

## A Message from Pam.....



Ash Wednesday is just around the corner! This day is our call to accept that being a Christian is a very serious commitment. Through our practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving we can reflect on our own need for forgiveness and healing. Lent is the great liturgical season that invites us to take a moment to stop and reflect on the importance of our personal spiritual formation and relationship with God. We can ask ourselves, if we fell back into old habits again or did we continue to build on what we accomplished on previous Lenten journeys. This season offers us quite a challenge, but then again it still draws us. It draws us over 40 days, giving us time to get into our journey, a journey that will hopefully lead us to a continued conversion of our hearts that will bring us closer to our Lord.

As I continue to travel about the diocese, I can't help but notice the ice covered corn fields, the horses in the fields with their blankets on, shorter daylight hours and many snow and ice covered roads. It is quite nerve racking at times when you realize you could be driving through all four seasons on a twenty mile stretch on Route 11. All kidding aside, we all know we need the darkness and challenges of winter to witness the birth of new life in the spring. Just as nature needs its time to rest and energize for the spring, so do we. We can look to the Lenten season as a gift. It is our time, to rest, reflect and energize for the celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord, for without this season of Lent, the resurrection would have very little meaning. As we continue on our spiritual journey, let us pray that our Lord with his loving care, will guide the cleansing and healing of our hearts, and help us to persevere with love and sincerity.



## Office Information

### Up Coming Events

#### **Our Confirmation Retreats are full!**

*Our regional confirmation retreats are full. Beth and Chris Carlin from Living Hope Ministries in East Schodack, NY will facilitate the day for our Confirmation students. Beth and Chris have returned to the area by popular demand. We look forward to them joining us on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>.*

#### **Regional CORE**

Our next Regional Core Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 21, 2012 at The Catholic Community of St. Philip of Jesus and St. Joseph in Willisboro. Sue Fahey will be our hostess. Thank you Sue

Plans have begun for our Journey with Christ Celebration. The tentative date is Oct. 13 from 8:00am – Noon at Tobin Hall at St. Mary's of the Lake, Cumberland Head.

#### **Youth Rally**

Attention all Youth leaders and Catechetical Leaders. This year the Youth rally will be at IHC in Watertown on April 28, 2012. Students in grades 7-12 are welcome to come for the day. More information will be forthcoming.

#### **Book Fair**

MARK YOUR CALENDER! Our annual **Book Fair in Lake Placid** has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 23. Come and join us for a great morning of fine food, a chance to meet book company representatives and get a peek preview of some of the new material that is available. Registration information will be coming out soon.

### Upcoming Catechist Certification Training

#### **March 1<sup>st</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>**

Prayer and Spirituality 1+2  
6:-8:30pm, Seton Academy

#### **April 23 & 30**

Morality 1 + 2

6:00-8:30pm, Sacred Heart Church, Chazy, NY

#### **June 25**

Scripture 1 + 2

8:00am – 2:45pm, Seton Academy

#### **June 26**

Morality 1+2

8:00 am – 2:45 pm, Seton Academy