor and bishop ask of me. I am already involved in some ministries but there are so many opportunities to grow in service. I look forward to serving with great joy and enthusiasm.

Deacon Mark Webster

Family: My parents, James and Betty Webster, live in Central Pennsylvania. I have two brothers: one lives in Minnesota with his family, the other lives in Israel.
Parish: St. Joseph’s in West Chazy
Background: I graduated from Walsh Jesuit High School in Stow, Ohio. I have a bachelor’s degree in Accounting from SUNY Binghamton. For the past 27 years, I worked at The Champlain Telephone Company as the Budget Directory, Accounting Manager, Regulatory Manager and Controller.

How have you changed through your participation in the formation process? I have grown a lot in my faith and my understanding of the Catholic Church. I am now able to see the bigger picture and the impact that my actions can have on others. I have also become more aware of my own limitations and the ways in which I can work to overcome them.

How will you serve your parish as a deacon? I will serve in whatever capacity my pastor and bishop ask of me. I am already involved in some ministries but there are so many opportunities to grow in service. I look forward to serving with great joy and enthusiasm.

What are you looking forward to about your new ministry? I am looking forward to serving where I can make a difference. I am looking forward to making new friends and building relationships with people in the parish. I am looking forward to being a part of the community and making a positive impact on the lives of others.
Public You

Turin - Annual Lewis

Mass celebrated according to the 1962 Missal of St. John the XXIII.

SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL DINNER
Evans Mills - The Indian Knights of Columbus council 7471 to have a Spaghetti and Meatball dinner.

Date: Oct. 9
Time: 4 p.m. to 7
Place: St. Mary's Parish Center
Cost: Adults, $9; Senior Citizens, $8; Children under 12, $5; under 5, Free; Sauce per quart, $5
Contact: For more information call (315) 629-4678

ROSARY RALLY
Turin – Annual Lewis County Rosary Rally to be held.

Date: Oct. 9
Time: Noon
Place: Fatima Garden of Spirit Walk located on West Main Street
Features: Enjoy the grounds: Station of the Cross walkway and Chapel of Peace. Bring a lawn chair. Dress appropriately - event held rain, snow or shine. CDC guidelines will be followed.
Contact: Any questions call (315) 272-6168.

BASKET RAFFLE
Houseville – St. Hedwig’s Church to have their Annual Basket Raffle.

Date: Oct. 10, 17, 24 and 31
Time: Noon to 1 p.m.
Features: The Raffle baskets will be on display and tickets will be available for sale after the celebration of the 11 a.m. Mass. No tickets will be sold during Mass. Tickets are $1 each, or $5 for 6 tickets. One silent auction item will be available - a hand-crafted Shaker-style cherry coffee table by Ed Knapp. On Oct. 31, we will have the drawings for the baskets at 1 p.m., following a bake sale.
Contact: If you wish to donate a theme basket, baked goods or make a monetary donation to St. Hedwig’s Society contact: Elaine 315-486-5532, Lydia 315-348-7006, or Mary Ann 315-348-6260.

EXPLORING THE SOJOURN WITH CHRIST IN THE EUCHARIST
Watertown – The Commissioned Lay Ministers Association of the Jefferson-Lewis Deanery is excited to announce the fall event, Exploring a Sojourn with Christ in the Eucharist.

ST. LAWRENCE

ROSA RALLY
Potsdam – Public Square Rosary Rally to be held.

Date: Oct. 16
Time: Noon
Place: Park across from Kinney Drugs, corner of Route 11 and Maple Street.
Features: Please join us, united with many thousands of groups all over the country, to pray and do penance as our Lady of Fatima requested, in order to obtain pardon and peace for our country and the world.

PRAYER AND ADORATION
Massena – Commissioned Lay Ministers are invited to gather for Adoration and Rosary.

Date: Every third Wednesday of the month (Oct. 20)
Time: 6:30 to 7 p.m.
Place: Sacred Heart Church

ANNUAL BAZAAR
Massena – St. Peter’s Parish to have their Annual Bazaar.

Date: Nov. 13

DEACON ORDINATION
Plattsburgh – You are cordially invited to join us at the Deacon Ordination Mass of Mr. James P. Carlin and Mr. Leagon J. Carlin.

Date: Oct. 9
Time: 10 a.m.
Place: St. Peter’s Church
Features: The Ordination Mass will also be livestreamed at www.rcdony.org/ordination. Please note this may be subject to change due to COVID-19.

VIRTUAL LEAD EVENT
Catechetical Leaders and Catechists, Update your Parish Faith Formation Program, with information from the New Directory of Catechesis. Keep current in today’s social environment.

Date: Oct. 23
Time: 9:45 a.m. to Noon
Contact: Register on-line at www.rcdony.org/lead and a zoom link will be provided. If you have questions, contact Anita Soltero asoltero@rcdony.org

Thank you for answering God’s call to serve.

The Priests and Parishioners of St. Mary’s Cathedral and Notre Dame Church

Congratulations to
Deacon & Mrs. Roderic Roca!

Prayerful Congratulations to Deacon Peter Woolschlager

We are blessed to have your ministry among us.

from the parishes of
St Stephen’s, Croghan and St Francis Solanus, Harrisville.

St. Hubert’s Parish

Thank you for everything you do for us.
Father Jay, you are a blessing.
Pope, faith leaders plead for peace, care for earth

ROME (CNS) — Standing in front of Rome’s Colosseum, Pope Francis called on members of all the world’s religions to be courageous enough to set aside self-centeredness and instead live with true and active compassion for the victims of war and poverty and for the earth. The pope and Orthodox, Oriental Orthodox, Anglican and Protestant representatives, joined by German Chancellor Angela Merkel, gathered for a brief Christian prayer service Oct. 7 before joining Muslim, Jewish, Hindu and Buddhist leaders in making an appeal for peace.

Andrea Riccardi, founder of the Community of Sant’Egidio, which organized the meeting and has done so each year since St. John Paul II gathered religious leaders in Assisi in 1986, said the need to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, conflicts and the climate crisis have drawn religious believers together like never before.

Addressing the gathering, the pope urged religious believers to remember a key lesson of the pandemic, "namely, that we cannot remain healthy in a world that is sick.”

Besides COVID-19, he said, "In recent times, many people have contracted the sickness of forgetfulness, forgetfulness of God and of our brothers and sisters.”

That kind of self-centeredness, the pope said, "has led to unbridled individualism and the desire for self-sufficiency, which has overflowed in insatiable greed.”

"The earth we inhabit bears the scars of this, with the air we breathe is rich in toxins but poor in solidarity,” he said. "We have thus poured the pollution of our hearts upon creation."

However, echoing Riccardi, Pope Francis, “in this climate of deterioration, it is encouraging to think that the same concerns and commitments are increasingly becoming the shared patrimony of many religions.”

"Prayer and action can change the course of history. Be courageous,” the pope pleaded.

"We have before us a vision, the same vision shared by so many young people and men and women of good will: the earth as a common home, in which people dwell as brothers and sisters,” he said.

Pope Francis noted how in the first century the Colosseum was "the site of brutal mass entertainment: fights between men or between men and beasts; spectacles of friaricide, deadly games played at the cost of human lives."

"Today, we, too, can be spectators of violence and war, of brothers killing brothers, like games we watch from a safe distance, indifferent, certain that they will never affect us,” the pope said. "The suffering of others scarcely troubles us. Not even the sufferings of victims of war, migrants, young boys and girls trapped in conflicts and robbed of the carefree games of childhood.”

"The lives of people and young children are not playthings. We may not be indifferent onlookers,” he insisted. "On the contrary, we need to empathize with those who share our humanity, its aspirations, its struggles and its frailties.”

"We need to listen to others, make their sufferings our own and look into their faces,” the pope said. "This takes real courage: the courage of compassion, a courage that goes beyond complacency, beyond the mindset of ‘it doesn’t concern me.’"

At the same time, the pope noted that religions also can be part of the problem.

"For the sake of peace, please, in every religious tradition let us defuse the temptation to fundamentalism and every tendency to view a brother or sister as an enemy,” he said. "If there are those in the grip of hostility, factions and partisan games, we ourselves repeat the words of the imam Ali: ‘There are two types of people: your brothers and sisters in faith, and those who are your fellow human beings.’"

Egyptian Sheikh Ahmad el-Tayeb, grand imam of Al-Azhar, told the gathering that the pandemic had laid bare just how impoverished the world had become in terms of individual consciences and responsibility.

"I believe a new appeal is in order to remind people of the presence of God Most High and of the need to draw near to him again, invoking his mercy, with the hope of stopping this pandemic,” the Muslim leader said. "There is no alternative or means but prayer and invocations with a pure heart and righteous behavior.”

At the end of the meeting, the religious leaders present joined in an appeal, which was read by a young woman who recently fled Afghanistan.

"In front of the Colosseum, symbol of greatness but also of suffering, let us reaffirm with the strength of faith that the name of God is peace,” it said.
‘What does God expect of me?’

All of us take pride in identifying ourselves as Christian, but we can often wonder, “what does God expect of me?” Well, today’s readings spell it all out for us.

In the first reading from Isaiah, we have one of the Suffering Servant prophecies. God speaks about His Son. “The Lord was pleased to crush him in infirmity.” Jesus is to give his life as an offering for our sin.

In Mark’s Gospel, we get more details of what God expects of us. Jesus in finally on His official journey to Jerusalem. Before today’s passage, Jesus has tried to explain to His disciples exactly what will happen there. He will be tortured, put to death, but then will be raised from the dead and live in glory. They don’t get it. They are only thinking of what they will get out of being a follower of Jesus. James and John, having listened to their mother, petition Jesus to let them sit on either side of Jesus in the Kingdom. The other disciples may be thinking the same thing, but they’re furious with James and John for “beating them to the punch.”

Their request is denied. Only the Father can make those arrangements. They will both drink of the cup of both joy and suffering with Jesus, however. Then Jesus spells all this out in detail. They cannot lord it over their followers but are rather themselves to be servants to them. “For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many.” In other words, it’s payback time. Like Jesus, they are meant to extend the work of bringing salvation to many others.

To be a real Christian means to be another Christ, letting Him work in and through you.

What a life!
If we seek the grace to follow it, our glory will come later.

The Holy Spirit and I were chatting recently about this week’s column. I had an idea, but the Spirit kept telling me “You better make sure you haven’t written that one already!”

“Good idea, HS,” I said. “So, I did. Check, that is. The good news is I’ve only been writing this column since April 2020, so there aren’t a ton of texts to review. The column was originally conceived as a way to explain what a deacon is and what a deacon does, or does not do, as an ordained member of the Catholic Church hierarchy.

Fortunately for me the wonderful editor of the North Country Catholic, Monsignor Paul E. Whitmore told me I could write about anything. God bless you, Darcy Fargo. As regular readers of this column know, I took Darcy’s permission literally. From week to week, I might write about “anything.”

I call it, inspired. Which is what brought me to today’s column on names.

Now that the Spirit and I are satisfied “names” has never been the object of my ramblings before in this space, I can proceed.

I don’t know how Mary and Dan decided I would be baptized Kevin. I do know my father did not want a junior in his lineage, so they chose to name me after the Irish Saint of Glendalough in County Wicklow. St. Kevin is the patron saint of Dublin.

My younger brother was named Daniel but was not baptized with my father’s middle name. He’s not junior either.

Kevin and Daniel are practical, good sounding, Christian names. They roll off your tongue easily. Not like some of the Old Testament names like Ammishaddai or Jehbunneh. I just opened my bible to Numbers and found those names. I did not intend to pick on those guys. The Old Testament is full of names that are close to unpronounceable for most of us.

That’s one of the reasons we advise lectors to read the text ahead of Mass. “You will rue the day you didn’t check the readings before Mass and suddenly find Nebuchadnezzar in the text!” Hit that name cold at the ambo (pulpit) and let the fun begin.

Some people have a prefix attached to their name indicating some level of achievement. “Doctor,” denoting academic or medical studies, “Sir,” an honorary title for knights and such, “Father” has a lot of meanings but in Christian churches “Father” means one ordained to be a priest. We address him as Father. In writing we use Reverend.

A permanent deacon is a deacon. It says so in the U.S. Bishop’s directory on permanent deacons. “The Congregation for the Clergy has determined that in all forms of address for permanent deacons, the appropriate title is Deacon.”

Only God knows why any of us are called to clerical or religious life. He chose me to be a deacon. Gratefully, I answered when he called. Thank you, God. There are 96 of us in the diocese now who will answer to “Deacon.” What we are to be known as, deacon, is not new, but I was inspired to remind us of that fact. Just in case anyone was confused.

Deacon Kevin Mastellon ministers in Watertown. He is the Director of Permanent Deacons for the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

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A sincere thank you to Fr. Bill Edwards for making all you come in contact with special.

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Congratulations
Ken Lushia and Mark Webster as you begin your ministry journey.
St. Joseph’s Church, West Chazy

Congratulations to Deacon Gerald Bouchard
From Immaculate Conception, Brownville & St. Andrew’s Church, Sackets Harbor

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NEW YORK (CNS) – In the animated comedy “The Addams Family 2,” the beloved characters from the imagination of Charles Addams are as creepy, kooky, mysterious and spooky as ever, and the humor remains dark and macabre, but overall good-natured.

In other words, this dreary animated sequel to the 2019 film offers more of the same, despite a team of four new screenwriters and returning directors Greg Tiernan and Conrad Vernon.

As in the previous film, parenting issues take center stage. Gomez Addams (voice of Oscar Isaac) and his beloved wife, Morticia (voice of Charlize Theron), are worried about their kids, Pugsley (voice of Javon Walton) and Wednesday (voice of Chloe Grace Moretz).

Pugsley is unlucky in love, lacking confidence with girls. Uncle Fester (voice of Nick Kroll) gives him pointers on, as he says, “how to be repulsive and impress girls.” He should know, due to his very public bowel issues.

Wednesday spends her day finding new ways to torture her brother and her schoolmates. She craves solitude, noting, “I’ve been social distancing since birth.”

Morticia and Gomez are spooked when a creepy lawyer named (appropriately) Rupert Strange (voice of Wallace Shawn) appears on their doorstep, claiming to have evidence that Wednesday is not their daughter. Switched at birth, she could be the spawn of his brilliant scientist son, Cyrus Strange (voice of Bill Hader).

The parents decide it’s high time to get out of Dodge and take the family on a road trip across America, with Thing, the disembodied hand, driving the bus. Joining the tour are dedicated butler Lurch (voice of Conrad Vernon) and hirsute cousin Itt (voice of Snoop Dogg), both as incomprehensible as ever. Grandmama Addams (voice of Bette Midler) stays behind to throw a raucous house party.

Stops along the way include the expected (Sleepy Hollow, Death Valley) and the unusual (Miami, San Antonio). At Niagara Falls, the family gleefully jumps into barrels and careens over the falls. Pyromaniac Pugsley manages to blow up the Grand Canyon.

When Wednesday discovers the true reason for their flight, she decides to investigate on her own, running away to the Strange laboratory in California.

Lurching (no pun intended) like a Looney Tune from one location to the next, “The Addams Family 2” runs out of gas (and humor) long before the road trip ends. As young viewers could misconstrue the characters’ fondness for torture and weapons, the film is best reserved for mature teens and grown-ups.

The film contains macabre and suggestive jokes and nonperilous action sequences. The Catholic News Service classification is A-II – adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association rating is PG – parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.
Prayer to St. Joseph to be said at end of Rosary

This prayer to Saint Joseph – spouse of the Virgin Mary, foster father of Jesus, and patron saint of the universal Church was composed by Pope Leo XIII. He asked that it be added to the end of the Rosary, especially during the month of October, which is dedicated to the Rosary. It may be said after the customary Hail Holy Queen and concluding prayer, and may also be used to conclude other Marian devotions.

Through that charity which bound you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood, and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities. O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family, defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ; O most loving father, ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence; O our most mighty protector, be kind to us and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness. As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God’s Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection, so that, supported by your example and your aid, we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven.

Amen.

OCTOBER 13, 2021

Prayer to Saint Joseph

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our tribulation, and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse, we confidently invoke your patronage also.

OBITUARIES

Altona — Bertha A. (Henningway) Armstrong, 82; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 8, 2021 at Holy Angels Church; burial in parish cemetery.

AuSable Forks — Donald Estes, 70; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 9, 2021 at Holy Name Church; burial in Holy Name Cemetery.


Carthage — Dennis J. Gillen, 60; Private Services to be held.

Colton — Stephen B. Connelly, 81; Funeral Services Oct. 8, 2021 at the Buck Funeral Home.


Lake Placid — Ruth Elizabeth Tarlton, 80; Mass of Christina Burial Oct. 6, 2021 at St. Agnes Church; burial in Skyview Memorial Cemetery, Hometown, PA.

Lowville — Josephine R. “Josie” Burke, 91; Graveside Services Oct. 5, 2021 at Martinsburg Cemetery.


Malone — Ferenc “Frank” Koti; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 9, 2021 at Notre Dame Church; burial in St. Patrick’s Cemetery.

Massena — Neil P. Kennedy, 82; Private Mass of Christian burial to be held at St. Mary’s Church; burial in Massena Center Cemetery.


Newcomb — Madeline M. (Blanchette) Garand, 89; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 9, 2021 at St. Therese Church; burial in St. Therese Cemetery.


Plattsburgh — Nancy Phyllis (Bell) Brandmeier, 70; Memorial Services Oct. 13, 2021 at Our Lady of Victory Church.

Potsdam — Francis “Frank” W. Murphy, 76; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 7, 2021 at St. Mary’s Church.


Saranac Lake — Erika Leigh (Bova) Sexton, 48; Funeral Services Oct. 5, 2021 at Fortune-Keough Funeral Home; burial in Union Cemetery, Vermontville.

Ticonderoga — Rose Marie Theresa Covenev Viscardi, 95; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 12, 2021 at St. Mary’s Church; burial in St. Mary’s Cemetery.

Tupper Lake — Ronald E. Bujold, Jr., 55; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 16, 2021 at St. Alphonsus Church; burial in St. Alphonsus Cemetery.

Waddington — Frank A. “Skip” Abrunzo, 71; Funeral Services Oct. 9, 2021 at Donaldson Funeral Home; burial in St. Mary’s Cemetery.


Watertown — Arthur V. Sbobo, 69; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 8, 2021 at Holy Family Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown — Gary L. Ward, 74; Funeral Services Oct. 5, 2021 at the Reed & Benoit Funeral Home; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

The Parishioners of St. Joseph’s Church

West Chazy, New York

Wish to thank Father Ted Crosby for his gentle leadership, friendship and love which he extends to all of us here.

May God and His Mother Mary, bless you all the days of your life.
The people of the Catholic Community of St. Peter, St. Mary and St. Hedwig give grateful praise and glory to God as we celebrate the Ordination to the Diaconate of Robert Uttendorfsky.

“May God who has begun the good work in you bring it to completion!”

Honoring married couples

This week we would like to honor the married couples in our diocese. Your selfless gift of love to your spouses and families is a beautiful representation of our call to help bring each other to heaven.

Thank you for leading your families in holiness and being beautiful examples of faithfully living out your vocation.

This week the Mission Office would like to highlight the lives of Saints Joachim and Anne, the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

While accounts of their life are non-canonical, it is said the couple was struggling to conceive a child. After being reproached by those around them, they prayed to God and promised that, should he honor their prayers with a child, they would dedicate that child to the service of the Lord.

It’s said that after receiving a vision from an angel, Anne gave birth to a baby girl that they named Mary. When she was three years old, Mary was sent to the temple in honor of their promise to God.

Saint Anne became known in Eastern Europe in the 4th-8th centuries and was particularly popular in the Middle Ages. Saint Joachim was introduced into the West in the 15th century. In the East, their feast day is held on July 25 and in the West it is held on July 26.

On behalf of the Holy Cross Parish Family

Congratulations
to our Permanent Deacons and Transitional Deacon

Deacon Brent Davison  Deacon James Carlin  Deacon Leagon Carlin

We are truly blessed by your calling.
May God bless you in your new ministry.

The Pontifical Mission Societies of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, Inc.
The Society for the Propagation of the Faith
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