

on the MOVE

I am thankful for

My family, because my grandparents have survived this past year while battling diseases. Also the Diocesan Youth Committee because they are now some of my best friends... and for the Lord leading me on a path for the future, for the guidance he has given me to choose colleges and a major.

— Brianna Carney, 17, St. Margaret Mary, Irondequoit

The strength and courage I see in my friend battling cancer.

A supportive family and caring friends.

— Kelsey Keane, 14, St. Dominic's, Shortsville

Caring people because without them, the world would be a disaster. They take care of the people no one else would. They volunteer for numerous projects and give up their time for others.

— Cassandra Skelly, 18, St. Mary's, Scottsville

All the people in my life and all the opportunities that I've been blessed with. God has been an amazing part of my life, which I am always grateful for.

— Eric Heaton, 18, Tioga Catholic Community

My friends and my parents, as well as my grandparents and extended family. For 15 years, I've worn a brace on my left leg due to a medical condition I've had since birth. These people were always there for me in my times of trial and I am forever grateful to them. I got my brace off over the summer, but I know I'll always have these great people in my life.

— Martha McCahill, 16, Church of the Transfiguration, Pittsford

The opportunity to staff this retreat, to give back what I have taken.

— Tristan Young, 18, Holy Trinity, Webster

My friends and family. But this year I am most thankful for doctors and medicine, because a few months ago I was in the hospital for migraines because they got so severe. At Strong Memorial Hospital (in Rochester), they treated me with the right medicine and were so nice to me. I am so thankful that God put them on this earth.

— Angela Swagler, 15, Tioga Catholic Community

Faith, family and friends. When it all boils down, these are the invaluable support bases that help us through life's ups and downs.

Not surprisingly, these were the prevalent themes when the Catholic Courier asked diocesan teens (grades nine-12) what they're most thankful for this Thanksgiving season.

Responses were gathered at a Nov. 18-20 diocesan retreat at the Salvation Army's Long Point Camp near Penn Yan.

My mom, because she's great!

— Chris Stennie, 17, Holy Trinity, Webster

Family, friends, companionship, food and God.

— Greg Barber, 16, St. Margaret Mary, Amherst

The turkey who gave his life for Thanksgiving!



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