



Diocese of Scranton

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MISSION STATEMENT

We the Catholic faithful of the Diocese of Scranton, in union with our Holy Father, the Pope, are called through baptism to share in the mission which Jesus Christ has entrusted to the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. Priests, deacons, religious and laity, under the leadership of our Bishop, cooperate to proclaim the Gospel in accordance with the teaching of the Church, to celebrate the sacraments, especially the Eucharist, for the salvation of all, and to witness by grace to the Kingdom of God so as to promote a culture of life, justice and peace.

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Official Notice

As a reminder to the faithful of the Diocese of Scranton, the Society of Saint Pius X, begun by Archbishop Lefebvre, is separated from the Catholic Church, and Catholics are not permitted to join them for worship or receive the sacraments from their priests.

While efforts are being made to reconcile the Society with the Catholic Church, the outcome of this situation is currently unresolved.

Reverend Brian J. W. Clarke
Vicar General
Diocese of Scranton

Official Notice

John J. Cordaro, a resident of Scranton and a former priest of the Oblates of Saint Joseph, has been forbidden to exercise priestly ministry. Catholics of the Diocese of Scranton should be mindful that, in view of this prohibition, they may not approach this person for any of the sacraments.

Reverend Brian J. W. Clarke
Vicar General
Diocese of Scranton

Retreat for Men Considering Priesthood

Men who are wondering whether God is calling them to the priesthood will have an opportunity to focus on that possibility when the Diocese of Scranton hosts a Discernment Retreat March 25-27 at Fatima Renewal Center in Dalton.

The retreat will be a weekend of prayer, reflection and conversation to help the participants discern whether they have a vocation to become a priest. The participants will reflect on St. Joseph, the dilemma he faced and the decision he made to accept God's invitation to be the husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the stepfather of Jesus.

For information and to register for the retreat, contact Father Christopher Washington at the Vocations Office, 570-558-4383.

Regional Workshops for the Implementation of *The Roman Missal*

General Meeting: March 2, Wednesday (Snow date: March 7, Monday) - 7 to 9 p.m.

Musicians Meeting: March 10, Thursday (Snow date: March 14, Monday) 7 to 9 p.m.

Location: Sacred Heart Hall, Peckville

General Meeting: March 22, Tuesday (Snow date: March 29, Tuesday) 7 to 9 p.m.

Musicians Meeting: March 15, Tuesday (Snow date: March 16, Wednesday) 7 to 9 p.m.

Location: St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church, Wilkes-Barre

To register: Call Jane Guzek at the Office for Parish Life and Evangelization at 570-207-2213, ext 1105.

Ash Wednesday Reflection Day

"Come back to me with all your heart" is the theme for the Ash Wednesday Reflection Day that will take place at Fatima Renewal Center, Dalton, on March 9. The day, sponsored by the Office for Parish Life and Evangelization, will begin at 9:30 a.m. and end at 2:30 p.m.

Passionist Father James Price, rector of St. Ann's Basilica, Scranton, is the presenter. A native of St. Rose Parish, Carbondale, Father Price entered the Passionists in 1983 and was ordained to the

priesthood in 1994.

He served as assistant pastor of Immaculate Conception Monastery Parish in Jamaica, N.Y. He also served his community as province vocation director, director of the Bishop Molloy Passionist Retreat House, Jamaica, N.Y., and was elected the first provincial consultant of the Eastern Province of St. Paul of the Cross in 2006.

Father Prince was chaplain to the Mary Louis Academy and to the NYPD Honor Legion, and was community liaison to the NYPD Highway Patrol Unit #3. Since his time as vocation director, Father Price has been engaged in preaching missions, retreats and conducting scripture study programs.

The Reflection Day will focus on the importance of our relationship with Christ and how it impacts our relationships in life on all levels. Reflections on themes in the Old and New Testaments that call us to respond to the invitation to "come back to the Lord with all our hearts" will be the central aspect of Father's presentation. The conferences will lead us to enjoy a deep and lasting relationship with our Crucified and Risen Savior so that our personal relationships with one another are rooted in holiness.

Mass will be celebrated with distribution of ashes. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available.

The fee is \$30, which includes lunch. To register, call Fatima Renewal Center at 570-563-8500.

Faith Formation Bible Study

A Faith Formation Bible Study will be offered at the Diocesan Center in Scranton on eight consecutive Wednesdays - March 16, 23, 30, April 6, 13, 20, 27 and May 4 - from 2 to 3:30 p.m. The sessions will be led by Brendan Murphy, Diocesan director of Family Life, Marriage Preparation and Adult Faith Formation.

This eight-part series provides an excellent introduction and overview of the Bible from a Catholic perspective. The study briefly covers salvation history through talks that are complemented by group discussion questions, useful maps and charts, and information for home study.

The series makes the complexity of the Bible simple through an easy-to-follow narrative approach and an innovative color-coded Bible timeline. It will also serve as a guide for those who desire to lead Bible Study groups in their parishes.

Most importantly, it is recommended for those who seek to learn about the story of our faith as it unfolds in the Bible. It is an invaluable way for individuals to enrich their understanding and appreciation for God's word as revealed throughout salvation history.

Registration fee is \$30, which includes the \$20 cost of the workbook. To register, call 207-2213, ext. 1107.

Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities Awareness Mass

The Diocese of Scranton will celebrate "Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities Awareness Month" with a special liturgy on Sunday, March 6, at 10 a.m. in St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton. Bishop Emeritus James C. Timlin will be the principal celebrant. Persons who have developmental and intellectual disabilities will serve as greeters, gift bearers, readers and servers for the liturgy.

On this day, we will gather to pray with and recognize the many gifts our brothers and sisters with different abilities bring to our parish communities.

Following the liturgy, The ARC of Northeastern PA will sponsor a continental breakfast in the former Holy Cross High School auditorium. All are welcome.

Involved In Adult Faith Formation?

Are you responsible for directing adult faith formation (AFF) in your parish or cluster? Do you have a desire to find ways in which you can increase the faith of the adult Catholics in your community? If so, please e-mail Brendan Murphy, diocesan Director of Family Life, Marriage Preparation, and Adult Faith Formation at Brendan-Murphy@dioceseofscranton.org. This will put you on an electronic mailing list through which you will receive monthly e-mails containing suggestions on how to get AFF up and running in your parish/cluster, or how to improve existing programs. In addition you will receive access to great resources, reviews of AFF materials, tips on how to incorporate technology into your apostolate, and other helpful suggestions geared towards evangelizing adult Catholics.

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion Training

Diocesan Center, Scranton
March 15, 22, 29 - Tuesdays 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Deacon Gerard L. Carpenter

Good Shepherd Academy, Kingston
March 7, 14, 21 - Mondays 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Deacon Thomas Cesarini

Fee: \$30. To register: Call the Pastoral Formation Office at 570-207-2213, ext. 1107.