

Diocese of Scranton

www.dioceseofscranton.org

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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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Guild Store Now Offers Online Shopping

The Diocesan Guild store has launched a website to offer patrons a convenient way to shop online.

The Guild website will feature many of the Catholic books, church goods and religious articles that are available in the store at 400 Wyoming Avenue in Scranton. More items are being added to the website daily.

The store was opened by late Scranton Bishop William Hafey in 1940 to serve the faithful by providing religious articles and books to support and strengthen Catholic devotion. The Guild website extends that mission by providing online shopping, which a number of customers have requested.

"We are pleased to provide a convenient shopping option for customers who prefer to shop online," said general manager Trish Morrow, noting that The Guild serves a wide territory already, with customers from Scranton, Wilkes-Barre, Williamsport, the Poconos and the Allentown area.

"Some customers are unable to travel to the store because of distance or their health," she said. "Whether it is a priest ordering a new black clergy shirt or a homebound person wanting a baby gift, they

now have a quick and easy way to order."

In-stock items are usually shipped within one to two business days. The Guild store's website can be found at www.shoptheguild.org or at www.diocesofscranton.org under "Diocesan Offices" or "How Can I?"

Catholic Charismatic Conference Aug. 5-7 in Scranton

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the Diocese of Scranton will host its 29th Annual Conference at the University of Scranton during the weekend of Aug. 5-7.

The theme of this year's Charismatic gathering is "Unity through Pentecost: 'One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism.'" (*Ephesians* 4:5) The 2011 conference speakers include:

Father Anthony Mario Ozele, from the Diocese of Warri, Nigeria. A well-known preacher and evangelist, he has directed numerous retreats and missions and currently resides at Good Shepherd Parish in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Father John Gordon, of the Archdiocese of Newark, N.J. Active in the Charismatic community since 1975, he is a past member of the National Service Committee and has served as director of the pre-theologate program at the Franciscan University of Steubenville in Ohio.

Caroline Gambale-Dirkes, active in evangelization ministry for 16 years and currently a member of the National Service Committee for the Charismatic Renewal. She and her husband Dan are founders of 2Tim4.com Ministries, which evangelizes through retreats, Life in the Spirit seminars and parish missions, and provides training for evangelists.

Father Ian Taylor, from the Archdiocese of Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, who has been active in evangelization ministry since his ordination in 1988.

Father Jungsoo Kim, who served as director of Cuane, a Korean-American young adult Charismatic service team before his ordination as a priest of the Archdiocese of Newark in 2003. He currently serves as pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Demarest, N.J.

The Charismatic conference also offers a children's track for ages 5 to 11, and youth track, presented by a team of youth ministers, for ages 12 and above.

For more information and registration, contact the Catholic Charismatic Renewal office in Scranton at 344-2214.

Statement Regarding Father Michael O'Leary, F.S.S.P.

On Sunday, July 17, 2011, Diocesan officials were informed that Fr. Michael O'Leary, a member of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter, allegedly furnished alcohol to two individuals, including an underage young adult and a minor. The Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter is a Clerical Society of Apostolic Life in the Church, established by Pope John Paul II in 1988 to offer the Traditional Latin Rite of the Mass and the sacraments to the faithful. At the time the incident was reported, Fr. O'Leary was serving as Pastor at St. Michael the Archangel Parish, Scranton, where Masses are offered in the Traditional Latin Rite. He has served in that capacity since January 2010. Diocesan officials have spoken with the parents of the two individuals and reported the matter to law enforcement. The incident was also reported to the appropriate superiors from the Fraternity of St. Peter. Fr. O'Leary has been removed from ministry and from St. Michael's Parish pending the outcome of the investigation. Diocesan officials remain committed to fully cooperating with law enforcement in the investigation.

Requests for further information can be made to Fr. Eric Flood, North

American District Superior, Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter, at (570) 842-4000, extension 0.

Notice Regarding Solicitation of Funds By Priests From The Diocese of Nellore

Bishop Bambera has received notice that several priests of the Diocese of Nellore, India, who recently completed their terms of service in the Diocese of Scranton and returned to their native land, have been soliciting members of the faithful of the Diocese of Scranton for personal funds. Although their requests indicate that the purpose of donated funds is to subsidize various ministries in which the priests will be engaged upon their return to India, the solicitation letters also request that the funds donated be sent directly to a particular priest.

The Diocese of Scranton strictly forbids and does not authorize any priest to make a personal request for funds. Additionally, the Bishop of the Diocese of Nellore asks that any donation be used to support the general ministry of the Diocese of Nellore and not an individual priest.

The Diocese of Scranton is grateful for the pastoral ministry of priests from the Diocese of Nellore, India who had previously served and those who currently serve in our Diocesan parishes. Although appreciative of their ministry in the Diocese of Scranton, care must also be taken to ensure that the generosity of members of the faithful is protected.

***Disciple* Podcast Up and Running**

In May the Office for Parish Life and Evangelization launched a monthly podcast to educate, encourage and enrich the faithful of the Diocese. Each episode will follow a set structure.

The "Faith in a Flash" segment explains a fundamental aspect of Catholic belief, practice, or spirituality in 20 minutes or less, using one of the Sunday readings as a starting point. The "Living Faith" segment highlights positive ways in which people around the Diocese are living out their Catholic faith. "Friends in High Places" profiles a saint whose feast day falls within that episode's month, and a calendar of events rounds out each episode.

A Podcast is an audio file that can be listened to online, downloaded to an mp3 player (e.g. iPod), or burned to a CD. The *Disciple* Podcast is posted each month on the Diocese's website (see "Adult Faith Formation" under the Parish Life menu tab). This format allows people to listen to each episode in whatever format is easiest for them. Listeners can also subscribe to the podcast through iTunes.

The nature of the mp3 format is such that it will be very easy to pass each episode on to family, friends and co-workers who may find it interesting. *Disciple* could be especially useful for reaching out to friends and family members who may be estranged from the Church or are curious about what Catholics believe.

Catholic Relief Services Collection Helps "Jesus In Disguise"

The Catholic Relief Services Collection supports families in distress, whether across the street or half way around the globe. This collection, which funds six major national and international Catholic relief agencies, will be taken up at Masses in the Diocese of Scranton the

weekend of July 30-31.

The Catholic Relief Services Collection's theme is "*Jesus in Disguise: How will you help?*"

The collection supports Catholic programs that aid victims of natural disasters, resettle U.S. refugees, help alleviate poverty in developing countries, provide legal aid for poor immigrants, and advocate for policies and programs that promote global justice and peace.

This year the focus of the collection is the family. The collection helps families, values their fundamental role in society, and strives to protect them.

In its initial response to the earthquake in Haiti, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) provided more than 10 million meals to more than a million people. Currently, CRS is providing food to more than 90,000 students in more than 270 schools, as well as monthly food rations to more than 100 orphanages and child care centers in Port-au-Prince.

CRS continues to build transitional housing for displaced families and its cash-for-work program also provides a source of income for Haitians while they help to rebuild their country. CRS is also helping to rebuild St. Francois de Sales Hospital in Port-au-Prince and is leading an effort to provide advanced training to Haitian doctors and nurses.

The Catholic Relief Services Collection funds six Catholic agencies: the Catholic Legal Immigration Network Inc.; Migration and Refugee Services; CRS; the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishop's Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church, which provides outreach and pastoral care to different ethnic and cultural groups; the Holy Father's Relief Fund, which provides assistance to victims of natural disasters and other emergencies around the world; and the USCCB's Department of Justice, Peace, and Human Development, which advocates for poor and vulnerable people and for international justice and peace.

Get the Word Out About Faith Formation Opportunities

Do you have an adult faith formation event taking place in your parish? Do you want to get the word out to parishioners around the Diocese? If so, please e-mail your events to BrendanMurphy@dioceseofscranton.org and we'll include them on the calendar of events listing on the Adult Faith Formation page. This will enable parishioners around the Diocese to find faith formation opportunities near them. Please be sure to include a brief description of the event; dates/times; a contact phone number/e-mail; and cost (if applicable).

Free Presentation on Tolkien Aug. 3 in Peckville

J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings* have proven tremendously popular since their publication. Both books have been translated into over 40 languages and, combined, have sold over 250 million copies, making them the second- and third-best selling novels of all time. The film adaptation of *The Lord of the Rings* won an Academy Award for Best Picture and had box office receipts of nearly \$3 billion worldwide.

But how many of those who have read the books or watched the movies are aware of the role Tolkien's Catholic faith played in shaping the material? On Aug. 3, Nathan Lefler, Ph.D. will give a presentation at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Peckville (1101 Willow Street) that will explore the fascinating connection between Tolkien's faith and the fantastical world he created. The presentation begins at 7 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

To register, call 383-3244. To hear an interview with Dr. Lefler on this topic, listen to the July issue of the Disciple podcast on the front page of the Diocesan website (www.dioceseofscranton.org).

Natural Family Planning Instruction

A public Natural Family Planning (NFP) class will take place on Aug. 17 at 7:30 p.m. in the basement of St. Peter's Cathedral Rectory (315 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton). The class will be lead by Megan Murphy, C.N.F.P.I. and will last about two hours. The cost for the training is \$45 and includes materials and a basal body thermometer (the cost is \$35 if you already have the thermometer). Please call 207-2213, ext. 1133 to register.

NFP is a non-contraceptive and morally sound form of family planning. Safe, effective, and completely natural, NFP can be used by all women, whether they have short/long/irregular cycles, are post-partum, or perimenopausal. Major scientific studies on the effectiveness of NFP done by such organizations as the University of Heidelberg, the British Medical Journal, the World Health Organization, and the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare have shown NFP to be over 99% effective in helping couples to postpone pregnancy. Unlike any other form of birth control, NFP can also help couples achieve pregnancy by giving them the tools necessary to identify the most fertile periods in a woman's cycle.

Monthly classes and one-on-one instruction are available through the Diocese for a minimal fee. For more information or to find a certified NFP instructor near you, please call 570-207-2213, ext. 1133 or e-mail Brendan-Murphy@dioceseofscranton.org. You can also explore the Natural Family Planning page at the diocesan website.

Free Adult Faith Formation Resources Available

The July edition of the monthly adult faith formation (AFF) resource, *Disciple*, is now available. This month's issue features commentary on the Sunday Gospel readings; a look at Catholic belief about the moral conscience; a listing of upcoming adult faith formation opportunities in the Diocese and reviews of the book *ST. Thomas Aquinas* and the film *The Rite*.

<http://www.dioceseofscranton.org/parishes/adult-faith-formation/>

Also available on the Adult Faith Formation page is the next installment of *AD: Anno Domini* which looks at the key events occurring in the life of the Church from A.D. 1200-1300 (previous installments, beginning with A.D. 30-100 are cataloged online).


<http://www.dioceseofscranton.org/parishes/adult-faith-formation/>

The July edition of the monthly family resource, *Familia Fidelis*, is also available. This month's issue features a reflection for parents on how they educate their children on the true nature of man; a look at what the Church teaches about creation and evolution for teens; a review of *Life at the Pond* for children, and a look at this month's "Friend for Families", St. Stephen of Hungary.

<http://www.dioceseofscranton.org/parishes/family-life-office/>

Mark Your Calendar

Day of Reflection: "The Eucharist and the Transfiguration -- Living in the Glory of God," Aug. 6 -- 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Fatima Renewal Center, Dalton. Guest presenter: Passionist Father James Price. Offered by the Diocesan Office for Parish Life/Evangelization on the Feast of the Transfiguration, this Day of Reflection is presented as a reflection on the transforming power of the Eucharist -- transfiguring and keeping us focused on the mission of Jesus as we walk our journey of faith in today's world. The day includes



celebration of Mass and opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Fee: \$30, includes lunch. To register, call Fatima Center at 563-8500.