

JANUARY 2025

In Touch



***Christ led,
Christ fed,
Hope filled!***

Priority One

Creating a Culture of
Vocations

Priority Two

Strengthening Faith
Formation in Family Life

Priority Three

Building Parishes with Living
Stones

**Renew Faith,
Nurture Hope,
Discover Love**



**Diocese
of
Ogdensburg**



As we prepare to celebrate the World Day for Consecrated Life, it's a wonderful opportunity to reflect on our call and response. I don't know about you but, for me, it has been a tremendous gift. I am grateful that I heard God's call and did not ignore it! Well, I can't say that I didn't try to ignore it but in the end God won. What a mystery it was and continues to be!

Let us pray for each other that we will continue to faithfully answer God's call and be joyful witnesses to God's love in good times as well as on the difficult days.

Consecrated Life is saying 'yes' to God's call and going deeper into discerning God's will in your life. This journey takes you through many blessings and joys, as well as challenges and sorrows. It takes you to places you never imagined, introduces you to people who you never thought you would meet, and provides moments where you just smile and give thanks to God for all.

-Fr. Brian Junkes, SVD

Vocations are born in prayer and from prayer and only through prayer can they persevere and bear fruit

-Pope Francis

May you know the presence of
THE GOD who dwells within your days.
The mystery of THE CHRIST who drenches you in love,
the SPIRIT who bears you into life anew.

A Bit of Humor

The Sin of Lying

A minister told his congregation, "Next week I plan to preach about the sin of lying. To help you understand my sermon, I want you all to read Mark 17."

The following Sunday, as he prepared to deliver his sermon, the minister asked for a show of hands. He wanted to know how many had read Mark 17. Every hand went up. The minister smiled and said, "Mark has only sixteen chapters. I will now proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying."

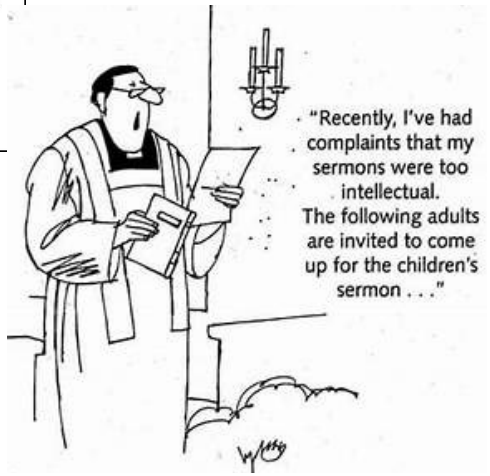
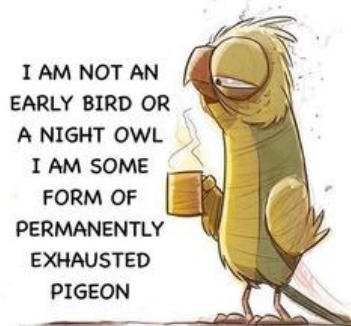


Let your hands be so busy catching blessings, that there's no room to hold on to grudges.



If you eat well...
and get lots of
sleep... and do
exercise... and
drink lots of water...
... You'll die anyway!

Open the Wine... ♥





Thoughts on HOPE from Pope Francis

Love is more powerful, love gives life, love makes hope blossom in the wilderness.

All it takes is one good person to restore hope.

The Jubilee of 2025, a holy year that I wanted to dedicate to the theme “Pilgrims of Hope”, is a propitious occasion to reflect on this fundamental and decisive Christian virtue – especially in times like the ones we are living, in which the third world war being fought “piecemeal” that is unfolding before our eyes can lead us to assume attitudes of gloomy discouragement and ill-concealed cynicism.

Hope, on the other hand, is a gift and a task for every Christian. It is a gift because it is God who offers it to us. Hoping, in fact, is not a mere act of optimism, like when we sometimes hope to pass an exam at university (“Let’s hope we make it”) or when we hope for good weather for the trip out of town on a Sunday in the spring (“Let’s hope for good weather”). No, hoping is waiting for something that has already been given to us: salvation in God’s eternal and infinite love. That lo

To hope is to savour the wonder of being loved, sought, desired by a God who has not shut Himself away in His impenetrable heavens but has made Himself flesh and blood, history and days, to share our lot.

Madeleine Delbr el wrote: “The place that Christian hope assigns us is that narrow ridge, that borderline at which our vocation requires that we choose, every day and every hour, to be faithful to God’s faithfulness to us”. God is faithful to us; our task is to respond to this faithfulness. But take care: it is not we who generate this faithfulness; it is a gift from God that works in us if we allow ourselves to be moulded by His power of love, the Holy Spirit Who acts as a breath of inspiration in our hearts. It is up to us, then, to invoke this gift: “Lord, grant me to be faithful to you in hope!”





UpDates



Please keep in prayer the father of Sr. Jessintha, SCC who died recently in India. She was unable to attend the funeral but will be going soon for a celebration which they have 40 days after the funeral.



Happy 100th Birthday to Sr. Camillus, RSM on Feb. 13th. Many blessings and have a wonderful celebration!



We are sad to announce that Sr. Camillus and Sr. Denise will be leaving Lake Placid by the end of March. They will be living at their Retirement Home and will send us their address. The Mercy Sisters will be greatly missed in Lake Placid. Be assured of our prayers as you transition to a new setting.



The Sisters of St. Joseph have moved out of the Watertown Motherhouse and have settled into small group living in 3 houses in the Watertown area. The Congregational office is at the former Fillipini convent at St. Anthony's in Watertown. A big thank you to our neighbors, the Sisters of the Cross who have been so helpful and considerate at this time. We ask for prayers that our Motherhouse will sell soon!

