

Diocese of Scranton

www.dioceseofscranton.org

News Briefing Vol. 7 No. 12 9/1/2011



MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Catholic community of the Diocese of Scranton, are called through Baptism to imitate the servant leadership of Jesus Christ.

In union with our Holy Father, the Pope, we proclaim the Gospel faithfully, celebrate the sacraments joyfully, and boldly promote life, justice and peace in northeastern and north central Pennsylvania.

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Mass in Italian This Sunday at St. Peter's Cathedral

The annual Mass in Italian will be offered this Sunday, Sept. 4, at St. Peter's Cathedral in Scranton. The Mass begins at 10 a.m.

The liturgy is celebrated in conjunction with La Festa Italiana, which occurs over the Labor Day weekend, Sept. 3-4-5, on Courthouse Square, one block from the Cathedral.

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera will preach the homily. The principal celebrant is Father David P. Cappelloni, pastor of Ss. Anthony and Rocco Parish in Dunmore and La Festa chaplain.

Concelebrants will include Father Philip Altavilla, V.E., Father Brian J.W. Clarke, V.G., Father Joseph Cipriano, Father Thomas Roach, S.J., Monsignor Constantine Siconolfi and other priests of the Diocese. Father Brian J.T. Clarke is the master of ceremonies. Deacon Carmine Mendicino will be the deacon for the liturgy.

The Mass will be broadcast live by CTV: Catholic Television and will be available for viewing later in the day on the Diocesan website at www.dioceseofscranton.org. CTV will rebroadcast the Mass on Tuesday, Sept. 6, at 8 p.m., and on Wednesday, Sept. 7, at 10 a.m.

Music ministry for the Italian Mass will be provided by the choirs of Ss. Anthony and Rocco Parish, Dunmore; Holy Family Parish, Luzerne; and UNICO, accompanied by a brass quartet, all directed by Joseph Moffitt.

Bible Study Programs Scheduled for Fall Months

Two faith formation study programs will be offered this fall through the Pastoral Formation Institute. Both programs will be presented by Brendan Murphy, director of Adult Faith Formation for the Diocese.

The first program, "**The Bible Timeline: 24-Part Study**," is scheduled for the upcoming fall and spring. The first 12 sessions will be given on the following Wednesdays: Sept. 7, 14, 28; Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26; Nov. 2, 9, 16, 30; and Dec. 7 at the Diocesan Center, Scranton. The sessions will be held from 2 to 4 p.m.

The last 12 sessions will be given in the spring, with dates yet to be determined. Fee for this program is \$60, which includes the \$25 for the binder, and covers all 24 sessions (both fall and spring).

"The Bible Timeline: 24-Part Study" provides the necessary information for one to study God's Word as it unfolds in the Bible. This study presents the overarching study of God's plan of salvation and gives an understanding of how the people, events and themes of Scripture fit together. Anyone who reads these 14 books will not only have a sequential history of the people of Israel, but will also learn the beginnings of the Christian Church.

The second program, "**A Biblical Walk through the Mass**," is scheduled to be held at Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace Church in Hawley on the following Thursdays: Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27; and Nov. 3, from 6 to 8 p.m. The fee for this program is \$30, which includes the \$20 cost of the workbook and study book.

A five-part study, "A Biblical Walk through the Mass" offers a more in-depth study of the liturgy. Based on the revised translation of the Mass that goes into effect beginning this Advent, this series explores the biblical roots of the words and gestures experienced during the Mass and explains their profound significance.

As the roots of the Catholic liturgy are explored, participants will come to know and understand the Mass more deeply. The words and gestures that are said and seen will be experienced in a new light, leading individuals to a more fruitful sense of worship and renewed devotion to the Eucharist.

Both faith formation programs are components of "The Great Adventure Bible Series." To register for either program, call the Pastoral Formation Institute Office at 570-207-2213, ext. 1107.

Diocese Observing 9/11 Anniversary

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the tragic events of September 11, 2001. Various religious and civic commemoration events will take place throughout the region.

An Interfaith Service of Remembrance and Commitment will be held on Sunday, Sept. 11, at 7 p.m. in St. Peter's Cathedral. Bishop Bambera will preside, and a message will be delivered by Rabbi Joe Mendelsohn, spiritual leader of Temple Israel in Scranton and president of the Scranton Area Ministerium.

Representatives of Christian, Jewish and Muslim faith communities will participate. Music ministry will be provided by Danny Marx, director

of liturgical music at the Cathedral.

Invitations have been extended to local firefighters, police, public safety, emergency services and military personnel. The public is invited to attend.

CTV: Catholic Television will broadcast the service live.

The Sept. 8 edition of *The Catholic Light* will publish a listing of what parishes and Catholic institutions are doing to commemorate the anniversary.

Convocation for Catechists Set for October 15

The Office for Parish Life and Evangelization will sponsor the annual Convocation for Catechists on Saturday, Oct. 15 with the theme, "Vocations: Creating a Culture. Celebrating Our Call."

The day will begin with Mass at 9 a.m. at Our Lady of Fatima Parish in St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church in Wilkes-Barre. Bishop Joseph C. Bambera will be the celebrant.

The day will continue at Holy Redeemer High School. At 10:30 a.m. in the auditorium, Bishop Joseph P. McFadden of Harrisburg will deliver the keynote address. Lunch, a panel discussion on vocations and a variety of workshops, including a *VIRTUS* training session, are planned for the afternoon. The convocation will conclude at 3:30 p.m.

This will be a day of adult faith formation. All DREs, catechists, youth ministers and any adults in the Diocese who wish to deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith are encouraged to attend.

Registration will begin in September. For more information, call the Office for Parish Life and Evangelization at 207-2213, ext. 1105.

"Pray for the DREAM" Sunday Is Sept. 25

Faithful in the Diocese of Scranton are invited to participate in the "Pray for the DREAM" Sunday on Sept. 25 in support of immigrant youths who aspire to become educated citizens.

This initiative is being promoted by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Justice for Immigrants (JFI) Campaign to encourage Congress to pass the DREAM Act. The legislation would provide a pathway to citizenship for young people who came to the United States with their parents.

Thousands of hard working young people who were brought to the United States as children want to go to college and live the American Dream, but can instead be detained and deported to countries they've never known. The DREAM Act could stop this injustice by giving students who have grown up and graduated from high school in the United States the opportunity to earn legal status through higher education or military service.

While the national debate over immigration reform continues, it is important to ensure that our Catholic values remain an essential component of the dialogue concerning innocent and hard working young people who are eligible for the DREAM Act.

The United States is a country of immigrants seeking a way of life that is supported by our longstanding Catholic traditions and highlighted in our U.S. Constitution. As Catholics, we support the DREAM Act because we believe in protecting the dignity of every human being, allowing everyone to reach their God given potential.

Parishes have been asked to participate in the "Pray for the DREAM" Sunday by raising awareness about the DREAM Act and the Justice for Immigrants Campaign. It is the hope of the JFI campaign that parishes across the country will plan events and/or connect their Masses, prayers and homilies to continue the call in support of the DREAM Act.

For more information about the DREAM Act, please visit

www.justiceforimmigrants.org

Theology of the Body Sessions in October

A two-part session on "The Theology of the Body" will be presented by Brendan Murphy, director of adult faith formation in the Diocesan Office for Parish Life and Evangelization, on Sundays, Oct. 16 and Oct. 30, from 12:30 to 5 p.m. at St. Peter Church in Wellsboro.

Blessed John Paul II's *Theology of the Body* is a meditative reflection on what it means to be created male and female and how that relates to the gift of our sexuality.

These sessions are of particular interest to teachers, catechists, youth ministers, married couples/parents, engaged couples or those interested in learning more about the gift the late pope has given the Church.

Fee: \$30, which includes the book by Christopher West, *The Theology of the Body for Beginners*. To register, call 207-2213, Ext. 1107.

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).

Workshop Will Prepare Faithful to Receive the New English Texts of *The Roman Missal*

The Diocese of Scranton Pastoral Formation Institute is sponsoring a workshop on "The Mystery of Faith: Preparing to Receive the New English Texts of *The Roman Missal*."

Monsignor Dale R. Rupert, director of the Diocesan Office for Divine Worship, will present the workshop in four locations:

Sept. 17 - St. John Evangelist Church, E. Stroudsburg, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sept. 24 - St. Joseph the Worker Church - Fleming Hall, Williamsport, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Oct. 1 - Annunciation Parish Hall, Hazleton, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Oct. 8 - Fatima Renewal Center, Dalton, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Each workshop will cover several topics. There will be presentations on the process of translation of liturgical texts from the original Latin into English, how the Church's doctrines are reflected in the new texts of the Mass, and the deeply spiritual and very scriptural characteristics of these liturgical texts.

Mass will be celebrated at the beginning of each workshop.

The fee for the Oct. 8 workshop at Fatima Renewal Center \$30, which includes lunch provided at the Center. For the other three locations the fee is \$15, which includes a light lunch.

Advance registration is required and can be made by calling the Pastoral Formation Institute at 570-207-2213, ext. 1107.

Natural Family Planning Instruction

A public Natural Family Planning (NFP) class will take place on Sept. 13 at 7:00 p.m. on the third floor of the Guild building, 400 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton. The class will be lead by Brendan and Heather 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 September 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 divine revelation; a listing of upcoming adult faith formation opportunities in the Diocese and reviews of the book *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass* and the film "The Counterfeiters."

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. 1400-1500 (previous installments, beginning with A.D. 30-100 are cataloged online).

The September edition of the monthly family resource, *Familia Fidelis*, is also available. This month's issue features a reflection for parents on marriage as a covenant; a look at whether the stories of the Bible are true for teens; a review of *Will You Bless Me?* for children, and a profile of this month's "Friend for Families," Blessed Frederic Ozanam.

As always, past issues of these newsletters can be found on the Adult Faith Formation and Family Life pages of the Diocesan website (www.dioceseofscranton.org).

Sacred Heart Shrine Closed; Devotions Continue

The National Shrine of the Sacred Heart of Jesus located in Harleigh, Pennsylvania has been closed effective August 8, 2011. Visits to the Shrine decreased significantly over the past several years; and with no direct funding source in place to maintain the Shrine, the property fell into disrepair and potential safety concerns were raised. In consideration of the future of the Shrine, a facilities study was conducted and concluded that the cost to renovate the Shrine would be prohibitive.

Although a few pilgrims visited the site intermittently, without the

finances available to upkeep and maintain the grounds, in concurrence with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, it was determined that the site be officially closed.

Recognizing the tremendous devotion many of the faithful have to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, First Friday devotions continue to be held at Queen of Heaven Parish (at Our Lady of Grace Church, 750 N. Vine Street in Hazleton). Devotions begin with Mass at 12:05 p.m., followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration, concluding with Benediction at 4 p.m.

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion Training

Monsignor McHugh Elementary School, Cresco
Sept. 15, 22, 29 (Thursdays), 6 to 8:30 p.m.
Father Joseph Kopacz and Father Gregory Loughney

Diocesan Center, Scranton
Oct. 4, 11, 18 (Tuesdays), 6:30 to 9 p.m.
Monsignor Dale Rupert

Good Shepherd Academy, Kingston
Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 3 (Mondays), 6:30 to 9 p.m.
Deacon Thomas Cesarini

Fee: \$30. To register: call 570-207-2213, ext. 1107

Basic Skills for Catechists

St. Jude Parish Hall, Mountaintop
Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27, Nov. 3 (Thursdays), 6 to 9 p.m.
Carmella Faust

Fee: \$30 (flat group rate of \$85 for three or more from one parish). To register: call 570-207-2213, ext. 1107

Pastoral Formation Institute Course Offerings

The Pastoral Formation Institute in the Diocese of Scranton announces its offering of Level III courses for the Fall 2011 semester. Level III courses are designed for Catholic school teachers, catechists, parish coordinators, or for those seeking personal enrichment. The course schedule is as follows:

101 -Introduction to Sacred Scripture (two locations): Holy Cross High School, Dunmore, Sept. 21-Nov. 23 (Wednesdays); 3 to 6 p.m. Instructor: Kathy Yaklic; and Notre Dame High School, East Stroudsburg, Sept. 27-Nov. 29 (Tuesdays); 3 to 6 p.m. Instructor: Helen Findlay.

201 -Fundamental Teachings of the Church (two locations): St. John Neumann High School, Williamsport, Sept. 6-Nov. 8 (Tuesdays); 3 to 6 p.m. Instructor: Father David Bechtel; and Holy Redeemer High School, Wilkes-Barre, Sept. 8-Nov. 10 (Thursdays); 3 to 6 p.m. Instructor: Father Brian J.T. Clarke.

301 - Sacraments in General: Diocesan Center, Scranton, Sept. 15-Nov. 17 (Thursdays); 6 to 9 p.m. Instructor: Monsignor Dale Rupert.

401 - Introduction to the Spiritual/Moral Life, Holy Cross

Parish/Kelly Hall, Olyphant, Sept. 20-Nov. 22 (Tuesdays); 6 to 9 p.m.
Instructor: Father James Dougher.

Please note: If class falls on a holy day of obligation or a holiday, the instructor will advise on make-up dates. Registration fee for all courses is \$150 (audit: \$65). To register, call 570-207-2213, ext. 1107 or e-mail: sister-leonita-duhoski@dioceseofscranton.org.

Mark Your Calendar

"Rachel's Vineyard" Post-Abortion Healing Retreat - Nov. 4-6.

Confidential weekend retreat facilitates spiritual and emotional healing for men and women struggling with the pain of abortion. Exercises based on Scripture are designed to help participants experience God's mercy and compassion, and to reconcile with their church, themselves and their child. The retreat concludes with a memorial service and Mass of Entrustment. Participation is strictly confidential. For more information, including registration, contact Denise Rowinski at 822-7118, ext. 307 or drowinski@csswb.org.

Ministry of Consolation Training Session, Nov. 5 - 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

at St. John Parish Hall, East Stroudsburg. Presenter: Nettie Goldate, certified trainer by the National Catholic Ministry to the Bereaved. This session will provide training for those who offer support to the bereaved. Topics include: Overview of Grief & Mourning; Order of Christian Funerals; and Concentration on Communication/Listening Skills. Session will also include information on how to begin a Ministry of Consolation on the parish level. Fee: \$30, includes lunch. To register, call 207-2213 ext. 1107.