

The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2017

Mass on December 3 To Begin Sesquicentennial Celebration

The year-long celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the founding of the Diocese of Scranton will begin on the First Sunday of Advent, December 3, with a special Pontifical Mass at 12:15 p.m. in the Cathedral of Saint Peter.

His Eminence, Justin Cardinal Rigali, Archbishop Emeritus of Philadelphia and former Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Scranton, will preside. Bishop Joseph C. Bambera will be the principal celebrant and homilist.

The connection to Philadelphia is noteworthy since our Diocese was part of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia until March 3, 1868, when Pope Pius IX created the Diocese of Scranton.

"We are certainly honored that Cardinal Rigali has accepted our invitation to join us for this special Mass," Bishop Bambera said. "We were all touched by the Cardinal's sensitive pastoral care during the time he served as our Apostolic Administrator. On a personal note, Cardinal Rigali was a generous and gracious mentor to me while I served as his Delegate as we entered a period of transition here. On behalf of the clergy, religious and lay faithful of the Diocese of Scranton, I offer our deepest gratitude to Cardinal Rigali for his friendship and the blessings we have received through our encounters with him."

For this special Mass, our parishes have all been invited to send four delegates, and the Diocesan Catholic schools will be represented by two students per school. CTV: Catholic Television will broadcast the Mass.

The music ministry will be composed of choir members from the Cathedral of Saint Peter, Our Lady of the Snows



His Eminence, Justin Cardinal Rigali, Archbishop Emeritus of Philadelphia and former Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Scranton, will preside at the Mass this Sunday, December 3, in the Cathedral of Saint Peter. Delegates from parishes and schools will attend, and CTV will broadcast.

Parish in Clarks Summit, and Saint Joseph the Worker Parish in Williamsport, as well as the Cathedral instrumentalists.

The cantor will be Dana Cerminaro, director of music at Our Lady of the Snows. The altar servers will be representatives of our Diocesan Catholic schools and parishes' Youth Ministry.

At all Masses on this weekend, all parishes in the Diocese will be uniting their prayers with those of the Diocesan celebration at the Cathedral as we open the commemoration of this 150th Anniversary Year.

The Sesquicentennial will be celebrated through most of next year. In addition to the opening Mass, a Pontifical Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter will celebrate the actual Anniversary Sunday of the founding of the Diocese of Scranton on March

4, with the Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap., Archbishop of Philadelphia, as celebrant. Then to close the Anniversary Year, the Most Reverend Christophe Pierre, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, will be the principal celebrant at the Anniversary Year Concluding Mass on November 25, the feast of Christ the King, at the Cathedral. Representatives from our 120 parishes will be invited for each of these significant celebrations.

In addition to these three liturgical events, there will be numerous annually occurring and specially focused events throughout the year that will be spotlighting our Anniversary Year and the history of our Diocese. Among them is a Mass with the Hispanic community that Bishop Bambera will celebrate on December 9 at 3 p.m. at Saint John Neumann Parish in Scranton for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and a Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. on September 22.

Each parish has received a parish participation kit, with suggestions and resources for commemorating the more local aspects of the 150th Anniversary in every part of the Diocese of Scranton.

In periodic issues of *The Catholic Light*, beginning with today's edition, a special center section will highlight various aspects of our history. (See pages 14-15.) Special segments will also be aired on the CTV program "Our Faith, Our Diocese," beginning with the December show. A special Anniversary Year page has been posted on the Diocesan website, and WVIA-TV is producing a documentary that will air in March.

Generations of Servant-Leaders



Young Church Rallies for the Faith

Joy and spirit radiate from the Diocesan delegation that attended the National Catholic Youth Conference earlier this month in Indianapolis. The group included 117 teens and 30 adult chaperones, pictured here after the closing Mass at Lucas Oil Stadium. See page 7.



Eleven Permanent Deacons Ordained for Diocese

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera ordained 11 men to the Permanent Diaconate for service as permanent deacons in the Diocese of Scranton. The newly ordained deacons join the ranks of clergy who minister to the faithful in parishes and other settings throughout the Diocese. See page 3.

‘Invest in love,’ Pope Francis says on first World Day of the Poor

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – People have a basic choice in the way they live: either striving to build up treasures on earth or giving to others in order to gain heaven, Pope Francis said.

“What we invest in love remains, the rest vanishes,” the pope said in his homily Nov. 19, the first World Day of the Poor.

Between 6,000 and 7,000 poor people attended the Mass in St. Peter’s Basilica as special guests, the Vatican said. While almost all of them live in Europe, they included migrants and refugees from all over the world.

Among the altar servers were young men who are either poor, migrants or homeless. The first reader at the Mass, Tony Battah, is a refugee from Syria. Those presenting the gifts at the offertory were led by the Zambardi family from Turin, whom the Vatican described as living in a “precarious condition” and whose 1-year-old daughter has cystic fibrosis.

In addition to the bread and wine that were consecrated at the Mass, the offertory included a large basket of bread and rolls that were blessed to be shared at the lunch the pope was offering after Mass. Some 1,500 poor people joined the pope in the Vatican’s audience hall for the meal, while the other special guests were served at the Pontifical North American College – the U.S. seminary in Rome – and other seminaries and Catholic-run soup kitchens nearby.



Pope Francis greets people as he arrives to eat lunch with the poor in the Paul VI hall after celebrating Mass marking the first World Day of the Poor at the Vatican Nov. 19. Some 1,200 poor people joined the pope for the meal.

Preaching about the Gospel “parable of the talents” (Mt 25:14-30), Pope Francis said the servant in the story who buried his master’s money was rebuked not because he did something wrong, but because he failed to do something good with what he was given.

“All too often, we have the idea that we haven’t done anything wrong, and so we rest content, presuming that we are good and just,” the pope said. “But to do no wrong is

not enough. God is not an inspector looking for unstamped tickets; he is a Father looking for children to whom he can entrust his property and his plans.”

If in the eyes of the world, the poor they have little value, he said, “they are the ones who open to us the way to heaven; they are our ‘passport to paradise.’ For us it is an evangelical duty to care for them, as our real riches, and to do so not only by giving them bread, but also by breaking with them the bread of God’s word, which is addressed first to them.”

Where the poor are concerned, the pope said, too many people are often guilty of a sin of omission or indifference.

Thinking it is “society’s problem” to solve, looking the other way when passing a beggar or changing the channel when the news shows something disturbing are not Christian responses, he said.

“God will not ask us if we felt righteous indignation,” he said, “but whether we did some good.”

People please God in a similar way to how they please anyone they love. They learn what that person likes and gives that to him or her, the pope said.

In the Gospels, he said, Jesus says that he wants to be loved in “the least of our brethren,” including the hungry, the sick, the poor, the stranger and the prisoner.

“In the poor, Jesus knocks on the doors of our heart, thirsting for our love,” he said. True goodness and strength are shown “not in closed fists and crossed arms, but in ready hands outstretched to the poor, to the wounded flesh of the Lord.”

Holy Father puts John Paul I on path to sainthood

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Pope Francis recognized that Pope John Paul I, who served only 33 days as pope, lived the Christian virtues in a heroic way.

The Vatican announced Pope Francis’ decision Nov. 9. It marks the first major step on the path to sainthood for the pope who died in 1978 at the age of 65, shocking the world and a church that had just mourned the death of Blessed Paul VI.

Pope Francis would have to recognize a miracle attributed to the late pope’s intercession in order for him to be beatified, the next step toward sainthood. A second miracle would be needed for canonization.

Stefania Falasca, vice postulator of Pope John Paul’s sainthood cause, said one “presumed extraordinary healing” had already been investigated by a diocese and a second possibility is being studied, but the Vatican does not begin its investigations until a sainthood candidate is declared venerable.

Although his was one of the shortest papacies in history, Pope John Paul left a lasting impression on the



Pope John Paul I meets Cardinal Karol Wojtyla, the future Pope John Paul II, in this 1978 photo.

church that fondly remembers him as “the smiling pope.”

“He smiled for only 33 days,” read the front page of the Italian newspaper, *Corriere della Sera*, while the *Catholic Telegraph* of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati reported: “Saddened church seeking another Pope John Paul.”

The surprise of his death after just over a month in office opened a floodgate of rumors and conspiracy theories, running the gamut from murder to culpable neglect. The Vatican doctor insisted then, as the Vatican continues to insist, that Pope John Paul

died of a heart attack.

His papal motto, “Humilitas” (“Humility”) not only emphasized a Christian virtue but also reflected his down-to-earth personality and humble beginnings.

“The Lord recommended it so much: Be humble. Even if you have done great things, say: ‘We are useless servants.’ On the contrary, the tendency in all of us is rather the opposite: to show off. Lowly, lowly: This is the Christian virtue which concerns us,” he said Sept. 6, 1978.

Born Albino Luciani in the small Italian mountain town of Canale D’Agordo

Oct. 17, 1912, the future pope and his two brothers and one sister lived in poverty and sometimes went to bed hungry.

He was ordained a priest in 1935 and was appointed bishop of Vittorio Veneto in December 1958 by St. John XXIII. More than 10 years later, he was named patriarch of Venice by Blessed Paul VI and was created a cardinal in 1973.

During his time as patriarch of Venice, then-Cardinal Luciani was known for his dedication to the poor and the disabled.

In February 1976, he called on all priests in his diocese to sell gold and silver objects for the Don Orione Day Center for people with disabilities. Leading by example, he started the fund drive by putting up for auction a pectoral cross and gold chain – given to him by St. John XXIII – that had once belonged to Pope Pius XII.

His contribution, he wrote, “is a small thing compared to the use it will have. Perhaps it is worth something if it helps people understand that the real treasures of the church are the poor.”

Prayer for Persecuted Christians

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in collaboration with the Knights of Columbus, Catholic Relief Services, the Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA) and Aid to the Church in Need encourage us to pray for persecuted Christians, especially this week, which has been designated “**Solidarity in Suffering**,” a Week of Awareness and Education that began with a Day of Prayer on November 26 and continues through December 3. The observance asks us to reflect on religious freedom and Christians around the world who are being persecuted in unheard of numbers.

“On the solemnity of Christ the King, I ask that the entire church in the United States come together in a special way for a day of prayer for persecuted Christians to express our solidarity with those who are suffering,” says Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, during his annual address to bishops. In a statement to bishops, the cardinal added, “To focus attention on the plight of Christians and other minorities is not to ignore the suffering of others. Rather by focusing on the most vulnerable members of society, we strengthen the entire fabric of society to protect the rights of all.”

To support the observance of the Day of Prayer and Week of Awareness, a wide array of resources are available to assist parishes, schools and campus ministries. One of those resources is the Executive Summary of “*Persecuted and Forgotten? A Report on Christians Oppressed for their Faith 2015-2017*.” The report and additional resources are now available at www.usccb.org/middle-east-Christians. The hashtag #SolidarityInSuffering is being used for social media.

“You have been called by the Lord, gifted for ministry and chosen in the mystery of God’s plan because the Lord knows that you love him and seek, however feebly, to serve him in his people.”

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera offered those words to the 11 men he ordained for service as permanent deacons in the Diocese of Scranton. The Mass of Ordination was celebrated on November 25 in the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

The new deacons are: **Carl S. Albright, Pleasant Mount; Paul J. Cooper, White Mills; Herbert W. Cruikshank, Mountain Top; Andrew A. Fazio Sr., Dunmore; Maxime E. Francois, Bushkill; Michael M. Golubiewski, Nanticoke; Leonard Jinselli Jr., East Stroudsburg; Ronald D. Maida, Hallstead; John P. Musyt, Olyphant; James M. Rebarchick, Hazleton; and Robert J. Warnock, Honesdale.**

These men have completed a five-year formation program and are now members of the threefold ordained ministry that consists of bishops, priests and deacons.

“Today is a day of great rejoicing for all of us gathered this morning in our Cathedral, for the entire Church of Scranton and especially for those of you, who, through God’s grace in the Sacrament of Holy Orders, will be ordained as servants in ministry to the People of God,” Bishop Bambera said.

“I am especially grateful to the wives of our candidates. In so many respects, because of the call that you and your husbands answered to your first vocation to married life, you assumed an integral role in their journey to their second vocation: Holy Orders. Your willingness to encourage them to listen to the call of the Lord – your selfless love and support amid their struggles to discern their place in the Lord’s plan – and your fidelity in prayer as together you have journeyed to this day – have been a blessing not only to your husbands but to the Church of Scranton and to the lives of all those who will be touched by their ministry of service. Thank you. May you too find fulfillment, meaning and peace in the days ahead.”

The Bishop reminded the deacons that Christ’s call to be the servant of others means to let God work through our own efforts to love, to forgive, to secure justice, to support and to help.

Bishop Bambera cited the words of the Second Vatican Council, which put a deacon’s role within the Church in perspective: “Strengthened by sacramental grace,” you are called “to serve the People of God, in the diakonia of liturgy, word and charity, in communion with the Bishop and his presbyterate.” As such, you are ordained to be a sign and instrument of Christ, who came “not to be served but to serve.”

Within this context, the Bishop explained that a deacon’s service to the People of God is three fold: service to the Word of God – service at the altar of the Lord – and service to the poor.

Deacons proclaim the Gospel, preach homilies, convey the needs of the people of God in the General Intercessions and offer many other forms of instruction. As such they are to be agents of the New Evangelization and proclaim Christ to the world.

Deacons also serve at the altar of the Lord, preparing the altar for the banquet of Christ’s sacrifice, distributing Holy Communion to the faithful, as well as to the sick and homebound. They can baptize, preside at weddings, funerals, and other prayer services.



The Bishop gives Deacon Andrew A. Fazio, Sr. the Book of Gospels.

Finally, deacons are called to be the living and working expression of the charity of the Church. They are entrusted with the ministry of charity that is at the very origin of the institution of the deacon, and are to serve the poor and needy, imitating the Lord who washed the feet of the apostles at the Last Supper.

“My brothers, God has called you to a vital ministry in service of the Gospel. Set aside your fears. Embrace your call with deep trust in Jesus’ promise to walk with you always. Follow Jesus’ example of selfless love and mercy. And serve God’s people generously as you would serve the Lord himself,” Bishop Bambera said.

“Supported by the prayers of your wives and families, by all of the Christian faithful of this local Church and beyond and by the great communion of Saints whom we will invoke in prayer, may the Lord who has begun this good work in you bring it to completion.”



The newly ordained deacons receive a fraternal embrace from their brother deacons.
The Catholic Light Photos/Mike Melisky



Bishop Bambera said, “I am especially grateful to the wives of our candidates. In so many respects, because of the call that you and your husbands answered to your first vocation to married life, you assumed an integral role in their journey to their second vocation: Holy Orders. Your willingness to encourage them to listen to the call of the Lord . . . and your fidelity in prayer as together you have journeyed to this day, have been a blessing not only to your husbands but to the Church of Scranton.”



Pictured after the Ordination Mass are, front row from left: Father Jeffrey J. Walsh, V.E., Vicar for Clergy and Coordinator of Spiritual Formation; Monsignor Thomas M. Muldowney, Vicar General of the Diocese; Bishop Emeritus James C. Timlin, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera; Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus John M. Dougherty; Monsignor David Bohr, Secretary for Clergy Formation and Director of Permanent Diaconate Formation; Deacon Joseph F. DeVizia, Sr., Coordinator of Pastoral Formation. 2nd row: Deacon John P. Musyt, Deacon Michael M. Golubiewski, Deacon Herbert W. Cruikshank, Deacon Andrew A. Fazio, Sr. 3rd row: Deacon James M. Rebarchick. Deacon Carl S. Albright, Deacon Maxime E. Francois, Deacon Ronald D. Maida. 4th row: Deacon Paul J. Cooper, Jr., Deacon Robert J. Warnock, Deacon Leonard Jinselli, Jr.

CLERGY APPOINTMENTS

His Excellency, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, announces the following appointments, effective as indicated:

SENIOR PRIEST

Reverend Stephen A. Krawontka, from Senior Priest, Saint Patrick Parish, Scranton, to Senior Priest, Our Lady, Help of Christians Parish, Dorrance, and Saint Jude Parish, Mountain Top, effective November 25, 2017.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Reverend Michael S. Drevitch, from Assistant Pastor, Epiphany Parish, Sayre, to Leave of Absence, effective November 25, 2017.

PERMANENT DEACONS

(effective November 25, 2017)

Deacon Carl S. Albright, to diaconal ministry at Ascension Parish, Forest City/Saint Katharine Drexel Parish, Pleasant Mount.

Deacon Paul J. Cooper, Jr., to diaconal ministry at Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Honesdale.

Deacon Herbert W. Cruikshank, to diaconal ministry at Saint Faustina Kowalska Parish, Nanticoke.

Deacon Andrew A. Fazio, Sr., to diaconal ministry at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Dunmore.

Deacon Maxime E. Francois, to diaconal ministry at Saint John Parish, East Stroudsburg.

Deacon Michael M. Golubiewski, to diaconal ministry at Saint Nicholas Parish, Wilkes-Barre.

Deacon Leonard Jinselli, Jr., to diaconal ministry at Our Lady of Victory Parish, Tannersville.

Deacon Ronald D. Maida, to diaconal ministry at Saint Lawrence Parish, Great Bend/Saint Martin Parish, Jackson/Saint John Parish, Susquehanna.

Deacon John P. Musyt, to diaconal ministry at Holy Cross Parish, Olyphant/Blessed Sacrament Parish, Throop.

Deacon James M. Rebarchick, to diaconal ministry at Immaculate Conception Parish, Freeland/Saint Patrick Parish, White Haven.

Deacon Robert J. Warnock, to diaconal ministry at Saint Thomas More Parish, Lake Ariel.

Giving Thanks, Sharing Our Blessings



Bishop Bambera offered a blessing at the Annual Thanksgiving Community Dinner sponsored by the IHM Sisters and Friends of the Poor on November 21 at the Scranton Cultural Center (above). With assistance from many generous supporters and volunteers, 1,500 meals were served and another 1,500 given for take out. The Bishop returned to the Cultural Center the next morning to bless the volunteers, benefactors and families who participated in the Family-to-Family Thanksgiving food basket distribution. An estimated 3,000 baskets were prepared and given to those in need.



BISHOP BAMBERA'S SCHEDULE

November 30 – Advent Day of Reflection for Priests, Diocesan Pastoral Center, Scranton

December 3 – Opening Mass, 150th Anniversary Year Celebration of the Founding of the Diocese of Scranton, St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, 12:15 p.m.

December 6 – Mass – Ministry of Acolyte, Pope Saint John XXIII Seminary, Weston, Mass., 4:30 p.m.

December 8 – Dedication of the Trinity Dome, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C., 12:00 noon

December 9 – Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass, St. John Neumann Parish, Scranton, 3:00 p.m.

December 10 – Advent Service of Word and Song, presented by SS. Anthony and Rocco Parish, Dunmore; Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Dunmore; and Holy Family Parish, Luzerne, at St. Anthony's Church, Dunmore, 6:00 p.m.

December 12 – Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass, St. Nicholas Church, Wilkes-Barre, 6:00 p.m.

December 16 – Mass at SCI Waymart, 9:00 a.m.

December 21 – Mass for Chancery Staff, St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, 12:10 p.m.

Appeal at 82% of Goal; 26 Parishes Over Goal

The **2017 Diocesan Annual Appeal: Walk Together in the Light of Christ**, has raised more than \$4.1 million in gifts and pledges, bringing the campaign to 82% of the \$5 million goal. More than 24,000 parishioners have made gifts to this year's Appeal so far.

"Pope Francis offers a beautiful prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary that includes these words: 'Teach us to see all things with the eyes of Jesus, that he may be light for our path. And may this light of faith always increase in us, until the dawn of that undying day which is Christ himself, your Son, our Lord,'" said Bishop Joseph C. Bambera. "I am grateful to parishioners throughout our Diocese for their devoted commitment to the Annual Appeal. Your support is certainly a sign of Christ's light, His very presence, in our midst."

The following parishes have surpassed their Annual Appeal goal – Blessed Sacrament Parish, Throop; Christ the King Parish, Archbald; Corpus Christi Parish, West Pittston; Holy Rosary Parish, Hazleton; Immaculate Conception Parish, Scranton; Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Wyalusing; Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Brodheadsville; Our Lady of Victory Parish, Harveys Lake; Queen of the Apostles Parish, Avoca; Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary Parish, Jermyn; Saints Cyril and Methodius Parish, Hazleton; Saints Peter and Paul Parish, Towanda; Saint Ann Parish, Shohola; Saint Barbara Parish, Exeter; Saint Brigid Parish, Friendsville; Saint Catherine of Siena Parish, Moscow; Saint Elizabeth Parish, Bear Creek; Saint John Neumann Parish, Lords Valley; Saint John Vianney

Parish, Montdale; Saint Katharine Drexel Parish, Pleasant Mount; Saint Luke Parish, Stroudsburg; Saint Mary Parish, Waymart; Saint Maximilian Kolbe Parish, Pocono Pines; Saint Michael Parish, Canton; Saint Peter's Cathedral, Scranton; and Saint Therese Parish, Shavertown.

"Thank you to all those who assist us in our efforts in support of the ministries of the Diocese, especially our pastors, parish staffs, parish representatives and regional lay and clergy chairs," said Jim Bebla, Diocesan Secretary for Development. "It is a great joy to work with you in service to our local Church."

Parishioners and friends may make an online gift to the Diocesan Annual Appeal by visiting www.annualappeal.org. Gifts may also be made by calling the Diocesan Development Office at 570-207-2250 or by sending a donation to: Diocesan Annual Appeal, 300 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, PA, 18503-1279.

This year there are two Text-to-Give giving options using cell phones. The first option is a simple one-step process that gives parishioners the opportunity to give \$10 by texting the word LIGHT and their parish name and city to 50555. This option does not require the donor to submit contact or credit card information. The donation will appear on the donor's next cell phone bill. If donors prefer to make a gift of a different amount or a pledge over several months, they can text the word APPEAL to 50555 and the donor will be sent directly to the Annual Appeal online giving site where they can make a credit card gift.

Parish Members Band Together to Serve Community's Poor, Needy

Editor's Note: This is the fourth in a series on ministries supported by gifts to the Diocesan Annual Appeal.

Because they "wanted to do more" to live out the Gospel message in their community, a group of parishioners at Saint Joachim Church, Meshoppen, (a worship site of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Wyalusing) formed a Social Concerns Committee. This small group has offered corporal and spiritual works of mercy continually for more than 30 years, explains Marilyn Bell, one of the founders and committee coordinator.

"The members are very dedicated and very thoughtful about meeting the needs of those in our community, the best they can," said Father Joseph Manarchuck, pastor for Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish.

Continued on next page



Nourishing the Needy

Social Concerns Committee members of Saint Joachim Church, Meshoppen, preparing food boxes for the needy are, from left, Marilyn Bell, David Bell, Father Joseph Manarchuck, pastor, Peggy McGarrigle, Betty Kitchnefsky, and Judy Bauman. Jeanne Sible and Annette Allen are also committee members. Monies donated to the Diocesan Annual Appeal and awarded in the form of Social Justice Grants from the Diocese support the program.

Luzerne County Regional Chairs



Bishop Bambera with Luzerne County Regional Chairs Allen and Mary Erwine, and Father Joseph R. Kakareka.

Mary and Allen Erwine, Shavertown, accepted Bishop Bambera's invitation to serve as Regional Lay Chairs for Luzerne County for the 2017 Diocesan Annual Appeal. Father Joseph R. Kakareka, pastor of Holy Family Church, Sugar Notch, agreed to serve as Regional Clergy Chair.

Mr. and Mrs. Erwine are active parishioners of Saint Therese's Parish, Shavertown. Mary Erwine, MSN, a graduate of College Misericordia, established Erwine Home Health in 1993. She then added the Private Health Care Division in 1995 and the Hospice Division in 2004. Allen Erwine joined the company in 2001 after retiring from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Bureau of Corrections, as a Lieutenant.

The Erwines are the parents of two daughters, Michelle McLaughlin and Megan Schwarz, and have two grandchildren, Abby McLaughlin and Pierson Schwartz.

Mrs. Erwine is a former board member of Saint Vincent de Paul Kitchen, Wilkes-Barre, a program of Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton which receives funding from the Diocesan Annual Appeal. "The Saint Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen provides more than 100,000 meals a year to adults, children and families. This is an increase from 2002 when only lunch was provided," Mrs. Erwine explains. "We strove to expand the program, and today, the kitchen feeds hot meals to many families both for lunch and for dinner."

In urging others to join them in supporting the Annual Appeal, the couple recalled the words of Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta: "What you can do, I cannot, and what I can do, you cannot... but together we can do something beautiful for God." Mrs. Erwine concluded, "As we walk together in the light of Christ, many obstacles can be overcome and much can be accomplished."

In his role as Regional Clergy Chair, Father Kakareka offered a special invocation to launch the Diocesan Annual Appeal in Luzerne County. He offered these words for reflection: "Heavenly Father, you sent your son as our Savior. Jesus revealed himself as light of the world. He told us that whoever lives in truth comes to the light so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God. Your Church carries on this work and as members of the Church we are called to be missionary disciples testifying to that truth."

"We ask your help now as the Diocese of Scranton continues to move forward with this mandate and seeks financial support of its people through the vehicle of the Diocesan Annual Appeal. We ask your grace and blessing so that we can 'walk together in the light of Christ.'"

Said Father Kakareka, "I ask my parishioners for as much cooperation for the Annual Appeal as they can possibly give, and to be as generous as their temporal treasure allows."

Raised in Scranton, Father Kakareka attended the parish grade school of Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary Church, now Saint Paul of the Cross. He graduated from Bishop Klonowski High School, Scranton, and attended the University of Scranton on a Diocesan scholarship. He was in the last class to be ordained to the priesthood from Our Lady of the Angels Seminary, Albany, N.Y. Prior to becoming pastor at Holy Family, Sugar Notch, some previous assignments included Saint Jude Parish, Mountain Top; Saint Stanislaus Parish, Nanticoke; and as chaplain at Mercy Hospital, Wilkes-Barre.

Luzerne County Parish Representatives Gather to Discuss Progress of Diocesan Annual Appeal



Luzerne County Parish Representatives gathering at Holy Family Parish, Sugar Notch, include, seated from left: Clementine Yamona and Mary Maher, Most Precious Blood, Hazleton; Christine Skiro, Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Hanover; and Michelle and Nelson Pinto, St. Maria Goretti, Laflin. Standing: Robert Nause, Holy Name of Jesus, West Hazleton; Father Joseph Kakareka, Holy Family, Sugar Notch, Luzerne Regional Clergy Chair; Michael Golubiewski, St. Faustina Kowalska, Nanticoke; Bob and Karen Grula, St. Andrew, Wilkes-Barre; Paul Luksh, St. Robert Bellarmine, Wilkes-Barre; Cecelia and Jim Zielinski, St. John Bosco, Conyngham; Carol Skalski, St. Monica, West Wyoming; Ruth Jones, Good Shepherd, Drums; and Jef Bauman, Nativity of Our Lord, Duryea.



Also gathering at Holy Family Parish are, seated from left, Patricia Klimash, Holy Family, Luzerne; Rebecca Hetzel, Art Jump and Father J. Duane Gavitt, Our Lady of Fatima, Wilkes-Barre; and Father Patrick McDowell, Sacred Heart of Jesus, Weston. Standing: Gene Klimash, Holy Family, Luzerne; Michael Flynn, All Saints, Plymouth; Ben Berini, SS. Peter and Paul, Plains; Dr. Steven Mauer, Holy Spirit, Mocanaqua; Frank Cacchione, St. Elizabeth, Bear Creek; Ken Angradi, Holy Spirit, Mocanaqua; Robert Reddington, Holy Family, Sugar Notch; Dr. Christine Alichnie, St. Jude, Mountain Top; Jim McMahon, Queen of the Apostles, Avoca; Julia Mazzoli, Sacred Heart, Weston; Richard Garman, St. Ignatius Loyola, Kingston; JoAnn Prushinski, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Swoyersville; and Bernadette Druby, St. Leo, Ashley.

Appeal Enables Parishes to Help Needy

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Though the Wyalusing parish doesn't operate a food pantry, its Ministry of Mercy Outreach assists people with utility bills and medical expenses, and gas cards for medical appointments. Both parish ministries deliver baskets and flowers to the homebound during the holidays.

Both churches have applied for, and received, monies donated to the Diocesan Annual Appeal and awarded in the form of Social Justice Grants from the Diocese.

In Saint Joachim's food pantry, volunteers prepare and deliver food boxes to the needy "with everything from soup to toothpaste." Parishioners are very generous with their monetary donations, and people often anonymously drop off large boxes of groceries.

Today, Social Concerns Committee members also visit the sick, and comfort the lonely and the grieving with the support of so many parishioners, young and old. "Our religious education teachers and students do a lot for the needy. They make cards and holiday ornaments, and bake cookies to be delivered to nursing homes and to the homebound," said Miss Bell, adding they also conduct a Christmas Dinner. "Father is very generous with his time. He visits with people and they appreciate it."

At Saint Joachim, "I just take the phone calls," stresses Miss Bell, "but

many people contribute to this effort in so many ways. Mike and Judy Bauman are so good with bringing fresh potatoes. My brother David Bell is our delivery man and there are many people I could call if someone needs a ride or has a special need."

The Social Concerns Committee also works closely with other community churches and participates in ecumenical services. "If people can't easily get to the Saint Joachim's food pantry," said Miss Bell, "we direct them to another church where they are also welcome."

In addition to Miss Bell, the original group consists of Annette Allen, who is still active, Betty and Bob Boyanowski, Cindy Picket and the late Barbara Place.

"I tell everyone, 'when you do this work, you get much more back than you give,'" said Miss Bell. "It's hard for people to come forward...We just feel our Church needs to be out in the public and people need to know they can call on us. You never know the effect we may have. Sometimes people may be inspired to come back to Church. Sometimes, given support, they get to the point where they can in turn help others...and they send us a thank you note with a check: 'We no longer need your help, but we certainly appreciate it when we did.'"

Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry Program, 2018

The Office for Parish Life encourages parish leaders to consider **application for the Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry for January 2018!**

The *Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry* is a ministry formation program designed to equip and advance the servant leadership capacities of individuals serving their parish in areas such as:

- Pastoral Council,
- Director of Religious Education and Catechist,
- Liturgical Coordinator,
- Parish Staff,
- Volunteer Ministry teams,
- and others!

Through independent online study with the University of Dayton's Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF), as well as regional skills workshops and opportunities for prayer and reflection, *Diocesan Certificate* candidates enrich their knowledge base, while also learning practical tools for effective parish ministry in their faith communities.

The Office for Parish Life anticipates welcoming new candidates into the *Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry* program in the New Year. **Applications will be accepted until January 15, 2018.**

Prospective candidates are encouraged to contact Kitty Scanlan, Coordinator for Lay Ministry Formation, at 570-207-2213, or by email at Kitty-Scanlan@dioceseofscranton.org for application information, materials, and application submissions.



Echoes of Faith

Do you want to know more about your faith? Are you a catechist or DRE who is looking for a way to earn a certificate in catechesis? Can you spare an hour a week? The Echoes of Faith 3.0 is for YOU!

Created by the National Conference for Catechetical Leadership (NCCL) and published by RCL Benziger, Echoes of Faith is an online education program offering basic adult formation in the Catholic Faith. With fourteen modules divided into three categories, the Echoes of Faith Learning Center can be used for parish Adult Faith Formation and for Basic Catechist Certification. It is also one way to complete the prerequisites for the Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry.

Contact **Mary-Anne-Malone@dioceseofscranton.org** for information on how to get started for an affordable \$15 a year.

Young Church Rallies for the Faith

Young people from around the country who attended the National Catholic Youth Conference earlier this month in Indianapolis were encouraged to live their faith with joy and purpose, as disciples of Jesus.

Among the more than 25,000 pilgrims who participated was an enthusiastic delegation from the Diocese of Scranton that included 117 teens and 30 adult chaperones.

The biennial event is a three-day experience of prayer, community, evangelization, catechesis, and service.

The following parishes were represented at the 2017 conference: Our Lady Queen of Peace, Brodheadsville; Saint Gregory, Clarks Green; Our Lady of the Snows, Clarks Summit; Gate of Heaven, Dallas; Our Lady of the Abingtons, Dalton; Saint Eulalia, Elmhurst; Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Hanover Township; Most Precious Blood, Hazleton; Saint Patrick, Milford; Saint Catherine of Siena, Moscow; Saint Jude, Mountain Top; Saint John the Evangelist, Pittston; Epiphany, Sayre; Saint Luke, Stroudsburg; Holy Family, Sugar Notch; and

Saint Boniface, Williamsport.

With the theme *Called / Llamados*, the conference featured liturgies and prayer, inspiring speakers and social activities.

At the closing Mass on November 18 in Lucas Oil Stadium, Los Angeles Archbishop Jose H. Gomez cited a model for all to emulate.

“Blessed Solanus Casey was just beatified today in Detroit,” he said. “(God) gave him many gifts. He was a good listener, and he had a deep faith and deep heart for Jesus. He wanted above all to serve God.”

But that is not why the Capuchin Franciscan was beatified, said the archbishop. Rather, he was beatified “because he tried to serve God in every moment. . . . He used his gifts to help others.”

“This is how God wants us to live, to make your whole life a life of giving,” Archbishop Gomez continued. “Try to do little things for God. Try to be a little miracle in someone’s life. Give hope. Yes, we can strive for holiness because it is . . . doing God’s will in the little things of daily life.”



Pictured are Diocese of Scranton pilgrims who sang in the choir for the Region 3 Mass (which included all the dioceses in Pennsylvania and New Jersey). First row from left: Sarah Dule, Kaelee Kane, Jacob Kwiatkowski and Shaun Gurnari. Second row: Hailey Karpovich, Emalee Woychio, David Pirolli, Gabe Ramos, Christine Skiro, Dominick Costantino, Sister Kieran Williams, Liam Stone and Jared Fulginiti.

“NCYC was an experience for me that will never be forgotten. The energy and enthusiasm of 25,000 Catholics was truly felt in the Lucas Oil Stadium. Trading props from our Diocese and gathering together and chatting in the Indianapolis Convention Center were some of several ways in which I met hundreds of new friends from across the country! From the divinely driven keynote speakers to the worshiping of our Lord in breathtaking adoration, NCYC kept the Holy Spirit’s fire in our hearts lit! The theme of the retreat was ‘Called’ and it was an eye-opening experience for me to discover the many ways in which we are all called to live as disciples through Christ. As a keynote speaker said, ‘We must remember not only who we are, but whose we are!’”

– **Matthew Hayden, Saint Jude, Mountain Top**



Diocesan pilgrims Connery McFadden, Matthew Hayden and Luke Amosson during morning prayer at one of the large group sessions.

“It was my first time at NCYC and it really opened me up to my faith. I learned that God will always love me whatever I do and I enjoyed being able to lead people as a Youth Ambassador. The environment wasn’t like hanging out with a bunch of strangers, it was like you were friends with everyone there. I really loved going and can’t wait to go again!”

– **Kyli Ramsey, Our Lady Queen of Peace, Brodheadsville**



Each day ended with reflection and prayer. Pictured here is the group from Saint Jude in Mountain Top.

“It was one of the best experiences of my life. Not only did I meet new friends and learn about the Catholic faith; I also learned so much about myself. The speakers and concerts everyday filled me with both joy and confidence. I am incredibly grateful for this opportunity and I would truly recommend it to everyone. Before attending, I was nervous and did not know what to expect – but any expectations I did have were vastly surpassed.”

– **Magnolia Jones, Saint Gregory, Clarks Green**

USCCB President's Thanksgiving Day Appeal: *Protect the Vulnerable, Especially Migrant & Refugee Families*

WASHINGTON — Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), offered the following Thanksgiving Day message to the nation with special gratitude for the gift of immigrants and refugees:

“As we do every year, we pause to thank God for the many blessings we enjoy in the United States. My brother bishops and I, gathered in Baltimore, were attentive in a special way to those who are often excluded from this great abundance — the poor, the sick, the addicted, the unborn, the unemployed, and especially migrants and refugees.

My brothers expressed a shared and ever-greater sense of alarm — and urgency to act — in the face of policies that seemed unthinkable only a short time ago: the deportation of Dreamers, young hard-working people who should be the lowest priority for deportation; the anxiety and uncertainty of those with Temporary Protected Status from countries like Haiti, El Salvador, and Honduras, which are still recovering from natural disasters and remain ill-equipped to humanely receive and integrate them; and an unprecedented reduction in the number of people we will welcome this year into our country who seek refuge from the ravages of war and religious persecution in their countries of origin.

One common feature of all these developments is their tendency to tear apart the family, the fundamental building block of our, or any, society. These threats to so many vulnerable immigrant and refugee families must end now. My brothers have urged me to speak out on their behalf to urge the immediate passage — and signature — of legislation that would alleviate these immediate threats to these families.

Another common feature of these policies is that they are symptoms of an immigration system that is profoundly broken and requires comprehensive reform. This is a longer-term goal, one that the bishops have advocated for decades to achieve, and one that must never be overlooked. Only by complete reform will we have the hope of achieving the common goals of welcoming the most vulnerable, ensuring due process and humane treatment, protecting national security, and respecting the rule of law. We are committed to such reforms and will continue to call for them.

So this year, I give thanks for the gift and contributions of immigrants and refugees to our great nation. I also pray that next year, families now under threat will not be broken and dispersed, but instead will be united in joy around their tables, giving thanks for all the blessings our nation has to offer.”

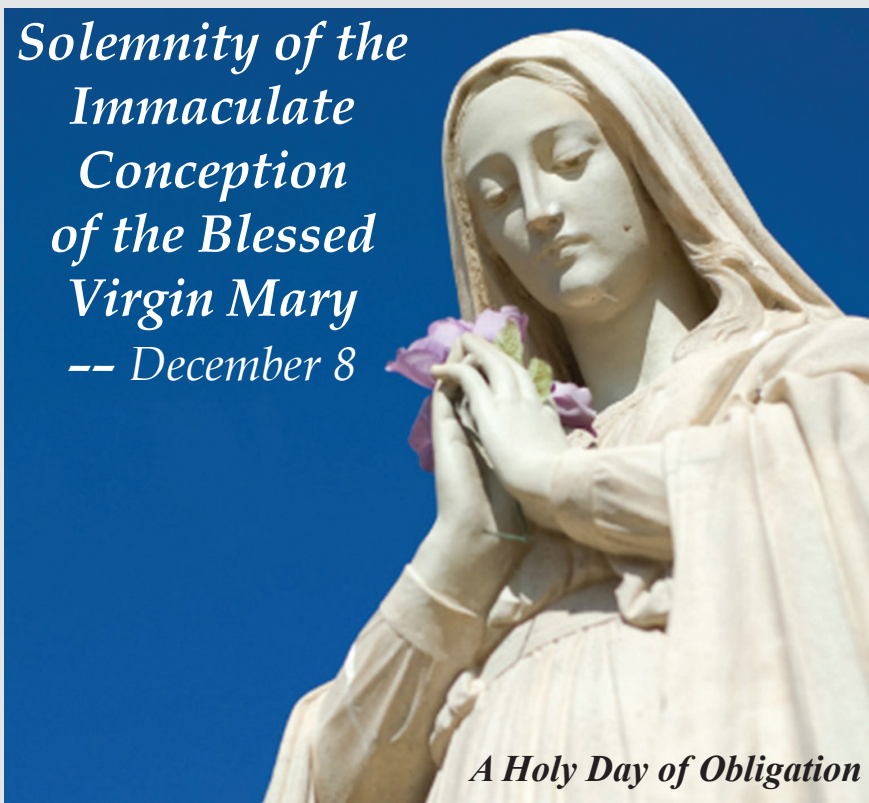
Prayer Requests for Priests

The Daily Prayer Request for Priests schedule for the next three weeks is as follows:

November 30, Father John Doris; December 1, Pope Francis; December 2, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI; December 3, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera; December 4, Father David Dormer; December 5, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus John M. Dougherty; December 6, Father Michael Drevitch; December 7, Father Cyril Edwards, V.E.; December 8, Father Joseph

Elston; December 9, Monsignor John Esseff; December 10, Father Joseph Evanko; December 11, Monsignor William Feldcamp; December 12, Father Samuel Ferretti; December 13, Father Michael Finn; December 14, Father Paul Fontanella; December 15, Father Richard Fox; December 16, Father Martin Gaiardo; December 17, Father Andrew Gallia; December 18, Father J. Duane Gavitt; December 19, Father Anthony Generose, V.E.; December 20, Father Richard Ghezzi.

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
-- December 8



A Holy Day of Obligation

Apostleship of Prayer

Papal Intention for December 2017

The Elderly —

That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.



The Catholic Light

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Diocese of Scranton
DIOCESAN
ANNUAL APPEAL



Volume 117 Number 16 — Thursday, November 30, 2017

O Virgin of Guadalupe

You were sent to us
by the One who is
the source of all blessings.
Obtain for us from your Son Jesus
the grace of saying "YES"
to use our God-given talents
for others whether it be
to the vocation of married, single,
ordained or consecrated life.
Amen.

Oh, Virgen de Guadalupe

Tú nos fuiste enviada
por Aquel que es la fuente
de todas las bendiciones.
Obtén para nosotros,
por intermedio de tu Hijo Jesús,
la gracia de decir "Sí"
para poder usar los talentos que Dios
nos ha dado al servicio de los demás
ya sea a la vocación al matrimonio, a
la soltería, al sacerdocio, o a la vida
consagrada.
Amén.



Retirement Fund for Religious

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

The 30th appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious will be taken up at Masses the weekend of December 9-10. The annual, parish-based collection is coordinated by the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) and benefits some 32,000 aging Catholic sisters, brothers and priests in religious orders.

Catholic bishops of the United States initiated the collection in 1988 to help address the deficit in retirement savings among the nation's religious congregations. Proceeds are distributed to eligible congregations to help underwrite retirement and health-care expenses. Roughly 94 percent of donations aid elderly religious.

Most senior religious worked for little to no pay, leaving their religious communities with inadequate retirement savings. At the same time,

religious communities are challenged by the rising cost of care. Last year, the average annual cost of care for senior religious was \$42,000 per person, while skilled care averaged more than \$63,000, according to NRRO data. In 2016, the total cost of care for women and men religious past age 70 exceeded \$1.2 billion.

Proceeds from the collection support the retirement needs of these women and men who spent their lives in church ministries such as education, health care and social services. In 2016, the collection raised more than \$30 million nationwide.

The collection for the Religious Retirement Fund is distinct and separate from the monthly collection taken in parishes for the Care and Education of Priests of the Diocese of Scranton.

Our Lady of Guadalupe

The Virgin Mary appeared to an Indian peasant – St. Juan Diego – in December 1531 in Tepeyac, near present-day Mexico City. The appearance is said to have resulted in millions of conversions to Catholicism. Our Lady of Guadalupe, depicted in the mosaic at right, is honored as patroness of the Americas and her feast day is Dec. 12. The schedule of celebrations in the Diocese of Scranton is below.



Luzerne County

**Annunciation Parish at
St. Gabriel's Church**
122 South Wyoming Street
Hazleton, PA
(570) 454-0212

Sunday, December 10
Noon – Mass

Tuesday, December 12
5:00 a.m. – Mañanitas and Mass

St. Nicholas Church
226 South Washington Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA
(570) 823-7736

Monday, December 11
6:00-9:00 p.m. – Velacion Evening Prayer,
traditional Mexican dances, mariachi band

Tuesday, December 12
5:00 a.m. – Mañanitas & breakfast
4:30 p.m. – Procession, 23 S. Hancock St.
6:00 p.m. – Mass with Bishop Bambera
7:00 p.m. – reception in school cafeteria

Monroe County

**Pocono Parishes Celebrations
all at St. Matthew's Church**
200 Brodhead Avenue
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301
(570) 421-2342

Monday, December 4
5:00 p.m. – Procession with Torch
7:00 p.m. – Mass

Monday, December 11
8:00-11:00 p.m. – Vigil

Tuesday, December 12
7:00 p.m. – Mass

Lackawanna County

**St. John Neumann Parish
at Nativity of Our Lord Church**
633 Orchard Street
Scranton, PA 18505
(570) 344-6159

Saturday, December 9
3:00 p.m. – Mass with Bishop Bambera

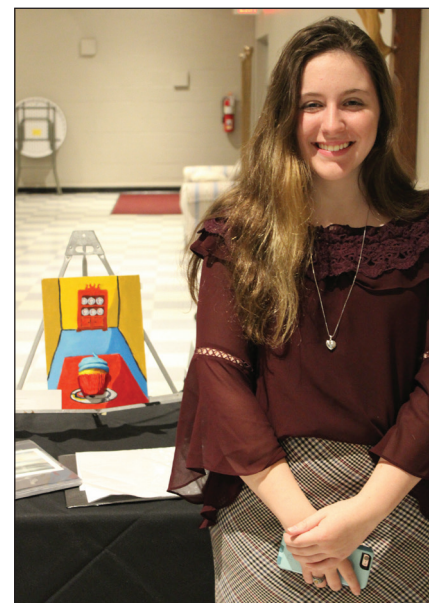
Holy Cross High School Hosts Second Annual 'First Friday' Student Exhibit & Art Auction



Holy Cross High School in Dunmore, in conjunction with Scranton's monthly "First Friday" celebration throughout the city and the Diocesan Development Office, held their Second Annual First Friday Student Exhibit and Silent Art Auction on November 3 at the Diocese of Scranton Pastoral Center. John Anthony Farkas Jr., manager of Development and Alumni Relations for Diocesan Catholic Schools, and Kristina Toolan, art faculty member at Holy Cross High School, coordinated the event.

Artwork on display included work by 28 local artists who generously donated over 30 pieces of work, which were auctioned off during the evening, and an extensive collection of Holy Cross student artwork was exhibited. Throughout the night, more than 300 individuals attended the function, and with the help of sponsorships, art sales, and raffle basket proceeds, over \$11,100 was raised to directly benefit the Holy Cross High School Tuition Assistance Program.

From left, Holy Cross High School Principal Ben Tolerico; John Kotula, major sponsor for the event; and John Farkas of the Diocese of Scranton.



Holy Cross student artist Megan Gashi



Pictured reviewing one of the many art displays are, in the foreground, Holy Cross High School's Zachary Menichello and his mother, Shari, of Jessup. Shown behind are Connor and Maureen Straka, Peckville.



Sampling the wide variety of tasty fare provided to guests are Holy Cross students Michael Kobierecki, left, and Andrew Straka.



Holy Cross student artist Tommy Montefour



Enjoying the evening's festivities are Holy Cross students, from left, Bridgit Coolican, Alicia Griffiths and Ashlynn Cox.

Diocese of Scranton

CATHOLIC

SCHOOL SYSTEM

FAITH • ACADEMICS • SERVICE

The Diocese of Scranton is committed to educating our students in an environment that is academically excellent and facilitates the development of moral judgment and Christian decision-making. We are proud to share the following successes of our students in the classroom and in their service to others. Each day, our schools are fulfilling their mission of preparing today's youth and young adults to become tomorrow's faith-filled leaders.



The Student Council of **Good Shepherd Academy in Kingston** conducted a food drive to benefit the St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen for Thanksgiving. All classes took part in the drive and the food was delivered by Mrs. Dunbar, Mrs. Manganello and Mrs. Gialanella. Pictured are Student Council Officers Jillian DelBalso, Izzy Romano, Jack Riley, Lizzy Neville and Katie Quinn.



Addisyn Wolfe, a 1st grade student at **St. John Neumann Elementary School in Williamsport**, poses with her winning "Kindness Matters" poster.



Thalia Charles, a senior at **Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre**, was the first-place winner of the Wyoming Valley Veterans Day Parade Essay Contest.



Student Council officers at **St. Mary of Mount Carmel School in Dunmore** for the 2017-18 school year are Molly White, President; Kaeden Carr, Vice President; Andrew (AJ) Smith, Treasurer; and Lillie Kochis, Secretary.



In honor of Veterans Day, the Jersey Shore VFW Honor Guard raised a new USA flag at a ceremony at the **St. John Neumann High School in Williamsport**.



Students and faculty at **Notre Dame Elementary School in East Stroudsburg** collaborated with Monroe County Children and Youth Services to sponsor complete Thanksgiving meals that included turkeys along with all of the fixings for 30 local families. In addition, 15 families were provided with the turkeys for their holiday feasts, thanks to the generosity of the Victaulic Company. Here some of the students stand with their principal, Sister Mary Alice Kane, IHM, and the donations received at the school.



Holy Rosary School in Duryea recently hosted a Barnes and Noble Night. Family and friends enjoyed a variety of events that included holiday crafts, basket raffles, carols sung by the school’s choir and accompanied by music teacher Jackson Fiore, Christmas stories as told by 2nd grade teacher Mrs. Joan Dowd, forensics performances and routines from the school cheerleading squad – all while supporting their school as they began early Christmas shopping.



Liam Reilly, Jean Marc Durand and Bradley Medina, juniors at **Notre Dame High School in East Stroudsburg**, proudly show off their recently blessed school rings.



Students at **Wyoming Area Catholic School in Exeter** have joined efforts with the Pittston Area PDG Leo’s Club to fight blindness; donations of prescription eyeglasses or sunglasses can be made by placing them in the marked container in the school lobby. Excited to help remind people to donate are students: Aiden O’Haire, Joyce Renfer, Aryan Tolanie, Cougar – a.k.a Dylan Cassetori, Hayden Foland and Grace Mangan.



The school community of **La Salle Academy in Jessup** collected canned goods and toiletries for the Little Sisters of the Poor for the residents at Holy Family Residence. Pictured with some of the donations they received are: 4th grader Matthew Liuzzo, 1st grader Alexis Wasp, Sister Alice, Sister Marie Therese, 5th grader Christopher Bonacci, 5th grader Julie Walsh, and Mrs. Ellen Murphy, principal of La Salle.



St. Nicholas/St. Mary School in Wilkes-Barre recently inducted 14 new members into the National Junior Honor Society. Membership in the society requires excellence in scholarship, leadership, character, service and citizenship.



On All Saints Day, Reverend Cyril Edwards, school chaplain, celebrated Mass with students from **Holy Cross High School in Dunmore**, as well as very special guests: students from Scranton's Nativity Miguel School.



The 7th grade students at **Our Lady of Peace School in Clarks Green** display their cell projects.



The students at **All Saints Academy in Scranton** paid tribute to our men and women who have served and continue to serve in our military during a Veterans Day Program.



Giovanni Ramos, an 8th grade student at **St. Clare/St. Paul School in Scranton**, was named a winner of the Lackawanna/Susquehanna Office of Drug and Alcohol Program's 2017 countywide billboard contest. His billboard design will be displayed through the Lackawanna County District Attorney's office. Congratulating Giovanni is Miss Crowley, the art teacher at SCSP.



Students at **Holy Family Academy in Hazleton** recently celebrated the dedication of all men and women, past and present, who serve in the United States Military: Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard. In a personal presentation, Master Sergeant John Leonard, the father of two HFA students, talked to all the students about his life in the military.



DECEMBER 3, 2017 | 12:15PM

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

150th Anniversary Year Opening Mass
Pontifical Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter

Presiding:
His Eminence, Justin Cardinal Rigali,
Archbishop Emeritus of Philadelphia and former
Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Scranton

Main Celebrant and Homilist:
Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L.,
Bishop of Scranton

MARCH 4, 2018 | 3PM

ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY

**150th Anniversary Commemoration
of the Founding of the Diocese of Scranton**
Pontifical Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter

Main Celebrant:
Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput O.F.M. Cap.,
Archbishop of Philadelphia

Homilist:
Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L.,
Bishop of Scranton

NOVEMBER 25, 2018 | 12:15PM

FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

150th Anniversary Year Concluding Mass
Pontifical Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter

Main Celebrant:
Most Reverend Christophe Pierre,
Apostolic Nuncio to the United States

Homilist:
Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L.,
Bishop of Scranton

Our Early History...

THE JOURNEY MAKES US ONE

The First Sunday of Advent, December 3, begins a year of celebration in recognition of the *150th Anniversary of the Founding of the Diocese of Scranton*. There is much to celebrate and remember from the Diocese's impressive history; however, this is also the opportunity to look ahead and prepare for the coming decades. Our 150th Anniversary theme, *"The Journey Makes Us One,"* captures the uniting element of northeastern Pennsylvania as a melting pot of immigrants from various ethnic backgrounds and religious communities joined and melded by their Catholic religion.

The Diocese grew from the first Catholic presence recorded in northeastern Pennsylvania dating back to 1793 in Silver Lake, Susquehanna County where French refugees settled Catholic communities to escape the revolution in France. After that, many different ethnic groups formed their own religious communities within the region. Missionary priests nourished the faith of these early settlers. Pope Pius IX realized that the Catholic community in the northeast corner of Pennsylvania was steadily growing and made the decision to separate Luzerne, Bradford, Lycoming, Monroe, Pike, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Wayne and Wyoming counties from the oversight of Philadelphia.

The Diocese of Scranton was officially formed

on March 3, 1868, when the Pope signed a decree to separate the 10 counties from the Archdiocese of Philadelphia into their own Diocese. Lackawanna County was formed 10 years later when carved from what was previously a larger Luzerne County, bringing the Diocese of Scranton to its current number of 11 counties.

The very first church established in the Diocese still exists today in Silver Lake, Susquehanna County. In honor of the 150th Anniversary, on August 5 next year, Saint Augustine's Parish will hold a Festival Mass in their church and also celebrate their long history with their 194th Annual Chicken Dinner.

To launch the year-long Diocesan celebration, an *Anniversary Year Opening Mass* will be held on the First Sunday of Advent, December 3 at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton. During this 2017-2018 Anniversary Year, it is important to look back on the history of the Diocese to appreciate how our religion has influenced many facets of our regional history and how *"the journey"* has previously, and continues to, *"make us one."*

Throughout our history, the Diocese has influenced countless organizations and institutions in northeastern Pennsylvania including those in education, healthcare and industry. During this anniversary year, *The Catholic Light* will spotlight various aspects of our local life that have been



Wyoming Ave., Scranton circa 1920. Shown are the Cathedral, Rectory, St. Thomas College and Residence.

molded by the mission of the Diocese and the clergy, religious and lay faithful who are this local Church.

One connection many institutions have in common is that they were formed by various religious orders within the Diocese. These women and men in consecrated life have served faithfully in the areas of education, healthcare and social service ministries. You will be able to read more about these and other influencing religious groups in a future edition of this publication where we will highlight consecrated life and religious communities within the Diocese.

Catholic education has been a high priority in the Diocese since its founding in 1868. Thousands of students have been educated and formed in the faith in elementary and secondary schools and parish religious education programs. The first

Bishop of Scranton, William O'Hara, founded Saint Thomas College, now the University of Scranton, in 1888. We will also highlight Catholic higher education and the various primary and secondary school systems within the Diocese.

The medical profession and community hospitals in our area would not be what they are today without the work of our Catholic leaders. These hospitals served our communities applying Catholic teachings to the highest standards of health care.

"The Journey Makes Us One" will guide us throughout this anniversary year. Our path thus far has been forged by the exemplary Catholic leaders who preceded us. Strengthened and united anew as one community, we can together prepare our Church for the challenging and hope-filled years to come.

Images shown above: Bishop O'Hara, Saint Joseph's Founding Home, Father Moses Whitty (first rector of the Cathedral of Saint Peter), Sisters of Mercy

FAITH FACTS:

- In the early and middle 1800s there were only three bishops available from the Archdiocese of Philadelphia to visit the outlying parishes and they had to travel by horse, buckboard and train in order to deliver the sacraments to the far-flung flock in the small settlements of northeastern and central Pennsylvania. Among the three was **Saint John Neumann**.
- The Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary were founded in 1845 in Michigan, and in addition to the Diocese of Scranton, now serve communities in 10 states and Washington D.C.
- Mercy Hospital of Wilkes-Barre, founded in 1848, was the oldest hospital in the network of Diocesan healthcare facilities.
- Scranton's first Bishop, William G. O'Hara, D.D., founded The University of Scranton as Saint Thomas College in 1888. Priests and seminarians from the Diocese comprised the first faculty. In 1896 the Xaverian Brothers staffed the school for a year before the Christian Brothers took over and ran the college for the next 45 years, followed by the Society of Jesus in 1942.
- When the permanent home for Saint Joseph's Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and Aged Persons, now Saint Joseph's Center, was opened in 1900, there were only eight IHM Sisters responsible for caring for 161 infants.

NEXT ISSUE:
Exploring the Parishes of
the Diocese of Scranton

1793

Bradford County - Roman Catholic services were conducted in a small chapel in the French colony between Wyalusing and Towanda.



1825

Susquehanna County - First resident pastor of northern Pennsylvania, Father O'Flynn, purchases 100 acres at Silver Lake with his own savings to build St. Augustine, the first Catholic Church and cemetery in the area.



1832

Carbondale - St. Rose of Lima Church built by Rev. William J. Clancy.

1836

Bradford, Sullivan, Susquehanna Counties - Rev. Henry Fitzsimmons is named pastor of Saint Rose Parish, Carbondale, which included all of Bradford, Sullivan and Susquehanna Counties.



1840

Scranton - The first Mass in Scranton was celebrated in June 1840 at 522 Front Street in South Scranton.



1853

Troy - St. John Neumann began the first Diocesan cycle of Forty Hours Devotion in the United States



WWW.DIOCESEOFSCRANTON.ORG

Young Adults in Diocese Make 'Bold Choices' Retreat:

Young adults from throughout the Diocese of Scranton attended the **Bold Choices: Finding Your Passion and Living It Fully** retreat at Saint Gabriel's Retreat Center in Clarks Summit.

The retreat consisted of interactive sessions on finding your passion, prayer, the art of discernment, guided meditation, small group discussion, Mass, and more. Bridget Barnic, a sophomore at Marywood University, attended the retreat and had a great experience.

"The Bold Choices Retreat helped me to become more attentive and open to God's call in my life," she said. "It helped me

to trust that if I stay close to God and follow His ways, though I may not know His plan, His ways will always lead to something good. I know God will lead me closer to Him and to the fulfilled life that He wants me to have.

"Also, through this retreat, I have gained more confidence in sharing my faith. It was a blessing to be able to share this experience with such wonderful peers who have now become friends! They have played an important role in shaping my growing faith. I am so grateful that our diocese offers opportunities like this retreat for the young church. I look forward to serving on the team in January."



'Bold Choices' Young Adult Retreat

Friday, January 5 – Saturday, January 6, 2018

Saint Gabriel's Retreat Center, 631 Griffin Pond Road,
South Abington Township, PA 18411

For more information, please call 570-207-1452

Above, Immaculate Heart of Mary Sister Mindy Welding leads an interactive session on the art of discernment. At right, retreat leaders (from left) Dominick Costantino, Program Coordinator; Sister Mindy Welding, IHM, Vocation Director; Shannon Kowalski, Diocesan Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministry; and Father Don Williams, Diocesan Director of Vocations and Seminarians.



Small group discussion following one of the sessions at the retreat.

Finding Your Passion and Living It Fully

XLT (Exalt!)

**Eucharistic Adoration – Praise & Worship
– Music by Francis Zelinka – Speaker –
Reconciliation – Social**

**Friday, December 1, 2017
7-9 p.m.**

**Saint Matthew Parish,
78 Ridgeway St., East Stroudsburg**

Speaker: Ross Capoccia

**Presider and preacher:
Father Gregory Loughney**

**For more information,
call 570-780-2996**

Lackawanna, Luzerne Parishes to Present 'Great is Thy Faithfulness' Advent Service

Three regional Catholic parishes in the Diocese of Scranton are continuing their annual tradition of collaboration to present two special services during the Advent season.

"Great is Thy Faithfulness," an Advent service of word and song, will be presented at churches in Lackawanna and Luzerne counties during the Second Week of Advent.

This year marks the eighth year of this remarkable collaborative effort among the three parishes in the two neighboring counties.

The first service will be held on the Second Sunday of Advent, Dec. 10, at 6 p.m., hosted by SS. Anthony & Rocco Parish at St. Anthony of Padua Church, 208 Smith St., Dunmore, with Bishop Joseph C. Bambera presiding.

Bishop Emeritus James C. Timlin will preside at the second program, to be offered on Thursday, Dec. 14, at Holy Family Parish Church, 574 Bennett St., Luzerne, beginning at 7 p.m. Both services are open to the public free of charge.

The music for the Advent programs features the combined choir of more than 60 voices from Holy Family Parish, Luzerne (Holy Cross Father Walter Jenkins, administrator); SS. Anthony and Rocco Parish, Dunmore (Father David Cappelloni, pastor); and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Dunmore (Father John Doris, pastor), as well as several soloists and an instrumental ensemble.

The Directors of Music at the participating parishes are Linda Houck, Joseph Moffitt and Geri Seitzinger, respectively.

"Great is Thy Faithfulness" offers those who participate an opportunity to embrace the season of Advent and its spirit of preparation for Christmas through Scripture readings and musical selections that focus on the theme of God's eternal faithfulness to his people.

For more information about the upcoming events, contact the parish office at Holy Family, Luzerne (570-287-6600), Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Dunmore (570-346-7429), or SS. Anthony and Rocco, Dunmore (570-344-1209).

St. Ann Basilica to Host Sacred Heart Enthronement

SCRANTON — A Mass of Enthronement to the Sacred Heart of Jesus will be hosted by St. Ann Basilica Parish in west Scranton on Wednesday, Dec. 6.

Offered by the Sacred Heart Enthronement Guild of the Diocese of Scranton, the liturgy will be celebrated at 7 p.m. in the Basilica of the National Shrine of St. Ann, with a prelude of musical selections by the Sacred Heart Singers, under the direction of Ernie Pappa, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

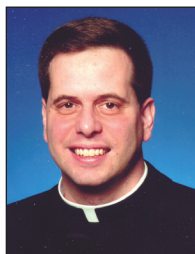
Concelebrated by Father Daniel Toomey, spiritual moderator of the Enthronement Guild, and

Passionist Father Francis Landry, pastor of St. Ann's, the Mass will provide an opportunity for individuals and families to enthrone their homes to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary.

The Enthronement of the Sacred Heart apostolate brings awareness to Catholic faithful regarding enthronements, which enables them to offer devotion and seek the protection of Jesus and Mary in their home environment.

All are invited to attend the special Enthronement celebration, which is being coordinated by Steve Englot, Enthronement Guild president, and Mr. Pappa. Refreshments will be provided in the parish hall following the Mass.

For more information and reservations for Enthronement at the liturgy, contact Maria Pappa, Enthronement Guild coordinator, at (570-587-0805).



**Father Dan
Toomey**

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DECEMBER SCHEDULE

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY						
12:00 AM	SPECIALS	SUNDAY MASS (Encore)	DAILY MASS (Encore)				Fr. SPITZER'S UNIVERSE						
1:00 AM	AT HOME WITH JIM & JOY	(1:10AM) LITANY OF THE SACRED HEART	THE JOURNEY HOME (Encore)	MOTHER ANGELICA LIVE CLASSICS	EWTN LIVE (Encore)	THE WORLD OVER (Encore)	AT HOME WITH JIM & JOY						
1:30 AM		EWTN GALLERY						EWTN NEWS NIGHTLY (Encore)					
2:00 AM	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC		PRO LIFE WEEKLY	EWTN GALLERY	DEFENDING LIFE	LIFE ON THE ROCK	BATTLE READY	LONG RIDE HOME W/ BEAR WOZNICK					
2:30 AM									SPECIALS	EWTN GALLERY	ANGELUS FROM NAZARETH	SAINTS VS SCOUNDRELS	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOG
3:00 AM	EWTN ON LOCATION		VOICE OF THE BRIDEGROOM	EWTN GALLERY	PAPAL AUDIENCE LIVE (at 3:50)	SUPER SAINTS	WEB OF FAITH 2.0	SAVORING OUR FAITH					
3:30AM		EWTN LIVE (Encore)							YOU'RE AMAZING	LORD HAVE MERCY	EWTN SPECIALS	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY	PRIESTS & DEACONS: MINISTERS OF MERCY
3:40 AM													
3:50AM		SUNDAY NIGHT PRIME							THE MARTYRS: THEY DIED FOR CHRIST	EWTN CATALOG	CHURCH AND THE POOR	JOY OF MUSIC	APOSTOLATE FOR FAMILY CONSECRATION
4:00 AM	EWTN LIVE (Encore)		YOU'RE AMAZING	THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL	LORD HAVE MERCY	EWTN SPECIALS	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY	FR. RUTLER					
4:30 AM		OCTAVA DIES							THE MARTYRS: THEY DIED FOR CHRIST	EWTN CATALOG	CHURCH AND THE POOR	JOY OF MUSIC	APOSTOLATE FOR FAMILY CONSECRATION
5:00 AM	RISE & FALL OF ANCIENT ISRAEL		EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL	LORD HAVE MERCY	EWTN SPECIALS	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY	FR. RUTLER					
5:30 AM		LIFE IS WORTH LIVING							A FORCE FOR GOOD	THE MARTYRS: THEY DIED FOR CHRIST	HOW TO PRAY FOR YOUR LOVED ONES	EWTN SPECIALS	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY
6:00 AM	ANGELUS WITH POPE FRANCIS		EWTN CATALOG	CHURCH AND THE POOR	JOY OF MUSIC	APOSTOLATE FOR FAMILY CONSECRATION	THE CHOICES WE FACE	SAINTS vs. SCOUNDRALS					
6:30 AM		ADVENT REFLECTIONS WITH CARDINAL DOLAN							EWTN CATALOG	CHURCH AND THE POOR	JOY OF MUSIC	APOSTOLATE FOR FAMILY CONSECRATION	THE CHOICES WE FACE
7:00 AM	ROSARY FROM LOURDES		LITANY OF LORETO	LITANY OF THE HOLY NAME	LITANY OF ST. JOSEPH	LITANY OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD	PAPAL AUDIENCE	THE HOLY ROSARY FROM LOURDES					
7:30 AM		SUNDAY MASS (Live)							LITANY OF LORETO	LITANY OF THE HOLY NAME	LITANY OF ST. JOSEPH	LITANY OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD	PAPAL AUDIENCE
7:50 AM	SUNDAY MASS (Live)		LITANY OF LORETO	LITANY OF THE HOLY NAME	LITANY OF ST. JOSEPH	LITANY OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD	PAPAL AUDIENCE	THE HOLY ROSARY FROM LOURDES					
8:00 AM		SUNDAY MASS (Live)							LITANY OF LORETO	LITANY OF THE HOLY NAME	LITANY OF ST. JOSEPH	LITANY OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD	PAPAL AUDIENCE
8:00 AM	SUNDAY MASS (Live)		LITANY OF LORETO	LITANY OF THE HOLY NAME	LITANY OF ST. JOSEPH	LITANY OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD	PAPAL AUDIENCE	THE HOLY ROSARY FROM LOURDES					
9:00 AM		(9:10AM) LITANY OF THE SACRED HEART							SUNDAY NIGHT: PRIME (Encore)	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY	THRESHOLD OF HOPE (Encore)	EWTN LIVE (Encore)	THE WORLD OVER (Encore)
9:30 AM	EWTN BOOKMARK		SUNDAY NIGHT: PRIME (Encore)	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY	THRESHOLD OF HOPE (Encore)	EWTN LIVE (Encore)	THE WORLD OVER (Encore)	MASTERPIECE DONUT SHOP					
10:00 AM		PRO LIFE WEEKLY							MOTHER ANGELICA LIVE CLASSICS	LIVE WITH PASSION	CTV SPECIAL PRESENTATION	FOCUS	WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN
10:30 AM	AT HOME WITH JIM AND JOY		MOTHER ANGELICA LIVE CLASSICS	LIVE WITH PASSION	CTV SPECIAL PRESENTATION	FOCUS	WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN	CAT CHAT					
11:00 AM		AT HOME WITH JIM AND JOY							MOTHER ANGELICA LIVE CLASSICS	LIVE WITH PASSION	CTV SPECIAL PRESENTATION	FOCUS	WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN
11:30 AM	HOLY ROSARY FROM LOURDES		MOTHER ANGELICA LIVE CLASSICS	LIVE WITH PASSION	CTV SPECIAL PRESENTATION	FOCUS	WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN	CAT CHAT					
12:00 PM		SUNDAY MASS (Encore)							MOTHER ANGELICA LIVE CLASSICS	LIVE WITH PASSION	CTV SPECIAL PRESENTATION	FOCUS	WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN
12:30 PM	SUNDAY MASS (Encore)		MOTHER ANGELICA LIVE CLASSICS	LIVE WITH PASSION	CTV SPECIAL PRESENTATION	FOCUS	WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN	CAT CHAT					
1:00 PM		(1:10PM) LITANY OF THE SACRED HEART							LORD HAVE MERCY	A FORCE FOR GOOD	JOURNEY HOME (Best of)	CALLED TO COMMUNION	JOURNEY HOME (Best of)
1:30 PM	IN CONCERT (Concert length varies)		LORD HAVE MERCY	A FORCE FOR GOOD	JOURNEY HOME (Best of)	CALLED TO COMMUNION	JOURNEY HOME (Best of)	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOGUE					
2:00 PM		FR. APOSTOLI							LORD HAVE MERCY	A FORCE FOR GOOD	JOURNEY HOME (Best of)	CALLED TO COMMUNION	JOURNEY HOME (Best of)
2:30 PM	FR. APOSTOLI		LORD HAVE MERCY	A FORCE FOR GOOD	JOURNEY HOME (Best of)	CALLED TO COMMUNION	JOURNEY HOME (Best of)	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOGUE					
3:00 PM		FR. APOSTOLI							LORD HAVE MERCY	A FORCE FOR GOOD	JOURNEY HOME (Best of)	CALLED TO COMMUNION	JOURNEY HOME (Best of)
3:15 PM	REFLECTIONS		HIDDEN CHURCHES	REFLECTIONS	HIDDEN CHURCHES	REFLECTIONS	HIDDEN CHURCHES	MESSAGE OF FATIMA					
3:30 PM		THE HOLY ROSARY IN STAINED GLASS							HIDDEN CHURCHES	REFLECTIONS	HIDDEN CHURCHES	REFLECTIONS	HIDDEN CHURCHES
4:00 PM	GRAB YOUR CATECHISM		HIDDEN CHURCHES	REFLECTIONS	HIDDEN CHURCHES	REFLECTIONS	HIDDEN CHURCHES	MESSAGE OF FATIMA					
4:30 PM		PRAYING AS A FAMILY							MASTERPIECE DONUT SHOP	ANIMATED STORIES FROM THE BIBLE	CHILDRENS SPECIALS	THE FRIAR	WAY OF THE CROSS FOR KIDS
5:00 PM	VATICANO		PRAYING AS A FAMILY	SUPER SAINTS	LIFE IS WORTH LIVING	LIFE ON THE ROCK	SAVORING OUR FAITH	EWTN PRESENTS					
5:30 PM		SAINTS vs. SCOUNDRELS							EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHOICES WE FACE	CONVERSATIONS FROM THE WORLD OVER SHOW	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	EVANGELIZING THE CULTURE
6:00 PM	CATHOLICS COME HOME		EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHOICES WE FACE	CONVERSATIONS FROM THE WORLD OVER SHOW	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	EVANGELIZING THE CULTURE	EWTN PRESENTS					
6:30 PM		VATICANO							EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHOICES WE FACE	CONVERSATIONS FROM THE WORLD OVER SHOW	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	EVANGELIZING THE CULTURE
7:00 PM	THE WORLD OVER LIVE (Encore)		EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHOICES WE FACE	CONVERSATIONS FROM THE WORLD OVER SHOW	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	EVANGELIZING THE CULTURE	EWTN PRESENTS					
7:30PM		THE WORLD OVER LIVE (Encore)							EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHOICES WE FACE	CONVERSATIONS FROM THE WORLD OVER SHOW	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	EVANGELIZING THE CULTURE
8:00 PM	SUNDAY NIGHT PRIME (Live)		THE JOURNEY HOME (Live)	CTV SPECIAL PRESENTATION	EWTN LIVE	THE WORLD OVER (Live)	SPECIALS	EWTN CINEMA					
8:30 PM		LIFE ON THE ROCK							EWTN NIGHTLY NEWS (Encore)	CTV SPECIAL PRESENTATION	EWTN LIVE	THE WORLD OVER (Live)	SPECIALS
9:00 PM	HOLY ROSARY W MOTHER ANGELICA		WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN	THE CHOICES WE FACE	FOCUS	LIVE WITH PASSION	WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN	EWTN CINEMA					
9:30 PM		EWTN SPECIALS							THE WORLD OVER LIVE (ENCORE)	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	FR. SPITZER'S UNIVERSE	PRO-LIFE WEEKLY	A FORCE FOR GOOD
10:00 PM	EWTN SPECIALS		THE WORLD OVER LIVE (ENCORE)	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	FR. SPITZER'S UNIVERSE	PRO-LIFE WEEKLY	A FORCE FOR GOOD	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY					
10:30 PM		BATTLE READY							CATHOLICS COME HOME	THRESHOLD OF HOPE (Encore)	THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL	VATICANO	DEFENDING LIFE
11:00 PM	BATTLE READY		CATHOLICS COME HOME	THRESHOLD OF HOPE (Encore)	THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL	VATICANO	DEFENDING LIFE	WEB OF FAITH 2.0					
11:30 PM		CATHOLIC VIEW FOR WOMEN							EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHOICES WE FACE	CONVERSATIONS FROM THE WORLD OVER SHOW	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	EVANGELIZING THE CULTURE
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		CATHOLIC VIEW FOR WOMEN							EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHOICES WE FACE	CONVERSATIONS FROM THE WORLD OVER SHOW	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	EVANGELIZING THE CULTURE
	CATHOLIC VIEW FOR WOMEN		EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHOICES WE FACE	CONVERSATIONS FROM THE WORLD OVER SHOW	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	EVANGELIZING THE CULTURE	EWTN PRESENTS					
		CATHOLIC VIEW FOR WOMEN							EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHOICES WE FACE	CONVERSATIONS FROM THE WORLD OVER SHOW	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	EVANGELIZING THE CULTURE

Nanticoke Parish to Participate in ‘National Night of Prayer for Life’

NANTICOKE — St. Faustina Kowalska Parish in Nanticoke will participate in the 28th annual “National Night of Prayer for Life,” which will be observed beginning on the evening of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The National Night of Prayer opens on the Marian feast day, Friday, Dec. 8, at 9 p.m. and concludes early the next morning on Saturday, Dec. 9, at 1 a.m.

During that time, all faithful are welcome to join in prayer at St. Faustina’s parish worship

site of Holy Trinity Church, 520 South Hanover St., Nanticoke. Devotions will include Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, recitation of the Holy Rosary, prayer to St. Michael the Archangel, silent prayers and hymns.

At midnight, all fellow brothers and sisters in Christ marking the National Night of Prayer for Life across the United States will be spiritually joined in simultaneous prayer during an hour of unity.

For more information, contact Paul Walters at (570-332-2963).

Pocono Parish Nursing Ministers



Michele Cohen, left, and Mary Honey are shown displaying certificates they received upon completing the Parish Nursing Ministry program at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish in Brodheadsville. Through the program, those members of the parish with nursing backgrounds are trained to apply their skills by assessing the needs and serving fellow parishioners and the community at large. The Parish Nursing ministers, knowledgeable about health issues and local medical and social resources, serve as advocates and provide opportunities for health education for individuals and groups in the parish. Services offered by program participants include visitations to homes, hospitals and nursing facilities; providing a supportive presence; helping fellow parishioners tap into community resources; and coordinating healthcare events, such as blood pressure screenings. Always relying on the power of prayer, those in this caregiving ministry foster both physical and spiritual wellness in the parish while being committed to their own ongoing education and spiritual growth in witnessing to the healing presence of Jesus Christ.

Mark Your Calendar — Around the Diocese

Spiritual Offerings

Friday Holy Hour for Vocations — **DEC. 1**, hosted by the Little Sisters of the Poor at Holy Family Residence, 2500 Adams Ave., Scranton; weekly devotion held every Friday at 4:30 p.m. in the Residence chapel. Holy Hour includes recitation of the Rosary, evening prayer (vespers) and benediction. All faithful are welcome.

Weekly Bible Study — **DEC. 1**, hosted by St. Lawrence Parish in Great Bend; held every Friday at 7 p.m. in the Trinity Center, adjacent to St. Lawrence Church. All are welcome.

Sunday Our Lady of Guadalupe Rosary Devotion — **DEC. 3**, hosted by St. Lucy Church, 949 Scranton St., west Scranton; devotion held every Sunday evening from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the church or at the outdoor grotto (weather permitting) through the first week of December. Includes recitation of the 15 decades of the Rosary (Joyful, Sorrowful & Glorious Mysteries) and additional prayers offered for the special intentions of world peace, an increase in vocations to the religious life, and an end to abortion.

U of S Jesuit Slates 'Finding God' Talks

SCRANTON — Jesuit Father Rick Malloy, University of Scranton chaplain, will lead a series of discussions during the upcoming Advent season focusing on the theme "Finding God."

The evening talks are presented free of charge and open to the public. A voluntary offering to support the Scranton-based Friends of the Poor apostolate of serving the less fortunate will be collected at the sessions.

The schedule of Father Malloy's presentations are as follows:

Tuesday, Dec. 5, "Finding God in Catholicism's Recent Controversies and Consolations"; Wednesday, Dec. 6, "Finding God in Pope Francis' Recent Teachings"; and Thursday, Dec.

Monthly Monday Night Worship — **DEC. 4**, hosted by St. Faustina Parish in Nanticoke; monthly devotion begins at 7 p.m. at the parish worship site of Holy Trinity Church, 520 South Hanover St., Nanticoke. All faithful are welcome to join together for a Holy Hour of praise and worship with word and music. For more information, contact Paul Walters at (570-332-2963).

Weekly Novena to St. Anthony of Padua — **DEC. 5, 12 & 19**, hosted by Our Lady of Hope Parish, 40 Park Ave., Wilkes-Barre; St. Anthony Novena devotion offered on nine consecutive Tuesday evenings, beginning each week at 5:30 p.m. in the parish church. Novena theme: "Patron Saints of the Outcasts: St. Damien of Molokai and St. Marianne Cope." All faithful are welcome to attend; for more information, call (570-824-7832).

Padre Pio Prayer Ministry — **DEC. 6**, hosted by St. Faustina Kowalska Parish in Nanticoke; begins with celebration of Mass at 6 p.m. in the parish worship site of Holy Trinity Church, 520 South Hanover St., Nanticoke, followed by exposition of the Blessed Sac-

rament, intercessory prayers to St. Padre Pio, recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and benediction. All faithful are welcome.

Weekly Divine Mercy Devotion — **DEC. 6**, hosted by St. Lawrence Parish in Great Bend;

Continued on Page 20

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Mark Your Calendar — Around the Diocese

Spiritual Offerings

Continued from Page 19

Hour of Mercy devotion held every Wednesday at 3 p.m. in St. Lawrence Church.

Advent Evening of Prayer with the Sisters of IHM — DEC. 6, 13 & 20, sponsored by the Congregation of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary; Advent prayer service held on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel at the IHM Center, 2300 Adams Ave., Scranton (top of University Ave., beyond Marywood University). All faithful are welcome. For more information, call (570-346-5404).

Scranton Mental Health Ministry: Spiritual Support Group for Family & Friends — DEC. 7, hosted by the Cathedral of St. Peter in Scranton; providing a safe, supportive space for parents, family members and friends of individuals who are experiencing mental illness. Group meets at 6 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month in the Bishops Hall at the Cathedral Rectory, 315 Wyoming

Ave. Meetings will be approximately 90 minutes; refreshments provided. Participating Scranton parishes include St. Peter's; Mary, Mother of God; and Immaculate Conception. For more information, contact Deacon Ed Shoener (Cathedral), (570-344-7231); Deacon Jan Mroz (Mary, Mother of God), (570-342-4881); or Deacon Pat McDonald (Immaculate Conception), (570-961-5211).

Friday Pro-Life Rosary Vigil — DEC. 8, sponsored by the Catholics Defending Life Prayer & Awareness Team; group resumes weekly gatherings every Friday (except on First Fridays) from 1 to 1:30 p.m. at the Pro-Life Monument located next to St. Peter's Cathedral in Scranton (300 block of Wyoming Ave.). Recitation of the Rosary offered, along with pro-life meditations, Divine Mercy Chaplet and other prayer devotions for the respect and dignity of all human life from conception to natural death. Pro-life signs are welcome.

Spiritual Support Group: Scranton Mental Health Ministry — DEC. 9 & 23, hosted by the Cathedral of St. Peter in Scranton; providing a safe, supportive space for individuals who are experiencing mental illness. Group meets at 10 a.m. on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month in the Bishops Hall at the Cathedral Rectory, 315 Wyoming Ave. Meetings will be approximately 90 minutes; refreshments provided. Participating Scranton parishes include St. Peter's; Mary, Mother of God; and

Immaculate Conception. For more information, contact Deacon Ed Shoener (Cathedral), (570-344-7231); Deacon Jan Mroz (Mary, Mother of God), (570-342-4881); or Deacon Pat McDonald (Immaculate Conception), (570-961-5211).

Advent Concert — DEC. 10, presented by the Catholic Choral Society; hosted at Our Lady of the Snows Church, 301 South State St., Clarks Summit, beginning at 3 p.m. Catholic Choral singers will be joined by the Our Lady of the Snows Parish adult choir for a performance of sacred Advent and Christmas music and other holiday selections. Monsignor Joseph Quinn is host pastor; Dana Cerminaro, parish music director. Concert is free of charge.

Evening of Marian Devotion — DEC. 13, hosted by the Diocesan Legion of Mary in response to the Blessed Mother's request at Fatima for prayers for world peace; devotion begins at 6 p.m. at Our Lady of the Abingtons Church, 207 Seminary Road, Dalton. Prayer service will include recitation of the Rosary, Fatima prayers and newly composed Scriptural Mysteries and Hymns led by Ernie Pappa.

Meeting of Lay Carmelites — DEC. 16, hosted by Our Lady of the Mountains Lay Carmelite Chapter; meetings held on the third Saturday of each month at Little Flower Manor, 200 S. Meade St., Wilkes-Barre. For more information, contact Rose Bordi at (570-445-5457).

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'Spiritual Adoption' Program for Unborn Seeks Daily Prayers

The Ladies of Charity of the Diocese of Scranton are inviting all women to join the apostolate in praying for unborn babies who are in danger of abortion.

The "Spiritual Adoption" program enables faithful to make a personal commitment to pray each day for one unborn child.

A brief pro-life prayer is offered daily that the endangered baby in the womb will be carried to term and experience the fullness of life, as intended by God.

For more information, contact Rita Ferrance, 573 Orchard St., Askam, PA 18706. Phone: (570-706-6867).

Mark Your Calendar — Around the Diocese

Catholic Happenings

“Miracle of Bethlehem” Christmas Play — DEC. 1-3, presented by St. Faustina Kowalska Parish in Nanticoke; performed all three evenings at 7:30 p.m. at the Cultural Centre of St. Faustina, 38 West Church St., Nanticoke. Live production depicts the birth, life and death of Jesus. Performance includes 55 cast members, under the direction of Judy Minsavage, and live animals; cookies, coffee, hot chocolate and hot dogs will be available for purchase. Free admission; donations will be accepted.

Christmas Bazaar — DEC. 2, hosted by Holy Name of Mary Church, 278 South Main St., Montrose; held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the church hall. Featuring white elephant table displays, hand-crafted items, baked goods, fresh holiday wreaths, Christmas and religious items/decorations, and children’s craft & gift booth; also includes theme basket and merchandise raffle drawings. Breakfast and lunch menu items available, including homemade soups and ethnic foods. All are welcome.

19th Annual Brunch with Santa — DEC. 2, sponsored by the Alumni Association at Misericordia University in Dallas; held from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Sandy and Marlene Insalaco Hall on the Misericordia campus. Event includes festive holiday brunch for children and families, with visit from Santa; individual photos and photo packages will be available for purchase. Cost: adults, \$15; children (ages 5 to 12), \$8. Seating is limited and reservations are required. Ticket reservations may be obtained by contacting the Misericordia Alumni Box Office (570-674-6764) or alumni@misericordia.edu.

University of Scranton Performance Music Series: 50th Annual Noel Night — DEC. 2, featuring the University of Scranton Singers & Chamber Ensembles, with Mark Gould (trumpet) and Ron Stabinsky (piano); 8 p.m. in the University’s Houlihan-McLean Center on campus, corner of Mulberry St.

& Jefferson Ave. Doors open at 6:50 p.m.; prelude begins at 7 p.m. Performance is open to the public free of charge.

Family Christmas Festival — DEC. 3, hosted by Gate of Heaven Parish in Dallas; held from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the Gate of Heaven school gymnasium. Featuring a Gingerbread House contest, cookie decorating, crafts & games, and Nativity scene costume dress-up; also includes homemade soup, other foods, children’s beverages, including hot chocolate, and a visit from St. Nick. For more information, call (570-675-2121).

Christmas Program: “A Joyful Christmas” — DEC. 3, presented by the Wyoming Valley Barbershop Harmony Chorus; hosted at SS. Peter & Paul Church, 13 Hudson Road, Plains. Program begins at 7 p.m. Admission cost: \$5. Tickets available by contacting Jim Morpeth at (570-822-9756) or at the door.

Autism Program: “Sensory Winter Wonderland” — DEC. 3, hosted by students of Misericordia University in Dallas to raise awareness for Autism Speaks, North America’s largest autism science and advocacy organization; held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Sandy and Marlene Insalaco Hall at Misericordia. Includes sensory-oriented events for children with autism and families, light refreshments, holiday photo opportunities, designated activity tables and free Christmas craft gift items; shirts will also be available for purchase. Free admission. Pre-register at www.misericordia.edu/autism under the Sensory Winter Wonderland tab. For more information, contact Mike Gombita at (570-229-0086).

Weekly Bingo — DEC. 4, hosted by Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Dickson City; bingo games held every Monday evening, with doors opening at 4:30 p.m. Early bird games begin at 6:40 p.m.; regular games start at 7 p.m. Admission fee includes 20 games; progressive jackpot

each week. Homemade food sold before the bingo; homemade pizza available during the games and for take-out. Return coupon for new players; door prizes awarded each week. Van shuttle service provided free of charge from Carbondale and Scranton. For more information, call (570-489-2091).

Christmas Caroling Events — DEC. 4 & 11, conducted by the Alhamar Caravan No. 4 of the Order of Alhambra, an organization of Catholic men and women dedicated to providing activities and support for special-needs children and adults and assisting persons with intellectual disabilities; members of the local Alhamar Caravan will

Continued on Page 23



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Who makes house calls?

As of October 2015, I will now meet clients either at their home, or at a location they choose and no longer require clients to meet at my office. I have decided that I would change the way I meet with people so it will be as easy and as convenient as possible for the client.

Based on my practice, which consists of estate planning and administration along with elder law, I find that clients are more comfortable discussing such matters in familiar surroundings. While I know this may seem unconventional to some, I believe I will be able to serve clients much better in this fashion. If anyone is uncomfortable with home visits, I have a few locations where I can meet in an office setting. I look forward to meeting with my existing clients and especially meeting new clients that are looking for any assistance in estate or elder law matters.



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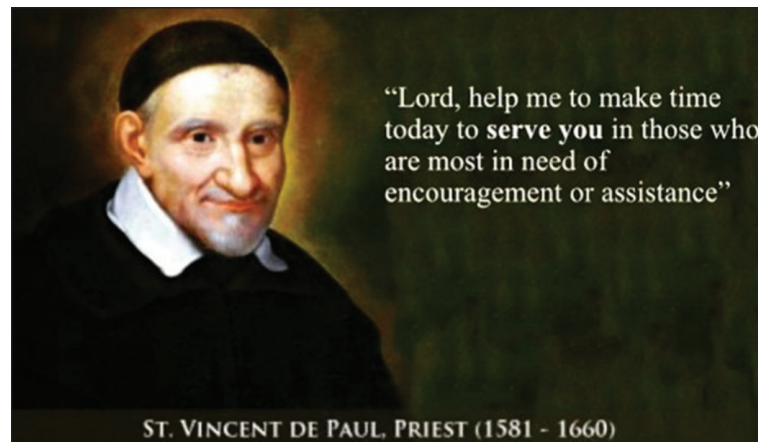
Go Forth

By Father Brian J.T. Clarke
Diocesan Director,
Pontifical Mission Societies



This weekend, the First Sunday of Advent, the Diocese of Scranton will solemnly begin a year-long commemoration of the establishment of the Diocese of Scranton. On March 3, 1868, Pope Pius IX created the Diocese of Scranton which, until then, was part of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. With the establishment of the new Diocese, it was necessary either to build a cathedral or establish an existing parish church as the cathedral. The latter was the chosen option and the Church of Saint Vincent de Paul, newly built in 1867, was named the cathedral of the Diocese of Scranton and placed under the patronage of Saint Peter.

I realize that piece of diocesan history is generally unknown,



but I believe it is a part of God’s design and providence that we acknowledge our founding has a connection to the great St. Vincent de Paul, the tireless servant of the poor and disadvantaged. So much so was the life of St. Vincent an example for all of Gospel simplicity and charity that Pope Leo XIII named Vincent patron of all charitable societies. St. Vincent has often been called the apostle of charity and rightfully so as he believed he was sent forth to both preach charity and be its minister.

St. Vincent once challenged the Church in saying, “Go to the poor: you will find God.” What a perfect thought as we have just reflected on the Judgment of the Nations from Matthew 25 this weekend: “You did it for me,” Jesus said. When we give food to the hungry, drink to those who thirst, clothing to the naked, when we visit the sick and imprisoned, we encounter God.

Bishop Bambera, in his pastoral vision for the Diocese, guided our recommitment to the poor and those in need when he offered:

“Service to the poor and those in need abounds and the mission of the Church is not only acknowledged in words but thrives due to faithful and generous hearts committed to living out the Gospel of Jesus.” What a beautiful way to direct the virtue of charity in each one of us now and for years to come.

I encourage you to visit and pray at our cathedral and to pause by the window depicting the “apostle of charity” — St. Vincent. The window is on the northeast side of the cathedral near the sanctuary showing St. Vincent engaged in an act of love to poor peasants, holding a child in his arm and offering a gentle, loving gaze to a poor woman.

As we forge ahead another 150 years as a people of faith and charity, let us implore God to help us to see those he is calling us to hold in our arms and those who need our loving gaze. St. Vincent de Paul, pray for us.

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Catholic Happenings

Continued from Page 21

sing Christmas carols at St. Joseph's Center, Scranton, and the White Haven Center. Volunteers are welcome to participate in the caroling events at 7 p.m. on Dec. 4 (White Haven Center) and Dec. 11 (St. Joseph's Center). Group will meet both evenings at 6:10 p.m. in the parking lot of St. Nicholas Church in Wilkes-Barre and carpool to each destination. Anyone interested in participating may contact Kathy Kennedy, grand commander, at (570-825-3272).

Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary Bingo — DEC. 6, sponsored by Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary Parish, Jermyn; games held on the first and third Wednesdays of the month in the parish center, 624 Madison Ave., Jermyn. Doors open at 5 p.m.; early-bird games start 6 p.m. (regular games, 6:30). Event includes homemade foods and desserts; specialty games, refreshments, door prizes and progressive jackpot. Free admission; for more information, call (570-876-1061).

Inaugural Holiday Concert — DEC. 7, presented by the newly formed Community Choir at Misericordia University in Dallas; begins at 7:30 p.m. in Lemmond Theater in Walsh Hall at Misericordia. Cost: general admission, \$5; Misericordia employees and alumni, \$3; Misericordia students, free of charge. Tickets available at the door. For more information, contact Johnna Evans at (570-674-3021) or jevans@misericordia.edu.

Concert & Tree Lighting Event: "Have a Holly Jolly Harmony" — DEC. 8, presented by the Class of 2018 and the Beyond Harmony a cappella group at Misericordia University, Dallas; begins at 7 p.m. in Lemmond Theater in Walsh Hall at Misericordia. Program includes pictures with Santa and refreshments. Admission cost: \$5 for adults; \$3 for students, children,

senior citizens and alumni. Tickets available at the door. All proceeds will benefit the Ruth Matthews Bourger Women with Children Program at Misericordia.

Family Christmas Event: "PJ's, Pancakes & Polar Express" — DEC. 9, hosted by the youth ministry of St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Williamsport; held from 6 to 8:30 p.m. in the parish's Fleming Center, 720 West Fourth St., Williamsport. Program includes pancake dinner, viewing of the movie "The Polar Express" and visit from St. Nick. Cost: \$5 per person; \$25 per family. For more information and registration, call (570-323-9456) or email: youthmin@sjwparish.com.

Upstate New York Winery & Shopping Tour — DEC. 9, sponsored by the Social Activities Committee of St. Eulalia Parish in Elmhurst; bus departs from St. Eulalia Church at 7 a.m. and returns at approximately 10 p.m. Excursion includes stops at four wineries in the Finger Lakes region and shopping in Watkin's Glen, N.Y. Cost: \$75 per person, includes transportation and admission to the wineries. Limited seating available; must be at least 21 years of age. For more information and reservations, call Rose (570-842-8537) or Walter (570-702-3446).

Christmas Bazaar — DEC. 9, sponsored by St. Michael Parish in Canton; held from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in St. Michael Church Hall, 107 North Washington St., Canton. Event includes luncheon food items, various merchandise displayed by nearly 30 vendors, raffle drawings, Chinese auction, and visit by Santa from 12 noon to 2 p.m.

Breakfast with Santa Christmas Program — DEC. 9, hosted by Monsignor McHugh School, 212 Route 390, Cresco; begins with Santa Breakfast and Book Fair from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Santa Shop will be open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., with Christmas Tree Lighting from 4 to 7 p.m. For more information, call (570-595-7463).

Free Community Luncheon — DEC. 9, sponsored by Holy Rosary Parish in Hazleton; lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to 12 noon in the parish hall at 240 S. Poplar St., Hazleton. Meal is offered to the community free of charge. All are welcome.

Christmas Breakfast — DEC. 10, hosted by the Men's Society of Nativity of Our Lord Parish in Duryea; breakfast served from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Sacred Heart of Jesus Hall, 529 Stephenson St., Duryea (take-out and delivery service also available). Menu includes scrambled eggs, breakfast potatoes, kielbasa & ham, pancakes, and breakfast beverages. Cost: adults, \$9; children (ages five to 12), \$5. For more information, contact Jeffrey Bauman at (570-881-6006) or jeffreypadambauman@gmail.com; or Mike at (570-885-6267).

Knights of Columbus Breakfast — DEC. 10, hosted by the Knights of Columbus Abington Council 6611; held at St. Patrick Church Hall in Nicholson. All-you-can-eat breakfast buffet served from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Menu includes eggs, sausage, breakfast potatoes, French toast and more. Cost: adults, \$8; children (age 12 & under), \$4. Tickets available at the door.

Sixth Annual "Christmas Cookie Walk" Fundraiser — DEC. 16, to benefit the youth ministry program at Exaltation of the Holy Cross Parish, Buttonwood section of Hanover Township; held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Exaltation of the Holy Cross Church hall, 420 Main Road. Cookie containers may be purchased for \$9 each and filled with the Christmas cookies of one's choice; more than 30 different types of homemade cookies will be available. Presorted containers are also available for \$35 each. To purchase tickets or for more information, call (570-814-6444).

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Wyoming Valley PHL Holds Respect Life Banquet



The Wyoming Valley Chapter of Pennsylvanians for Human Life (PHL) recently hosted their 33rd annual Respect Life Banquet in Wilkes-Barre. Delivering the program’s keynote address was Steven Ertelt, founding editor of LifeNews.com, who spoke encouragingly about recent developments ensuring pro-life advances across the United States. Principals of the annual Respect Life gathering are pictured above. Seated, from left, George Yatison, president of the Blessed Fatima Grotto in Wilkes-Barre; Errol Morgan, pastor of Parker Hill Community Church; Betty Caffrey, Wyoming Valley PHL Chapter president; and Christopher Calore, banquet toastmaster and Wyoming Valley PHL vice president. Standing, Frank McDonough, Wilkes-Barre Council 302, Knights of Columbus; Matthew Wagner, educational director, Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation, Harrisburg; Jean Weaver and Pastor Mark Weaver of the Wilkes-Barre Mennonite Church; Passionist Father Ed Buchheit of St. Ann Basilica, west Scranton, who provided the evening’s music; Mr. Ertelt; George Gwilliam and Theresa Gwilliam, founders of Cori’s Place, Hanover Township; Dr. Frank Schell, chairman of Pennsylvanians for Human Life, Northeast Region; and Jerome Gilmartin, representing JMJ Catholic Radio.

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Notice Regarding Reporting Sexual Abuse of a Minor

It is the policy of the Diocese of Scranton to report any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to law enforcement. If you are a victim of sexual abuse committed by a priest, deacon, religious or lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton, you are encouraged to immediately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, including child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law enforcement.

It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. To this end, the Diocese is equally committed to adhering to the norms of the *Code of Canon Law* and to upholding the tenets of the USCCB *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, which includes supporting victims of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being. As such, information regarding an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor should also be reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator, Mary Beth Pacuska at (570-862-7551) or to Diocesan officials, including the Vicar General, Monsignor Thomas M. Muldowney, V.G., at (570-207-2269).

Aviso al Respecto de Reportar el Abuso Sexual de Un Menor de Edad

Es la norma de la Diócesis de Scranton reportar cualquier alegación de abuso sexual de un menor de edad a las autoridades. Si usted es una víctima de abuso sexual cometido por un sacerdote, diácono, religioso o empleado laico, o voluntario de la Diócesis de Scranton, usted está obligado a reportar el asunto inmediatamente a las autoridades de la ley.

Si algún sacerdote, diácono, religioso, empleado laico o voluntario de la Diócesis de Scranton tiene sospecha de que un menor de edad ha sido sujeto a cualquier forma de abuso, incluyendo abuso sexual de menor de edad, el asunto será reportado a las autoridades de la ley.

Es la norma de la Diócesis defender todas las regulaciones civiles y del estado. Al fin de que la Diócesis esté comprometida igualmente a defender las normas del Código de Derecho Canónico y defender los principios de la Carta Para la Protección de Niños y Jóvenes (Conferencia de los Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos), lo cual incluye apoyar a las víctimas de abuso sexual en pos del bienestar emocional y espiritual.

Por eso, información respecto a una alegación del asunto sexual de un menor de edad, debe ser reportada a la Coordinadora Diocesana de Asistencia para Las Víctimas, Mary Beth Pacuska, a (570-862-7551) o a los oficiales diocesanos incluyendo El Vicario General, Monseñor Thomas M. Muldowney, a (570-207-2269).

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First Friday Devotions Throughout the Diocese

Masses & Devotions

— hosted by Holy Name of Jesus Parish in West Hazleton; held at the parish's Church of the Transfiguration, 213 W. Green St., West Hazleton. Holy Hour and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament held from 5 to 5:45 p.m., followed by celebration of Mass at 6 p.m.

— sponsored by the Men of the Sacred Heart; held at St. Stanislaus worship site, 666 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre. Confessions are heard beginning at 6 p.m., followed by recitation of the Rosary and Litany of the Sacred Heart at 6:30 p.m. Mass in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is celebrated at 7 p.m.

— hosted at Sacred Heart Church, 554 Main St., Weston; Mass with Eucharistic procession celebrated at 6:30 p.m. (confessions heard prior). Mass followed by Litany of the Saints and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 8 p.m. Adoration Holy Hour includes recitation of the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary, Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and silent prayer with closing benediction.

Pro-Life Rosary Vigils

— sponsored by the Catholics Defending Life Prayer & Awareness Team; group gathers from 1 to 1:30 p.m. at Lackawanna County Courthouse Square (on North Washington Ave.) in downtown Scranton. Recitation of the Rosary offered, along with pro-life meditations, Divine Mercy Chaplet and other prayerful devotions for the respect and dignity of all human life from conception to natural death. Pro-life signs are welcome.

— held outside the offices of Planned Parenthood, 63 N. Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre; group gathers at 9 a.m. Rosary prayers are offered for an end to abortion.

Eucharistic Adorations

— hosted by Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, 1101 Willow St., Peckville; exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament begins following the celebration of the 6:50 a.m. Mass and continues until 8 p.m. For more information, call the parish office (570-383-3244 ext. 2).

— sponsored by the Men of the Sacred Heart; hosted each month by Queen of Heaven Parish at Our Lady of Grace Church, Hazleton. Begins with Mass at 12:05 p.m. and concludes at 4 p.m. with the Rosary, Litany of the Sacred Heart, Communion service and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

— offered for the special intention of vocations to the priesthood; hosted by St. Ann Basilica Parish, St. Ann's St., west Scranton. Adoration begins with 8:30 a.m. Mass and concludes with benediction at 4:45 p.m.

Healing Masses

— hosted by St. Lucy Church, 949 Scranton St., west Scranton, beginning at 6:30 p.m. with a prelude of contemporary music and Marian hymns. Celebration of Healing Mass follows at 7 p.m. and includes anointing blessing and prayers for healing; recitation of the Rosary will also be offered. Music ministry for the evening will be provided by the Sacred Heart Singers, directed by Ernie Pappa and Jennifer Michel.

— hosted by Queen of the Apostles Parish, Avoca; celebrated at 7 p.m. in St. Mary Church, 715 Hawthorne St. For more information, call the parish rectory (570-457-3412).

Blue Army Reparation Vigil



The next monthly First Friday Reparation Vigil, dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary and sponsored by the Blue Army, will be held **December 1** at St. Joseph's Oblate Seminary, 1880 Highway 315, Laflin (Pittston).

Devotions begin Friday evening at 8 p.m. with recitation of the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary, during which time confessions are heard. Mass of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is celebrated at 8:55 p.m., followed by benediction, litany and consecration to the Sacred Heart.

The vigil continues with the crowning of the Blue Army Pilgrim Virgin Statue, the Blue Army Pledge, Fatima prayers and Marian hymns, followed by litany and consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The vigil concludes with scapular enrollment at 10:15 p.m.

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