



The Sign of Christ

News from the Catholic Deaf Community

Diocese of Syracuse



Vol 21 No 1 March - April - May 2010

In 2008, many Deaf, from many countries, traveled to Rome and saw Pope Benedict XVI. He was impressed. From this came the first ever meeting on Deaf in the Church: November 19-20-29, 2009. Pope Benedict said, “**Dear Deaf brothers and sisters, you are not only recipients of the Gospel message but also legitimately heralds of it, by virtue of your Baptism. Thus you live every day as witnesses of the Lord in your living contexts, making Christ and his Gospel known.**” We are to spread the Good News here in the Syracuse Diocese! Here is a report:

PONTIFICAL COUNCIL FOR HEALTH CARE WORKERS XXIV INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

EPHPHATHA! THE DEAF PERSON IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

In organizing this conference on the deaf person in the life of the Church, the Pontifical Council for Health Care Workers wanted to send a strong message in order to emphasize the attention that the questions and issues connected with handicap at the level of hearing of deaf people, as living members of the Church, deserves. As the Holy Father, at the audience granted to those taking part in this twenty-fourth international conference, stressed: “you are not only recipients of the proclaiming of the message of the Gospel but you are also, to the full, those who proclaim it because of your baptism.”

Indeed, the novelty of this conference, as compared to the others organized in the past on various kinds of handicap, lies in having wanted to emphasize that handicap at the level of hearing which is purely sensorial should necessarily be treated separately from other physical disabilities when one speaks about faith and religious practice.

Continued on page 3: **RECOMMENDATIONS**

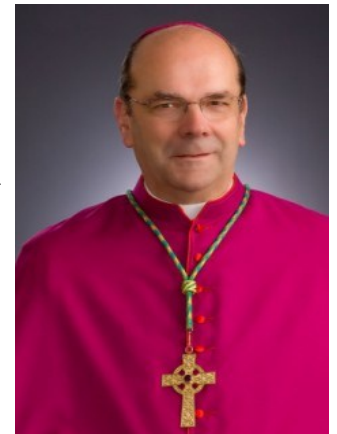


ALL ARE WELCOME !

COME CELEBRATE !

**Saturday March 27th
5 PM**

*Bishop
Robert J. Cunningham
will celebrate Mass
with the Deaf*



**Christ the King Retreat House
500 Brookford Road, Syracuse
Dinner to follow in the Dining Room**

**PLUS
the presentation of
The Thomas Johns Memorial
Appreciation Award
to
Anne Parish**

**Please reserve your place for the dinner!
Adults \$10 Children 3-7 \$5
Special dietary needs? Let us know!**

**Send names and money by: March 18th to
Catholic Deaf Community
PO Box 572 Rome, NY 13442-0572
Click [HERE](#) for directions**



Taken at the
**2010 NCOD
Conference** in
Houston, TX.

These are
some of the
Pastoral
Workers with
the Deaf.

They are
from around
the USA and
Canada
working for
YOU!

National Catholic Office of the Deaf Conference

What happens at Pastoral Week?

It's where we meet old friends and make new friends. We find out what has been happening ...like the meeting at the Vatican, and what is being planned ...like "NCYC" and World Youth Day and setting up a Ministry Formation Program on the East Coast. We see how we can work together. From a Brother who is an artist, we learned how to see things in new ways. From a Catholic Relief Services speaker we heard about helping others overseas, and we came up with some ideas to do that. We attend workshops to open our minds and hearts to new ideas. We support each other. AND Most importantly, everyday there is Mass...in ASL!



Cardinal Daniel DiNardo with MV and Chris Campbell

The Sign of Christ
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THIS & THAT by MV

Why, oh, why did I forget my camera on January 7th?!
That day, at the Liverpool Senior Citizen gathering, the diocese had a crew to film for the Hope Appeal video. We felt like movie stars... with two cameras right in our faces. It was interesting, and we can't wait to see how they cut the 1 ½ hours of filming down to their needs.

Please remember to pray for those who have died:
Lawrence J. Sterly, father of **Jeff Sterly**

Please pray for the sick:
Bertha Coughlin, mother of **Fr Tom Coughlin**

I hope that you are surviving the winter and having a good Lent. Spring and Easter will be here before we know it! May you be ready to celebrate Easter closer to Jesus.

I hope many of us are able to come and enjoy the Palm Sunday Celebration with **Bishop Cunningham**, and also honor **Anne Parish** for all she has done in the North Country and elsewhere.

In the January 16th *Utica Observer Dispatch*, there was a nice story about **Elena Ciccarelli**, a young member of St Paul's, Whitesboro. She's a wonderful athlete. Click here to see the story!

If you live in the North, Mass will still be interpreted at Holy Trinity in Fulton! For the scheduling, please call **Anne Parish: 678-2875**.

Three important bones: First, the backbone, to stand up for what is right. Secondly, there's the knee bone, used in prayer. Finally and most important, a good funny bone to be able to laugh at yourself and your failures knowing that God is in charge. Brother Peter Daino

RECOMMENDATIONS

In order to achieve the full integration of deaf people into the life of the Church, this assembly proposes:

1. That there should be a central office of the Church at national levels which attends to and coordinates pastoral care for deaf people.
2. That every diocese should have at least one priest with the necessary skills and training in this specific field so that he can be the point of reference for deaf people for the sacraments (penitence in particular), the liturgy and catechesis.
3. That there should be for seminarians a course to direct them towards this special form of pastoral care and that they should be encouraged to deepen their knowledge about the world of deaf people and also that those seminarians who are interested in sign language should, possibly, increase their knowledge of it.
4. That greater attention should be paid by bishops to the question of deaf people and they should ensure that in the pastoral and catechetical programme of their dioceses there is also space for catechesis and pastoral care for and with deaf people and that some deaf people should also belong to this group.
5. That in the large cities a church/parish should be identified where the liturgy allows the active participation of people who have hearing problems.
6. That in the planning of parish and diocesan pastoral care especial attention should be paid to deaf people and their families. The presence of a deaf person would be advisable as well as parents who could contribute to such planning.
7. There should be a Catholic website that addresses the current questions of our faith. In this website it should also be possible to follow Holy Mass and homilies and, when the occasion arises, to have a better understanding of ethical questions of political relevance.
8. That deaf people should also be given an opportunity to take part in courses on the religious sciences organized at a diocesan level.
9. To meet the needs of deaf people who do not know sign language and those who have become deaf or adults afflicted by deafness, it is recommended to pastors of souls that places of liturgy be equipped with video screens.
10. At a national level structures should be identified for the promotion of vocations and the formation of deaf candidates for the religious and priestly life.
11. That dioceses should have a register of certified interpreters who can work in churches.
12. As the Holy Father emphasized, every obstacle to the full social integration of deaf people should be removed through the implementation first and foremost of appropriate laws, conventions and protocols that seek to create those juridical conditions that are designed to favor the integration of deaf people in educational, training and work environments so that they can make their talents bear fruit (Mt 25:14-30) and contribute at all levels, each according to their own talents and capacities, to the good of society as a whole.

The experience of these three days, while on the one hand they have given us joy and hope, on the other they have led us to work increasingly and always in a better way to ensure that the cry, indeed the cry of Jesus – EPHPHATHA! – Be opened!, echoes in the hearts of all deaf people who are near to us or who are to be found throughout the world.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>March 2010</h1>						
	1	2	3 NYSSD Religious Ed	4 Liverpool Group 10 AM - 2 PM	5 Catechetical Leaders Meeting	6
7 Fulton Call Syr SL 9 Syr AS 9:15 Johnson City 10 Rome 10	8	9 Senior Citizens' Barber Shop 10 AM - 1 PM New Hartford	10 NYSSD Religious Ed	11	12	13
14 Fulton Call Syr SL 9 Syr AS 9:15 Johnson City 10 Whitesboro 11	15	16	17 NYSSD Religious Ed St Patrick's Day	18 Liverpool Group 10 AM - 2 PM	19	20
21 Fulton Call Syr SL 9 Syr AS 9:15 Johnson City 10 Rome 10	22	23	24 NYSSD Religious Ed	25	26	27 5 PM Palm Sunday Mass with Bishop Cunningham Dinner to follow Syracuse
28 Fulton Call Syr AS 9:15 Johnson City 10 Whitesboro 11	29	30	31 NYSSD Religious Ed			



March Birthdays

- 3 Anne Parish
- 5 Connor Evans
- 5 Linda Roscoe
- 9 Tiffany O'Bryan
- 10 Robert Harmon
- 11 Daisy DeHaas
- 13 Michelle Burchett
- 13 Fr Robert Dwyer
- 17 Holly Cutler
- 20 Dan Maher
- 23 Meghan Dadey Evans
- 27 Kristin Miller
- 29 Fr Wilbur Votraw

March Anniversaries

- 10 Robin & Michael Brennan

Lent is a good time to "Spring Clean" your Spirit

- 1) **Cleanse your heart - get spiritually healthy.** Draw close to God and allow our hearts and bodies to be cleansed. We can't do it ourselves.
- 2) **Clean out your "mouth" - deep clean inside and out.** As your heart gets clean, your language should follow. Not just bad language, but negative talk and pessimistic thoughts that contradict the Word of God and faith. This includes the challenge to stop complaining.
- 3) **Renew your mind - take out the garbage.** Garbage in equals Garbage out. We must feed our minds and spirits the Word of God instead of the garbage of this world.
- 4) **Repent - clean out your spiritual closets.** Clean out those deadly sins of envy, greed, anger, lust, sloth, gluttony, and pride. Stop hiding. Reach out for help. Go to confession.
- 5) **Release unforgiveness and bitterness - get rid of old baggage** Those grudges and bitterness you hold just weigh you down.
- 6) **Involve Jesus in your daily life - let the 'Son' shine in.** What God wants most from you is a relationship - friendship. He wants to be involved in the big and small moments of your life. Open your life, let the light of God's presence shine into every part.
- 7) **Learn to laugh at yourself and life.** Jesus wants you to enjoy yourself, and learn to have some fun. Adapted from Mary Fairchild



Don't miss these:

Mark Seven Bible Institute

A Wonderful 10 Day Opportunity for Deaf Adults (18 and above)

Sunday, June 13 - Wednesday, June 23, 2010

More information and registration at
www.Mark7BibleInstitute.org

National Kids of Deaf Adults Family Conference
(NKFC)

will be held at Camp Mark 7, Old Forge, NY
June 24 to 27, 2010

A dynamic program of speakers, workshops, activities
and events for all!
www.nkodafc.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>APRIL 2010</h1>						
				1 Liverpool Group 10 AM -2 PM Holy Thursday See Schedule	2 Good Friday See Schedule	3 See Schedule Easter Vigil
4 EASTER Fulton Call Syr SL 9 Syr AS 9:15 Johnson City 10 Whitesboro 11	5	6	7 NYSSD Religious Ed	8	9	10
11 Fulton Call Syr SL 9 Syr AS 9:15 Johnson City 10 Whitesboro 11	12	13 Barber Shop 10 AM - 1 PM New hartford	14 NYSSD Religious Ed	15 Liverpool Group 10 AM - 2 PM	16	17
18 Fulton Call Syr SL 9 Syr AS 9:15 Johnson City 10 Rome 10	19	20	21	22	23	24 SIRACUSA 50 th Anniversary Dinner
25 Fulton Call Syr SL 9 Syr AS 9:15 Johnson City 10 Whitesboro 11	26	27	28 NYSSD Religious Ed	29	30	*



April Birthdays

- 8 Edith Gregory
- 18 Desiree Kavanaugh
- 20 Amy Coppola
- 23 Donald Starks
- 24 Richie Coppola
- 25 Frank J LoRusso
- 25 Bob Thurlow
- 26 Kathleen Young

April Anniversaries

- 23 Regina & Kevin Welch
- 24 Joan & Robert Leahy
50 Years!
Congratulations!

Little Catholic Lesson:

Here's a Catholic belief that's an ASL hand-full... **Transubstantiation**

Can a substance (something) change into something else?
Can wood become water?

At Mass it does happen!!

At the Consecration, when the priest says the words of Jesus, the bread and wine become the real Body and Blood of Christ! It still looks like bread and wine and tastes like bread and wine...but the substances have changed into Our Lord!

If we have no serious sin, we may receive Jesus in Holy Communion!
We are so blessed.

Holy Week Schedules

St James, Johnson City

4/1 Holy Thursday 7 PM
4/2 Good Friday 3 PM
4/4 Easter 10 AM

St Mary's-St Peter's, Rome

4/1 Holy Thursday 7 PM
4/2 Good Friday 2 PM
4/4 Easter Vigil 7:30 PM

St Paul's, Whitesboro

4/4 Easter Sunday 11 AM

St Lucy, Syracuse & Holy Trinity, Fulton
Interpreting schedules unavailable at printing time.
Please check with your parish

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>MAY 2010</h1>						1 10:30 Special Explanatory Mass for 1 st Communion
2 Fulton Call Syr SL 9 Syr AS 9:15 Johnson City 10 Rome 10	3	4	5	6 Liverpool Group 10 AM- 2 PM	7	8
9 Fulton Call Syr SL 9 Syr AS 9:15 Johnson City 10 Whitesboro 11	10	11 Barber Shop 10 AM - 1 PM Utica	12 Youth Ministers Meeting NYSSD Religious Ed	13 Holy Day The Ascension area Masses	14	15
16 Fulton Call Syr SL 9 Syr AS 9:15 Johnson City 10 Rome 11:30 1 st Communion	17	18	19 NYSSD Religious Ed	20 Liverpool Group 10 AM - 2 PM	21	22
23 Fulton Call Syr SL 9 Syr AS 9:15 Johnson City 10 Whitesboro 11	24	25	26	27 7 PM St Lucy's Cabaret Syracuse	28	29
30 Fulton Call Syr SL 9 Syr AS 9:15 Johnson City 10 Rome 10	31 MEMORIAL DAY					



May Birthdays

- 1 Bryce Dadey
- 1 Jeanette D Romanowski
- 3 Kelly Martin
- 4 Ashley Nemier
- 5 Cody Sharpsteen
- 6 Derek Roberts
- 7 Mark Frechette
- 8 Stan Suchocki
- 14 Kelly Read
- 15 Angelo Mingoelli
- 15 Patty Parish
- 16 Stephanie Burchett
- 18 Ray Carroll
- 19 Virginia Grant
- 20 Leo Falcone
- 21 Joan Pealo
- 25 Ted Sawanec
- 26 Fr Tom Coughlin
- 27 Zachary Frechette
- 29 William Wiley
- 30 Pat Maher

May Anniversaries

- 17 Denise & Peter Hnelosub
- 21 Patty & Mike Parish
- 21 Susan & Matt Windecker
- 28 Ann & Ken Rakowski

REGINA COELI (Queen of Heaven)

It is a praiseworthy practice to recite these prayers in the early morning, at noon, and in the evening.

V. Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia:

R. For he whom you merited to bear, alleluia,

V. Has risen, as he said, alleluia.

R. Pray for us to God, alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.

R. Because the Lord is truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray. O God, who by the Resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, granted joy to the whole world: grant, we beg you, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, his Mother, we may lay hold of the joys of eternal life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen. (*Roman Breviary*)

PICNIC



By the
Barber Shop

Tuesday, **June 8th**
10 AM - 2 PM

St Thomas,
New Hartford

Catered Lunch

\$15

+

ICDA 102's Fabulous Raffle!!

Tickets 2 for \$1

Reservations for Lunch by June 1st

Send to: Catholic Deaf Community
PO Box 572 Rome NY 13442-0572

*Special Easter Gift
to the Catholic Deaf Community*

\$5 ___ \$10 ___ \$15 ___ \$20 ___ Other ___

Name _____

Address _____

City _____



**CATHOLIC DEAF COMMUNITY - MONTHLY GIVING
March - April - May 2010**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Please circle amount enclosed: \$15 \$25 \$30 other _____

Thanks for gifts of your time, talent, and money!

Mail to: Catholic Deaf Community PO Box 572 Rome NY 13442-0572



Students in Religious Education class at NYSSD
writing Christmas notes to special friends at Loretto.

Thank you to those who support us!

*** Masses in the East will alternate between Rome & Whitesboro. Please check calendars inside.**

Interpreted Masses are found at:

North: Holy Trinity in Fulton

South: St James in Johnson City

East: St Mary-St Peter in Rome
St Paul in Whitesboro

West: St Lucy in Syracuse
All Saints in Syracuse

Handy Dandy Websites!

Signed: www.frmd.org &
www.transfiguration.com

Catholic Network for Adult Faith Formation:
www.cnaaff.org

www.foryourmarriage.org

www.kofc.org

www.americancatholic.org

Holley Family Village in Michigan

Directors: Fr Mike Depcik & Kid Black Fedio
offers

Deaf Catholic Family Week

July 25 - 30, 2010

Deaf Catholic Youth Week

August 1 - 6, 2010

Scholarships are available for both weeks.

Contact Fr Mike: Depcik@desales.org

Other Opportunities

Cursillo Ultreya August 12 - 15, 2010

World Youth Day in Spain 2011

Contact MV: syrdeaf@juno.com

Special Request

Dorothy "Dot" Lightaul would love to have visitors!
She is a NYSSD 1975 graduate. She became blind at 20.
She now lives in Sherrill on Rte 5 near Rte 31.

You can find out more from Anne Parish or MV.
syrdeaf@juno.com