



# 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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## Pope: Human Ecology Is An Imperative

VATICAN CITY, 9 JUN 2011 (VIS) - This morning the Holy Father received the credential letters of six new ambassadors to the Holy See. In his introductory speech, referring to the "innumerable tragedies that have affected nature, technology, and the peoples" in the first semester of this year, Benedict XVI noted that "the States should reflect together on the short term future of the planet, on our responsibilities regarding our life and technology."

"Human ecology," he emphasized, "is an imperative. Adopting a lifestyle that respects our environment and supports the research and use of clean energies that preserve the patrimony of creation and that are safe for human beings should be given political and economic priority."

The pope highlighted that "a change in mentality" is necessary in order to "quickly arrive at a global lifestyle that respects the covenant between humanity and nature, without which the human family risks disappearing. ... Every government must commit themselves to protecting nature and assisting it to carry out its essential role in the survival of humanity. The United Nations seems to be the natural framework for this type of reflection, which should not be obscured by blindly partisan political or economic interests in order to give preference to solidarity over particular interests."

"It is also helpful to ask ourselves," he continued, "about the appropriate role of technology," noting that "it is urgent that we match technology with a strong ethical dimension. ... Technology should help

protecting nature and assisting it to carry out its essential role in the survival of humanity. The United Nations seems to be the natural framework for this type of reflection, which should not be obscured by blindly partisan political or economic interests in order to give preference to solidarity over particular interests."

"It is also helpful to ask ourselves," he continued, "about the appropriate role of technology," noting that "it is urgent that we match technology with a strong ethical dimension. ... Technology should help nature develop along the lines envisioned by the Creator. In working together, the researcher and the scientist adhere to God's plan that desired humanity as the apex and the administrator of creation. Solutions based on this principle will protect human life and its vulnerability, as well as the rights of the present and future generations."

The pope concluded by drawing attention to the fact that "social life should be considered, above all, as a reality of the spiritual order. Politicians in charge have the mission of guiding persons to human harmony and the wisdom they so desire, which should culminate in religious freedom, a true sign of peace."

### **Bishop Bambera to Celebrate Sacred Heart Liturgy**

The Sacred Heart Enthronement Guild announces its annual Eucharistic celebration in honor of the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The Mass will be offered on the vigil of the Sacred Heart solemnity on Thursday, June 30, at 5 p.m. in the IHM Center at Marywood University.

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera will serve as principal celebrant for the liturgy, during which he will renew the Enthronement of the Sacred Heart in the Diocese. Father Daniel Toomey, spiritual moderator of the Enthronement Guild, will concelebrate.

Music for the liturgy will be provided by the Sacred Heart Singers, directed by Ernie Pappa. A musical prelude will begin at 4:45 p.m.

The liturgy will be followed by a dinner reception in the IHM Center. Mr. Pappa, president of the Enthronement Guild, will serve as toastmaster for the program.

Father Toomey, who serves as pastor of the parish communities of Gate of Heaven, Dallas, and Our Lady of Victory, Harveys Lake, will be the featured speaker for the dinner. His topic will be: "The Power of God's Love through the Ministry of the Sacred Heart of Jesus on the Battlefield of Life."

The Enthronement of the Sacred Heart Apostolate enables individuals and families to consecrate their homes to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Homes that have been enthroned become an extension of the liturgy, whereby members can follow up their Eucharistic devotion in church with further prayerful devotion in their homes.

For further information on Sacred Heart Enthronement or to make reservations for the annual dinner, please call Immaculate Heart of Mary Sister Celesta Sinisi at 330-0248.

### **Pro Life Victory: Senate Bill 3 Passes**

The Pennsylvania State Senate voted 37 to 12 on June 7 to pass Senate Bill 3. The federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) requires states to operate and maintain "health insurance exchanges" to provide a menu of low cost, government subsidized insurance plans which will help otherwise uninsured people get access to necessary health care. The PPACA specifically permits a state to

prohibit insurance providers that participate in the state exchange from covering elective abortion services. To assure that elective abortion is not included in the Pennsylvania exchange, the Commonwealth must affirmatively opt out by passing a state law.

Senate Bill 3 allows Pennsylvania to prohibit insurance providers that participate in the insurance exchanges from covering elective abortion services. Senate Bill 3 will clearly prohibit taxpayer-supported insurance plans from covering abortion.

[Please contact your legislator to say "thank you" for making this important pro-life vote!](#)

**Here is a list of Senators in the Diocese of Scranton who voted "yes" on Senate Bill 3. Please use the link above to quickly send a thank you note to the Senator in your district:**

Argall, David G. (R) - District 29

Baker, Lisa (R) - District 20

Blake, John P. (D) - District 22

Boscola, Lisa M. (D) - District 18

Browne, Patrick M. (R) - District 16

Gordner, John R. (R) - District 27

Scarnati, Joseph B., III (R) - District 25

Yaw, Gene (R) - District 23

Yudichak, John T. (D) - District 14

### **Faith Formation Programs on Bible Study and Liturgy**

The Pastoral Formation Institute has scheduled two faith formation study groups for the month of July. Both programs will be facilitated by Brendan Murphy, diocesan director of adult faith formation.

A Bible Study entitled *A Quick Journey through the Bible* is slated for July 7, 14, 21, 28, Aug. 4, 11, 18, and 25 (Thursdays) at St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish Hall, Wilkes-Barre, from 6-7:30 p.m.

This eight-part series provides an introduction and overview of the Bible from a Catholic perspective. The study covers salvation history through talks that are complemented by group discussion, useful maps and charts, and information for home study. It makes the complexity of the Bible simple through an easy-to-follow narrative approach and an ingenious color-coded Bible timeline.

The study is recommended for those who seek to learn about the story of our faith as it unfolds in the Bible. For those who desire to lead Bible Study groups in their parishes, this program will serve as a useful guide.

Fee is \$30, which includes the cost of the workbook.

*A Biblical Walk through the Mass* is scheduled for July 11, 18, 25, and Aug. 1 and 8 (Mondays) at the Diocesan Center, Scranton, from 2-3:30 p.m.

Based on the revised translation of the Mass that will be in effect in Advent 2011, this five-part study will explore the biblical roots of the words and gestures experienced during Mass. As the biblical roots of the Catholic Liturgy are presented, 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 to a richer and more fruitful sense of worship and renewed devotion to the Eucharist.

Fee is \$30, which includes the cost of the workbook and the study book.

To register, please call the Pastoral Formation Institute office at 570-207-2213, ext.1107.

### Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion Training

Diocesan Center, Scranton  
June 14, 21 & 28 (Tuesdays) 6:30 to 9 p.m.  
Deacon Gerard L. Carpenter

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

### Pastoral Formation Institute Course Offerings

The Pastoral Formation Institute in the Diocese of Scranton announces its schedule of Level III courses for the Summer 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): Diocesan Center, Scranton, June 27-30, July 6-8 & 11-13, 9 a.m. to noon. Instructor: Kathy Yaklic; and Notre Dame High School, East Stroudsburg, June 22-24 & 27-30, July 6-8, 9 a.m. to noon. Instructor: Helen Findlay.

**201 -Fundamental Teachings of the Church** (two locations): St. John Neumann High School, Williamsport, June 20-24 & June 27-July 1, 9 a.m. to noon. Instructor: Father David Bechtel; and Holy Cross High School, Dunmore, June 20-24 & June 27-July 1, 9 a.m. to noon. Instructor: Ben Tolerico.

**301 - Sacraments in General:** Holy Redeemer High School, Wilkes-Barre, June 20, 22-24, July 6-8 & 13-15, 9 a.m. to noon. Instructor: Mary Anne Malone.

**401 - Introduction to the Spiritual/Moral Life,** Holy Cross High School, Dunmore, July 11-15 & 18-22, 9 a.m. to noon. Instructor: Ben Tolerico.

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](mailto:sister-leonita-duhoski@dioceseofscranton.org).

### Regional Workshops for the Revised Roman Missal

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

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

**Musicians Meeting:** Wednesday, June 22 at Notre Dame H.S., Stroudsburg, 7-9 p.m.

**General Meeting:** Tuesday, July 12 at St. Patrick Church, Milford, 7-9 p.m.

**Musicians Meeting:** Wednesday, July 13 at St. Patrick Church, Milford, 7-9 p.m.

To register for any of these workshops, call Jane Guzek in the Office for Parish Life at 570-207-2213, Ext. 1105.

### Mark Your Calendar

**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](http://www.wwme-nepa.org). *Pre-registration required.*