

The Society of St. Lawrence  
The Diocese of Ogdensburg Diaconate Community



## FIRST THE CURRENT NEWS

The Directors of the Society have elected Deacon Fred Oberst to the office of Secretary of the Society.

Fred was ordained in 1980 and serves most of the year at St. Bernard's Church in Saranac Lake. Fred does spend a little time in a warmer climate during the deepest part of our winter.

Fred succeeds Deacon Ty Rabideau as Secretary. To be honest, he succeeds Maddie and Ty. They have worked tirelessly on behalf of our Deacon Community for most of 27 years. They deserve a rest from Society work. Thank you, Maddie and Ty. We know you will remain active and continue to contribute to our work and to your ministries.

Officially, Deacon Fred will complete the one year left in Ty's term. All your officers are eligible for election next Spring.

## SUMMER RETREATS

*"We have to have the desire. We have to want to grow."* That message from Fr. Simeon Gallagher aptly summarized his presentations to the Candidates for Ordination and the Ordained Deacons who attended our summer retreat at Wadhams Hall.

Fr. Gallagher is a member of the Order of Friars Minor, Capuchin currently assigned to St. Francis Friary in Denver.

He led the retreatants on a spiritual journey focusing on personal prayer, sin and reconciliation, and personal growth and development.

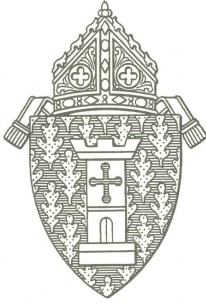
"You can't give what you haven't got," Fr. Gallagher said, citing the wisdom of John Paul II who said, "we have to keep growing, learning."

The National Directory for the Formation, Ministry and Life of Permanent Deacons in the United States recommends an annual retreat for all post-Ordination Deacons. The Diocese of Ogdensburg encourages all deacons to take advantage of retreat opportunities as they occur.

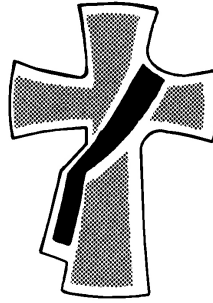
While the men were at Wadhams Hall for their retreat, ten women gathered at The Church of the Visitation in Norfolk for a Ladies' Day. Widows, wives and one candidate's wife spent the day together. The theme of the day: *Mary's Fiat-Our Yes as Wife of A Deacon.*

The ladies reflected on scripture, prayed a women's Rosary with meditations on Mary as woman, wife, mother, friend and neighbor, and, most importantly, supported each other in the role she accepted at her husband's ordination.

A mid-summer Saturday schedule unfortunately prevented many of the ladies from attending but those who did agreed to do it again – have a Ladies' Only Day - that is. Ideas for and volunteers to plan another event are welcome.



Diocese of Ogdensburg



*With Praise & Thanksgiving to Almighty God  
the Church of Ogdensburg  
announces and invites you to attend  
the ordination of*

Mark E. Bennett	Jack M. Lukaszewicz
Frank A. Bushey, Jr.	Thomas E. Proulx
James W. Chaufy	David J. Sandburg
John A. Cogan	James M. Snell
Marvin M. Connor	Jonathan L. Votraw
Brian T. Dwyer	John White

*to the order of Deacon for the service of God's people*

The Sacrament of Holy Orders will be conferred on  
Saturday, the nineteenth of September 2009, at 11:00 a.m.  
at St. Mary's Cathedral  
415 Hamilton Street  
Ogdensburg, New York

*Priests and Deacons are invited to bring alb and white stole*

**Editor's note: We invited each of the candidates for Ordination to share some information about himself and his family.**



**Mark E. Bennett**

Age: 57  
Saint Peter's Parish  
Wife: Theresa M. Bennett  
Children: Adam - 30, Aaron

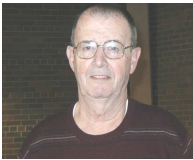
- 26, Patrick - 20

Residence: Plattsburgh, N.Y.

Work background: 33 years in Banking

Current: Spiritual Life Director - Saint Peter's

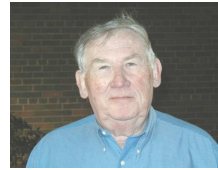
I desire to work within the parish setting and to become effective at functioning in that ministry.



**Marv Connor**

I was born and raised in Tupper Lake, NY. I enlisted in the Air Force in 1958, converted to

civilian status and retired from the federal government in 1990 after 32 years service. We moved to the Town of Schuyler Falls from Millersville, MD in 1992 to assist my parents with the caretaking of the family trust. My wife, Mary and I have been married for 52 years and we have eight children and 14 grandchildren. My wife is a retired registered nurse and manages the St. Joseph's clothing store at the church in Treadwell Mills. I am the historian in the Town of Schuyler Falls and I manage the family trust on the Irish Settlement in the township.



**John (Jack) Cogan**

Age 73  
Wife MaryAnn  
Age—we will not go there.

Our parish is St. Mary's of the Lake in Plattsburgh. We have four adult children, Daniel, Dennis, Denise and Jason. I retired in 1996 after thirty six years in the wholesale electrical business. After retirement I worked as a volunteer for our local Chamber of Commerce helping business people develop marketing plans to reach their target markets.

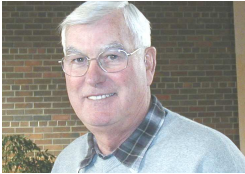
Our pastor, Father Al Houser has been very helpful in developing my liturgical experience especially in the practical "hands on approach". Participating in Lenten devotions, presiding at Communion Services at our local nursing home as well as assisting at Mass. More recently Father Philip Allen invited me to work in his ministry at our County Jail. This ministry along with the others brings light to purpose of service with charity. I am truly looking forward to serving our local community as a Deacon of the Church.



**Brian Thomas Dwyer,**

I am 35 years old from Chateaugay, NY. I have been married to my wife Monique for

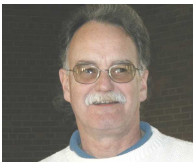
almost six years and God has blessed us with three beautiful children: Stephen, 5 Angela, 3 and Paul, 8 months. I was born and raised on the family dairy farm in Chateaugay which my father and I still operate today. I have been a part-time staff member at the Catholic Community of Burke and Chateaugay for 14years as a religious- ed coordinator and youth minister. As a Deacon I look forward to being open to whatever God leads me to serve his people in faith and love.



**David Sandburg**

Age 69. I am a parishioner of St. Mary's Cathedral Parish in

Ogdensburg, NY. Linda and I have two grown children, Karen and Paul, and 6 grandchildren. Before retiring in early January 2006, I owned and operated Morning Star Homes, Inc., a builder/dealer of manufactured and modular homes. This was a family business that was started in the mid 1950's by my parents, James and Margaret Sandburg. Following ordination, I look forward to serving the people of St. Mary's Cathedral parish in various parish ministries and assisting the pastor wherever possible.

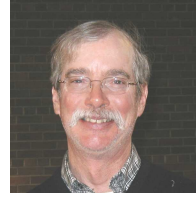


**John White**

Age: 57.  
Parish: St. Mary's Cathedral parish, Ogdensburg, NY.

Married to Mary Lou for 27 years. We have two children; Jillian- 25 and Justin- 23. I have had a 27+ year career working with people with Developmental Disabilities for Sunmount DDSO.

Aspiration: To better understand and live my relationship with God, through service to the Church and others.



**James W. Chaufy**

I am 57 years old, the leader of song (cantor) at the parishes of St. Martin (Port Leyden) and St. John (Lyons Falls) both in

southern Lewis County. Christine and I have no children. I run a State Park (Whetstone Gulf) and have worked there since college (SUNY at Oswego 1974). I feel called by the Spirit to do more for the Church then just go to Mass; God willing I will be ordained and without reservation will do all God, Church, Bishop and priest may ask me to do for need of the betterment of the Church and the Body of Christ.



**Jack Lukasiewicz**

Age: 61 Joan and I live in Beekmantown, NY. We have two married children: Mark is a supervisory

technician at the newly opened Plattsburgh Novabus assembly plant. Jill, a special education teacher, resides with her family in Pennsylvania.

I am a retired military member having served the majority of my career working in aircraft maintenance. My last assignment was at the former Plattsburgh AFB. After military service, I worked for lodging and retail businesses in the local area. Joan and I are members of St. Mary's of the Lake Parish on Cumberland Head. My desire is to service my church and community through my parish and the Knights of Columbus. I want to make a difference in the lives of others by letting Christ work through me. Sort a like St. Paul, but much more low keyed!



**Frank Bushey**

I am 53 and married for 30 years to my beautiful wife Cindy. We have three children: Lauren, Austin and Marlee. I am a parishioner

at St. Peters Parish in Plattsburgh NY. I work at Clinton Correctional Facility as a Family Services Coordinator. I have worked in Corrections for 23 years. My ministry aspiration is to serve the people of God as servant providing pastoral care to those in need.



**Jonathan (Jon) L. Votraw**

I am 60 years old and have three adult children, ages 39, 36, 30. I live in

the City of Plattsburgh. I have been a member of St. Augustine’s in Peru, NY for 12 years. I am a member of the Knights of Columbus, Council 7273. Retired Air Force with 23 ½ years of service and currently employed by the New York State Department of Labor as a Supervisor/Manager in Plattsburgh, NY for the past 18 years. I am currently in the ministry of Religious Education and hope to establish the foundation for adult education within St. Augustine’s Parish.



**James Snell**

60 DOB- 11/14/48  
Parish : St. Mary’s Canton  
Home: 10 Morningside Dr.,  
Potsdam since 1983.  
Wife - Diana Snell,  
married 40 years with

three married daughters and four grandchildren.  
Work – 30 year owner of Snell’s Appliance  
Now semi-retired, income from real-estate.  
Aspiration – All aspects of normal parish ministry in servant leadership roles.



**Thomas Emile Proulx**

21 Douglas Rd.  
Massena, N.Y. 13662  
My wife Linda and I  
have been married for

43 yrs. on May 28, 2009. We are 62. We have four children, Dale Proulx, 42Yrs. old, Donna 40 yrs old, Anne 38 yrs. old and Alice 36 yrs. old. We have 11 grandchildren, 6 boys and 5 girls.

I worked at Alcoa for 36 yrs. and I was lucky enough to retire when I was 55 yrs. old.

My parents moved here from Canada when I was 5 yrs. old. I went to a catholic school for grades 1-8 and public school for 8-12.

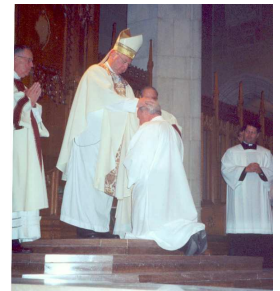
We belong to Sacred Heart Church. We have been volunteers for the St. Vincent de Paul Society since 1993, and for Hospice since 2001. I belong to the Knights of Columbus. I am a 4th Degree Knight and belong to the color guard.

My plans after Ordination are to stay involved with the St. Vincent de Paul Society and more active with Hospice in the Massena area. Also whatever Fr. Manfred has that he wants me to do.

---

**Please join these men in the celebration of their Ordination. St. Mary’s Cathedral**

**September 19, 2009, 11:00 AM**



**Please arrive by 10:30 AM**

**We will vest in Alb and Stole (Diocesan Stole preferred or white)**

Coming:

November 13 to 16, 2009

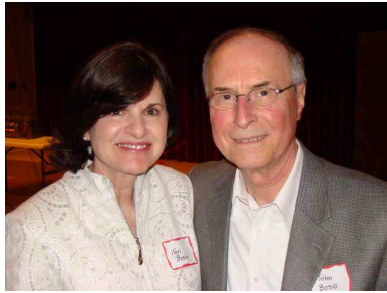
Wadhams Hall

A Deacon and

Deacon's wives convocation:

Happy Together *The Catholic  
Blueprint for a Loving Marriage*

With John and Teri Bosio



**John Bosio** is a husband and father, a seasoned family life educator, a former marriage and family therapist, an adjunct faculty member at Aquinas College, and a global human resources manager for a Fortune 100 corporation. He and his wife, Teri, live in Nashville, Tennessee and share their expertise in religious education and family life through retreats and workshops.

John and Teri have been married 36 years. They have two daughters: Angie Bosio and Laura Bosio Allen, and recently became grandparents.

John was born in Italy and moved to the USA to pursue undergraduate and graduate studies.

*John and Teri conduct evenings of reflection and weekend retreats for couples using materials from Happy Together.*

Our Deacon Convocation for this fall is in conjunction with the Diocesan Department of Family Life, the Department's Right to Life Committee and the Marriage and Family Life Committee of St. Patrick's Church in Watertown.

Keep the dates open. Details will be coming to you in a mailing in September.

## REGION TWO CONVOCATION

Deacons and wives from the Diocese of Ogdensburg attended the Region Two Convocation of the National Association of Deacon Directors held in Rochester



earlier this month. Participants are shown with Bishop Matthew Clark of the Diocese of Rochester. Left to Right: Deacons Jerry Cheney and Ed Miller, Jenny Miller, Bishop Clark, Kathy Mastellon, Deacons Fred Oberst and Kevin Mastellon.

---

**Diocesan Marriage Jubilee  
September 20<sup>th</sup>  
at St. Mary's Cathedral.**

**This event is co-sponsored  
by the Family Life Office  
and the  
Society of St. Lawrence**

**We are looking for  
assistance with this  
event...if you are able to  
help in any way please  
contact us.**

**We realize that many of you  
will be attending the  
ordination on Saturday but  
if you can assist us we would  
appreciate it.**

**Sincerely in Christ,  
Deacon Gary and Gayle Frank  
315.393.2920**

## ASPIRANTS GATHER

Even as we anticipate the Ordination of our next class of Deacons for the Diocese of Ogdensburg, the next class is forming.

A dozen aspirants met with Msgr. Robert Aucoin at Wadhams Hall in late July to begin their year of discernment and aspirancy.

During this year the men and their wives will attend several sessions at Wadhams. They will sit for their psychological assessments, receive a taste of their education formation and receive spiritual assistance and guidance.

Please remember these men and women in your daily prayer as they listen for the call of the Holy Spirit.

## A CALL TO WELCOME



Thank you to the **VOLUNTEERS** who replied so quickly to the call for hospitality for the Aspirant Class at Wadhams Hall in

early October. Sister tells us she has what she needs!

Sister Donna Franklin would like wives of deacons to consider how we can mentor the candidates' wives when the class begins the three year residency program in the Fall of 2010.

Can you offer a weekend (Friday-Saturday) or even just a few hours on a Saturday to be a presence to the women as they embark on this portion of their life's journey?

If you are interested in learning more about what Sister has in mind, send me a note:

Kathy Mastellon  
149 Flower Avenue West,  
Watertown, NY 13601

or an email, [kbmastell@twcny.rr.com](mailto:kbmastell@twcny.rr.com)

## FUTURE EVENTS

**Keep these dates in mind for future events of interest to the Society:**

### September 19, 2009:

Diaconal Ordination,  
St. Mary's Cathedral 11:00 AM

### September 20, 2009:

Marriage Jubilee,  
St. Mary's Cathedral 2:00 PM

### November 13 – 15, 2009:

Deacon Convocation, Wadhams Hall

*This Newsletter is published from time to time by and for the Society of St. Lawrence representing the deacon community of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, NY.*

<i>Rev. Terry R. LaValley, J.C.L.</i>	<i>Diocesan Administrator</i>
<i>Rev. James W. Seymour</i>	<i>Episcopal Vicar for Clergy</i>
<i>Rev. Msgr. Robert H. Aucoin</i>	<i>Episcopal Vicar for Education and Director of Deacon Formation</i>

### *Officers of the Society of St. Lawrence*

<i>Deacon Kevin T. Mastellon</i>	<i>President</i>
<i>Deacon Peter J. Lawless</i>	<i>Vice President</i>
<i>Deacon Frederick R. Oberst</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
<i>Deacon Norman L. Hunneyman</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>

### *Board of Directors (the Officers and)*

<i>Deacon Ty Rabideau</i>	<i>Deacon Gary Frank</i>
<i>Deacon Lawrence Connelly</i>	<i>Deacon Ronald Pominville</i>
	<i>Deacon Jerry Cheney</i>

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>.  
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.  
This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.