



July 3, 2024

Dear Fathers and Deacons,

First of all, thank you for your cooperation in our Living Stones Planning process. I am most pleased with the leadership of our deans in explaining our planning process, and obtaining feedback from the priests and deacons in their deanery. The St. Lawrence and Jefferson-Lewis deaneries have accepted the pastoral care areas recommended by the Living Stones Planning Committee. Adirondack Mountain and Clinton-Northern Franklin Deaneries have recommended some changes to the proposed pastoral care areas in their deaneries, and those requests are currently being considered by me.

The deans have passed on to you information that will help you lead your parishioners in the formulation of your pastoral plans. Your leadership and energy are needed for this planning process to be successful. The planning process will require changes, focus on what is important, extensive consultation, and strong leadership. Our goal is vibrant parishes, focused on the Eucharist, evangelization, mission, and bold proclamation of the Gospel.

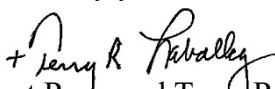
Several of our pastors have found Divine Renovation Ministry to be helpful in moving parishes from maintenance to mission. St. Agnes Parish in Lake Placid and St. Peter's Parish in Massena are sponsoring a one-day event called Unlocked. It will take place at St. Agnes Church in Lake Placid on Friday, August 23, 2024. I strongly recommend that you and members of your parish leadership group consider participating.

Unlocked is meant to build up a parish, to create enthusiasm and momentum that propels the formation of disciples and conversion of souls. The goal of Unlocked is to encourage pastors and parish leaders to rediscover zeal for what is possible, and the enthusiasm that leads to the building up of a vibrant community of faith.

You are encouraged to register for Divine Renovation Unlocked: Northern New York at Unlocked-Divine Renovation Ministry (<https://divinerenovation.org/events/>). Tickets are \$30 per person, or \$25 per person for a group of four or more. For more information, you may contact Marika Donders ([mdonders@rcdony.org](mailto:mdonders@rcdony.org)), or Gin Shaw at St. Agnes Parish ([renewal@stagneslp.org](mailto:renewal@stagneslp.org)).

This event is a joint project of St. Agnes Parish, St. Peter's Parish in Massena, and the Diocesan Office of the New Evangelization. Asking God to bless you and our planning process, I am

Fraternally yours in Christ,

  
Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley  
Bishop of Ogdensburg