



DIocese OF OGDENSBURG

Episcopal Vicar for Worship & Priestly Formation

604 WASHINGTON STREET • P.O. BOX 369 • OGDENSBURG, NEW YORK 13669
TELEPHONE: 315-393-2920 • FAX: 1-866-314-7296 • email: dlucia@dioogdensburg.org

February 2, 2012
Presentation of the Lord

Dear Brother Priests:

In just three weeks, we will be welcoming the holy Season of Lent and hearing once again the call of the prophet Joel: “*Return to the Lord with your whole heart*” (cf. Joel 2:12). As you make your Lenten preparations, Bishop LaValley would like to offer once again for your consideration: “*The Light is on for You*” approach to the Sacrament of Penance which is being used very effectively in dioceses throughout the United States. Two excellent websites to give you background for this initiative are the Archdiocese of Boston’s www.thelightisonforyou.org and the Archdiocese of Washington/Diocese of Arlington’s www.thelightison.org.

The bishop asks that parishes throughout the Diocese dedicate ***Tuesday of Holy Week (April 3)*** to the Sacrament of Penance. He would like the ***Individual Rite of Reconciliation*** to be available in parishes of the Diocese from at least 6:30 to 8:00 pm on that day, while additional times during the day may also be opportune.

It will be advertised throughout the Diocese as an occasion for all Catholics in the North Country, especially those who have been away from the Church, to share in God’s loving forgiveness sacramentally before Easter. In addition, Bishop LaValley would certainly support parishes who would want to adopt the model of dedicating one Lenten evening each week to providing occasion for the Sacrament of Penance, as can be seen on the Boston website.

Again, this is a wonderful opportunity that allows priests and faithful alike to renew their appreciation of this healing Sacrament. I hope it will bear much fruit in this portion of the Lord’s vineyard.

With the promise of prayer for you and your ministry, I remain

Fraternally yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fr. Douglas J. Lucia".

Reverend Douglas J. Lucia
Episcopal Vicar