

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 22, 2018

Life Oratory Contest Today

High school students will be participating in the 2018 New York State Right to Life Oratory Contest today at St. John. They have prepared and will present a five to seven minute speech on abortion, euthanasia, infanticide, or stem cell research. The winner will win \$50, and one high school student will move on to the State contest and have a chance to win cash prizes and a trip to Washington DC to compete in the National competition. Good luck to all!

IT'S TAIZÉ THURSDAY

This month the Taizé Prayer Service at First Presbyterian Church on Clinton Street in Delhi is this Thursday the 19th at 7 pm.

Taizé Prayer is a form of sung meditative prayer leading into and alternating with periods of deep silence before God. It becomes a way of listening to God and to opening the gates of trust in Him. Come, envelop yourself in the exultation and peace of the Easter season.

Lobby for LIFE

This is your opportunity to address our lawmakers and actively make a difference in our state by using your voice for the voiceless. Attend Lobby for LIFE at the Capitol on Wednesday, May 9. Guest speakers: Jennifer Popik, JD, Federal Legislative Director, and Bishop Scharfenberger.

The Central NY Coalition for Life will be sponsoring a bus, which will stop at Sacred Heart Church in Stamford at 7:30 am and the Cobleskill Park and Ride at 8:15 am. Reserve your seat (\$12) by calling Peg at 278.5458.

Seniors' Teach-in: Medical Equipment

The next Patient Advocates Telephone Teach-in is on Tuesday, April 24, from 10 to 11 am. Learn about:

- the type of durable medical equipment Medicare covers and how much Medicare will pay,
- the criteria that must be met in order for Medicare to cover the cost of durable medical equipment,
- how to find Durable Medical Equipment suppliers that participate with Medicare in your area.

Just dial: 1-712-832-8300, enter password: 258645 and listen to the session. The line will be opened for questions after the talk. Reserve your space: 800.333.4374.
nysenior.org

Lectio Divina

John 10:11~ Jesus explains, "I have come so that they have life, and life to the full." He presents Himself as the Good Shepherd who gives His life for the sheep -- He has changed the comparison. First, He was the gate of the sheep. Now He says that He is the shepherd of the sheep, not just any shepherd, but: "I am the Good Shepherd!" The image of the good shepherd comes from the Old Testament. In saying this, Jesus presents Himself as the one who comes to fulfill the promises of the prophets and the hopes of the people.

John 10:12-13~ Jesus defines the attitude of the mercenary, who is not a shepherd. Today there are many who take care of others in hospitals, in communities, in homes, in schools, in public service. Some do this out of love, others for a salary. They are not interested in others. Their attitude is that of a worker earning a salary, a mercenary. In a moment of danger, they are not interested because "the sheep are not theirs."

John 10:14-15~ Jesus presents Himself as the Good Shepherd who knows his sheep. Two things characterize the Good Shepherd: a) He knows the sheep and is known by them. In the language of Jesus, "to know" is not a question of knowing the name or the face of the person but to be in relationship with one as a friend with affection, and b) to give the life for the sheep, ready to sacrifice oneself out of love.

John 10:16~ Jesus defines the goal to be attained; only one flock, only one shepherd. Jesus opens the horizon and says that He has other sheep that are not of this fold. They have not as yet heard the voice of Jesus, but when they will hear it, they will become aware that He is the shepherd and follow Him.

John 10:17-18~ Jesus and the Father. In these two last verses Jesus opens Himself and makes us understand something which is in the deepest part of His heart -- His relationship with the Father. Here is the truth of everything He says in another moment: "I shall no longer call you servants, but I have called you friends because all that I have heard from the Father I have made it known to you" (John 15:15).

Order of Carmelites

Marriage Revival

Give your marriage new life by attending one of the Marriage Encounter Weekends being held in New York. The next Encounters are April 27 to 29 in Huntington and November 3 to 4 in Albany. Information: 518.279.3243.

✿ Birthright Mother's Day Flowers ✿

Don't forget Mother's Day is around the corner and our churches annual carnation sale -- start putting those dollar bills aside! Flowers will be sold at every Mass in support of Birthright of Sidney. This worthy cause helps a mother give life to her child and is a major annual fund-raising event for Birthright so your help is greatly appreciated.

Volunteers are needed with the sale after all the Masses. Please call Betsy, 746.2900/437.7654, if you can help.

Parenting Pointers Susan Vogt

Today is Earth Day. Often our children teach us how to be responsible recyclers, take care of nature, etc. Brainstorm with your child ways that your family can take a step to care for creation. Do one of the ideas.

Mark Your Calendars

Spring Enrichment 2018 is here! Held at the College of Saint Rose from Wednesday, May 16, to Friday, May 18, the theme of this year's program is "*Companions Along the Journey*." During the three days we will be remembering the past with gratitude, living the present with enthusiasm, and looking forward to the future with confidence. Participants will have ample opportunities to deepen their knowledge of the faith, find out how they can better share the Good News with others, and renew their relationship with Jesus and His Church.

Access the schedule on: spring.enrichment@rcda.org or contact the Catholic School Office at 518. 453.6602. [All registrations must be received by May 9.]

Though harshly treated, he submitted
and did not open his mouth;
Like a lamb led to slaughter
or a sheep silent before shearers,
he did not open his mouth.

Isaiah 53:7

Family Perspective Bud Ozar

The Gospel today is a job description for Christian parents. For most people the most influential shepherds in their lives are the parents. Every parent is called to be "a good shepherd" to "freely lay down their life" for their children, to "love" and "know" their children and to "lead" them so "they know your voice."

Retreat

Weekend of May 4-6: "*Healing for Mind, Body, & Soul*"~ Bask in Rosa Mystica's beautiful grounds, savor the quiet, and learn about healing from a thoroughly Catholic perspective. Then you will return home equipped with tools and information on how you can implement healing in your daily life. Call now -- limited overnight accommodations available.
Cost: \$250 (\$25 for Saturday conference, \$35 w/lunch).

Rosa Mystica House of Prayer 516.624.9033

Visits at Home, Care Facility, or Hospital

Do you know a Catholic friend, neighbor, or relative, who is homebound, in the hospital, nursing home, or at Delhi Rehabilitation? Please call the office to arrange for one of our ministers of the sick to bring the Eucharist or just to visit for a spell.

★ Our Pastoral Care Ministry now can be reached by calling the Church, 865.7394, and dialing Extension 207. You will then be contacted by one of our ministers, who will be happy to visit. ★

Marriage Moments Susan Vogt

When your hobbies differ and compete, does your spouse get stuck with the burden of extra chores, childcare, or unwanted alone time as a result of your recreation? Does your hobby take a lot more time than your spouse's? If not, rejoice.

Faith Formation

Confirmation Rehearsal: April 29, 1 pm, St. Mary

Confirmation: May 2, St. Mary's Church, Oneonta

First Holy Communion: May 6, 11:15 am, St. John