



Diocese of Scranton

www.dioceseofscranton.org

News Briefing Vol. 7

No. 6 4/28/2011



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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Diocese Observing Beatification of Pope John Paul II CTV Airing Coverage from Rome

The Diocese of Scranton will observe the beatification of Pope John Paul II with a Mass in St. Peter's Cathedral, and Catholic Television: CTV will air coverage of the ceremony in Rome.

The liturgy in the Cathedral is this Sunday, May 1, at 10 a.m. Bishop Emeritus James C. Timlin will be the principal celebrant. CTV will broadcast the Mass.

CTV is also carrying EWTN's coverage of the beatification ceremony and several related programs:

Saturday, April 30, 1:30 p.m. - *Vigil In Honor of the Beatification of Pope John Paul II* - live from the Circus Maximus,

the vigil will be led by Cardinal Agostino Vallini, His Holiness' Vicar General for the Diocese of Rome. Pope Benedict XVI will be spiritually present through a video linkup. An encore broadcast will air at 8 p.m.

Sunday, May 1, 1 a.m. - *The Young John Paul II: Witness To Evil* - a docudrama that explores the young adult years of Pope John Paul II, focusing on his experiences during World War II.

Sunday, May 1, 2:30 a.m. - *Beatification of Pope John Paul II* - four hours of live coverage as Pope Benedict XVI presides at the Rite of Beatification in St. Peter's Square. Encore broadcasts of this historic event will air on Sunday at 8 p.m., Monday, May 2, at 1 p.m. and Saturday, May 7, at 1 p.m.

Sunday, May 1, 2 p.m. - *Pope John Paul II: In the Heart of History* - a program focusing on the many ways that Pope John Paul II has spread the Gospel of Our Lord throughout the world.

Monday, May 2, 4:30 a.m. - *Mass of Thanksgiving In Honor of the Beatification of Pope John Paul II* - Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, Vatican Secretary of State, will preside at this liturgy in St. Peter's Square. An encore broadcast will air on Monday, May 2, at 5:30 p.m.

Viewers who do not have access to CTV might be able to watch the EWTN coverage on their local cable system. Check those schedules for times. In addition, streaming video can be viewed on www.ewtn.com.

Bishop Announces New Location for Holy Family Academy

Fulfilling a commitment to maintain the presence of Catholic education in the Hazleton area, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera has announced that Holy Family Academy will relocate to the former St. Joseph's school building beginning with the 2011-2012 school year.

The Bishop informed the school community at a meeting Tuesday night, April 26, at Holy Family Academy.

Since the Diocese reorganized its school system in 2007, Holy Family Academy has been located in the former Bishop Hafey Jr./Sr. High School. It will now make the transition to the St. Joseph's building at 601 North Laurel Street.

A transition committee led by Father John Lambert, V.E., Diocesan Vicar for School Planning, Mary Tigue, Diocesan Assistant Superintendent of Catholic Schools; Frank Semanski, Diocesan Secretary of Property and Risk Management; Stan Pavlick, principal of Holy Family Academy; and Father Michael Piccola, pastor of SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish (the St. Joseph's building is part of the parish property) will ensure that a safe and productive facility is ready for the upcoming school year.

Bishop Bambera expressed his gratitude to those who have registered their children and noted that some people may have been waiting for this announcement before completing their registration. Open house activities will be scheduled so that families can tour the new location and if they have not yet done so, families can register their children for the 2011/2012 school year.

The Bishop also said he was confident in the determination that the St. Joseph's location is the most appropriate facility to provide a stable, sustainable Catholic education program in the greater Hazleton area.

Evangelization: Our Call to Holiness and Mission

The Office for Parish life and Evangelization, through the Pastoral Formation Institute, is sponsoring a program entitled "Evangelization: Our Call to Holiness and Mission."

It will be offered May 10, 11 & 12 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Diocesan Center in Scranton. Guest presenter will be St. Joseph Oblate Father Paul A. McDonnell, rector of the Oblates of St. Joseph Seminary in Laflin.

It will also be presented May 24 and May 31 at St. John Church Hall, E. Stroudsburg, from 6-9 p.m. The presenter for this session is Father Jeffrey J. Walsh, pastor.

The basic topics include: What is Evangelization? Why evangelize? How does evangelization happen? Father McDonnell will explain the concept of evangelization and provide practical application and examples for parishes to lead Catholicism renewal and conversion and to provide ways to "welcome home" those who have been away from the faith.

These sessions are highly recommended for parishes, cluster groups and individuals who desire to understand the meaning and importance of what it means to evangelize, especially as parishes are involved in *Called to Holiness and Mission: Pastoral Planning in the Diocese of Scranton*.

Cost to attend is \$20 per person or \$65 for five or more from one parish. To register, call 207-2213, ext. 1107.

ACTION ALERT

Abortion Clinics Should Meet Same Health and Safety Standards as Other Surgical Facilities!

We often hear abortion referred to as an issue of women's health. However, in Pennsylvania, freestanding abortion clinics are not subject to the same health standards as other ambulatory surgical facilities. Simply put, the current law favors the abortion industry, not women's health.

Lax, inconsistent standards allowed for the existence of the horrific abortion clinic of Dr. Kermit Gosnell in Philadelphia. The Grand Jury Report from the resulting investigation called for a tightening of existing standards. House Bill 574 is an answer to that call. Although it is unfortunate that HB 574 cannot put an end to abortion, it can provide a safer environment for women, reduce the occurrence of abortions, and remove legislation that clearly favors the abortion industry.

House Bill 574 would hold abortion facilities to the same fire and safety standards, personnel and equipment requirements, and quality assurance procedures as other freestanding ambulatory surgical facilities. One might wonder, would Dr. Gosnell have been able to run his "house of horrors" if he had been subject to unannounced annual inspections or if he answered to a Department of Health that imposed sanctions or fines for not meeting the most basic of health standards? These are just two of the regulations called for in HB 574.

The need for reform is evident - the state's abortion industry should not be exempt from commonsense safety standards that apply to other surgery centers. Please contact your legislator to convey your support to House Bill 574.

Click the link below to log in and send your message:

<http://www.votervoice.net/link/target/pacc/NqBcGfgz.aspx>

Thank you for your help!

Bishop Celebrating Mother's Day Adoption Mass

Bishop Bambera will be the principal celebrant for the Mother's Day Adoption Mass on Sunday, May 8, at 10 a.m. in St. Peter's Cathedral. The public is invited to attend. Catholic Television: CTV will broadcast the Mass live.

Planning is being coordinated by the Adoption: A Choice for Life Committee, which for many years has been promoting adoption as an alternative to abortion and a means to prevent child abuse. Participants in the liturgy, which is co-sponsored by Catholic Social Services, will include adoptees, adoptive parents and professionals who facilitate the adoption process.

Father Philip Altavilla, V.E., an adoptee, will concelebrate and give the homily for the Mother's Day Adoption Mass. Monsignor Joseph Kelly, executive director of Catholic Social Services, and Father Andrew Kurovsky, an adoptee, will also concelebrate.

Participants also include Rosemary Gallagher, founder and chairperson of the Adoption: A Choice for Life Committee; David Clarke, Diocesan Secretary for Parish Life and Evangelization; Sandra Dempsey, director of the Scranton School District's School-age Mothers Program; Sister Maryalice Jacquinet, I.H.M., director of St. Joseph's Center in Scranton; and Neil Oberto, executive director of Catholic Social Services' Greater Hazleton Area Office.

***Disciple* Podcast To Launch May 2**

On May 2 the Office for Parish Life and Evangelization will launch 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 will explain 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 will highlight positive ways in which people around the Diocese are living out their Catholic faith. "Friends in High Places" will profile a saint whose feast day falls within that episode's month, and a calendar of events will round 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 will be posted each month on the Diocese's website (see "Adult Faith Formation" under the Parish Life menu tab). This format will allow people to listen to each episode in whatever format is easiest for them. Listeners will also be able to 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.

Regional Workshops for the Implementation of *The Roman Missal*

General Meeting: May 19, Thursday, 7-9 p.m.
Location: St. Maria Goretti Hall, Laflin

General Meeting: June 7, Tuesday, 7-9 p.m.
Location: Flemming Center, St. Joseph the Worker, Williamsport

Musicians Meeting: June 8, Wednesday, 7-9 p.m.
Location: Flemming Center, St. Joseph the Worker, Williamsport

General Meeting: June 21, Tuesday, 7-9 p.m.
Location: Holy Family Academy, Hazleton

General Meeting: June 21, Tuesday, 7-9 p.m.
Location: Notre Dame H.S., E. Stroudsburg

Musicians Meeting: June 22, Wednesday, 7-9
Location: Notre Dame H.S., E. Stroudsburg

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

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.

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 Brendan-Murphy@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).

Collection Supports Catholic Communication Projects

The Diocese of Scranton will participate in the Collection for the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC) the weekend of May 14-15. Established over thirty years ago in response to the national and local communication needs of the Church, this collection is unique in that proceeds are split equally between each participating diocese and the national office. This campaign keeps us connected to our faith through a variety of communications media - including this newsletter.

The CCC provides faith-centered television and radio programming, Catholic news, helpful marriage and family resources, audio versions of the daily Scripture readings and much more. These projects, delivered in a wide variety of ways, aim to connect everyone to the faith, the Church and God's Word.

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera noted that contributors can make a difference right here in our Diocese through a donation to the Catholic Communication Campaign Collection. The Diocese uses its share of the collection to support local communications projects such as *The Catholic Light*, Catholic Television (CTV), the diocesan website, and *News Briefing*, the electronic newsletter.

CTV is the only diocesan owned-and-operated low-power TV broadcast station in the United States. It reaches a potential audience of 235,000 households 24 hours a day via broadcast and on the Comcast, Service Electric, Service Electric Cablevision, Adams and Metrocast cable companies. CTV broadcasts the daily Mass live from St. Peter's Cathedral in Scranton; the monthly "Our Faith, Our Diocese" program; as well as a variety of programs originating locally, nationally and internationally, including those produced by the CCC.

The Catholic Light brings news of the Diocese and the Universal Church to more than 46,000 households throughout the 11 counties of the Diocese. Like CTV, it provides detailed information and perspective about our faith.

The Diocesan website at www.dioceseofscranton.org offers a wealth of information that can be accessed at any time by anyone with an Internet connection. The website includes video of the daily Mass, "Our Faith, Our Diocese" and other programs.

"Please continue to be generous when the CCC collection is taken up in your parish as half of all the proceeds raised from this collection will fund communication projects in our home Diocese," Bishop Bambera said. "Your support will enable us to maintain a strong voice in today's world as we strive to evangelize and promote Gospel values through an array of available media tools."

Slovak Catholic Federation Celebrating Centennial

The Slovak Catholic Federation will celebrate the 100th Anniversary of its founding on Sunday, May 15, with a Liturgy of Thanksgiving at 2:30 p.m. in St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, the Mother Church of the Diocese in which the Federation was founded in 1911.

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera will be the principal celebrant, along with Bishop Joseph V. Adamec, Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown and Episcopal Moderator of the Slovak Catholic Federation. Father Philip A. Altavilla, V.E., a priest of the Diocese of Scranton who serves as national president of the Slovak Catholic Federation, will be the homilist. Following the liturgy, a Centennial Banquet will be held at the Clarion Hotel, 300 Meadow Avenue, Scranton. There will be a cash bar at 4:30 p.m., and dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m.

The cost of the banquet ticket is \$35 per person. Entertainment will be provided by Pajtasi, a Slovak ensemble from New York. The deadline for banquet reservations is May 6.

For more information or to receive a banquet reservation form, call Dolores M. Evanko, national secretary-treasurer of the Slovak Catholic Federation, at 570-454-5547 or visit www.slovakcatholicfederation.org.

Holy Redeemer 'Golf Classic' Tees Off May 16

The Holy Redeemer School System will sponsor a "Golf Classic" on Monday, May 16, at Blue Ridge Golf Course in Mountaintop. Proceeds will benefit Diocesan Catholic Schools of Luzerne County.

The format for tournament play will be Captain and Crew. The event will open with a luncheon at 11 a.m., followed by shotgun start at noon. Reception and awards dinner at the course clubhouse will immediately follow.

Golfer fee is \$100. For complete golfer and sponsorship information, call the Diocese Development Office at 207-2250, or visit www.DioceseofScranton.org, Catholic Schools.

Mark Your Calendar

Day of Reflection: "The Reign of the Sacred Heart through Mary's Immaculate Heart," May 14 -- 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Fatima Renewal Center, Dalton. Guest presenter: Monsignor John Esseff. Offered by the Diocesan Office for Parish Life, this Day of Reflection focuses on devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Enthronement of the Sacred Heart among families, especially through the intercession of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. 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.

Day of Reflection: "Our Call to Holiness," June 18 -- 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Fatima Renewal Center. Guest presenter: Immaculate Heart of Mary Sister Cor Immaculatum, who will lead participants in prayer and reflection, focusing on the meaning of one's "call to be Christ to the 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.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend, June 24-26 -- in Easton. Sponsored by Worldwide Marriage Encounter, the weekend program -- Friday evening through Sunday afternoon -- is an enrichment experience that helps good marriages grow stronger. For information & registration, call 1-800-787-7679, or visit the Web site: www.wwme-nepa.org. **Pre-registration required.**