

**THE CHURCH OF OGDENSBURG AFTER VATICAN II**  
**Presentation to Diocesan Staff, September 30, 2010**  
**Sister Mary Christine Taylor, S.S.J.**

**I. Why Study History?** Pope Benedict's Talk to Youth at Sulmona on July 4, 2010  
*(L'Osservatore Romano)*

... Without memory there is no future.

It was once said that History is a teacher of life! The contemporary consumer society tends instead to relegate human beings to the present, to make them lose their sense of the past, of history; but by so doing it also deprives them of the ability to understand themselves, to perceive problems and to build the future.

... I want to say to you: the Christian is someone who has a good memory, who loves history and seeks to know it ... to appreciate his experience today in a world that is so different ... to rediscover certain things that are always worthwhile, that are perennial, for example, the ability to listen to God in external and above all internal silence.

... If we look at the history of the Church, we see that it is peopled by a wealth of Saints and Blesseds who, precisely by starting from an intense and constant dialogue with God, illumined by faith, were able to find creative, ever new solutions to respond to practical human needs in all the centuries: health, education, work, etc. Their entrepreneurial character was motivated by the Holy Spirit and by a strong and generous love for their brethren, especially for the weakest and most underprivileged....

Dear young people, let yourselves be totally won over by Christ! Love the Church: she has given you faith; she has introduced you to Christ.

**II. THE SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL (1962-1965)**

- 21<sup>st</sup> Ecumenical Council of the Catholic Church. Announced by Pope John XXIII, January 25, 1959. Opened, October 11, 1962.
  - 178 meetings; 2540 of 2908 eligible bishops attended. Produced 16 documents.
- A. First Session: October 11 – December 8, 1962 Preparation for future sessions
- Death of Pope John XXIII, June 3, 1963; Election of Pope Paul, June 21, 1963
- B. Second Session: September 29 – December 4, 1963
- Pope Paul VI set forth the purposes of the Council:
    1. To more fully define the nature of the Church and the Role of the Bishop
    2. To renew the Church
    3. To restore unity among all Christians and to seek pardon for Catholic contributions to separation
    4. To start a dialogue with the contemporary world.
  - Documents: *Constitution on the Liturgy (Sacrosanctum Concilium)*; Decree on the *Media of Social Communication (Inter Mirifica)*
- C. Third Session: September 14-November 21, 1964
- Documents: *Dogmatic Constitution of the Church (Lumen Gentium)*; Schemata on *Ecumenism (Unitas Redintegratio)* and on *Eastern Rite Churches (Orientalium Ecclesiarum)*

- After the third session, Pope Paul VI announced a change in the *Eucharistic Fast* and formally reaffirmed Mary as *Mother of the Church*.

D. Fourth Session: September 14 – December 8, 1965

- Documents: *Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World (Gaudium et Spes)*; *Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation (Dei Verbum)*
- Decrees: *Religious Freedom (Dignitatis Humanae)*, *Missionary Activity (Ad Gentes)*, *Ministry and Life of Priests (Presbyterorum Ordinis)*, *Pastoral Office of Bishops (Christus Dominus)*, *Life in Religious Orders (Perfectae Caritatis)*, *Education for Priests (Optatam Totius)*, *Christian Education (Gravissimum Educationis)*, *Role of Laity (Apostolicam Actuositatem)*
- Pope Paul VI
  - a. Established a *Synod of Bishops*
  - b. Formed Papal Commission for Media of Social Communications to assist bishops
  - c. Declared a Jubilee from January 1 to May 26, 1966 to urge all Catholics to study and accept the decisions of the Council
  - d. Changed the title and procedures of the Holy Office to the *Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith*
  - e. Made permanent the Secretariats for *Promotion of Christian Unity*, for *Non-Christian Religions*, and for *Non-Believers*

### III. THE DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG DURING VATICAN II

A. BISHOP JAMES JOHNSTON NAVAGH (1957-63) “Eternity is for rest. Time is for action.”

In *The Apostolic Parish* (printed in English, Spanish, and Italian), he wrote: “I don’t think of a Catholic priest as a chaplain to Catholics. He is an apostle. He has a responsibility before God to every soul in his parish, Catholic and non-Catholic.”

- Ordained Bishop at St. Joseph’s Old Cathedral, Buffalo, September 24, 1952
- Appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Raleigh, N.C., July 29, 1952; Installed: October 8, 1952. Director of North Carolina’s Layman’s Association, Christian Home and Family Movements. (He chose to live as the pastor of the poorest parish in the Negro section of Charlotte, NC, where he built an entire parish plant dedicated by Archbishop Cicognani, March 24, 1957.)
- Appointed 7<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Ogdensburg by Pope Pius XII, May 8, 1957. Installation, June 14, 1957
- Appointed Bishop of Paterson, NJ, February 12, 1963. Installation: May 1963
- Died at Vatican II on October 2, 1965

Bishop Navagh’s Era in Ogdensburg:

His hope for Vatican II: “ . . . an affirmation of the Truths of Christ in the language of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.” He stressed *Renewal* more than *Adaptation*.

I. Catholic Education:

- a. Leadership in movement for federal aid to Catholic Schools: *What Do Catholics Want?* – Address of 1961 adopted by National Catholic Welfare Conference as “the finest expression of the Catholic position on Church and State to appear in the past decade.” *The Catholic News* printed 38,000 copies.
- b. By 1963, Diocese of Ogdensburg had 40 Catholic elementary schools with 13,146 students; 17 new Catholic high schools with 2,961 students; 10 new school

- buildings; 6 additions to schools; 394 new classrooms; 9 new churches, 5 new parish missions; 6 new parishes.
- c. Wadhams Hall Seminary: Msgr. Floyd J. Brown, new Rector, May 28, 1958; admitted junior and senior high school students, 1958; broke ground for new seminary, September 30, 1962. (121 of 169 active priests in diocese were alumni.)
- d. Mater Dei College and Sisters of St. Joseph Novitiate, Reverend Mother Immaculata - ground-breaking, 1959; dedication by Cardinal Spellman, August 25, 1960
- e. Bishop's Vocation clubs (116 high school and 253 grade school members)
- f. St. John Vianney Pre-Seminary Program (8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grades boys) Rev. Richard Sturtz
- g. St. Pius X Institute of Pastoral Training, June 15, 1958, Msgr. Joseph G. Bailey
- h. Confraternity of Christian Doctrine: 11 new catechetical centers. Sisters of Atonement, coordinators of training sessions for all catechists in 8 deaneries.
- i. Catholic Library Association founded, 1958

## 2. Missions

- a. Founded: Diocesan Mission in Peru, South America (January 29, 1962) Rev. Paul Hagan and Rev. Roger Martin
- b. White Fathers St. Joseph's Seminary, August 9, 1959, at Lake Kushaqua
- c. Financed: Church of Our Lady of the North Country in Diocese of Sapporo, Japan (September 27, 1959)
- d. Planned: *Kateri* Hall Catechetical Center, St. Regis Mohawk Reservation, 1962

## 3. Spiritual Renewal Programs:

**To restore all things to Christ requires not only a zealous clergy; it demands a zealous, determined, organized laity. . . The lay apostolate will be a reality in the North Country.**

- a. Weekly column in *North Country Catholic*:
- b. Devotion to the Holy Eucharist:
  - Diocesan Communion Crusade
  - Diocesan Eucharistic Congress of 3,500 (September 12, 15,16, 1962) at end of the Holy Year of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to pray for Vatican II
  - Nocturnal Adoration Societies (Thursday PM before 1<sup>st</sup> Fridays)
- c. Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary
  - Expanded Diocesan Sodality Union. Big World Sodality Day, 1958
  - Daily Recitation of Rosary over WSLB radio in October
  - Marian Rally (3,500 at ALCOA field, Massena) May 29, 1960
- d. Sacrament of Reconciliation: Mandated before all Masses in Diocese
- e. Sacrificial offerings to enkindle new religious spirit in donors, as well as to erect church buildings
  - Annual Four-in-One Collection, 1958 (general diocesan needs, education of seminarians, aged priests, and aiding poor parishes)
  - Diocesan Development Fund, 1959
- f. Commission for the Sacred Liturgy, December 1958. Inaugurated Evening Masses during Lent, 1958.
- g. Diocesan Synod April 10, 1959
- h. Family Life
  - Established Pre-Cana Conferences, March 1958
  - Family Life Bureau
  - Bishop's Committee for Christian Families, June 1960

- i. Office of Diocesan Lay Apostolate
  - Confraternity of Christian Doctrine
  - Diocesan Council of Catholic Men, December 1960
  - Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, December 1961. First Convention May 21, 1961
  - Diocesan Council of Catholic Youth (Workshops for youth and adult lay leaders in Watertown, Ogdensburg, Malone, Plattsburgh) CYC Conventions at Lake Placid (5,000 on September 26, 1958; 4,000 on October 12, 1959)
  - Columbian Squires of K of C reactivated, 1958 (Founder, Brother Barnabas McDonald of Cathedral parish)
  - Catholic Physicians and Dentists' Guild, 1958
  - Catholic Lawyers' Guild, December 1, 1960
  - Layman's Retreat League (June 1958--4 weekend retreats at Wadhams Hall; Fall 1958 – 5 days of recollection)
  - Women's Retreats at Maria Regina Retreat House. Bishop conducted retreat for teachers March 25-27, 1960
- j. Catholic Charities – branch offices in Watertown (September 25, 1958) and in Plattsburgh (April 28, 1958)
  - Appointed Monsignor Robert L. Lawler, director, 1959
- k. New Herkimer/Hamilton Deanery
- l. Began annual *Catholic Directory of the Diocese of Ogdensburg*, 1960

## B. BISHOP LEO RICHARD SMITH (May 13 – October 9, 1963)

- Appointed Auxiliary Bishop, June 30, 1952 to Bishop Joseph Burke of Buffalo
- Ordained Bishop at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Buffalo, September 24, 1952
- Elected Administrator after Bishop Burke died at Vatican Council, October 18, 1962
- Appointed Bishop of Ogdensburg, February 1963; installation, May 13, 1963
- Died at the Vatican Council in Rome, October 9, 1963

Bishop Smith's Era as Bishop of Ogdensburg:

1. Expectations for Vatican II:

**I think we will see a streamlining of the Church and in a sense, a return to apostolic times when the apostles could be gathered together quickly as agreed in the *Acts of the Apostles* for decisions on acts of the Church. . . The effect of the Council will depend on how much the whole Church participates in it. It will depend on how much the North Country participates in it. The Council, from the first one in Jerusalem, is the work of the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit has willed that His action depends on the prayers, on the saintly lives, and on the sacrifices of the members of the Holy Church and, so, everyone here in this North Country can take part in the Council by joining his intention to that of the Holy Church by practicing love of neighbor and by practicing our first purpose in life, the praise of Almighty God through fervent prayer. (Television Interview)**

2. Visitation of all deaneries and of the Mission of Peru, South America
3. Laid cornerstone for new Wadhams Hall
4. Broke ground for Avila Hall Dormitory at Mater Dei
5. Attended Second Session of Vatican II on September 29, 1963. Died, October 9, 1963

Msgr. Berube wrote: A saint has passed from our midst. A saint is one who makes Christ lovable and such a man was Bishop Smith. To meet him was to love him, for his smile radiated the kindness of Christ.

#### IV. THE DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG AFTER VATICAN II

##### A. NINTH BISHOP: MOST REVEREND THOMAS A. DONNELLAN (April 1964–July 1968)

- First priest ordained by Cardinal Spellman, June 3, 1939. NY Chancery (1939-1962)
- Rector of St. Joseph's Seminary (1962-64) (his favorite assignment)
- Appointed 9<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Ogdensburg, February 28, 1964
- Ordained Bishop by Cardinal Spellman on April 9, 1964 at St. Patrick's Cathedral, NYC
- Installation at St. Mary's Cathedral, April 13, 1964 with Cardinal Spellman presiding
- Appointed Archbishop of Atlanta, GA, May 24, 1968. Installation, July 16, 1968
- Archbishop Donnellan suffered stroke, May 1, 1987. Died, October 15, 1987. Age 73

Bishop Donnellan's Era as Bishop of Ogdensburg (Participated in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sessions of Vatican II)

##### 1. Implementation of Vatican II directives: Msgr. Joseph G. Bailey, Cathedral Rector (1961-1972)

###### a. Liturgy:

- Fall 1964 –6-week series of sermons in all parishes to prepare for coming changes
- November 29, 1964- First Latin Mass with English Proper and English Hymns.
- 1965 – Cathedral altar set up facing the congregation. New Presidential chair.
- October 1967- English text of Canon of the Mass approved. In full use, Fall 1969.

###### b. Ecumenism:

- Diocesan Ecumenical Commission founded. Met on November 17, 1965, Lake Placid
- First Bishop of Ogdensburg to preach at SLU's Gunnison Chapel, Spring 1965
- Albany's Episcopalian Bishop Allen Brown invited Bishop Donnellan to speak to the Annual Episcopal Church Diocesan Convention, Lake Placid, October 10, 1966
- Priests - Interdenominational Ministerial Associations
- January 18-25, 1968 Chair of Unity Octave. Catholics attended non-Catholic churches

###### c. Laity:

- Parish Councils
- Continued Bishop Navagh's Councils for Lawyers, Catholic Women, Catholic Men, Christian Families
- Diocesan Lay Employees Retirement Plan, September 1, 1967

##### 2. Concern for the Poor

- Diocesan Committee on Poverty, Fall 1964 to implement the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964

##### 3. Catholic school system (52 Catholic schools, 14,000 students (1967)).

###### a. Founded the Catholic Education Committee to study the school system. It recommended:

- Replacing autonomous parochial control of schools with shared control
- Extending Department of Religious Education to include religion curriculum in all Catholic schools
- Creating a Diocesan School Board, 5 Area School Boards, 44 parish and central school boards by November 1, 1967
- Defining responsibilities of Secretary of Education, Superintendent of Schools, principals, pastors, and parents in the education of children

- Centralizing services at diocesan level: planning, teacher recruitment, purchase of materials.

b. Catholic colleges:

- Mater Dei College: Dedication of Avila Hall Residence, May 22, 1965 & of Mater Dei Library, May 7, 1967
- Wadhams Hall, dedicated by Cardinal Spellman, August 10, 1964. Bishop Navagh, homilist (Program for high school seminarians phased out. College 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> years added.  
June 24, 1966 – Wadhams received B.A. Degree power from NYS Board of Regents.)

4. Priesthood:

- Vocations: Serra International
- Senate of Priests: 12 members elected in June 1966; met in Fall 1966.
- Consultors: November 10, 1967 –rotation of one-third of Board of Consultors
- Retirement age set at 75 with permission to request retirement at 70
- Increased changes in priests' assignments
- Rev. David W. Stinebrickner, assistant chancellor and secretary to Bishop Donnellan

5. Religious:

- First Monastery of the Precious Blood, Keyes Avenue, Watertown
- Society of Jesus closed Bellarmine College, Plattsburgh (1967)
- Halifax Sisters of Charity left diocese, 1968
- Sisters of Mercy closed Gabriels Sanatorium
- Uihlein Mercy Nursing Center, Lake Placid blessed by Bishop Donnellan, August 5, 1967; dedicated by Terence Cardinal Cooke, August 31, 1968

6. Bishop Donnellan's National Offices:

- 1964 – Board of Directors, Catholic Near East Welfare Association
- 1966 – Committee to study reorganization of Lay Organization Department of National Catholic Welfare Conference
- December 1966 – Executive Board of the Catholic Church Extension Society
- 1967 – Chairman, U.S.Catholic Bishops' Liaison Committee with Conference of Major Superiors of Religious Men
- 1968- Committee to study the I. H.M. community of Los Angeles
- April 1968 – Committee of U.S. Bishops to mediate differences between dioceses and communities and organizations.

Archbishop Donnellan in Atlanta, Georgia - *Servant and Pastor*

a. Era of remarkable growth of the Church in Georgia

- Archdiocese of Atlanta: 34 parishes, 60 diocesan priests, 50,000 Catholics in 1968; 65 parishes, 18 missions, and 176 priests in 1987

b. Other offices:

- Treasurer of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops
- One of 5 bishops NCCB chosen to draft the landmark Pastoral Letter : *Economic Justice for All: Catholic Social Teaching and the U.S. Economy*
- Brotherhood Award of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, 1970
- Atlanta Community Relations Commission- civil rights (member for 15 years) Christian Council of Metropolitan Atlanta and Atlanta's Neighborhood Justice Center , labor unions, public school integration
- Ecumenism: covenant with Episcopal bishop of Atlanta, 1984 and with Lutherans, 1986

- Member, Review Board to prepare for International Synod of Bishops on the laity, 1987
- Georgia Commission on the Holocaust
- Consultant to Pro-Life Committee of National Council of Catholic Bishops

**B. TENTH BISHOP: MOST REVEREND STANISLAUS JOSEPH BRZANA (October 22, 1968 – Retired, November 11, 1993; Left diocese, January 1994)**

- Ordained: Diocese of Buffalo June 7, 1941
- Missionary -- Cattaraugus Indian Reservation
- Chaplain during World War II—9<sup>th</sup> Armored Division of General Patton's 3<sup>rd</sup> Army in Europe. Battle of the Bulge
- After War: Doctorate in Theology, Gregorian, Rome, Italy, January 1953
- Ministry in parishes of Buffalo. *Officialis* Marriage Tribunal, Buffalo. Chairman of Diocesan Commission on Sacred Liturgy, Music, and Art. Vicar-General.
- Appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Buffalo, May 24, 1964. Ordained Bishop, June 19, 1964
- Appointed 10<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Ogdensburg, August 21, 1968. Installed: October 22, 1968 by Terence Cardinal Cooke; Kellenberg and Donnellan present, and 2 Episcopalian bishops (Albany & Buffalo) First concelebrated installation
- Resigned at age 75: July 1, 1992. Remained until January 1994. Retired to Buffalo where he died on March 1, 1997.

Bishop Brzana's Era in the Diocese of Ogdensburg:

1. First Polish Bishop. Simplicity. Arrival, October 20, 1968.
2. Appointments:
  - a. 7<sup>th</sup> Bishop to appoint Msgr. Louis D. Berube, Vicar-General.
  - b. Msgr. David Stinebrickner "one-man Chancery Office"
  - c. Secretaries: Fathers David Stinebrickner, F. James Shurtleff (May 1972-1981); Alan Shnob (1981-82); Garry Giroux (1982-83), Albert Hauser, etc.
3. Implementation of Vatican II Directives:
  - a. July 1, 1969: Decree on *Responsibilities of Deans in the Diocese of Ogdensburg*
  - b. April 1969: Diocesan Committee for Cemeteries
  - c. 1969: Right to Life Committee
  - d. NCC Editorial Board of lay, religious, and priests, 1971 (Msgr. George Whittaker, heart attack, after 17 years on *North Country Catholic*. Fr. Bernard Christman, new editor)
  - e. Committee on Continuing Education of Priests, March 1970. In August 1970, committee began annual Pastoral Institute for priests and major seminarians at Wadhams Hall
  - f. Permission for Anticipated Sunday and Holyday Masses to begin January 1, 1970
  - g. First commissioning of lay Eucharistic Ministers, May 1971
  - h. Founding of Diaconate Program training at Mater Dei College, Rev. Donald Manfred
  - i. Personnel Committee to assist the Bishop's Committee on Appointments, 1971
  - j. Council of Women Religious 1971
  - k. Diocesan Pastoral Council, meeting, February 5, 1972
4. Closing of Catholic schools:
 

1969 – St. Mary's Academy, Ogdensburg; high schools at Champlain and OLVA, Plattsburgh; grade schools at Mineville and Morristown
- 5 Litigation over Lucia Spratt's Estate (1970)

6. Loss of many Religious and Priests

7. 1972: Centennial of the Diocese of Ogdensburg with Msgr. A.A. Milia, chairman.  
(122 parishes, 40 missions, 249 priests; 34 elementary schools, 6 high schools, 506 religious sisters and 34 brothers, 171,536 Catholics of population of 374,854)

8. Programs:

- a. Good Shepherd Program in diocese, 1976.
- b. 1977: Year of the Family
- c. 1982: Parish Renewal Programs (model of Father Charles Gallagher)
- d. 1990: Formation for Ministry Program

9. 1982 – Loaned Diocesan Priests to Diocese of Alexandria/Cornwall, Ontario

10. Ecumenical Dialogue to seek to unite the Polish National Catholic Church with the Roman Catholic Church. Polish Union of America.

11. Member, National Conference of Catholic Bishops Committees: Communications; Rights of Women in Society and in the Church.

12. Published *Diocesan Guidelines for Parish Councils and Trustees*, 1991

Statistics for 1998: 92 resident pastors, 120 parishes, 26 missions, 11 oratories, 1 seasonal chapel

**C. ELEVENTH BISHOP: THE MOST REVEREND PAUL STEPHEN LOVERDE (1994-1999)**

- Ordained Auxiliary Bishop of Hartford, CONN April 12, 1988
- Appointed 11<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Ogdensburg, November 11, 1993; installed January 17, 1994
- Appointed 3<sup>rd</sup> Bishop of Arlington, VA, January 25, 1999. Installed: March 25, 1999

Bishop Loverde's Era in the Diocese of Ogdensburg:

1. Appointments:

- Brother David Eddy, C.F.X., secretary to the Bishop (1994 -1999)
- Msgr. Robert L. Lawler, Vicar-General, August 1994
- Msgr. John Murphy, Moderator of the Curia
- Reverend Terry R. LaValley, Episcopal Vicar for Diocesan Services and Chancellor (1996)
- Sister Jennifer Votraw, SSJ, Pastoral Planning, 1998

2. Education

- Closing of Mater Dei College (1999) and many Catholic schools

3. Evangelization:

- *Disciples in Mission* Program

4. Vocations:

- *Operation Andrew*. Dinners with prospective candidates for seminary

5. Plans for *Loverde Building* for Education and Formation Programs;

- Chancery Office named *Brzana Diocesan Pastoral Center*



**D.TWELFTH BISHOP: MOST REVEREND GERALD MICHAEL BARBARITO (2000-2003)**

- Appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Brooklyn, June 28, 1994. Ordained, August 22, 1994
- Appointed 12<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Ogdensburg, October 26, 1999. Installation, January 7, 2000
- Appointed Bishop of Palm Beach, FLA, July 1, 2003. Installation: August 28, 2003

Bishop Barbarito's Era in the Diocese of Ogdensburg

1. Set following Goals on October 15, 2001

a. Evangelization:

- To concentrate on the Eucharist as the center of diocesan life.
- To initiate, develop, and support diocesan-wide evangelization efforts that will renew the faith and spiritual lives of parishioners, support them in their witness to Gospel values in society, and draw others to full participation in the Catholic Church community.

b. Family Life:

- To foster the sanctity of all life by affirming and promoting the importance and sacredness of the family as primary witnesses to and the caretakers of the mystery of life from conception to natural death
- To acknowledge the family as the promoter of vocations and to assist families in their role of fostering vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life
- To recognize and support young families and young adults in their efforts to discover their role in parish life and live as active and involved Catholics.

c. Faith Education, Formation:

- To provide spiritual formation and religious education that will enable family members of all ages to grow in the knowledge of their faith and appreciation of Catholic tradition and values.
- To acknowledge the giftedness and diversity among the People of God in the North Country and to encourage the faithful to use and develop these gifts in service through academic, pastoral, and spiritual formation.
- To support the diocesan Vocation Office and diocesan vocation efforts to strengthen parishioners' awareness of vocational discernment as part of the spiritual development and growth of all Christians.

d. Collaboration/Planning:

- To create structures and processes that will ensure effective collaboration at the parish and diocesan level and to support parish efforts in this area.

e. Social Justice:

- To encourage diocesan initiatives and programs that seek to meet the basic needs of all our brothers and sisters, but especially the poor and most vulnerable of our society
- To work to promote equitable salaries and benefits for those ministering in our local Church

f. Rural Life:

- To promote the integrity of creation by supporting sustainable living practices that are socially just, economically beneficial, and environmentally healthy.
- To promote solidarity with North Country family farmers by educating our people about farm issues, the farm crisis, and how they affect our total community.

g. Stewardship:

- To build upon a theological and philosophical belief that the stewardship support of the Church, its parishes, and Church related organizations, institutions, and programs is important and an essential responsibility of every Catholic.

2. Appointments:

- Msgr. Robert L. Lawler, reappointed Vicar-General, 2000
- Rev. Terry R. LaValley, Episcopal Vicar and Chancellor

3. Closing of Wadhams Hall Seminary-College, June 2002

4. Loss of 8 Priests dismissed for child- abuse, 2002

5. Closing of Diocesan Mission in Peru, South America

6. Continued Planning - Merging of Parishes

**C. THIRTEENTH BISHOP: MOST REVEREND ROBERT J. CUNNINGHAM (2004-2009)**

- Born: Kenmore, NY, June 18, 1943
- Ordained to Priesthood: May 24, 1969
- Assignments: Buffalo, Secretary to Bishop Head (1974). Vice-chancellor, chancellor, 1985. Vicar-General, 1986; Pastor of St. Louis Church (2002); Diocesan administrator (2003-2004)
- Appointed 13<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Ogdensburg, March 9, 2004. Ordained Bishop at St. Mary's Cathedral, May 18, 2004 by Edward Cardinal Egan, with Archbishop Henry J. Mansell and Bishop Gerald M. Barbarito as co-consecrators
- Appointed Bishop of Syracuse, April 21, 2009. Installation, May 26, 2009

Bishop Cunningham's Era in the Diocese of Ogdensburg:

1. Appointments:

- Msgr. Robert L. Lawler, reappointed Vicar-General, 2004
- Rev. Terry R. LaValley relieved of positions of Episcopal Vicar and Chancellor to become Bishop's delegate to supervise Compliance Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, 2004
- First Woman Chancellor, Sister Jennifer Votraw, SSJ

2. Ongoing Planning – Merging and Closing Parishes

3. Diocesan Stewardship Program by Cunneen Company

4. Evangelization Program: *Why Catholic*

5. Dedication of New St. Joseph's Nursing Home, 2006

6. National Offices of Bishop Cunningham:

- Administrative Committee representing NYS bishops on USCCB
- Committee for Protection of Children and Young People
- Subcommittee on Native American Catholics

## E.FOURTEENTH BISHOP: MOST REVEREND TERRY RONALD LAVALLEY (2010)

- Born: Plattsburgh, NY March 26, 1956.
- Ordained to Priesthood: September 24, 1988 by Bishop Brzana, St. Mary's Cathedral
- Assignments: Massena; Hammond; Rossie; Heuvelton;
- Appointed Rector of St. Mary's Cathedral, 2003
- Diocesan Offices: Episcopal Vicar, Chancellor, Associate Secretary of Marriage Tribunal, Chairman of Diocesan Review Board, Supervisor of Compliance Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People
- Elected Administrator of the Diocese of Ogdensburg (May 28, 2009)
- Appointed 14<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Ogdensburg by Pope Benedict XVI, February 23, 2010
- Ordained Bishop at St. Mary's Cathedral, April 30, 2010 by Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan of NY, with co-consecrators, Bishop Paul S. Loverde and Bishop Robert J. Cunningham

Bishop LaValley's Era as Bishop of Ogdensburg:

1. Diocese in 2010: 103 parishes, 8 missions, 23 oratories, 14 worship sites (churches of merged parishes) 64 resident pastors, 39 non-resident pastors
2. Priests: 71 active priests, 2 priests of religious orders, 36 retired priests, 4 disabled priests  
 Msgr. Robert L. Lawler reappointed Vicar-General, 2010

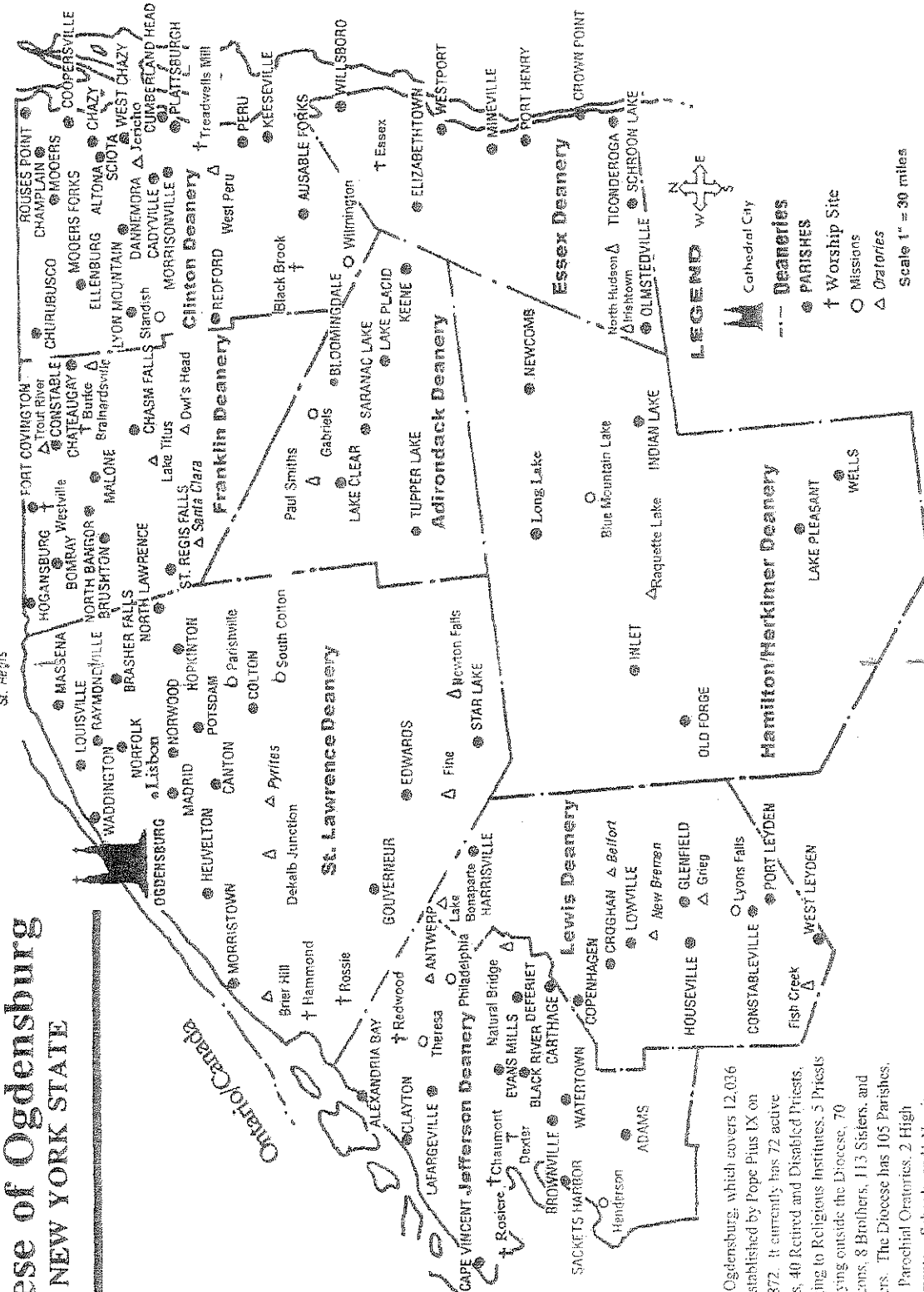
### Statistics

Year	Catholics	Total Population	Percent Catholic	Diocesan Priests	Religious Priests	Total Priests	Catholics Per Priest	Permanent Deacons	Male Religious	Female Religious	Parishes	Source
1949	118,682	330,386	35.9%	171	49	220	539		70	583	154	ap1951
1966	166,555	390,188	42.7%	204	60	264	630		115	631	118	ap1967
1970	169,589	390,337	43.4%	169	32	201	843		60	549	122	ap1971
1976	171,543	382,353	44.9%	181	42	223	769		72	421	161	ap1977
1980	169,845	404,806	42.0%	175	40	215	789		73	376	161	ap1981
1990	172,000	402,000	42.8%	179	26	205	839	44	50	263	159	ap1991
1999	136,090	430,422	31.6%	167	15	182	747	58	9	203	120	ap2000
2000	137,022	430,000	31.9%	151	12	163	840	56	24	176	120	ap2001
2001	143,084	450,982	31.7%	142	12	154	929	56	24	166	120	ap2002
2002	143,700	462,000	31.1%	141	12	153	939	54	25	164	119	ap2003
2003	143,700	462,000	31.1%	134	9	143	1,004	55	21	153	117	ap2004
2004	143,700	462,000	31.1%	130	7	137	1,048	64	17	146	119	ap2005

\*Statistics for 1949 to 2004 were copied from [www.catholic-hierarchy.org/diocese/dogde.html](http://www.catholic-hierarchy.org/diocese/dogde.html)

Quebec/Canada

# Diocese of Ogdensburg NEW YORK STATE



The Diocese of Ogdensburg, which covers 12,036 sq. miles, was established by Pope Pius IX on February, 16, 1872. It currently has 72 active Diocesan Priests, 40 Retired and Disabled Priests, 5 Priests belonging to Religious Institutes, 5 Priests working or studying outside the Diocese, 70 Permanent Deacons, 8 Brothers, 113 Sisters, and 832 Lay Ministers. The Diocese has 105 Parishes, 10 Missions, 23 Parochial Oratories, 2 High Schools, 13 Elementary Schools, and 1 Nursing Home. The Catholic Population is 108,078 out of a total of 491,438.

\*Source: Diocesan Directory for 2010