Abundant blessings at Catholic schools

Father Brian Gerber blesses Carrie Bylon’s kindergarten class at St. John Paul II Catholic Academy in Menominee on the first day of school this year. Catholic schools are one of the ministries the U.P. Catholic Services Appeal funds. Sept. 29-30 is kick-off weekend for the annual appeal. Learn more on pages 4-5.
Three honorees receive Catholic Service Award

BY LORENE ZENO KOSKEY
THE U.P. CATHOLIC

A woman with 70 years of service as a parish organist and a married couple with deep ties to their church and community are co-recipients of this year’s Legacy of Faith Catholic Service Award (CSA). The honorees are Barbara Edwards of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in L’Anse and Catherine Kroll and Michael Prokopowicz of St. Anthony Parish in Gwinn.

Now in her mid-80s, Edwards has officially retired from playing the organ for Sunday Mass, but she still fills in for funerals and subs on Sundays when needed. She also attends daily Mass, is a member of Sacred Heart’s morning rosary group, and was one of the first to sign up for adoration when the 60+ hours of adoration started in Baraga County in January 2017.

Edwards’ dedication to her parish music ministry was evident to all, according to her CSA nomination form. “She raised a family of four children with her husband Richard (Dick) giving up family vacations, cancelled commitments that took her elsewhere, and gave up sitting with her family in church all those years.”

In addition, Edwards volunteered her time and talent as a music instructor and accompanist for Sacred Heart School for over 60 years and continues to help the children with concerts and music outings. She also assists the needy in the community by volunteering weekly at the St. Vincent de Paul Society, a long-time activity of hers. Now a widow, she reaches out to console other women who have lost their husbands.

Edwards’ CSA nomination noted her impact on the community. “Barb has always given of herself above and beyond, sharing her fabulous God given talent with every one of the parish through generations of school children and many community programs and activities. Daily Masses, weddings, funerals, school Masses, music programs, community programs, music classes for the school, and direct choirs are just a few of her gifts to us.”

When Mike Prokopowicz and Cathy Kroll were first looking for a place to work and live, they wanted to find a community that needed a doctor, since Cathy is a physician, but also one in which they could get actively involved. They found that community in the town of Gwinn.

With her husband as office manager, Dr. Kroll started her medical practice in 1984. She continues to serve patients regardless of their ability to pay. Now the chief medical officer at Upper Great Lakes Family Health Center, Dr. Kroll was instrumental in the formation of the center in Gwinn and Sawyer, and her leadership has helped the center expand services to 11 clinics in the U.P. She is also the medical director for U.P. Home Health and Hospice and lovingly works with the elderly and terminally ill.

Prokopowicz is a long-time member of the Knights of Columbus, participating in service and leadership roles at the local, diocesan and state levels. He is also involved in many community endeavors, such as the Sawyer Authority Board, Gwinn Lions Club, Gwinn Chamber of Commerce, Forsyth Singers and Gwinn Fun Daze.

Kroll and Prokopowicz have been leaders in their parish for over 30 years, serving as extraordinary ministers of the Holy Eucharist, lectors, confirmation class leaders, and youth mentors, as well as members of the choir, parish council and finance council. As members of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, which is a papal appointment, they support the Christian presence in the Holy Land.

They use their leadership and planning skills to make fundraising dinners, such as those for the St. Francis Connection Center at Sawyer and the St. Vincent de Paul Society, successful. They founded the Superior Arts Council, which makes children and adult performances possible in the community while raising money to support local youth.

In his letter of support for the Gwinn couple’s nomination for the Catholic Service Award, their pastor, Father Allen Mott, said, “I have found them not only to be good and faithful Catholics as individuals, but also and even more profoundly as a man and woman deeply committed to the sacrament of marriage on the fronts of church, home, community and work.”

Barb Edwards, Mike Prokopowicz and Cathy Kroll were recognized as award recipients in their respective parishes and presented with a special medallion in honor of their service. In addition, Sacred Heart and St. Anthony parishes will each receive a $250 grant for faith formation.

The Catholic Service Award is a program of Legacy of Faith, which is an endowment fund of the Upper Peninsula Catholic Foundation. The award was created in 2006 in the spirit and intent of the endowment to preserve and foster the Catholic faith in the U.P. Nominations for the annual award are due by May 1 of each year. For more information, contact Terri Gadzinski at (906) 227-9108 or visit www.LegacyOfFaith.net.
**Baptism: Life giving**

In my last message I reflected on the sacraments and how our celebration of them deepens our friendship with Jesus. In this message I will reflect on the sacrament of Baptism.

The sacraments use signs to show us how God is present and active in our life in a way that we can truly see. In the sacraments, a visible reality bespeaks an invisible mystery. In Baptism the primary sign is water.

We use water in many ways in our daily life, whether we take a shower, wash the dishes or enjoy that tall, cool glass of water on a hot day. Water cleanses us and sustains our life. Without water we would dry up and die. Thus, we can say that water has both life-giving and cleansing meanings. This shows us how God works in our life in the sacrament of Baptism when the ministers say, “I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,” and the water is poured on the person’s head or the person is immersed in water three times.

When we are baptized, God cleanses us from our sins in a way that we can truly see. Infants who are baptized are cleansed from original sin. Older youths and adults are cleansed of both original sin and all the personal sins that they have committed prior to their baptism.

Baptism is life giving. By the waters of Baptism, God shows us how he gives us new life, a new birth, by giving us the Holy Spirit. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, God gives us a share in his own divine life. The Holy Spirit unites us with the Son and the Father in love. In this way, our friendship with Jesus is initiated. The Holy Spirit unites us with him.

In Baptism, God makes us members of the Body of Christ, the Church. We do not join the Church simply by signing up as if we were joining a club. Membership in the Church goes far deeper than that. We belong to the Church because we are all one body in Christ. The Holy Spirit unites all the baptized to Jesus and so unites all the baptized to each other. How important it is for us to preserve that unity through the love that we show each other and by adhering to all the teachings of the Church!

Finally, Baptism gives us “character” or an indelible mark on our soul. What does that mean? Think of a wax seal on a letter, which they used to do some time ago. The seal indicated the identity of the person sending the letter. Baptism gives us a permanent, indelible identity. We belong to Jesus.

God has both life-giving and cleansing meanings in our life. When we are baptized, the water cleanses us from original sin. Older youths and adults are cleansed of both original sin and all the personal sins that they have committed prior to their baptism.

**USCCB committee releases statement on abuse and actions to be taken**

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Administrative Committee has issued the following statement in response to the recent sex abuse scandals. In the statement, the bishops say they pledge to “heal and protect with every bit of the strength God provides us.”

“When each of us was ordained as a bishop, we were told: ‘Keep watch over the whole flock in which the Holy Spirit has appointed you to shepherd the Church of God.’

“We, the Administrative Committee of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, assembled earlier this month in Washington at this time of shame and sorrow. Some bishops, by their actions or their failures to act, have caused great harm to both individuals and the Church as a whole. They have used their authority and power to manipulate and sexually abuse others. They have allowed the fear of scandal to replace genuine concern and care for those who have been victimized by abusers. For this, we again ask forgiveness from both the Lord and those who have been harmed. Turning to the Lord for strength, we must and will do better.

“The Administrative Committee took the following actions within its authority:

1. Approved the establishment of a third-party reporting system that will receive confidentially, by phone and online, complaints of sexual abuse of minors by a bishop and sexual misconduct of or sexual misconduct with adults by a bishop and will direct those complaints to the appropriate ecclesiastical authority and, as required by applicable law, to civil authorities.

2. Instructed the USCCB Committee on Canonical Affairs and Church Governance to develop proposals for policies addressing restrictions on bishops who were removed or resigned because of allegations of sexual abuse of minors or sexual harassment of or sexual misconduct with adults by a bishop and will direct those complaints to the appropriate ecclesiastical authority and, as required by applicable law, to civil authorities.

3. Initiated the process of developing a Code of Conduct for bishops regarding the sexual abuse of a minor; sexual harassment of or sexual misconduct with an adult; or negligence in the exercise of his authority and, as required by applicable law, to civil authorities.

4. Supported a full investigation into the situation surrounding Archbishop McCarrick, including his alleged assaults on minors, priests, and seminarians, as well as any responses made to those allegations. Such an investigation should rely upon lay experts in relevant fields, such as law enforcement and social services.

This is only a beginning. Consultation with a broad range of concerned parents, experts, and other lay along with clergy and religious will yield additional, specific measures to be taken to repair the scandal and restore justice. We humbly welcome and are grateful for the assistance of the whole people of God in holding us accountable.

As these initiatives get underway, the Administrative Committee invites each of our brother bishops to join us in acts of prayer and penance. This is a time of deep examination of conscience for each bishop. We cannot content ourselves that our response to sexual assault within the Church has been sufficient. Scripture must be our guide forward, “be doers of the word and not hearers only” (James 1:22).

In all of this, we do not want anyone—ourselves included—to lose sight of those who have suffered from those who have acted or failed to act as the Gospel demanded. For survivors of sexual abuse, these days may re-open deep wounds. Support is available from the Church and within the community. Victims Assistance Coordinators are available in every diocese to help you find resources. We are grateful to hundreds of dedicated people who, since the adoption of the 2002 Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, have been working with the Church to support survivors and prevent future abuse.

To anyone who has been abused, never hesitate to also contact local law enforcement. If you don’t feel comfortable for any reason with the Church providing help, your diocese can connect you with appropriate community services. With compassion and without judgement, the bishops of the United States pledge to heal and protect with every bit of the strength God provides us.

Acting in communion with the Holy Father, with whom we once again renew our love, obedience, and loyalty, we make our own the prayer of Pope Francis in his August 20 letter to the people of God, “May the Holy Spirit grant us the grace of conversion and the interior anointing needed to express before these crimes of abuse our compunction and our resolve courageously to combat them.”

---

**WHO WAS YOUR CONFIRMATION SAINT?**

“St. Michael the Archangel is my Confirmation Saint. I grew up in a military family and easily made a connection with St. Michael who is great warrior and defender in the spiritual life.”

**Michael Kowalewski**

Sacred Heart of Jesus, L’Anse

---

**WE INVITE YOU TO PRAY FOR VOCATIONS.**

**Loving Father, Master of the Harvest; Please send more laborers to work in your vineyard. Amen.**

www.diocesefmarquette.org/vocations
Seminarian education, safe environment, Catholic Social Services, more benefit from UPCSA pledges

BY JOHN FEE
THE U.P. CATHOLIC

This year’s Upper Peninsula Catholic Services Appeal (UPCSA) draws its theme, Transformation through Encounter, from Bishop John Doerfler’s “Transforming Fire” pastoral plan. This will continue the next three years with themes of transformation through community, discipleship and mission.

UPCSA funds close to two-thirds of the diocesan budget for ministries in vocations and pastoral outreach, education and formation, evangelization, and Catholic Social Services. It’s key to continuing diocesan support of parishes, schools, parishioners and others served by the diocese.

Approximately one-third of the budget is funded by investment income, providing an ongoing source of funds and reducing the amount of capital needed to be raised in the diocese. Parish UPCSA goals for 2018-2019 are up less than one percent, from $2,062,011 to $2,078,876.

Vocations and pastoral outreach makes up one-third of the budget. Blessed with 10 men in formation as seminarians, the annual cost for their education covered by UPCSA is set at just over $280,000. The permanent diaconate, infirm priests fund, marriage tribunal and safe environment ministry also benefit from UPCSA. UPCSA funds are not used to pay for defense attorneys for accused clergy or settlements with victims of abuse.

The appeal supports the safe environment ministry that works to protect children, young people and vulnerable adults from abuse. All employees and volunteers in the Diocese of Marquette, over the age of 18, must have a current criminal background check on file with the diocese, along with the Protecting God’s Children safe environment training. These requirements must be completed prior to employment or volunteering.

This year’s budget sees a significant bump in ongoing formation of clergy. In support of a well-educated clergy, Father Brad Sjoquist is assigned to studies in moral theology at the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross in Rome. He was relieved of his ministry as parochial vicar (associate pastor) of Holy Spirit and Resurrection parishes in Menominee on July 2.

Diocesan funding for Marygrove Retreat Center in Garden has been reinstated in this year’s budget. In the past year it has experienced an increase in retreatants as well as donations from supporters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARISH</th>
<th>GOAL</th>
<th>PARISH</th>
<th>GOAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ST. ANDREW, Nahma</td>
<td>ST. ANNE, Escanaba</td>
<td>$5,323</td>
<td>61,864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST. ANTHONY, Weils</td>
<td>ST. CHARLES BORROMEO, Rapid River</td>
<td>27,631</td>
<td>13,186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON, Bark River</td>
<td>ST. FRANCIS DE SALES, Manistique</td>
<td>44,670</td>
<td>30,797</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, Garden</td>
<td>ST. JOSEPH &amp; ST. PATRICK, Escanaba</td>
<td>12,269</td>
<td>47,401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST. JOSEPH, Foster City</td>
<td>ST. JOSEPH, Perkins</td>
<td>6,768</td>
<td>14,427</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST. MARY MAGDALENE, Cooks</td>
<td>ST. RITA, Trenary</td>
<td>6,147</td>
<td>8,431</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE, Escanaba</td>
<td></td>
<td>30,444</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Diocesan Annual Budget

2017-2018 2018-2019

EXPENSE:
FAITH FORMATION AND EDUCATION
Youth, Young Adult and Family Ministry $78,125 $80,747
Catechesis and Adult Faith Formation 98,248 101,205
Catholic Schools 514,550 485,493
Donation to Catholic School Endowment Funds 0 900,000 1
Subtotal 690,923 1,567,445

VOCATIONS AND PASTORAL OUTREACH
Ongoing Formation of Clergy 68,488 164,450 2
Education of Seminarians 293,968 283,601
Divine Worship and Sacred Music 94,773 97,306
Vocation Services 29,361 28,048
Canonical Assistance to the Diocese 31,028 37,938
Tribunal Services 57,118 70,681
Infirn Priests’ Fund 15,000 15,000
Ministry Personnel Services 170,097 140,182
Safe Environment Ministry 33,263 29,529
Subtotal 793,096 866,735

EVANGELIZATION
Campus Ministry - N.M.U. & L.S.S.U. 66,515 67,845
Native American/Other Ministries 75,000 75,000
Panama Missions 10,000 10,000
Charitable Donations and Services 23,000 23,000
U.P. Catholic Newspaper 119,931 119,900 3
Pastoral Outreach of the U.S. Bishops 19,913 19,913
Ministry to the Holy Father 20,000 20,000
Ministry of the Bishop 173,736 180,499
Office of Communications and Social Media 69,806 74,642
Subtotal 577,901 590,799

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES 335,580 338,602 4

DIOCESAN ADMINISTRATION & SUPPORT
Development Services 134,381 139,316
Financial Services 490,979 471,355
UPCSA Campaign Services 135,609 137,084
Diocesan Archives 17,597 30,015
Technology expense 63,000 65,000
Subtotal 841,566 842,770

TOTAL EXPENSE* $3,239,066 $4,206,351

2017-2018 2018-2019

REVENUE:
UPCSA GOAL $1,808,711 $1,826,798
Parish Assessment for Catholic Schools 253,300 252,078
Investment Income 1,022,055 1,062,018 5
Investment Income School Fund 80,000 3,750 1
Donations and Grants 75,000 85,000

TOTAL REVENUE $3,239,066 $3,306,351

Budget Deficit $0 ($900,000) 1

A deficit in the budget of $900,000 this year is due to a gift of $100,000 to each of the nine Catholic schools in the diocese. The funds come from unrestricted investments and are to be put into endowments, one for each school. A challenge to the schools to actually raise money for their endowments has been made, which will help to manage operating costs over the long term.

Education and formation includes more than the Catholic schools, it provides for catechetical formation, as well as youth ministry, such as the annual See the See event for middle school-aged youth. Marriage and family life also fall under this portion of the budget supporting ministries such as mentor couples in parishes for married people.

The evangelization budget, making up a little over one-fifth of the total, was mostly unchanged. Ministries supported include campus ministries at Northern Michigan University and Lake Superior State University, ministry of the bishop and office of communications and social media.

The work of Catholic Social Services (CSS) also benefits from UPCSA. Counseling, foster care and adoption are a few of the CSS services that make up 16 percent of the budget. The Alpha Omega House reentry program for men released from jail was so successful in Iron Mountain, that a second house was opened this year in Escanaba.

To learn more about UPCSA, visit www.dioceseofmarquette.org/upcsa or contact Terri Gadzinski at tgdadzinski@dioceseofmarquette.org or call (906) 227-9108. To read Bishop Doerfler's Transforming Fire pastoral letter and other messages, visit http://www.dioceseofmarquette.org/bishop/pastoralmessages.

Holy Cross Cemetery
Escanaba & Marquette Fall Notification
Each year, in order to beautify our cemetery, our grounds and maintenance crews perform the final cleaning of the year and make preparations for the winter. All decorations, tributes, flowers (natural and artificial), pots and wreaths should be removed by families by October 15th. Articles not removed by this time will be disposed of by Cemetery personnel. Families may leave a shepherd’s hook but should remove the arrangement. Christmas Wreaths may be placed after November 15th.

We appreciate your assistance. If you need assistance or have questions, contact Neil at (906) 225-0191 or Tom at (906) 786-4685.

Autumn is a great time to stop in to discuss our available Plot and Columbarium Niches. Also available are our decorating and planting regulations.

UPCSA: Key to good works

A deficit in the budget of $900,000 this year is due to a gift of $100,000 to each of the nine Catholic schools in the diocese. The funds come from unrestricted investments and are to be put into endowments, one for each school. A challenge to the schools to actually raise money for their endowments has been made, which will help to manage operating costs over the long term.

Education and formation includes more than the Catholic schools, it provides for catechetical formation, as well as youth ministry, such as the annual See the See event for middle school-aged youth. Marriage and family life also fall under this portion of the budget supporting ministries such as mentor couples in parishes for married people.

The evangelization budget, making up a little over one-fifth of the total, was mostly unchanged. Ministries supported include campus ministries at Northern Michigan University and Lake Superior State University, ministry of the bishop and office of communications and social media.

The work of Catholic Social Services (CSS) also benefits from UPCSA. Counseling, foster care and adoption are a few of the CSS services that make up 16 percent of the budget. The Alpha Omega House reentry program for men released from jail was so successful in Iron Mountain, that a second house was opened this year in Escanaba.

To learn more about UPCSA, visit www.dioceseofmarquette.org/upcsa or contact Terri Gadzinski at tgdadzinski@dioceseofmarquette.org or call (906) 227-9108. To read Bishop Doerfler’s Transforming Fire pastoral letter and other messages, visit http://www.dioceseofmarquette.org/bishop/pastoralmessages.

Visit www.dioceseofmarquette.org/encountervideos to watch short, powerful testimonials about encountering Jesus, from parishioners across the diocese. New videos will be added on a regular basis over the next few weeks.
The 2018 General Election is significant. On Tuesday, Nov. 6, Michigan voters will select a new Governor, Attorney General, and members of the Michigan State, and two members of the Michigan Legislature, along with prominent positions at the local, statewide, and federal levels. Voters will also be asked three ballot questions:

Proposal 1: should recreational marijuana use and growth be legalized in the state?
Proposal 2: should Michigan reform its redistricting process?
Proposal 3: should voter registration and other voting processes be revised?

While these races and questions will hopefully motivate voters to cast their ballots, it is important to note that Catholics are called to engage in the public realm and the voting process throughout the year, even in “off-year” elections. Voting choices have a sizeable impact on local communities. Michigan Catholic Conference (MCC) encourages those who may have yet to do so to register to vote before October 9 to participate in the upcoming election. To check your registration status and polling location, visit www.michigan.gov/vote.

In preparation for the election, it is important to stress the role our individual consciences play in voting decision. The U.S. bishops, in Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship (FCFC), write that our conscience is a tool from God, one which helps us know truth, do good, and avoid evil. The onus is on each person to participate in ongoing conscience formation and to ensure reliable and accurate information is considered. We do this by studying the teachings of our faith, reflecting upon relevant experiences and facts, and praying with openness before choices are made.

Each Catholic is responsible for the moral decisions he or she makes. The Catholic Church does not, however, leave people to think decisions alone. Instead, she provides rich teachings to reflect upon and apply to current issues, including Scripture, documents from Church leaders, and the principles of Catholic social teaching. The formation process challenges traditional political lines to ensure we are focused on the defense of human life and dignity and the protection of the weak and vulnerable. Catholics can and should work—within daily actions, votes, and advocacy—to establish a community that upholds the dignity of all people throughout their entire life. These and more specific questions for candidates are included in MCC’s September FOCUS publication: “The Issues, the Candidates and Your Vote.” This document, along with a wide range of additional information regarding the November General Election, can be found at www.micatholic.org/2018Election. The October FOCUS publication will feature opposition to Proposal 1. Citing the harm legalized marijuana could cause for Michigan families, its impact on personal health, and how it affects the broader community—the MCC Board and the state’s bishops are urging a no vote on Proposal 1. Information is also available for Proposal 2 and Proposal 3 at the website mentioned above.

With only a few weeks left until the November 6 General Election, Catholics across Michigan have the opportunity to think about what, ideally, they would want their communities to look like. What policies would need to be implemented to achieve that goal? How would the value of each person be upheld, and how would community success be fostered? The answers to these questions, when compared to candidate positions, can help inform voting choices.

This year, let’s do our best to bring our voices to the political process, guided by a well-formed conscience and a concern for the value and dignity of every human person.

The Word from Lansing is a regular column for Catholic news outlets and is written by Michigan Catholic Conference (MCC) President and CEO Paul A. Long. Michigan Catholic Conference is the official public policy voice of the Catholic Church in this state.
America’s only Church-Approved Marian apparition site right here at Champion, WI in the Diocese of Green Bay.

National Novena
Oct. 1-9

Oct. 7  Knights of Columbus Rosary Walk, Marion Mulhall appearance and Coast to Coast Rosary
Oct. 8  All Night Adoration
Oct. 9  Apparition Anniversary Mass
Oct. 11 Father Ubald “Return to Champion”
Oct. 13 World Apostolate of Fatima Rosary Rally
Oct. 14 Padre Pio Mass and Relics Tour

Want to pray along with our Novenas at National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help? Just download the Relevant Radio app and/or tune in to your local Relevant Radio station.”

Plan your pilgrimage today. 920-866-2571 ext. 113, or for more information about events at Champion Shrine go to: www.shrineofourladyofgoodhelp.com.
Marygrove Retreat Center, owned and operated by the Diocese of Marquette, is located on the Garden Peninsula. The retreat center sits on 40 acres of wooded land, which offers a quiet and peaceful place to retreat to, both inside and out. OUTdoors, retreat participants can find the Stations of the Cross and the grotto of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The grotto sits among the pine and cedar trees, or Mary's grove, which inspires the name of the center.

Within the walls of Marygrove includes a chapel and adoration chapel, a lounge to meet, read and reflect, a conference room and a dining area. In addition, there are 36 single and double furnished rooms. The cost of a weekend retreat per person is $150 and per married couple is $250, unless otherwise noted. All meals are provided on retreats. Payment plans can also be arranged.

For more information, to register for a retreat, or for a full schedule of retreats, call the center at (906) 644-2771, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. ET or visit www.marygrove.org online. The following are a selection of upcoming retreats available at Marygrove:

**YOUTH ENCOUNTER**
Oct. 26-28
Youth Encounter Christ (YEC) is a powerful weekend of understanding and experiencing the Christian faith for young adults ages 16-20.

In addition to the retreat, there is a follow-up program that helps those who attended to carry out what was learned and transfer it to their everyday lives.

More information about YEC can be found at www.youthencounterchrist.org. A spring YEC is also held each year. Contact Barry and Yvonne Voss at (906) 563-5187 for more information and to receive an application.

**WISE WOMEN WEEKEND**
Nov. 9-11
The history of faith is filled with women of vision and spirit. This includes the women of the Old Testament, disciples of Jesus, saints, leaders and servants of today. This retreat invites all Christian women who have heard the call to a deeper relationship with Christ to join for a weekend of prayer, growth and friendship.

For more information & reservations:
Laura Chapman
Holiday Travel Vacations
(906) 228-6355
laura@holiday-mqt.com

**See Marygrove, Page 9**

---

**St. Francis de Sales Parish presents…**

**Rome & the Amalfi Coast**

Journey with Father Ben Paris through southern Italy and experience its rich scenery, art, culture, food and wine.

**MAY 9 - 18, 2019**
10 days, 13 meals
Double $4,569*
Single $5,369*
Triple $4,519*

*For bookings made after Nov 10, 2018, call for rates.

Included in price:
Round trip Air from Green Bay, Air Taxes & Fees, Surcharges & Hotel Transfers.

**Highlights include:**
- Rome, Colosseum, Capri, Montecassino, Amalfi Coast, Sorrento, Buffalo Milk Mozzarella Factory, Paestum, Pompeii, Winery Visit, Naples, National Archaeological Museum & so much more.

Full Itineraries are available.

For more information & reservations:
Laura Chapman
Holiday Travel Vacations
(906) 228-6355
laura@holiday-mqt.com

---

A street view of Marygrove Retreat Center in Garden.
MARYGROVE: Retreat opportunities

FROM PAGE 8

THE WISE MEN WEEKEND
Nov. 30 – Dec. 2
What is a real man? It is the man who puts God first, and allows his faith to permeate everything else. These three days of prayer, Christian fellowship and shared wisdom are designed to help men put God first. Young and old, married and single, Catholic and Protestant – men of many walks of life bringing their faith and wisdom to encourage each other. The weekend’s retreat director will be Father Ben Hasse.

SILENT DIRECTED RETREATS
Three-day: Dec. 7-9
A silent directed retreat is a concentrated guided experience of God in prayer. With very few exceptions, there is no talking during the retreat, including meals. Participants live by a different set of rules to bring rest and peace, and heighten the individual’s awareness of God’s presence.

During a silent retreat daily Mass, morning and evening prayer in community, opportunities for confession and daily meetings with a spiritual director are offered.

The fee for the Eight-Day retreat is $375 per person, and $150 for a three-day retreat.

The three-day retreat is designed for those who wish to get their feet wet before making a longer silent directed retreat.

ADVENT RETREAT
Dec. 14-16
The diocese’s own shepherd, Bishop John Doerfler will help participants to prepare during the Holy Season of Advent with his reflections on life in the Holy Spirit: the Beatitudes. Sign up early for this special retreat!

PARISH RETREATS
Offered throughout the year
This year’s theme for the parish retreat is “What’s so Special about being Catholic?” During the retreat, time will be spent examining what makes Catholicism unique, focusing on what sets Catholics apart: The Sacraments, especially the Holy Eucharist, penance, and holy orders; the Blessed Virgin Mary and the saints; the hierarchy; our history; and Catholic moral theology.

Unless we know what makes our faith and our Church unique, we’re not able to share it fully with our friends, family and neighbors.

Parish retreats are offered throughout the year. Contact Marygrove to find one that fits into your schedule.

CONSIDER BECOMING A MARYGROVE PATRON
The ministry of Marygrove is funded largely through the support of kind and generous patrons. Patrons contribute at least $200 per year, and are remembered in a special monthly Mass at the retreat center.

Consider joining or renewing your membership to the patron’s club by contacting Marygrove.

RACHEL’S GARDEN
A place of memorial and burial for babies lost to miscarriage.

No matter the length, every child’s life leaves an impression on a parent’s heart.

If you would like to have a free personalized candle ready for you at the memorial service, E-mail: rachelsgarden@dioceseofmarquette.org

Come... share... remember the life of your child.

October has been set aside nationally as “Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month.”

Across the United States, hundreds of parents will remember babies who were gone too soon. Come join us at the Rachel’s Garden Miscarriage Memorial at Holy Cross and remember all those tiny lives that we will never forget. All families who have experienced pregnancy or infant loss are invited to the memorial service, no matter how long it has been since the loss of their child.

Monday, October 15th (Rain or shine)
7:00pm
Holy Cross Cemetery
1400 Wright Street • Marquette, MI 49855
Info call: 906-225-0191

“There is no footprint too small that it can’t leave an imprint in this world.”
The Diocese of Marquette’s first bishop, Venerable Frederic Baraga didn’t let the deep snow, blizzards, thick forests and swamps teeming with mosquitoes stop him from ministering to the local people. This year marks the 150th anniversary of Bishop Baraga’s death. So, what better way to commemorate his death then by taking a pilgrimage to some of the locations he ministered? Of course, the use of a canoe or snowshoes is optional.

Several sites are within the diocese, and only a few hours away. In the Upper Peninsula there are six designated sites that are marked with a special pilgrimage banner. At these spots pilgrims can collect a special card to commemorate their journey. The cards were specially designed by a local artist and feature drawings depicting places and items related to Bishop Baraga’s life.

Specially marked sites are also located in a variety of other dioceses in Ohio, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Michigan. Below is a list of the six pilgrimage locations in the Diocese of Marquette. A complete list is available by visiting www.bishopbaraga.org and clicking on the “Bishop Baraga Pilgrimage 2018” tab.

**HOLY FAMILY PARISH, ONTONAGON**

Ontonagon and Rockland served the early German settlers who came to work the Minnesota and Norwich mines. Bishop Baraga came to old St. Patrick’s Church, located near the lake shore, to celebrate confirmation with both Native Americans and German settlers. The ruins of the Norwich mine and of the old St. Francis Xavier Church can be found on Norwich Road in Ontonagon.

**SITES TO VISIT NEARBY:** St. Mary Mission in Rockland is home to the oldest organ in the diocese that is still in use for liturgy. It was purchased by Bishop Baraga in 1859.

**MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS, ASSININS**

L’Anse and Assinins were the home base of Bishop Baraga’s labors from 1843 until 1853. The first bishop came to the Assinins area after an early L’Anse settler, Pierre Crebassa, began writing to then Father Baraga in 1840. Crebassa wrote that a number of Indians had come to him for readings from his old French Bible. He repeated this invitation every year until Father Baraga agreed to visit in 1843.

Soon after his visit Father Baraga dedicated the Holy Name of Jesus Church at the present site known as Assinins, named after the chief baptized by Father Baraga. On this site, he also opened a school and helped build homes and a church, while at the same time writing the Dictionary of the Ojibwa Language.

**SITES TO VISIT NEARBY:** A shrine dedicated to Bishop Baraga is located in L’Anse, overlooking the Keewenaw Bay. A bit of a drive from the Assinins area is St. Ignatius Loyola Parish in Houghton, which has the distinction of being dedicated by Bishop Baraga in 1859.

**Holy Redeemer Parish in Eagle Harbor** was built in 1854 on land purchased by The Snowshoe Priest in 1852. It is the oldest of the remaining churches actually built by Bishop Baraga still in use in the diocese.

---

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**September 18, 2019**

Join the Diocese of Marquette as Deacon Steve & Jackie Gretzinger host a Religious Pilgrimage to Greece:

**In the Footsteps of St. Paul the Apostle!**

(Featuring a 3-night Greek Islands & Turkey cruise)

Retrace the missionary journey of the Apostle Paul, prolific writer of the New Testament letters. Travel through ancient cities and pastoral landscapes. Enjoy a 3-night cruise of the magical Greek Islands of Mykonos, Patmos and Santorini. Visit the ancient Roman city of Ephesus, Turkey. Discover archaeological treasures like the Acropolis in Athens and seek ancient wisdom at the ruins of Delphi. Investigate the dramatic Meteora Monasteries, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Explore the biblical town of Corinth on a guided tour featuring the Agora and the Bema, where Paul was brought before the tribunal. Stop in Philippi, where Paul delivered his first sermon in Europe and baptized Lydia, the first Christian. Even see the dungeon where he was held prisoner. Find inspiration throughout as you visit the places where the great apostle lived and preached.

For more information read future issues of The U.P. Catholic Newspaper or contact Laura Chapman at Holiday Travel Vacations 906-228-6355 or laura@holiday-mqt.com
ST. PETER CATHEDRAL, MARQUETTE

Marquette became the seat of the Catholic diocese as the population developed away from Sault Ste. Marie, which was the first seat of the diocese. The original St. Peter’s Church was built in 1855. A larger church with a stone foundation was completed in 1866, and Bishop Baraga dedicated the Cathedral to St. Peter the Apostle, when the bishop moved to Marquette from Sault Ste. Marie the same year. Two years later, Bishop Baraga’s earthly life ended in Marquette.

A sarcophagus containing his remains is located in the Bishop Baraga Chapel, a side chapel of the cathedral. His tomb was previously located in the downstairs of the cathedral in the Bishop’s Crypt, where the remains of Bishops Ignatius Mrak, John Vertin, Frederick Eis, Francis J. Magnier, and Thomas L. Noa also lie. In October of 2014 the newly constructed chapel was blessed, just two years after Pope Benedict XVI declared him “Venerable.” The chapel allows his tomb to be more accessible to the public.

Sites to visit nearby: The Baraga Educational Center is located just up the street from the cathedral. The center is the former residence of Bishop Baraga, and is where he died on Jan. 19, 1868. The educational center features exhibits and artifacts focused on Bishop Baraga’s life.

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES, MANISTIQUE

St. Francis de Sales Parish in Manistique is known for its stained-glass windows, including one of Bishop Baraga. The window depicts him carrying a Bible, a cross, and a tomahawk. Other windows feature St. Francis de Sales, St. Peter, St. Francis, St. Therese, and Mary, Mother of God, with child.

Nearby the parish is the site of Bishop Baraga’s first mission in the U.P., located in Indian Lake. Leaving Cross Village, south of the straits, Bishop Baraga canoed across Lake Michigan toward the Manistique area in 1832. He arrived and found that the local Indians already started to build a small church. He dedicated it to the Honor of God, in the name of His Virgin Mother Mary. During the summer he baptized 31 Indians. In 1833, a larger church was built under his direction.

HOLY NAME OF MARY CHURCH, SAULT STE. MARIE

Holy Name of Mary Parish in Sault Ste. Marie is the original seat of the diocese, and is the third oldest Catholic parish in the United States. Its current structure is the fifth since its founding in 350 years ago.

The fourth building, built of logs in 1837, became the cathedral church when the U.P. was designated as the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie by the Vatican in 1857. Bishop Baraga had his church extended and remodeled and it stood until 1880 when it was razed to make room for the present church.

Attached to the church is a multipurpose room called the “Mary Room.” At the south end of the room is a stained glass window that Bishop Baraga had sent from Belgium for his cathedral. The window represents Our Lady of Sorrows and is affectionately called “Our Lady of the Thumb.”

Sites to visit nearby: Holy Angels Parish on Sugar Island. Bishop Baraga often ministered to the Native Peoples on Sugar Island, building four churches on the island.

PILGRIMAGE:
The path of the first bishop

FROM PAGE 10

An example of one of the cards pilgrims can collect while traveling the pilgrimage sites of Venerable Frederic Baraga. This card is received when visiting St. Francis de Sales Parish in Manistique, and depicts several images of the beginning of his mission.

COMpanions of Christ the Lamb (CCL)

Retreat Center

A Natural Setting to Find Silence, Prayer and Peace

The Companions of Christ the Lamb (CCL) offers a variety of rustic retreat opportunities:

- Hermitage (meals provided)
- Remote hermitage
- Solo wilderness camping
- Remote hermitage

Also...

- Group and Winter (via snowmobile) available by special arrangement
- Non-Catholic retreatants welcome

Features and Information:

- CCL is under the Diocese of Marquette
- Retreat Center located nearby in Paradise, Michigan
- 1120 wooded acres with many trails and shrines
- Many picturesque campsites on the Betsy River
- Daily Mass available in a spacious log chapel
- Priest available for confession and direction
- Communication available by special arrangement
- Non-Catholic retreatants welcome
- No electricity, radio, TV
- Regular retreat season from May 1 to Nov. 15

To contact us, call (or write)
Chuck and Kathy Roelant (coordinators)
P.O. Box 12, Paradise MI, 49768 • Phone: 906-492-3815

Turning to Nature, escaping for a while the pressing and sometimes obsessive rhythm of the city, allows you to listen to that ancient and always new language which, by way of beauty, brings one to the threshold of mystery. Oh, if we could only make enough silence around and within us to listen to that ancient and always new language and let it speak to our hearts.

- Pope John Paul II
Father Ziminski leads campus ministry
50 & 25 YEARS AGO
BY LARRY CHABOT
FROM OUR SUNDAY VISITOR
SEPTEMBER, 1968
• The Father Marquette statue on Marquette’s lake shore sported a
new sign donated by the Knights of Columbus.
• A 25-story tower opened on the Sault Ste. Marie waterfront
where Father Jacques Marquette established a mission in 1668.
• Sister Mary Edmund, newly enrolled at Rhode Island College, was
painted with a fresh bean bag on top of her habit.

FROM THE U.P. CATHOLIC
SEPTEMBER, 1993
• As the new ABC show “NYPD Blue” debuted on TV-6, 20 Catholics
– calling the show pornographic – picketed outside the station.

Menominee native Father Jamie Ziminski took over the campus
ministry program at Northern Michigan University.

Michael Patrick - Manager / Chris J. Cody - Managing Director
305 N. Lowell St., Ironwood, MI 49938
www.ernashfuneralhomes.com
CatholiC Cemetery
1-866-452-5112 • upc@new.rr.com

Funeral Home & Cemetery Guide
Funeral Home & Cemetery Guide

Range Funeral Service Inc.
Frick-Zielinski F. Home
635 E. Ayer St.
Ironwood, MI
888-932-1832

Kotola-Burla F. Home
140 Hwy 51 South
Harley, WI
888-932-1832

Range Crematory
Rev. Thomas F. Schmied, O.F.M., Cap.
Rev. Thomas Schmied, Capuchin friar and
priest, 75, died Sept. 11, 2018.
Father Schmied spent several
years ministering in the Diocese of
Marquette.
He was born in Columbus,
Wis., son of Francis and Lorraine
Schmied. In 1961 he was invested
with the Capuchin habit. He per-
petually professed in 1967, and
was ordained to the priesthood in 1969.
Father Schmied ministered
most of his religious life as an
itinerant preacher in Michigan
and Wisconsin. He served in the Diocese of Mar-
quette from 1988 until 2008. During that time he
served on the diocesan liturgical commission, as-
sisted with prison ministry at Baraga Correction-
al Facility and was chaplain of the Marquette area
Third Order of St. Francis Franciscan chapter.
He was temporary parochial administrator of St.
Paul the Apostle Parish in Calumet, and assisted
with help out ministries throughout the diocese.
From 2010-18, he was a pastor in Saginaw, Mich.
Father Schmied is survived by his siblings San-
dra Wedel and Daniel Wedel.
A Mass of Christian burial was held on Sept. 18
at St. Joseph Parish in Appleton, Wis.

Paul P. Van Damme
Paul P. Van Damme, 94, of Watson, father of Rever-
end Larry Van Damme, died Sept.
18, 2018.
He was born May 24, 1924, to
Jules and Clara (Vertriest) Van
Damme. He married Jeannette
DeBacker on June 21, 1947, at St.
Joseph Catholic Church in Perkins.
Soon after, they established their
farm and operated Superior Frozen French
Fries in Watson.
They were members of St. Joseph Catholic Church
in Northland and active with the Hiawatha Land
Farm Bureau and Metropolitan Farm Union. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, the
Cornell Lions Club. He served on boards for the
National Potato Council, Michigan Potato Growers
Association and Marquette-Alger Soil Conservation
District.
In addition to his parents and wife, he was pre-
ceded in death by son, Michael, daughter, Clara;
brothers, Francis, George, Jerry, Valerie and Joseph,
sisters, Mary Schmitt and Theresa; a granddaughter
and several brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law.
He is survived by daughters, Sharon (Christopher)
Van Damme-Holins, Kathleen Van Damme, Laurie
(Steve Goeier) Van Damme; son, Father Larry Van
Damme; daughter-in-law, Linda Van Damme. He is
also survived by several sisters-in-law, brothers-in-
law, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.
A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Sept. 24
at St. Joseph Parish in Perkins. Father Allen Mott
was the principal celebrant, Father Van Damme and
Father Francis DeGroot celebrated.

Range Funeral Service Inc.
Frick-Zielinski F. Home
304 S. Sophie St.
Ironwood, MI
(906) 643-7711 • fax (906) 643-7089 • www.dodsonfh.com
Hwy M-35

NEIL NEWCOMB 225-0191
304 S. Sophie St.
Ironwood, MI
(906) 643-7711 • fax (906) 643-7089 • www.dodsonfh.com
305 N. Lowell St., Ironwood, MI 49938
932-1141

Kotola-Burla F. Home
635 E. Ayer St.
Ironwood, MI
888-932-1832

Range Crematory
401 Hwy 51 South
Harley, WI
888-932-1832

Michael Patrick - Manager / Chris J. Cody - Managing Director
305 N. Lowell St., Ironwood, MI 49938
932-1141

Catholic Cemetery
Burial Lots, Mausoleum & Columbarium Niches
Holy Cross - Marquette
1400 Wright St.
Escanaba, MI
888-932-1832

Holy Cross - Escanaba
WY M-35
Tom Stannard 786-4685
www.ernashfuneralhomes.com
906-774-7676

“Us family serving you for nearly 50 years!”
240 McCann Street • St Ignace, MI 49781
(906) 643-7711 • fax (906) 643-7089 • www.dodsonfh.com
BRUCE J. DODSON, FUNERAL DIRECTOR

Advertising space available.
Contact Deacon Steve
1-866-452-5112 • upc@new.rr.com
THE U.P. CATHOLIC CALENDAR

FRIDAY, Sept. 28
A fish bake will be held at St. Christopher Parish in Marquette from 4 until 7 p.m. Dinner includes baked fish, coleslaw, potatoes, roll and dessert. Take-out orders are available. Cost is $12 for adults, $6 for children ages 6-12, and free for children five and under.

SUNDAY, Sept. 30
A RiseUP ministry (formerly Awaken) event will be held at 4 p.m. at Holy Spirit Parish in Menominee. Tom Fassbender will be the guest speaker. The format of a RiseUP event is three-fold: praise and worship, the preached Gospel and Eucharistic Adoration.

To learn more visit www.riseup906.org.

SEPT. 30- OCT. 4
A mission led by Father Jim Costigan of the Fathers of Mercy will be hosted by St. Agnes (Iron River) & St. Cecilia (Caspian) Parishes. It will begin at 6:30 p.m. each night at St. Agnes Parish. The theme is “Angels and Devils.” Refreshments and a social will follow each session.

THURSDAY, Oct. 4
In honor of St. Francis of Assisi’s feast day, St. Michael Parish in Marquette, will host a blessing of the pets at 6 p.m. Participants are invited to bring donations for UPAWS. Suggested items are blankets, towels, scrubs or monetary donations. For a complete list of items needed visit www.upaws.org.

OCT. 6-7
The fall fest at St. Paul the Apostle Parish in Calumet will begin with bingo on Saturday evening at 6:30 p.m. Sunday’s events include Mass with Polka Music at 10 a.m., followed by ethnic food booths from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Food booth tickets are $1 each. Food booths include Slovenian, Croatian, Italian, German and Indian.

THE U.P. CATHOLIC | CALENDARS (ALL TIMES LOCAL)

Baraga Educational Center hours begin Oct. 1
Effective Oct. 1 the Baraga Educational Center will be open Monday through Friday from 1 until 5 p.m. ET. Evenings and weekends are available by appointment.

The Baraga Educational Center is located at 615 S. Fourth Street in Marquette.

Join the Friends of the Poor run/walk fundraiser
Ishpeming will host The Friends of the Poor run/walk on Saturday, Oct. 6, beginning at the Iron Ore Heritage Trail in Ishpeming. Race day registration is at 8 a.m., with the race beginning at 9 a.m.

All proceeds will benefit local families with food, rent, utility and transportation assistance. It benefits the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Conferences of Ishpeming, Negaunee, and Republic.

Participants may register on the day of the event, or online by visiting www.fopwalk.org/event/2123. It is a $5 minimum donation to participate.

Marquette to host a Rosary Coast to Coast event
The annual Rosary Coast to Coast is slated for Sunday, Oct. 7 across the United States. A gathering will take place in Marquette at 4 p.m. at Ellwood A. Mattson Lower Harbor Park. If there is inclement weather the site will be St. Peter Cathedral. For more information contact Tiffany Ampe at (906) 236-4654 or Helen Miller at (906) 475-7225.

Register for the fall Youth Encounter weekend
A Youth Encounter weekend will take place at Marygrove Retreat Center in Garden Oct. 26-28. Youth Encounter is an intense weekend of understanding and experiencing the Christian Faith for young people, ages 16-20.

For more information or for registration forms contact Barry and Yvonne Voss, by phone (906) 563-5187. Visit www.YouthEncounterChrist.org to view a video titled, “Christ is Counting on You.”

Submit items for The U.P. Catholic Newspaper
The U.P. Catholic invites all parishes, missions and schools to submit events for possible publication in the newspaper’s calendar. Events can be submitted to news@dioceseofmarquette.org.

Submission deadlines for upcoming issues:
- Oct. 6 issue: Submit by Oct. 5
- Dec. 6 issue: Submit by Oct. 1

HYMNAL HIGHLIGHTS

Three of the hymns to be featured in the diocesan hymnal are:

“The Kingdom of God”
“God, We Praise You”
“Seed, Scattered and Sown”

The destiny of the people of God “is the kingdom of God, which has been begun by God Himself on earth, and which is to be further extended until it is brought to perfection by Him at the end of time, when Christ, our life, shall appear” (Lumen Gentium). Written in 1973, the hymn, “The Kingdom of God,” fittingly describes Christ’s kingdom—not so much in terms of a particular place—but as a profound state of mind (Luke 17: 20-21); the kingdom is “justice and joy, mercy and grace, challenge and choice, the gift and the goal.” The kingdom of God is the place where Christ reigns in our hearts. Jesus Christ is the King of the Universe, and we are called to follow Him and answer His call in every moment of our lives.

Editor’s note: The U.P. Catholic is featuring a series of “Hymnal Highlights” to give a preview of some of the music that will be included in the upcoming diocesan hymnal.
Traditionally, young men considering entering the priesthood join a minor seminary as teens or enter seminary after high school graduation or some years in college. But all three of the priests in the Diocese of Marquette who are celebrating 25th Jubilees this year waited until later in their lives to make that step.

Father Francis DeGroot, Father Larry Van Damme and Father Gregory Veneklase all mark their Silver Jubilees this year.

“I wasn’t an academic,” Father DeGroot said. “I had reading issues, and that haunted me all through school. I was held back a year in eighth grade, in the hopes that that would help, but it didn’t. I was hyperactive and restless, more a hands-on person. I figured I’d never go back to school (after high school).”

But right after high school, Father DeGroot said, he had to have back surgery. The problem resurfaced some years later. “I had to slow down and then, when I was in my mid 30s, I went back to school,” he said. He attended Sacred Heart School of Theology, Franklin, Wis., and Cardinal Stritch College, Milwaukee, Wis., earning a bachelor of arts degree and a masters of divinity in 1993. “The grace of God pulled me through,” he said.

Being a priest was not Father Van Damme’s first career choice as a youth growing up on the family farm in Watson, but others saw in him what he did not recognize in himself. “As a young boy, I was fascinated with God,” Father Van Damme said. “I respected and appreciated priests, but they were totally ‘other.’ It’s not what you consider yourself doing.”

As he often does, God had plans. “My life experiences along the way and involvement in campus ministry when I attended Northern Michigan University allowed my faith to grow,” he said. “I found a new depth in my relationship with Jesus. Then Campus Minister Patricia Lynott and afterward Msgr. Joseph Dunleavy asked me if I’d ever considered being a priest. That thought never went away.”

Increasingly, people around him seemed to identify the attributes of a priest in him. “They helped me see things differently,” he said. “Once I was in circles that included priests, it helped me see what that life is about.”

Father Van Damme graduated from NMU with a bachelor’s in business administration and master’s in guidance and counseling. The following August, at the age of 28, he entered the seminary at Mundelein, Ill. He was ordained on June 11, 1993.

Father Veneklase also saw a different path for himself in his younger years. He was an engineer for six years before joining the Order of the Virgin Mary’s seminary in Boston. “I decided not to continue, and I left there after two years,” he said.

Father Veneklase was trying to decide which of two seminaries to join and asked God for a sign. That sign indicated the Polish Carmelites in Munster, Ind. He joined the order on Jan. 12, 1988, and that began a period of travel for him. He went to Rome to study theology in 1989, graduating in June of 1992. “I went to Poland to get to know the language and customs of my people,” he said. “I completed a second novitiate in Lodz, Poland and hoped to be ordained in Rome. I had joined a class of 12 or 13. The Polish province was made into two - Warsaw and Krakow. Five of us went to Krakow, and we were ordained in the seminary’s church there on May 22, 1993. A Hungarian bishop ordained us. We were his first class. The Mass was in Polish and the sermon in Latin.”

The three priests reflected on their vocations.

“I wouldn’t have imagined 25 years of ministry being filled with so much variety,” Father Van Damme mused. “I am repeatedly amazed by God’s generosity and mercy. Jesus keeps lavishing us with life. As priests, we point that out and celebrate it. When I was in seminary, a priest said, ‘I don’t understand why more men don’t want to be priests.’ At the time, I thought that was simplistic. But now, I ask the same question.”

Soon after his ordination, Father Van Damme participated in World Youth Day 1993 in Denver where now St. John Paul II referred often to John 10:10, “I came that they may have life and have it more abundantly.”

“I think of that often in ministry,” Father Van Damme said. “Everywhere I’ve gone, it’s there, every assignment — God’s abundant life.”

“I’ve enjoyed all of it,” he said. “Working with young adults is especially rich. Serving engaged couples is very edifying. ... I’ve had the joy of watching five of my parishioners become priests for the Diocese of Marquette, one from Iron Mountain-Kingsford and four from MTU. There were more ordained in other dioceses and also some professed sisters in other dioceses.”

Another blessing, he said, is the Fraternity of Priests International, whose 12 member group in the U.P. meets about 20 times a year. “It’s a rich source of grace and fraternal support, and a wonderful source of camaraderie for me. It’s hard to imagine my priesthood without that group,” he said.

“It’s been complicated. But God is good. He drops hints,” commented Father Veneklase. “My greatest satisfaction comes with helping more people get to Heaven in the best possible way. I get satisfaction by offering people the sacraments, forgive their sins, offer Mass and the Eucharist. I love all my kids - even the cranky ones!”

“The opportunity to feed the sheep, to do what Jesus told Peter to do, after the Resurrection, is my greatest satisfaction,” said Father DeGroot. “Too many things in the world can be a distraction. We lose our mission. It’s important for me to say Mass every day. I’ll say Mass three times a day, if I need to.”

Father DeGroot looks back on his prison ministry as an important part of his vocation. “That ministry helps fulfill their (inmates’) spiritual needs. It helps keep people alive spiritually, to keep them fed and focused,” he said.

Father DeGroot offers some advice to anyone considering joining a religious community. “God takes care of his shepherds,” he said. “God will take care of your needs. He took care of me while I was in seminary, a class of 12 or 13. The Polish province was made into two - Warsaw and Krakow. Five of us went to Krakow, and we were ordained in the seminary’s church there on May 22, 1993. A Hungarian bishop ordained us. We were his first class. The Mass was in Polish and the sermon in Latin.”

The Church needs to encourage young people to take up vocations, Father DeGroot continued. “We need to help young guys who are willing to step up and do the work of a priest. Hopefully, they will stick with it, even as priests get distracted, and we lose some along the way,” he said.
Parishes celebrate the feast of the Triumph of the Cross

Father Joseph Boakye Yiadom, pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Lake Linden, carries a large-wooden cross through the streets of Houghton on the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross. This procession has been taking place on or before the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross (Sept. 14) for more than a decade now. Approximately 75 people participated in the 3.5 mile walk from St. Albert the Great Parish in Houghton to Resurrection Parish in Hancock. Participants took turns carrying the cross while praying the rosary and singing traditional hymns.

Passing opioid bill an important first step in addressing crisis

CNA/EWTN News - The head of the U.S. bishops' human development committee applauded the U.S. Senate for passing a bill responding to the nation's opioid crisis, and encouraged the House of Representatives to pass the legislation as well. The Opioid Crisis Response Act was approved by a vote of 99-1.

"The Senate passed bill is but a first step in addressing several aspects of the opioid crisis, including support for increases in research, treatment, education, and security and law enforcement," said Bishop Frank Dewane of Venice, Florida, in a Sept. 21 statement.

As the midterm elections and the end of the year approach, it can be difficult to complete complex legislation during the remaining time. The opioid crisis, however, cannot wait until next year."

It would provide for research for new non-habit-forming painkillers, additional medication-assisted treatment and psychological services, programs to benefit babies born with opioid addiction and their mothers, and new recovery centers for opioid addiction.

Bishop Dewane quoted a preliminary estimate by the Centers for Disease Control which suggested that more than 72,000 people had died in 2017 as the result of a drug overdose.

Evangelization 101!

1. Be a friend of Jesus.
2. Make a friend.
3. Introduce that friend to Jesus.

Having trouble with the third step? We can help by saving you $11 off the cover price of your gift subscription.

Send your friend's name & address along with a $25 check to: The U.P. Catholic Newspaper - 1004 Harbor Hills Drive, Marquette, MI 49855-8851
THE 2018-2019 SEASON
OF THE
CATHEDRAL CONCERT SERIES
PRESENTS

Marquette BachFest:
Organ Hop
Marquette Area Churches
October 7, 2018, 3:00pm

In conjunction with the 2018 Marquette Bach Festival, plan on a day of musical exploration to four area churches! Four organists will perform all-Bach half-hour recitals. The final recital at the Cathedral (4:30pm) will be live broadcast. Transportation will be provided.

Music for a Grand Space
Northern Michigan University Choirs
October 13, 2018, 7:30pm

The University Choir and Arts Chorale of Northern Michigan University, directed by Dr. Erin Colwitz, present their annual “Music for a Grand Space” performance. In anticipation of their performance for the 2018 ACDA fall conference in Kalamazoo, they will perform music by Lauridsen, Palestrina, Ticheli, Culloton and Rutter, including a commission by Marquette native, Thomas LaVoy.

Marquette BachFest:
Bach in the Cathedral
Marquette Choral Society
Dec. 15, 2018, 7:30pm
Dec. 16, 2018, 3:00pm

The Marquette Choral Society presents their annual Christmas concert, featuring Bach’s Magnificat and his cantata no. 140, Wachet Auf, ruft uns die Stimme. The Choral Society will be joined by orchestra and continuo. Their beautiful voices will enchant and prepare you for the coming of Christmas!

David Jonies
Celebrity Recital
January 3, 2019, 7:30pm

A native of Germany, David Jonies is a concert organist based at Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago. International concert appearances have included Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, Westminster Abbey in London and the Cathedrals of Bamberg, Mainz, Passau and Trier in Germany. Prior to his appointment in Chicago, he held positions at St. Joseph & St. Patrick Parish in Escanaba, Westminster Cathedral in London, and the Chapel Royal at Hampton Court Palace.

Architectural Beauty:
The Churches of Corrado Parducci
St. Peter Cathedral/Marquette Regional History Center
March 15, 2019, 7:30pm

In collaboration with the Marquette History Center, the Cathedral will host a talk by historian, Russell Magnaghi, highlighting the work of renowned Italian-American architectural sculptor, Corrado Parducci, who was responsible for some of St. Peter Cathedral’s beautification following the 1935 fire. The concert will pair Cathedral history with Italian music to accent its architectural heritage.

Dr. Crista Miller
Celebrity Recital
May 14, 2019, 7:30pm

Crista Miller is the Director of Music and Cathedral Organist at Houston’s Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart. Dr. Miller has performed in France, Spain, Italy, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Sweden, and Canada. An award-winning organist in international and national playing competitions, she has also been featured in solo performance in fourteen states and at landmark US instruments. Crista Miller holds degrees in organ performance and literature from the Eastman School of Music, the University of Houston’s Moores School of Music, and Oklahoma State University.

Marquette BachFest:
Missa Brevis!
Cathedral Choir, horns, oboes, strings, organ
June 14, 2019, 7:30pm

The Cathedral Choir will sing Bach’s seldom-heard and unjustly neglected Mass in F with two horns, two oboes, bassoon, strings, organ and soloists. Curiously, Bach’s short Masses are in Latin, rather than German, and are settings of the Roman Catholic Mass! Musically, they are almost entirely made up of movements from Bach’s previously composed Cantatas, now transplanted into new texts. The beauty of these short Masses is that they are Bach’s choice of his finest Cantata movements!

Samuel Holmberg, Artistic Director
For the most current information on events, visit www.stpetercathedral.org or call 906-226-6548