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Pope Honors Mary at Fatima

Cites her as example of believing and following Jesus

FATIMA, Portugal (CNS) – Mary's example of believing and following Jesus is what matters most; she cannot be some image "of our own making" who Christians barter with for mercy, Pope Francis said.

On the eve of the 100th anniversary of the Marian apparitions at Fatima, the pope asked tens of thousands of pilgrims May 12 to reflect on "which Mary" they choose to venerate, "the virgin Mary from the Gospel" or "one who restrains the arm of a vengeful God?"

Is the Mary they honor "a woman blessed because she believed always and everywhere in God's words or a 'plaster statue' from whom we beg favors at little cost?" he asked.

As the sun set at the shrine dedicated to Our Lady of Fatima, pilgrims held thousands of lit candles, filling the square with a fiery light before Pope Francis led them in praying the rosary.

The pope already had visited the shrine earlier in the evening, arriving by helicopter from Monte Real air base. Excited crowds, waving flags and white handkerchiefs, cheered as he arrived in his popemobile.

He then made his way to the Little Chapel of the Apparitions where Mary appeared to three shepherd children May 13, 1917. The apparitions continued once a month until Oct. 13, 1917, and later were declared worthy of belief by the Catholic Church.

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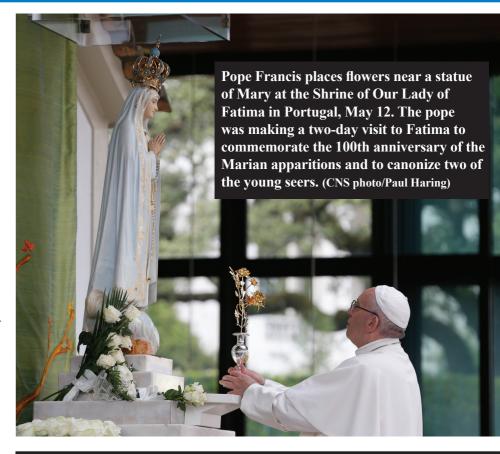


A Loving Choice

Choices that reflect the gift of life were celebrated at the annual Mother's Day Adoption Mass on Sunday, May 14, at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton. This liturgy recognizes all mothers, with a special emphasis on adoptive and foster mothers.

See page 3.

The Catholic Light Photo/Mike Melisky



PA Bishops Dedicate Dioceses to Protection of Blessed Mother

On May 1, 2017, during their Provincial meeting, the Bishops of Pennsylvania affirmed their desire to dedicate each Catholic diocese and eparchy in the Commonwealth to the protection of the Blessed Mother. The dedication coincides with the Church's observance of the 100th anniversary of the Blessed Mother's appearances to three young shepherd children near the town of Fatima, Portugal between May 13 and October 13, 1917.

"Our world today is just as much in need of healing and mercy as it was a century ago, and so we invoke the tender care of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Our Lord and our Mother," said the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton.

The Bishop then went on to quote Pope Francis, who visited the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Portugal on May 12 and 13, 2017: "Mary reminds us of the necessity of abandoning oneself to God, the source of love and mercy. ... Let us entrust ourselves to Mary, Mother of hope, who invites us to turn our gaze towards salvation, towards a new world and a new humanity."

The official dedication of the Commonwealth's dioceses and eparchies to the protection of Mary will be marked with a special Mass to be celebrated by all the Bishops of Pennsylvania on September 27, 2017 at noon in Saint Patrick's Cathedral in Harrisburg.

The second part of the dedication will be an observance in each diocese and eparchy on the weekend of October 14-15.

In honor of the centennial of Our Lady of Fatima's appearances, Bishop Bambera is also leading a special pilgrimage to Spain and Portugal September 18-26, 2017.

Holy Father at Fatima

Continued from page 1

The festive cheering of the crowd turned to near absolute silence as the pope spent several minutes with his head bowed and hands clasped in prayer, occasionally looking up at the statue of Mary venerated by his predecessors and millions of devotees across the globe.

Pope Francis then recited a prayer he wrote, an expanded version of the traditional "Salve Regina" ("Hail Holy Queen").

Alternating his verses with a choral refrain venerating the "Queen of the Rosary of Fatima," the pope consecrated himself to Mary and entrusted to her intercession a suffering humanity where blood "is shed in the wars tearing our world apart."

Begging Mary's assistance, the pope prayed that believers would "tear down all walls and overcome all boundaries, going to all peripheries, there revealing God's justice and peace."

"In the depths of your being, in your immaculate heart, you keep the sorrows of the human family, as they mourn and weep in this valley of tears," the pope prayed.

He also presented himself before the image of Mary as "a bishop robed in white," a reference to the third secret revealed to the children at Fatima. Published 83 years after the Fatima apparitions, the vision described the image of a "bishop dressed in white" shot down amid the rubble of a ruined city.

The official Vatican interpretation, discussed with the visionary Sister Lucia dos Santos before its publication, was that it referred to the persecution of Christians in the 20th century and, specifically, to the 1981 assassination attempt on the life of St. John Paul II.

Returning to the little chapel for a nighttime vigil, Pope Francis reminded pilgrims to pray, as Mary taught the children at Fatima, for "those most in need" of God's mercy.

"On each of the destitute and outcast robbed of the present, on each of the excluded and abandoned denied a future, on each of the orphans and victims of injustice refused a past, may there descend the blessing of God, incarnate in Jesus Christ," he said.



Pope Francis blesses the sick with the Eucharist at the conclusion of the canonization Mass of Sts. Francisco and Jacinta Marto, two of the three Fatima seers, at the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Portugal May 13. The Mass marked the 100th anniversary of the Fatima Marian apparitions, which began on May 13, 1917. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

Pope Francis held up Mary as a "model of evangelization," particularly because Christian men and women can look at her and see that "humility and tenderness are not virtues of the weak but of the strong."

Those who emphasize God's punishment of sinners, he said, commit "a great injustice" to him by not recognizing that sinners "are forgiven by his mercy."

"Mercy has to be put before judgment," he said, "and, in any case, God's judgment will always be rendered in the light of his mercy."

"With Mary, may each of us become a sign and sacrament of the mercy of God, who pardons always and pardons everything," he said.

Fatima seers become church's youngest non-martyred saints

FATIMA, Portugal (CNS) – Standing before the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary, Pope Francis canonized two shepherd children who saw Mary at Fatima, but more importantly, he said, they heeded the call to pray for sinners

and trust in the Lord.

"We declare and define Blessed Francisco Marto and Blessed Jacinta Marto as saints," the pope said May 13 as hundreds of thousands of pilgrims broke out in applause before he finished speaking.

The relics of the young shepherd children, encased in two thin golden crosses, were placed in front of the famed statue of Our Lady of Fatima, the "lady dressed in white" as the siblings and their cousin described her.

The Marian apparitions began May 13, 1917, when 9-year-old Francisco and 7-year-old Jacinta, along with their 10-year-old cousin Lucia dos Santos, reported seeing the Virgin Mary.

After contracting influenza, Francisco died April 4, 1919, at the age of 10, while Jacinta succumbed to her illness Feb. 20, 1920, at the age of 9.

The children, beatified by St. John Paul II in 2000, are now the youngest non-martyrs to be declared saints by the Catholic Church.

Before his arrival at the shrine, the pope met privately with Portuguese Prime Minster Antonio Costa and then made his way into the sanctuary that houses the tombs of Sts. Francisco and Jacinta and their cousin Lucia, who died in 2005 at the age of 97. The diocesan phase of her sainthood cause concluded in February and now is under study at the Vatican.

Pope Francis stood for several minutes in front of the tombs with his eyes closed and head bowed.

In his homily at the canonization Mass, the pope reflected on the brief lives of the young sibling saints, who are often remembered more for the apparitions rather than for their holy lives.

But it is Mary's message and example, rather than an apparition, is important, he told the crowd, which Portuguese authorities estimated at about 500,000 people.

"The Virgin Mother did not come here so that we could see her. We will have all eternity for that, provided, of course, that we go to heaven," the pope said.

Instead, he continued, Mary's messages to the young children were a warning to all people about leading "a way of life that is godless and indeed profanes God in his creatures."





Our Lady of Fatima Celebration in Williamsport

Students from St. John Neumann Regional Academy in Williamsport lead a procession with a statue of Our Lady of Fatima from the Catholic Community Center, where a prayer service was held, to St. Joseph the Worker Parish, where worshippers filled Annunciation Church for a Mass celebrated by Bishop Bambera.

The Catholic Light Photos/David Miller

The Catholic Light Photos/David Miller**





The Catholic Light Photos/Mike Melisky

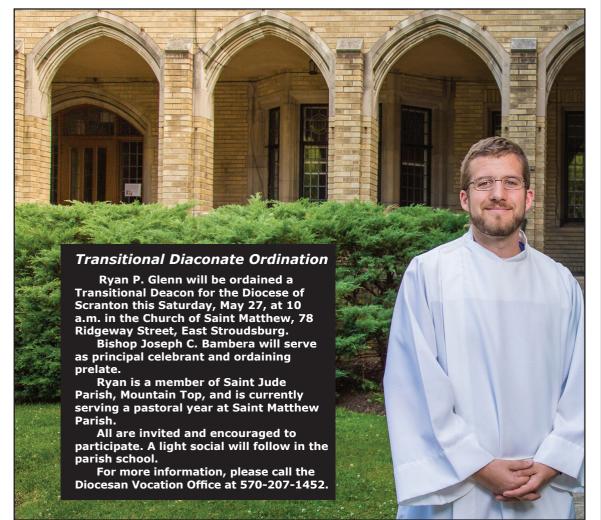
Honoring Our Mothers

The annual Mother's Day Adoption Mass was celebrated on Sunday, May 14, at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton. This liturgy recognizes all mothers, with a special emphasis on adoptive and foster mothers.

"Welcome as we gather for this celebration of the Holy Eucharist on this 5th Sunday of Easter, in this season in which we continue give thanks for the gift of life, for the gift of faith, and the gift of the Risen Jesus in our midst," said Bishop Joseph C. Bambera.

"We gather as well in a special way this day for the celebration of the annual Mother's Day Adoption Mass, on Mother's Day, with so many of you who have chosen life, so many of you who nurture and care for life, so many of you who provide a home and an environment in which God's greatest gift can grow and flourish. And so with gratitude in our hearts this day, this Mother's Day, this day in which we give thanks to God for so many blessings."

Planning for the Mass was coordinated by Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton, the Diocesan Office for Parish Life, and St. Joseph's Center in Scranton.



CLERGY APPOINTMENTS

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

PASTOR

Reverend John C. Lambert, to Pastor, Saint Benedict Parish, Wilkes-Barre, effective July 6, 2017. Father Lambert will continue to serve as Pastor, SS. Peter and Paul Parish, Plains.

PASTOR EMERITUS

Reverend Joseph A. Kearney, from Pastor, Saint Benedict Parish, Wilkes-Barre, to Pastor Emeritus, Saint Benedict Parish, Wilkes-Barre, effective July 6, 2017.

SENIOR PRIEST

Reverend Kevin P. Mulhern, from Pastor, Saint Robert Bellarmine Parish, Wilkes-Barre, and Exaltation of the Holy Cross Parish, Hanover Township, to Senior Priest, Saint Jude Parish, Mountain Top, effective July 6, 2017.

Reverend James T. Tracy, to Senior Priest, Saint Boniface Parish, Williamsport, and Saint Lawrence Parish, South Williamsport, and Sacramental ministry support at Saint Thomas Parish, Elkland, and Saint Peter Parish, Wellsboro, effective May 30, 2017.

PARISH LIFE COORDINATOR

Deacon William F. Behm, to Parish Life Coordinator, Saint Andrew Parish. Wilkes-Barre. As Parish Life Coordinator, Deacon Behm will provide on-site pastoral care in the absence of a pastor. Reverend Joseph A. Kearney will serve as Sacramental Minister providing Mass and the other sacraments on a regular basis. Reverend John V. Polednak, V.E., Episcopal Regional Vicar for the Southern Pastoral Region, will serve as Priest Moderator. Effective July 6, 2017.

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT

Reverend Jeffrey D. Tudgay, from Assistant Pastor, Saint Jude Parish, Mountain Top, to Graduate Studies in Canon Law at the Catholic University of America, Washington, DC, effective, July 6, 2017.

Diocese Observes World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Bishop Bambera celebrated a Mass for the World Day of Prayer for Vocations on Sunday, May 7, at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish,

Swoyersville.

The Catholic Light Photos/Mike Melisky





BISHOP BAMBERA'S SCHEDULE

May 27 – Diaconate Ordination Mass, Saint Matthew's Church, East Stroudsburg, 10:00 a.m.

May 28 – University of Scranton Commencement, Mohegan Sun Arena, Wilkes-Barre, 12:00 noon

May 31 – Holy Redeemer High School Graduation, Kirby Center, Wilkes-Barre, 7:00 p.m.

June 2 – Holy Cross High School Graduation, Marywood University, LaVerghetta Auditorium, Scranton, 7:00 p.m.

June 3 – Notre Dame High School Graduation, Notre Dame High School, East Stroudsburg, 11:00 a.m.

June 4 – Pentecost Sunday Adult Confirmation, St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, 10:00 a.m.

June 5 – St. John Neumann High School Graduation, Penn College, Williamsport, 7:00 p.m.

June 8 – Scout Mass, St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, 7:00 p.m.

June 11 – Wedding Anniversary Mass, St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, 2:30 p.m.

June 13-16 – United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Spring General Meeting



Pope, Bishops affirm that death penalty cannot be condoned

Pope Francis and the bishops of the United States have reminded us that the death penalty and other once-accepted practices are inconsistent with the Church's respect for the dignity and worth of all human life.

In a recent homily, the Holy Father said that faith is a journey guided by the Holy Spirit, who helps the Church grow in understanding the sinful nature of practices like slavery and the death penalty.

While people once even used religious reasons to justify practices such as slavery, the death penalty and "wars of religion," over time the Holy Spirit has deepened the church's understanding of the Gospel, the pope said.

Slavery "is a mortal sin; today we say this. Back then, some would say that this could be done because these people did not have a soul!" he said. The number of people enslaved today is "even more, but at least we know that it is a mortal sin. The same goes for the death penalty; for a time, it was normal. Today, we say that the death penalty is inadmissible."

Bishops attending a recent meeting at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops building in Washington, D.C., were among the first to sign the National Catholic Pledge to End the Death Penalty.

Each person taking the pledge promises to educate, advocate and pray for an end to capital punishment.

The pledge begins with a quotation from Pope Francis: "All Christians and people of goodwill are thus called today to fight not only for the abolition of the death penalty, whether legal or illegal, and in all its forms, but also in order to improve prison conditions, with respect for the human dignity of the people deprived of their freedom."

The pledge drive is organized by the

Catholic Mobilizing Network.

"The death penalty represents a failure of our society to fulfill the demands of human dignity, as evidenced by the 159 people and counting who have been exonerated due to their innocence since 1973," the organization says on the pledge sheet following space for someone's signature.

Quoting from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, the network added, "The death penalty is not needed to maintain public safety, punishment must 'correspond to the concrete conditions of the common good and (be) more in conformity to the dignity of the human person."

After capital punishment was halted nationwide briefly in the 1970s, more than 1,400 people have been executed since it resumed 40 years ago, according to the Catholic Mobilizing Network. "The prolonged nature of the death penalty process can perpetuate the trauma for victims' families and prevents the opportunity for healing and reconciliation called for in the message of Jesus Christ."

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera noted that the teaching of the Catholic Church affirms the right and duty of public authorities to inflict penalties commensurate with the gravity of a crime, and while the desire for retribution is understandable, the Christian faith tradition offers another perspective to the death penalty – one grounded in the sanctity of all human life and the mercy of God.

Building upon the teachings of his predecessors, including Saint John Paul II, Pope Francis recently noted that "Even a criminal has the inviolable right to life, a gift of God." If a society can protect itself without ending a human life, it should do so.

Pope Francis' Prayer for Vocations

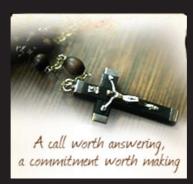
God our Father, You made each of us to use our gifts in the Body of Christ.

We ask that you inspire young people whom you call to priesthood and consecrated life to courageously follow your will.

Send workers into your great harvest so that the Gospel is preached, the poor are served with love, the suffering are comforted, and your people are strengthened by the sacraments.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Am I Called?

The truth is we are all called. Jesus is calling us to follow Him and be His disciple. But is He calling you to become a priest?

As a baptized man considering the Priesthood, with the right motives and the inward sense that God is calling you, you should consider this calling as an invitation from Christ. Truly, it is a gift from God. And you need to decide how to respond to this gift.

Being a priest is not easy, but then again, what way of life is? If you believe that Christ is calling you then you owe it to yourself and to all those you may someday serve to determine what exactly you are being called to do. Discernment is accomplished through prayer and spiritual guidance from a priest. Because Christ speaks to you and comes to you through His church, you will need the church to help you discern your vocation.

The question is not: "What am I to do with my life?"

The question is: "What is God calling me to do?"

These questions are posed to you to help you in finding your true happiness and fulfillment while doing the will of God.

Quo Vadis Days 2017 to be held June 25-28

The Diocesan Vocation Office is gearing up for *Quo Vadis Days 2017* at Misericordia University in Dallas June 25-28. The Latin phrase *Quo Vadis* (Where are you going?) poses the question that every person faces as their life unfolds and they make decisions about their vocation.

The camp is designed for Catholic men in high school to deepen their faith, learn more about all vocations, and better discern God's call in their lives. It will feature dynamic talks, prayer, games, sports, activities and music. Participants will have the opportunity to meet Bishop Bambera, priests and seminarians of the Diocese of Scranton.

Father Don Williams, Diocesan Director of Vocations and Seminarians, is looking forward to the camp once again this year.

"This is the third year our office is sponsoring *Quo Vadis Days*," he said. "Because of our gatherings throughout the year and other programs we have been sponsoring, we are anticipating an increase in attendance this year. We know this will be possible with the help of priests, dea-



Above: John Gower, young adult volunteer, talks about living as a disciple of Jesus at *Quo Vadis Days* 2016.

The Ropes Course is among the recreational activities enjoyed by participants.

cons, sisters, parish life coordinators, directors of religious education, and youth ministers."

Participants can register online at www.scrantonvocations.org. In addition to the registration, all participants will be required to get a letter of recommendation from a priest, deacon, parish life coordinator, director of religious education, or youth minister. For more information, please call 570-207-1452.





Bishop Bambera visited Cathedral Seminary in Douglaston, N.Y., to meet with some of our college seminarians. From left: Father George Sear, rector, Cathedral Seminary House of Formation; Father Don Williams. Diocesan Director of Seminarians and Vocations; seminarians Andrew McCarroll, David Sebolka and Mark Watrucki; Bishop Bambera; seminarians Nicholas Jennings and William Asinari; and Father John Costello, vice rector. Cathedral Seminary House of Formation.

#PartnerwithFrancis

Bishop Bambera officially kicked off the **#Partnerwith-Francis** initiative in the Diocese of Scranton on Sunday, May 7, following the World Day of Prayer for Vocations celebration. Over the next few months, members of the young church (16-35) and those who work with them are encouraged to let their voices be heard by either completing an online survey at www.partner-withfrancis.org or attending a Diocesan Listening Session. The important insights will be shared with Pope Francis in preparation for the 2018 Synod on *Young People*, the Faith and Vocational Discernment. For more information, please call 570-780-2996.



Bishop Bambera participates in a high school listening session.

The Catholic Light Photos/Mike Melisky



Diana Francheschelli, a student at the University of Scranton, talks about what young people seek from the Church.

Diocesan Listening Sessions:

Date	Location	Time	High School Group (16-18)	College-Age Group (18-24)	Young Adult Group (25-35)
Thursday, June 15	St. Ann Parish, 1220 Northway Rd., Williamsport	6:30-8:30 p.m.	✓	✓	✓
Friday, June 16	St. Matthew Parish, 78 Ridgeway St., East Stroudsburg	6:30-8:30 p.m.	✓	✓	✓
Friday, June 23	Divine Mercy Parish, 312 Davis St., Scranton	Following XLT Approx 8:45 p.m.		✓	✓
Wednesday, June 28	Light the Fire Youth Rally Misericordia University	Breakout Session	✓		

Reverend Joseph Francis Orloski Laid to Rest

The Reverend Joseph Francis Orloski, B.A., M.Div., age 75, died peacefully after an extended illness in the early morning hours of Monday, May 15, 2017, with his two loving sisters at his side and beloved cousin, Jack Chodnicki, of Pittston.

Father Orloski was the son of the late Joseph Bernard and Vangie (Chodnicki) Orloski. He is survived by his brother, Richard J. Orloski, an Allentown attorney, married to Kathy Law Orloski; and his two sisters, Dr. Joann Orloski and Karen Ann Orloski, both of Duryea.

In addition, he leaves behind five nephews and nieces, Attorney Richard Law Orloski, married to Alicia Forward with two children, Isabel and Olivia; Rebecca Lee Orloski; Attorney Kevin Law Orloski, married to Attorney Maraleen Shields with two children, Cole and Sage; Joseph Law Orloski, M.D., marrying Ashley Ford on May 28; and Kate Orloski Watt, married to Nigel Watt with three daughters, Ezri and twins Mae and Clelia, all residing in the Lehigh Valley.

Father Orloski graduated from Holy Rosary Grade School in Duryea and St. John the Evangelist High School in Pittston.



Reverend Joseph Francis Orloski

He continued his education graduating from King's College in Wilkes-Barre and Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in Weston, Mass., for delayed vocations. After graduating from King's College, he spent 20 years teaching elementary students at St. Mary's Visitation in Dickson City. It was at St. Mary's that he decided to continue his education as a late vocation at Pope St. John XXXIII in Massachusetts.

Father Orloski was ordained to the priesthood on June 25, 1994, by the Most Reverend

James C. Timlin, D.D.

His first assignment was as an assistant pastor at Immaculate Conception in Scranton, followed by an appointment as interim pastor pro tem, then pastor in St. John Neumann Church, Lords Valley, where he loved preaching the Word of God to the congregation. He received an award as "Best Clergy" from the News Eagle, a newspaper covering Pike and Wayne Counties.

Unfortunately, he experienced heart problems resulting in open heart surgery. His physicians then recommended he transfer from the beautiful and picturesque rural area of Pike's County to an urban environment where emergency heart care could be rendered more promptly, if needed.

While assigned in Pike County, Father Orloski served as chaplain to the Pike County Jail, followed by chaplaincies at Luzerne County Community College, Little Flower Manor/St. Therese Residence and the VA Medical Center in Wilkes-Barre.

Father Orloski also served seriatim as an assistant pastor at Holy Trinity in Nanticoke; Blessed Virgin Mary, Dickson City; Holy Trinity and St. Joseph, both in Wilkes-Barre. His last assignment was at Villa St. Joseph in Dunmore, where his health substantially deteriorated, causing his retirement in 2009.

Father Orloski is remembered by his parishioners as "warm, compassionate to everyone." He has been called "a contentious and enthusiastic leader whose focus was always the welfare of his parishioners." As one former parishioner summarized: "Father Orloski was a good man and a holy priest. He truly deserved the 'Best Clergy' award."

Father Orloski was born prematurely on Jan. 24, 1942, when incubators were not in widespread use. The doctor sent the infant home with his mother, telling her there was no chance of survival. Once home, his maternal grandmother, Babci Chodnicki, took charge. She created a special pillow that folded over itself creating a cocoon so the infant would be always warm. She fed him using an eye dropper, getting him to eat drop by drop. He survived.

This cocoon of love followed him throughout his life. Whether it was his four first cousins, the Piszkin girls in Buffalo or the Chodnicki cousins in Georgia or the Russick family in New Castle or the Krymowski cousins in Cleveland, Father Orloski – fondly known as "Jody" — was a family favorite. His students at St. Mary's Visitation adored him, as demonstrated by the deluge of Christmas presents his students gave him. His ordination as a priest on June 24, 1994, was met by a shower of good will, as demonstrated by the turnout for his first Mass at Holy Rosary Church.

His priestly tenure was cut short by the affliction of dementia, which ultimately caused his death. Dementia is the scourge of the 21st century, progressively and relentlessly proceeding, day by day, slowly taking the shine from his eyes and his smile. It was a painful and slow loss of life, but the cocoon of love that began with his premature birth still enveloped him during his illness until he was united by death into the arms of his Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, whom he faithfully served in his entire life.

A Pontifical Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on May 18, 2017, by the Most Reverend John M. Dougherty, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of Scranton, in Holy Rosary Church, Duryea.



Carverton Parish to Host Memorial Day Mass

CARVERTON --- A Memorial Day Mass in remembrance of all deceased will be celebrated at St. Frances X. Cabrini Church in Carverton (Wyoming) on Monday, May 29, at 11 a.m.

All who wish to remember their loved ones in prayer are welcome to participate in the liturgy, which will be celebrated by Father James Paisley, pastor.

In conjunction with the Mass of Remembrance. St. Frances Cabrini Parish and its Social Committee will hold its annual Memorial Day Picnic, including bake sale and flea market, on the church grounds, 585 Mount Olivet Road, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (rain or shine).

Picnic food items and beverages will be available for purchase, and the bake sale will include homemade breads, cookies and pastries. Numerous flea market items will be displayed under tents, and basket and cash raffle drawings will also be available.

A special "early bird" event including the flea market and bake sale will be held on Sunday, May 28, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



Keeping Kids Safe Online

The Diocesan Safe Environment Advisory Committee sponsored an interactive workshop, "Tips and Tricks for Keeping Kids Safe Online," as part of Child Abuse Prevention Month. The workshop, held at the Diocesan Pastoral Center in Scranton, was facilitated by Dr. Jayne Klenner, associate professor of computer and information systems at King's College, and a member of the committee. Future workshops are available for local schools and church groups. To schedule a free children's safety workshop, please contact Kathy Bolinski, Safe Environment Coordinator, Diocese of Scranton, at 570-207-1453 or kathleenbolinski@ dioceseofscranton.org. The Catholic Light Photo/Mike Melisky

Diocesan Cemeteries Offer Burial Options

Mausoleum and columbarium niche spaces are available at Diocesan cemeteries. For example, construction has been completed on a new mausoleum at the Cathedral Cemetery in Scranton (pictured left). The mausoleum can accommodate 290 crypts for above-ground entombment. More than 100 crypts have been sold and reservations are being taken for the remaining spaces. Mausoleum interment costs are comparable or less than traditional burials. Finance options and purchase discounts are available. For more information call the Cathedral Cemetery Office at 570-347-9251, or visit: www.DioceseofScranton.org.

The six Catholic cemeteries operated by the Diocese will be hosting Memorial Day Masses on May 29. All are welcome to participate in these liturgies that honor the deceased, especially those who have served our country in the military. (See the schedule below.) New flags have been placed at the gravesites of veterans at the Diocesan cemeteries. Once again the flags were provided and placed through the generosity of local Veterans Affairs offices, veterans groups and volunteers.

In addition to the six Diocesan cemeteries, there are also many Catholic cemeteries operated by parishes throughout the 11 counties of the Diocese.



DIOCESAN CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

The Catholic Cemeteries of the Diocese of Scranton offer complete and compassionate service and are prepared to provide for all your burial needs. It is our privilege to assist you in planning the final resting place for your loved ones.

Memorial Day Masses will be celebrated at each Diocesan Cemetery on Monday, May 29, 2017. All are welcome to participate in these liturgies to pray for and remember the faithfully departed, especially our veterans.



MEMORIAL DAY MASSES, MONDAY, MAY 29, 2017

CALVARY CEMETERY • 10AM Route 309, Drums

570-788-2150 at Good Shepherd Church CATHEDRAL CEMETERY • 10AM 1708 Oram St., Scranton 570-347-9251 Crypt Chapel at rear of cemetery

HOLY CROSS CEMETERY • 9AM at St. Mary's Church, Prince of Peace Parish, Old Forge

570-347-9251

MOUNT OLIVET CEMETERY • 11AM ST. CATHERINE'S CEMETERY • 10AM RESURRECTION CEMETERY • 10AM 612 Mt. Olivet Rd. Carverton

Main St., Route 435, Moscow

4323 Lycoming Mall

570-696-3636 570-842-8411 at St. Frances X. Cabrini Church

Drive • Montoursville Outside Altar (Weather Permitting) 570-368-2727

Father Joseph F. Orloski

We gather here today before God's holy altar, assembled as we are in His sacred home, not to mourn Father Orloski — though sad we are — but to praise the Lord for allowing our dear friend to have lived so long among us. Unlike the grief which attends to the passing of the young — those in the spring of their years — our heavy hearts are lightened today by the sure knowledge that our beloved Father Joe has found favor with our God and is now at peace.

We will surely miss Father Joe's presence. We will all be the poorer for the loss of his wise counsel. He enriched us immeasurably with his faith while he dwelt among us; now he will plead for our cause before the throne of God. Father Orloski will speak gently in our name to our Lord Jesus Christ. At length, Father Joe will love us deeply yet as he takes his place at our Lord's heavenly banquet table.

To be sure, we feel sad that even in old age death must come, that we could not enjoy Father Orloski's presence for yet a few more years. But God is God for those of us who pass on and for those of us who remain behind. The Lord will strengthen us, even as He strengthened and supported Father Joe through these many years.

Our sadness is real but not without hope, for we live in faith, longing for the day when we will be reunited with our devoted friend Father Joe, never again to be separated.

Today many thoughts pass through our minds, and fond memories are recalled with tenderness. The task God gave to Father Orloski has been accomplished, but the work of the Gospel continues on for us. Father Joe shared his faith with us, nourished our beliefs, and supported our decisions. The legacy of faith, hope and charity is ours; now we must take up the task of living up to Father Joe's good name and righteous example.

Kindly recall with me the story of Moses' death. Moses had lived a most eventful life and at length grew old and weary; his strength failed him, and God called Moses home just as he was about to lead his people into the Promised Land. Joshua, Moses' lieutenant, called out to the Lord: "Your servant Moses is dead." And the Lord Yahweh spoke to Joshua: "Joshua, Joshua, arise and prepare for the task — lead my people home."

God calls out to us this day, even as He spoke to Joshua of old. He asks us to continue the ministry Father Orloski began, to remain faithful to the Gospel which our friend Father Joe lived daily with such telling effect. God has called our loved one home. He now calls us to persevere in the faith with a heart ablaze with hope and charity.

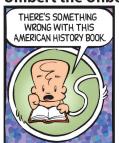
Recount your blessings today; recount the splendid gift of Father Orloski's life among us; recount, with still more profound fervor, God's glorious promise that one day the Church on earth and the Church in heaven will be completely one. May we pray with the Psalmist: "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits."

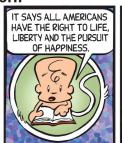
We pray that God will continue to impart His grace, strength and peace to... all of you relatives and friends of Father Joe — today and each and every day. An epitaph inscribed on Father Orloski's grave could appropriately read: "A gentle priest in whom the various social, domestic and religious virtues were eminently united."

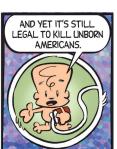
May the Good Lord be merciful to Father Orloski's soul. Rest in peace, my friend.

Excerpted from the homily by Father George A. Jeffrey at the Mass of Christian Burial celebrated for Father Joseph F. Orloski on May 18 at Holy Rosary Church in Duryea.

Umbert the Unborn









Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord -- May 25



Prayer Requests for Priests

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

May 25, Father Francis Pauselli; May 26, Monsignor Edmund Penkala; May 27, Holy Cross Father Stephen Pepper; May 28, Father Carmen Perry; May 29, Jesuit Father Thomas Pesci; May 30, Father Thomas Petro; May 31, Father William Petruska; June 1, Pope Francis; June 2, Pope Emeritus Benedict

XVI; June 3, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera; June 4, Father Michael Piccola; June 5, Father William Pickard; June 6, Father Jean-Pierre Pilon; June 7, St. Joseph Oblate Father Jackson Pinhero; June 8, Father Joseph Pisaneschi; June 9, Father John Polednak, V.E.; June 10, Father Richard Polmounter; June 11, Father John Poplawski; June 12, Monsignor Patrick Pratico; June 13, Passionist Father James Price; June 14, Monsignor Joseph Quinn.



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Volume 117 Number 7 — Thursday, May 25, 2017

Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church Acquires Fatima Renewal Center Property

For more than 50 years, the Diocese of Scranton's idyllic pastoral property in Dalton served to educate and spiritually form clergy, religious and lay faithful of all ages – first as St. Pius X Seminary and then as the Fatima Renewal Center.

Now that heritage continues with the acquisition of the property by the Northeast American Diocese of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church, which will use it as the site of Holy Transfiguration Retreat Center.

"This beautiful space has been an enriching and meaningful part of our local Church's history," said Bishop Joseph C. Bambera. "Many of our Diocesan clergy, including me, received their formation here; and thereafter many other individuals and groups experienced learning, spiritual growth and restful peace here. We were blessed by the opportunities it offered, and we are thankful that it will continue to serve a faithfilled purpose as a ministry of the Northeast American Diocese of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church."

The Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church, an ancient Apostolic Church, belongs to the communion of Oriental Orthodox Churches. It traces its lineage to Saint Thomas, one of the twelve disciples of the Church grew rapidly.



Officials of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church and Chancery staff of its Northeast American Diocese pictured during an earlier visit to the Fatima Renewal Center property in Dalton, which the Church has acquired from the Diocese of Scranton to develop Holy Transfiguration Retreat Center. In center of group is His Eminence Zachariah Mar Nicholovos (left), Metropolitan of the Northeast American Diocese, and His Holiness Catholicos Paulose II, Supreme Head of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church.

Jesus Christ, who preached the Gospel to India in AD 52. Since the 1950s, the faithful of the Malankara Church, also known as the Indian Orthodox Church, began emigrating to the west, which largely included the northeast United States. The arrival of many faithful from India to the United States, drove the Church to cater to the spiritual needs of the growing number of faithful.

Since the canonical establishment of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church in North America in 1979,

From a handful of congregations, the Church in North America has grown to more than 100 parishes, scattered all across North America, of which the northeast United States and Province of Ontario is the most populated. This led to the creation of the Northeast American Diocese in 2008.

This significant growth also increased the ministerial needs of the people. The purchase of the Fatima Renewal Center in Dalton will provide ample opportunity for the Northeast American Diocese and its ministries to grow. Of the many programs planned at Holy Transfiguration Re-

treat Center, included will be: pre- and post-marital retreats, young adult retreats, summer camps for Sunday School children, youth summer conferences, and the establishment of a monastic community.

During the 2016 Apostolic Visit of the Church's Catholicos, the head of the Church was awe struck at the immense beauty and serenity of the center. His Holiness shared, "Here a venture has been envisioned that will facilitate the ministry of the Church in the most suitable manner... God's presence is truly here. Silence. An atmosphere filled with natural beauty. Beautiful trees and air. And it is seen as a wellspring of all types of goodness."

The Metropolitan of the Northeast American Diocese, His Eminence Zachariah Mar Nicholovos, said: "The purchase of this beautiful property is to assist our faithful – irrespective of age or gender – in their path to holiness. The very motto of this center – Purification, Illumination, Deification – is the foundation of this process in which we seek the likeness or union with our Lord."

It is the sincere hope of the Northeast American Diocese that this center will be a sacred place not only for its faithful, but also the good people of the region.

From 1962 to 2004, the property was the site of St. Pius X Seminary for Diocese of Scranton priests. It then transitioned to fulltime operations as the Fatima Renewal Center, hosting a variety of religious education programs and retreats as well as the formation program for permanent deacons.

As the Diocese of Scranton continued to evaluate its needs and resources, usage of the facility ceased in 2014. Subsequently the Diocese re-purposed the former Bishop Hannan-Holy Cross High School building at 330 Wyoming Avenue in Scranton into the Diocesan Pastoral Center, a modern space that hosts several Diocesan offices, educational and retreat programs, and provides a gathering place for various functions.

CATHOLIC

Luzerne County

Wyoming Area Catholic School—Exeter St. Nicholas/St. Mary School-Wilkes-Barre St. Jude School-Mountain Top Holy Rosary School—Duryea Holy Family Academy—Hazleton Good Shepherd Academy—Kingston Holy Redeemer High School-Wilkes-Barre

Lycoming County

St. John Neumann Elementary—Williamsport St. John Neumann High School-Williamsport

Monroe County

Notre Dame Elementary—East Stroudsburg Monsignor McHugh School—Cresco Notre Dame High School—East Stroudsburg

Bradford County

St. Agnes School—Towanda **Epiphany School—Sayre**

Lackawanna County

St. Mary of Mount Carmel School-Dunmore St. Clare/St. Paul School-Scranton Our Lady of Peace School-Clarks Green La Salle Academy—Jessup All Saints Academy—Scranton Holy Cross High School-Dunmore



Wyoming Area Catholic School students are excited to meet new classmates for the 2017-18 school year.

The 20 Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Scranton are accepting registrations for the 2017-18 school year. To learn more, visit our website www.DioceseofScranton.org/CatholicSchools or call the Catholic Schools Office at 570-207-2251.

Tuition Assistance Available

XLT (Exalt!)

Upcoming XLTs Adoration – Speaker – Praise & Worship Music – Reconciliation – Social

> Friday, June 23 Friday, July 28

7-9 p.m. **Divine Mercy Parish,** 312 Davis Street, Scranton

For more information, please call 570-780-2996.

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Church leaders view religious freedom order as positive step

WASHINGTON (CNS) – Many religious leaders viewed President Donald Trump's executive order on religious freedom, which he signed in a White House Rose Garden ceremony May 4, as a step in the right direction.

In the ceremony for National Day of Prayer prior to signing the executive order, Trump told the assembled religious leaders: "We're taking big steps to protect religious liberty" and he assured them the government "won't stand for religious discrimination."

Three religious leaders, including Washington Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl, offered prayers during the ceremony. Just prior to the event, Cardinal Wuerl and Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, met with Trump about the order.

In a statement issued after the order was signed, Cardinal DiNardo said the executive order "begins the process of alleviating the serious burden of the HHS mandate," referring to the mandate issued by the federal Department of Health and Human Services requiring most religious employers to provide coverage of artificial birth control for their employees even if they morally oppose it.

But Cardinal DiNardo also stressed that the U.S. bishops will "have to review the details of any regulatory proposals."

The text of the order, "Promoting Free Speech and Religious Liberty," states that cabinet offices "shall consider issuing amended regulations, consistent with applicable law, to address conscience-based objections to the preventive-care mandate."

During the White House ceremony, Trump told some of the Little Sisters of the Poor in the crowd: "Your long ordeal will soon be over." The Sisters are just one of the groups that challenged the federal contraceptive mandate all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Mother Loraine Marie Maguire, superior of the Little Sisters' Baltimore province, said in a statement that the sisters are "grateful for the president's order and look forward to the agencies giving us an exemption so that we can continue caring for the elderly poor and dying" without fear of government punishment.

Another aspect of the order is a weakening of what Trump called the "unfair" Johnson Amendment during the May 4 event. The 1954 amendment bans churches and nonprofit organizations of all types from participating in partisan political activity at the risk of losing their tax-exempt status.

Trump told the religious leaders that the order's attempt to lessen restrictions of the amendment will be "giving our churches their voices back."

The order states the Treasury Depart-

ment shall ensure and "respect and protect the freedom of persons and organizations to engage in religious and political speech."

It also calls for department officials to "not take any adverse action against any individual, house of worship, or other religious organization" for speaking about "moral or political issues from a religious perspective."

Regarding religious liberty, the order is not very specific. It states: "In order to guide all agencies in complying with relevant federal law, the attorney general shall, as appropriate, issue guidance interpreting religious liberty protections in federal law."

Cardinal DiNardo, in his statement, stressed that in recent years, "people of faith have experienced pressing restrictions on religious freedom from both the federal government and state governments that receive federal funding."

He noted that church agencies have specifically experienced such a restriction in adoption, education, health care and other social services, where he said "widely held moral and religious beliefs, especially regarding the protection of human life as well as preserving marriage and family, have been maligned in recent years as bigotry or hostility."

"But disagreement on moral and religious issues is not discrimination; instead, it is the inevitable and desirable fruit of a free, civil society marked by genuine religious diversity," he added.

The White House did not release the full text of the order prior to the signing. A draft of the order was leaked to the *Nation* magazine soon after Trump's inauguration and included much stronger language.

Regarding the new order, Cardinal DiNardo said the bishops will "continue to advocate for permanent relief from Congress on issues of critical importance to people of faith," noting that religious freedom is "a fundamental right that should be upheld by all branches of government and not subject to political whims."

Richard Garnett, professor of law at the University of Notre Dame, said in an email to Catholic News Service that the order will likely be viewed as a commitment from the administration that it wants to protect religious liberty. "In terms of specifics, however, the order does very little and does not address a number of pressing and important questions."

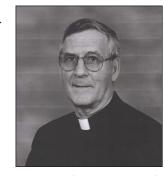
Dominican Sister Donna Markham, president and CEO of Catholic Charities USA, also welcomed the order and said the organization "looks forward to reviewing the details" of it with the hope that applying it will "allow Catholic Charities agencies to continue to serve all their clients in accordance with their inherent dignity while at the same time preserving the freedom of these agencies to serve in conformity with our beliefs."

Father Zavacki Noting 60 Years of Priesthood

Father Richard A. Zavacki, pastor emeritus of the former St. Hedwig Parish in Kingston, will celebrate the 60th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood with a Jubilee Mass of Thanksgiving on Sunday, June 18, at 3 p.m. in the Church of St. Ignatius at St. Ignatius Loyola Parish, Kingston.

Son of the late Anthony and Sophie Lipinski Zavacki, Father Zavacki received his early education in local public schools and graduated from Wyoming Memorial High School in 1949.

After attending King's College in Wilkes-Barre for two years, he began his preparatory studies for the priesthood in the Diocese of Scranton by enrolling at the Orchard Lake schools in Orchard Lake, Mich. He graduated from St. Mary's College in 1953 and completed his priestly formation at SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary.



Father Richard Zavacki

The jubilarian was ordained a priest for the Diocese on June 15, 1957, in St. Peter's Cathedral by Bishop Jerome D. Hannan, fifth bishop of Scranton.

Following ordination, Father Zavacki was assigned to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Lake Silkworth, and subsequently served as assistant pastor at Sacred Heart Parish, Luzerne and St. Joseph Parish, Hudson.

His first pastoral appointment was at St. Martha Parish, Fairmount Springs, where he served for ten years until being assigned

the pastorate of St. Hedwig's, Kingston. Father Zavacki ministered as the spiritual head of St. Hedwig's for 20 years before retiring as pastor emeritus of the parish.

Following his retirement from pastoral ministry in 2007, Father Zavacki resided at St. Aloysius Rectory in Wilkes-Barre and Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception Rectory, Freeland.

In addition to his parochial duties, Father Zavacki served as catechist and director of religious studies at the former Bishop Hoban High School in Wilkes-Barre from 1971 to 1986. For more than 30 years he was regarded as the "unofficial" chaplain of the Bishop Hoban scholastic swim teams.

Following Father Zavacki's 60th Anniversary Mass, an informal gathering will be held in Monsignor Conlon Hall to honor the jubilarian. All are welcome.

Oppenheim Institute Program Promotes Interfaith Understanding

The Oppenheim Institute at Temple Hesed in Scranton will host a "Presentation on Terrorism and Islamophobia" on Friday, June 9, at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome.

The program is co-sponsored by the Scranton Area Ministerium, the Islamic Society of Scranton and the Campus Mosque of the University of Scranton.

The speaker is Alejandro Beutel, an expert on Islamophobia and terrorism at the University of Maryland. He will be interviewed by Rabbi Nancy Fuchs Kreimer, professor at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College and head of their Interfaith work.

Cooperative programs such as this illuminate common elements among religions and help to increase interfaith understanding in the community.

Saint John Paul II, in an address to Muslim religious leaders in Nigeria on February 14, 1982, said: "We both believe in one God who is the Creator of Man. We acclaim God's sovereignty and we defend man's dignity as God's servant. We adore God and profess total submission to him. Thus, in a true sense, we can call one another brothers and sisters in faith in the one God. And we are grateful for this faith, since without God the life of man would be like the heavens without the sun."

Because of this faith that we have in

God, Christianity and Islam have many things in common: the privilege of prayer, the duty of justice accompanied by compassion and almsgiving, and above all a sacred respect for the dignity of man, which is at the foundation of the basic rights of every human being, including the right to life of the unborn child.

More recently during his Apostolic Journey to Egypt, Pope Francis stated: "... we are constantly called to walk together, in the conviction that the future also depends on the encounter of religions and cultures... Three basic areas, if properly linked to one another, can assist in this dialogue: the duty to respect one's own identity and that of others, the courage to accept differences, and sincerity of intentions."

Opportunities for dialogue, learning about our differences and what we have in common, learning to respect differences and how to work together for peace and justice in our world are challenges that we share in common with all people.

The Oppenheim Institute was established in 2002 by friends and family, in loving memory of the late I.E., Ellis and Richard Oppenheim. Its mission has been to provide provocative programming to the Temple Hesed family and to the entire community.

For information, call Temple Hesed at 570-344-7201.

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.





Bishop Bambera recently celebrated Mass with the students, faculty and community at **St. Agnes School in Towanda**. In his homily, the Bishop told the students that God chooses ordinary people with gifts and talents and flaws and shortcomings to build His church and become saints. He asked the students if they could imagine a saint using a kayak? Or going skiing? "You should because I saw it! When I was in Poland for World Youth Day, I visited the Saint John Paul II Museum and in there was a room with his camping equipment and ski jacket and skis and even his kayak. Saint John Paul II was a regular human who God chose to lead His church. You can do it too."



Students from Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre earned a variety of awards at the 56th Regional Meeting of the PA Junior Academy of Science, receiving recognition in fields from biology to mathematics. A total of 20 students won first place awards, making them eligible to participate in the state competition. Pictured are students Jocelyn Rogers, Collin Halagarda, Makenzie Savner, Shelby Smith, Jenna Jachimiak, Kimberly Aldrich, Julia Randazzo, Ivy Norton, Regan Mishanski, Caitlyn McIngvale, Grace Dacey, McKaylia Ward, Paul Jason, Lindsey Hoover, Madison Guido, Dayna Belsky, Marissa Jason, Gabrielle Scovish, Nathan Roppelt, Patrick Curley, Anthony Khoudary, Anthony Molitoris, Matthew Hayden, Brianna Phillips, Emily Nguyen, Keiana Faltz, Meredythe Baird, along with faculty sponsors Mrs. Kelly Pacelli, Mrs. Kelsey Reyes, Mrs. Linda Rakauskas and Mr. Steven Wise.



The dash to the finish line! Students at **Monsignor McHugh School in Cresco** participate in the school's annual Spring fundraiser, Race for Education.



Keely Zabresky, Mikhail Hazlak, Asa Dorris, Brendan Kane, John Evans, and Grace Stetz-Madden, 3rd grade students at **St. Nicholas/St. Mary School in Wilkes-Barre**, display their creations after participating in the school's annual Easter bonnet contest.



The students and faculty of **All Saints Academy in Scranton** collected goodies to fill Easter Baskets and donated all of the items to Friends of the Poor for distribution.



Wyoming Area Catholic School in Exeter held its annual Grandparents' Mass for students in grades Pre-K to 3rd grade. Grandparents, parents and family members were invited to celebrate the important role grandparents have in the lives of their grandchildren. Father Paul McDonnell, OSJ, Provincial Superior of the Oblates of St. Joseph Holy Spouses Province of the United States, was the celebrant.



The 3rd grade students at **Good Shepherd Academy in Kingston** collected paper products to benefit the residents of St. Hedwig's Veterans Village in Kingston. Pictured are students Leah Skudalski, Sean Williams, Kearney Quinn and Chris Dec, along with Luke Malonis, case manager at Veterans Village.



The annual May Crowning which celebrates the Blessed Mother, was recently held at **St. Clare/St. Paul School in Scranton**; students and faculty from the school were led in prayer by the 8th grade.



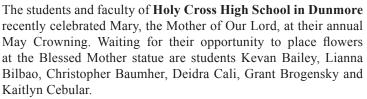
First through 8th graders at **St. Jude School in Mountain Top** attended a wonderful presentation about the life of Pauline von Mallinckrodt, now known as Blessed Pauline. The program was in honor of her 200th birthday, which will be celebrated soon. Pauline began reaching out to the poor when she was only seven years old and eventually organized groups to help the blind and the poor. During the program, several students were blindfolded and challenged to complete some of the spelling tasks used by Pauline in her work with the blind. Her dedication to these people led her to founding the Sisters of Christian Charity, which today has a presence on four continents, including the school. Pictured are students Xavier Bleiler, Virginia Franks, Carson Carlo, Ella Novelli, and Allison Van Pelt, along with school secretary Sister Mary Theresa Wojcicki, SCC.



May is the month to honor Mary, the Mother of God. Students at **St. Mary of Mount Carmel School in Dunmore** held a special May Crowning recently with both the 8th and the 2nd grade students participating.



La Salle Academy in Jessup recently inducted new members into the school's chapter of the National Junior Honor Society. Pictured are students Alice Jones, Natalia Mazza, Erica Prushinski, Rebecca Miller, Kristina Tranovich, Nicole Nicholas, Krista Carachilo, Kaitlyn Farrell, Faith Hosie, Samuel Mulvey, Bryce Betz, Kaitlyn Idhaw, Rachel Hosie, Catherine Shipsky, Lydia Pickutoski, Emmalee Viola, Alicia Dec, Megan Nidoh, Madelyn Franceski, and faculty moderator Mrs. Karen Lalli.





The Bell Choir at **Holy Family Academy in Hazleton** performed musical selections at their annual May Crowning.



The 5th grade students from **St. John Neumann Elementary School in Williamsport** pose with SJN High School Principal, Rich Cummings, with their new SJN cinch bags — a gift to them after they toured the high school campus as part of their Step-Up Day!



The 4th grade students at **Holy Rosary School in Duryea** recently sponsored a "Hockey Shoot Out" to benefit 17-year-old Brandon Loftus, who was diagnosed with leukemia. Students in grades 2 through 8 and school faculty participated in the event which raised over \$900 to help Brian and his family with medical expenses. Pictured are members of the 4th grade class: Joshua Lentowski, James Tabone, Joseph Heppding, Connor Martin, Calder Lehman, Ellie Faulent, Taylor Skibitsky, Brenley Harashinski, Morgan Hembury, Sara Nealon, Anna Pietrowski, Benny Melucci, Jacob Paroby, Jameson Sciandra, Brooke Kroptavich, Ben White, Brycen Martin, Jack Hurst, Mikayla Marsh, Mrs. Candice Lee (Principal), Evan Licari, Matthew Lyons, Dominic Innamorati, Jacob Aftewicz, Dominick Ferentino, Andrew Chase, Nicolas Mazzarella, Joann Regan, and Mrs. Tammy Dixon (4th grade teacher).

Being Catholic Men

Conference inspires deeper faith

They prayed and sang. They listened and learned. They participated in Eucharist and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. They enjoyed food and fellowship. Most importantly, they were inspired to deepen their faith and their resolve to be authentic Catholic men in today's world.

Catholic men of all ages from throughout the Diocese of Scranton gathered on Saturday, May 6, for the third annual Diocesan Catholic Men's Conference at King's College in Wilkes-Barre.

Under the theme "Be A Man: Mary's Call to Battle," inspired by this year's centenary celebration of Our Blessed Mother's appearances at Fatima, the conference featured three keynote speakers: Father Andrew Apostoli, CFR, an author and retreat leader who is one of the world's foremost experts on the apparitions at Fatima; Matt Fradd, an apologist and speaker with Catholic Answers; and Steve Ray, an author, pilgrimage guide, and frequent

Bishop Bambera and priests of the Diocese celebrated the closing Mass. In his homily, the Bishop acknowledged that the challenges facing us as Christian men could not be greater, but "the real battle that we're called to wage is less with our world and its skewed value system and far more with ourselves and how we understand what it means for us to be authentic followers of Jesus.'

Reflecting on the conference theme, Bishop Bambera cautioned that "our battle against the evils of this world and the sin that still abounds in our lives will never be won by waging wars of hatred and discrimination or by self-righteously casting stones upon lives that are already broken and wounded. Our greatest weapons will be found when we have the courage to peer deeply within our lives – to face our own sinfulness – to admit our powerlessness - and to acknowledge our need for God. Then and only then will we be able to effectively confront the forces of evil in our world – because we've first come to know them ourselves and have overcome them with the armor of righteousness born of God."



The Catholic Light Photos/Mike Melisky

"I've been very inspired by what I heard. It gave me a good insight . . . to go back to my parish, my community, to serve the Church better – hopefully, more fervently, and to commit myself more deeply to the Church, as a lector and as a Eucharistic minister, and my community as a whole. To deepen my faith; that's why I came here, along with several members of my parish Holy Name Society. They came last year and were very well impressed with it, and left with good feelings, and very inspired. It's a wonderful experience for me."

Adam Nosak, Blessed Sacrament Parish, Throop

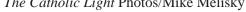


"I think it's so important for us to transmit our faith to our kids, and to transmit it reliably. And I knew there would be a lot of fantastic information being presented here; I wanted him to hear it first-hand. So I've been looking forward to this all year, to bring him, and next year I'm definitely bringing my younger son."

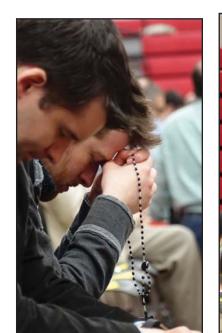
"This is really good. Everything, all the talks, really interesting. I (hope) to be able to make a larger difference in the world; if any faith related topics come about, that I'm able to interact with them (and better express my faith)."

> Paul Binner, Sr.; Paul Binner, Jr. **Nativity BVM Parish, Tunkhannock**

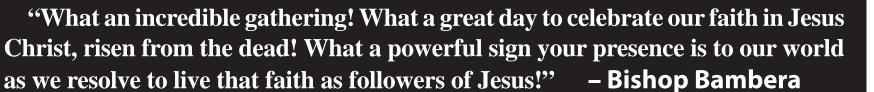






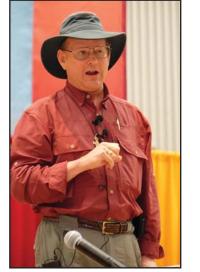








Father Andrew Apostoli, CFR





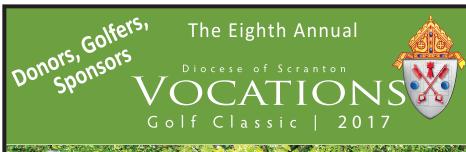
Matt Fradd





"Whether it's in terms of work life, or faith life, you can never think you know enough about the Catholic Church. So I wanted to be involved in this, and partake in the activities, and continue to develop from a faith perspective. It's good to have a support community of men. And I know there's a lot of challenges for Catholic men in this day and age, and the challenges from the outside world and culture. So, I think (today's program) helps reinforce what a man's purpose is here on earth, whether it be part of his family, faith life, or whatever it may be."

- Brad Bowden, St. Joseph the Worker Parish, Williamsport





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Kevin Miller, Jonathan Kuhar, William

Asinari, Andrew McCarroll, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, Mark Watrucki, and Ryan Glenn.

■ Reception & Awards Dinner **Immediately Following**

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Catholic Communication Campaign: **Spreading the Gospel Message** at Home and Around the World

The Catholic Communication Campaign is an annual national collection to support evangelization through the internet, television, radio, and print publications. This collection will be taken up in the Diocese of Scranton the weekend of May 27-28.

This campaign supports global, national and local communication efforts. For example, the Catholic Communication Campaign collection supports projects in developing nations where the local Church lacks resources to spread the Gospel message, and provided funds for unprecedented coverage of Pope Francis' visit to the United States.

Fifty percent of funds collected remain in each diocese to support local communications projects.





In the Diocese of Scranton, these include The Catholic Light newspaper that is mailed to more than 50,000 readers; CTV: Catholic Television, which has a potential audience of 250,000 households; the Diocesan website; News Briefing electronic newsletter; social media such as Facebook and Twitter; and interaction with public media.

These programs allow us to share our experience of faith, worship, and witness with each other and the world.

Up & Over Retreat for Middle School Students

The Up & Over Retreat is a weekend of fun, friendship, and faith at the beautiful wooded Camp Orchard Hill in Dallas. You will spend time outdoors, meet new friends and learn how your God-given gifts can be used when you work with others as a team! Registration includes cabin lodging, delicious home cooked meals, a t-shirt and unforgettable memories!

ARRIVAL: June 2, 2017 at 7:00 P.M. DEPARTURE: June 4, 2017 at 12:00 Noon

COST: \$140 (includes \$70 non-refundable deposit)

To register go to www.dioceseofscranton.org (Office for Parish Life page), or call Mary Anne Malone at 570-207-2213, ext. 1100.

International Student Leadership Institute (I.S.L.I.)

June 19 – 22, 2017 King's College Wilkes-Barre, PA

ISLI is the diocesan leadership experience for high school students. It is a peer-led and facilitated retreat that focuses on five pillars of leadership: Support, Awareness, Self-Confidence, Positive Thinking and Values. The program is absolutely essential for forming leadership qualities in the young people of your parish.

To register go to www.dioceseofscranton.org (Office for Parish Life page), or call Mary Anne Malone at 570-207-2213, ext. 1100.

Light the Fire

June 28, 2017 Misericordia University, Dallas, PA Registration opens at 9:00 a.m. Closing Mass at 7:00 p.m.

For more information go to: www.Light-the-Fire.org

Bishop Bambera to Celebrate Mass for Feast of the Sacred Heart June 22

SCRANTON — The Sacred Heart Enthronement Guild in the Diocese announces its annual Eucharistic celebration commemorating the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus will be held on the vigil of the Sacred Heart

feast, Thursday, June 22, at 5 p.m. in the IHM Center at Marywood University.

Serving as principal celebrant and homilist for the Mass of



Bishop Bambera

the Sacred Heart will be Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, who will also offer special prayers to renew the Sacred Heart Enthronement in the Diocese of Scranton.

Concelebrating the liturgy will be Father Daniel Toomey, spiritual moderator of the Sacred Heart Enthronement Guild, and St. Joseph Oblate Father Joseph Sibilano of the Oblates Seminary, Laflin.

Music ministry for the Mass celebration will be provided by the Sacred Heart Singers, directed by Ernie Pappa and Jennifer Michel. A musical prelude will begin at 4:30 p.m.

A dinner reception in the IHM Center will follow the Mass. Stephen Englot, Enthronement Guild board president, and Patrick Williams, vice president, will serve as masters of ceremonies.

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

For further information on Enthronement to the Sacred Heart, contact Maria Pappa, coordinator of the Enthronement Guild, at (570-587-0805).

Father Rojas Appearing on EWTN

Father Richard Rojas will be a guest on "The Journey Home" program on EWTN. The program can be viewed on CTV: Catholic Television on June 5, at 8 p.m.; June 6, 1 a.m.; and June 9, 1 p.m.

Host Marcus Grodi will interview guests concerning their journeys from various faith groups to the Catholic Church.

Father Rojas, a former Presbyterian, converted to Catholicism and was a U.S. Air Force chaplain in Guam. He was ordained a Catholic priest in 2013 and currently serves as administrator of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Dushore.

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			JUNE S	CIILD	ULE		
	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2:00 AM	SPECIALS	SUNDAY MASS (Encore)		DAILY MASS	6 (Encore)		Fr. SPITZER'S UNIVERSE
:00 AM		(1:10AM) LITANY OF THE SACRED HEART					
:30 AM	AT HOME WITH	THE SACRED HEART	THE JOURNEY HOME (Encore)	MOTHER ANGELICA LIVE CLASSICS	EWTN LIVE (Encore)	THE WORLD OVER (Encore)	AT HOME WITH
	JIM & JOY		(=:::::)		(=:::::)	(=::=:=)	JIM & JOY
:00 AM	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	EWTN GALLERY		FW1	TN NEWS NIGHTLY (Enco	re)	
	TREATE EN E OXTITIOEIO				(
:30 AM	PRIEST, PROPHET KING			EWTN GALLERY	EWTN GALLERY	EWTN GALLERY	EWTN GALLE
:00 AM							
		PRO LIFE WEEKLY		DEFENDING LIFE	THE CREED	BATTLE READY	WHERE GOD WE
3:30AM							
	EWTN ON LOCATION		EWTN GALLERY	ANGELUS FROM			
:40 AM		BELOVED		NAZARETH	SAINTS VS	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOG	CATHOLICIS ON CAMPUS
					SCOUNDRELS	GATALOG	014 07 4111 00
3:50AM							
:00 AM			VOCATION DOOM		CUDED CAINTO		SAVORING O
	EWTN LIVE	SUNDAY NIGHT PRIME	VOCATION BOOM	PAPAL AUDIENCE LIVE (at 3:50)	SUPER SAINTS	WEB OF FAITH 2.0	FAITH
:30 AM	(Encore)	SUNDAT NIGHT FRIME	OCTAVA DIES		FINDING GOD IN ALL THINGS	WEB OF FAITH 2.0	WORD FOR . WOUNDED WO
:00 AM					THINGS		WOUNDED WO
OU AIVI	RELIGION & CERTITUDE	EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL	PROPHECY IN SONG			FR. RUTLEF
:30 AM					EWTN SPECIALS	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY	
	LIFE IS WORTH LIVING	DECISION POINT	MIRACLES OF THE CROSS	EXTRAORDINARY FAITH			CATHOLICS COME HOM
:00 AM	ANGELUS WITH POPE		<u> </u>	EWTN ORIGINAL	PRODUCTIONS	1	<u> </u>
:30 AM	FRANCIS		CHURCH AND THE		APOSTOLATE FOR	THE CHOICES WE	SAINTS vs.
	WHERE GOD WEEPS	EWTN CATALOG	POOR	JOY OF MUSIC	FAMILY CONSECRATION	THE CHOICES WE FACE	SCOUNDRAL
:00 AM :30 AM		ı		CHAPLET OF ST. MICHAEI HOLY LAND ROSARY			
:50 AM	ROSARY FROM LOURDES	LITANY OF LORETO	LITANY OF THE HOLY	LITANY OF ST. JOSEPH	LITANY OF THE	PAPAL AUDIENCE	THE HOLY ROS
:00 AM	SUNDAY MASS (Live)		NAME	DAILY MAS	PRECIOUS BLOOD		
:00 AM	CONDAN MARCO (ENC)			5,421 1174	(2110)		
	(9:10AM) LITANY OF THE SACRED HEART	SUNDAY NIGHT: PRIME	LIVING RIGHT	THRESHOLD OF HOPE	EWTN LIVE	THE WORLD OVER	WE ARE CATH
	ONOTICE TIEFER	(Encore)	WITH DR. RAY	(Encore)	(Encore)	(Encore)	
:30 AM :00 AM	EWTN BOOKMARK						CAT CHAT
,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	PRO LIFE WEEKLY	MOTHER ANGELICA	LIVE WITH PASSION	CTV SPECIAL	FOCUS	NOVENA TO ST. ANN	HERMIE AN FRIENDS
0:30 AM	AT HOME WITH	LIVE CLASSICS	FORMING FAITHFUL	PRESENTATION	FOCUS	CATHOLIC VIEW FOR	AT HOME
1:00 AM	JIM AND JOY		FAMILIES	WOMEN OF GRACE		WOMEN	WITH JIM AND JO
1:30 AM	HOLY ROSARY FROM	THE CHOICES	NOVENA	MUSIC AND THE	THE FRIAR	LIVE WITH PASSION	HOLY ROSA
2:00 PM	LOURDES	WE FACE	TO ST. ANN	SPOKEN WORD	THETRIAN	EIVE WITTI AGGICIA	FROM LOURD
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:00 PM	(4.40BM) (FAND OF THE						EWEL DELIGI
	(1:10PM) LITANY OF THE SACRED HEART	DECISION POINT	LIFE ON THE ROCK (Best-of)	JOURNEY HOME (Best- of)	CALLED TO COMMUNION	JOURNEY HOME (Best- of)	EWTN RELIGIO CATALOGUI
:30 PM		BATTLE READY	(Best-OI)	Oi)	COMMUNICIA	OI)	EWTN BOOKM
::00 PM	IN CONCERT (Concert length varies)	AT HOME			AT HOME	MIRACLES OF THE	EW IIV BOOKW
:30 PM		WITH	THRESHOLD OF HOPE (Live)	FR. SPITZER'S UNIVERSE	WITH	CROSS STATIONS OF THE	EWTN ON LOCA
	FR. RUTLER	JIM & JOY	, ,		JIM AND JOY	CROSS	
:00 PM :15 PM	REFLECTIONS	HIDDEN CHURCHES		ET OF DIVINE MERCY IN HIDDEN CHURCHES	SONG REFLECTIONS	HIDDEN CHURCHES	REFLECTION
:30 PM	THE HOLY ROSARY IN STAINED GLASS			OM ST. PETER'S			ROSARY FOR
:00 PM	GRAB YOUR CATECHISM			THE HOLY ROSARY DIOCESAN DATEBOOK			
:30 PM					DIVINE MERCY		EWTN PRESE
	CATHOLICS COME HOME	DONUT MAN	MY TIME WITH JESUS	CHILDRENS SPECIALS	CHAPLET FOR KIDS	BUG TIME ADVENTURE	
:00 PM		PRAYING AS A FAMILY	SUPER SAINTS	LIFE IS WORTH LIVING	SAVORING OUR FAITH	DISCERNING THE WILL	-
			SUPER SAINTS	LIFE IS WORTH LIVING	SAVORING OUR FAITH	OF GOD	CALLED TO
	FOCUS						
:30 PM	FOCUS	EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHOICES WE	CONVERSATIONS FROM THE WORLD	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	CROSSING THE GOAL	COMMUNIO
		EWTN BOOKMARK	FACE	FROM THE WORLD OVER SHOW		CROSSING THE GOAL	
:00 PM	FOCUS CELEBRATION OF THE MASS	EWTN BOOKMARK	FACE	FROM THE WORLD		CROSSING THE GOAL	PRAYING AS FAMILY
:00 PM	CELEBRATION OF	EWTN BOOKMARK	FACE	FROM THE WORLD OVER SHOW		CROSSING THE GOAL	PRAYING AS FAMILY
:00 PM :30 PM	CELEBRATION OF THE MASS		FACE E	FROM THE WORLD OVER SHOW WTN NEWS NIGHTLY (Liv EWTN GALLERY	e)		PRAYING AS FAMILY CHURCH AND
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Marywood Seminary Plans Final Grand Reunion

SCRANTON — Invitations to the Marywood Seminary Final Grand Reunion have been issued to all alumnae of Marywood Seminary whose contact information was available to the Reunion Committee.

The Final Grand Reunion will be held on the campus of Marywood University during the weekend of June 9-11. Open to all seminary alumnae, the reunion event will include a special liturgical celebration and dinner on

Saturday evening, June 10, and brunch on Sunday, June 11.

Overnight accommodations for visiting alumnae are available at Marywood University, and tours of the university campus, IHM Center and Our Lady of Peace Residence will be conducted on Saturday.

Marywood Seminary was a girls' high school located in the IHM Motherhouse on the Marywood College campus from 1902 until the building was destroyed by fire in 1971. Throughout most of its existence the school provided boarding for students who attended from states throughout the Northeast, Puerto Rico and several South American countries.

The Association held its first Grand Reunion in 1992, attracting more than 500 graduates from across the United States and four foreign countries.

Remaining active well after the seminary closed, the Alumnae Association recently voted to dissolve as of 2017 and donate their remaining funds to the IHM Retirement Fund, in recognition of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Sisters who staffed the seminary.

Mimi Hoffman, a member of the Marywood Seminary class of 1962, has contacted all alumnae to collect written memories to place in a memory capsule on the campus, as well as in the IHM archives.

Any alumna who did not receive an invitation is encouraged to visit the Marywood Seminary Facebook page for additional information about the Final Grand Reunion and Legacy Project.

Day of Reflection June 17 at St. Ann's

SCRANTON — The Legion of Mary in the Diocese will host a Day of Reflection on Saturday, June 17, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of St. Ann in west

The day's program will begin at 9 a.m. with refreshments and fellowship and conclude with the celebration of Mass at 3 p.m.

Highlighting the spiritual offering will be two reflections presented by Father Siby John, associate pastor at St. Ann's: "Life — A Voyage with God" (morning) and "Rejoice in the Lord Always" (afternoon).

The Day of Reflection will also include recitation of the Rosary, time for private prayer, lunch, Eucharistic adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Open to all men and women, event cost is \$22 per person and registration is required.

Registration forms are available at the St. Ann Shrine Gift Shop or by contacting Dori (570-343-7373), Sandy (570-947-2095) or Rose Mary (570-347-1075).

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Fr. Anthony Ozele



Maria Vadia



Fr. John Gordon

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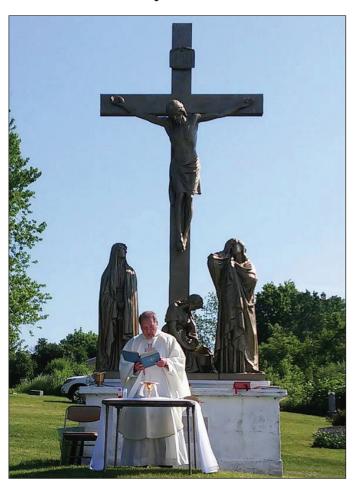
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MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT:

570-344-2214 ... (web) ccrscranton.org ... (email) ccrenewal@comcast.net CCR Scranton, PA • P O Box 3306 • Scranton, PA 18505

REGISTRATION BY POSTAL MAIL ONLY



Oblates of St. Joseph to Celebrate Feast of Congregation Founder

PITTSTON — The Oblates of St. Joseph religious congregation will host their annual celebration of the feast of their founder, St. Joseph Marello, with a Triduum (three-day) devotion to be offered during the upcoming Memorial Day weekend

The Triduum will be held daily Saturday thru Monday, May 27–29, in the chapel of St. Joseph's Oblate Seminary, 1880 Route 315, Laflin.

Mass will be celebrated each evening at 7 p.m., followed by novena prayers to St. Joseph Marello and individual blessing with the first-class relic of the saint. Prior to the evening liturgies, Confessions will be heard and the Rosary will be recited.

The Feast of St. Joseph Marello will be solemnly celebrated on Tuesday, May 30, with a Mass offered at 7 p.m. in the seminary chapel.

Serving as principal celebrant and homilist will be Bishop Emeritus James C. Timlin. Concelebrating the feast day liturgy will be the Oblates of St. Joseph priests serving in the Diocese of Scranton. Following the Mass celebration, an outdoor reception will be offered on the seminary grounds, hosted by the members of the Josephite-Marellian Lay Association.

St. Joseph Marello (1844–1895) was a priest of the Diocese



St. Joseph Marello

of Asti in the Piedmont region of Italy, and founded the Oblates of St. Joseph in 1878. He served as bishop in the nearby Diocese of Acqui from

1889 until his death on May 30, 1895.

St. John Paul II beatified Bishop Marello in 1993 in the saint's native city of Asti and then canonized him in 2001 at St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City.

The Oblates have been serving the Scranton See since 1929 and also minister in ten countries around the world.

All faithful of the Diocese are invited to attend the Triduum and feast day celebration.

Continuing a 136-year tradition, SS. Peter and Paul Parish in Towanda will host its annual Memorial Day Mass in the parish cemetery on Monday, May 29, beginning at 9 a.m. Prior to the SS. Peter and Paul Cemetery being founded by the pastor, Father Charles Kelly, in 1881, members of the Towanda Catholic parish were buried in either the "Old Cemetery" or Ireland's Catholic Cemetery in Standing Stone Township. Following the Mass, Father Edward Michelini, current pastor of SS. Peter and Paul's, will dedicate a newly installed historic marker designating the spot where parishioners first interred in the old cemetery were moved to the James Street site in 1951. The marker was provided through the generosity of the Knights of Columbus Council 3915. Father Michelini is pictured presiding at the Memorial Day Mass at the cemetery in 2016 in front of the Crucifixion statuary created by the famous Daprato Studios of Chicago 100 years ago.



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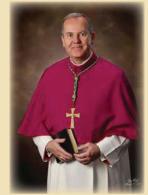


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Mark Your Calendar — Around the Diocese

Spiritual Offerings

Friday Pro-Life Rosary Vigil
— MAY 26, 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 of-

fered, 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.

Friday Holy Hour for Vocations — MAY 26, 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.

Sunday Our Lady of Guadalupe Rosary Devotion - MAY 28, 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

Weekly Novena to St. Anthony of Padua — MAY 30-JUNE 13, hosted by Our Lady of Hope Parish, 40 Park Ave., Wilkes-Barre; St. Anthony Novena devotion offered on 13 consecutive Tuesday evenings, beginning each week at 5:30 p.m. in the parish church. Novena theme: "The Life & Legacy of St. Junipero Serra, Patron Saint of Vocations: Ever Forward, Never Back." All faithful are welcome to attend; for more information, call (570-824-7832).

Monday Night Worship — JUNE 5, hosted by St. Faustina Parish in Nanticoke; monthly devotion held on the first Monday of the month 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 music. For more information, contact Paul Walters at (570-332-2963).

Weekly Bereavement Support Group — JUNE 7 & 14, final two sessions of a series of weekly meetings to address topics dealing with the grief process in order for participants to find healing; Bereavement Support Group meets

Continued on Page 21

PENTECOST CELEBRATION

"Celebrating the Golden Jubilee of the CCR"

"...celebrate the wonders that the Holy Spirit has worked







Karen McLain



Bob Valiante

Date: 6-3-2017 (Saturday) Time: 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

LOCATION: St Nicholas Auditorium, 226 South Washington St, Wilkes Barre, PA

REGISTRATION AT 9:00 A.M. — SESSIONS START AT 9:30 A.M. Coffee and Donuts at 9:00 A.M.

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Accompanying Catholics in Building a Culture of Pentecost to Support the New Evangelization

W-B Parish to Celebrate Bicentennial Birthday of SCC Order Foundress

WILKES-BARRE — The Sisters of Christian Charity religious community of St. Nicholas Convent will join the parish family of St. Nicholas in Wilkes-Barre in the celebration of the 200th birth-day anniversary of Blessed Pauline von Mallinckrodt, foundress of the Sisters of Christian Charity.

A Eucharistic liturgy marking the milestone event will be celebrated on Most Holy Trinity Sunday, June 11, at 10:30 a.m. in St. Nicholas Church, 22 South Washington St., Wilkes-Barre.

The Mass will highlight the life and legacy of Blessed Pauline, who personally visited St. Nicholas Parish to establish the presence and ministry of her Sisters in the area. The SCC religious congregation has been serving in the Diocese of Scranton for nearly 140 years.

Joined by the Companions of Pauline, lay associates who share in the charism of Blessed Pauline in their prayer and service, the Christian Charity Sisters invite all friends and faithful to the special celebration, especially former students, colleagues and patients served by the nuns over the years.

Following the liturgy, light refreshments will be served in the Parish Community Room. Those planning to attend are asked to contact the St. Nicholas rectory office (570-823-7736) by June 1.

Mark Your Calendar — Around the Diocese

Spiritual Offerings

Continued from Page 20

on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 330 Wyoming Ave., Scranton (across from St. Peter's Cathedral). Anyone interested in attending is asked to contact the Cathedral Parish office at (570-344-7231).

Charismatic Mass & Healing Service — JUNE 8, hosted by St. John Bosco Parish in Conyngham; held in the parish church beginning at 7 p.m. Guest celebrant: Father Michael Kloton. Music ministry will be led by Sue Shaw; musical prelude opens at 6:45 p.m. Light refreshments and fellowship will conclude the gathering.

Spiritual Support Group: Scranton Mental Health Ministry — **JUNE 10 & 24**, 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).

Monthly Gathering of Theresians International of Scranton — JUNE 13, led by Mary Boretsky, president; group gathers at Immaculate Conception Church in the Hill section of Scranton. Recitation of the Patriotic Rosary begins at 11:30 a.m. in the church's adoration chapel, followed by Mass celebrated at 12:10 p.m. Theresians' luncheon meeting follows at 12:45 p.m. at Cooper's Seafood House, North Washington Ave., Scranton. Month's guest speaker: Father James Paisley, chaplain.

Sacred Heart Feast Day Mass — JUNE 23, hosted by the Oblates of St. Joseph Seminary, Route 315, Laflin; Eucharistic liturgy celebrating the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus begins at 7 p.m. in the seminary chapel. Principal celebrant: St. Joseph Oblate Father Joseph Sibilano, seminary director. Music ministry provided by the Sacred Heart Singers, under the direction of Ernie Pappa and Jennifer Michel; prelude of contemporary selections will begin at 6:30 p.m. Fellowship and refreshments in

Williamsport Parish Hosting Men's Prayer Gathering June 10

A Men's Prayer Breakfast will be hosted by St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Williamsport on Saturday, June 10, beginning with celebration of Mass at 8:30 a.m. in the parish's Church of the Annunciation, 702 West Fourth St., Williamsport.

Following the Mass, the Men's Prayer Breakfast will begin at 9:30 a.m. in the nearby Fleming Center, located at 720 West Fourth St.

The breakfast program will focus on Catholic male spirituality and the role of the Christian man in today's society.

Featured address will be given

by special guest Anthony Gentile, well-known Catholic speaker and conference presenter who, following his own powerful conversion experience, has dedicated his life to preaching the Gospel to ignite the fire of faith and courage in the human heart.

His presentation on God's love and mercy in a broken world will begin at 10:30 a.m. Mr. Gentile resides in New York with his wife and five children.

Cost to attend the Prayer Breakfast is \$15 for adults and \$10 for youth. For more information and registration, call (570-323-9456).

the dining area will conclude the gathering following the Mass. All faithful are welcome.

Rosary Recitation — **JULY 28**, hosted by Holy Rosary Parish in Hazleton; Rosary prayers will be recited beginning at 3 p.m. in the Parish Grotto. All faithful are welcome.

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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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- Medicaid Application Assistance

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Mission Message

By Deacon Edward T. Kelly Diocesan Director, **Pontifical Mission Societies**



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The number "40" has great symbolic meaning in the Bible. God sent 40 days of rain in Noah's time to purge the Earth of sin. Moses spent 40 days on the mountain with God and came down with the Ten Commandments. The Israelites spent 40 years in the desert to learn to trust and depend on God. Jesus spent 40 days in the desert to prepare Himself to live out His mission that would lead Him ultimately to Calvary. Following His Resurrection, the Risen Jesus spent 40 days among His disciples.

Today is the Feast of the Ascension — 40 days after Easter, the Resurrection of the Lord. This is real — Jesus ascended. The disciples were eyewitnesses. Before Jesus ascended into Heaven, he made a promise. He promised to send the Holy Spirit. "You will be clothed with power from on high." (Luke 24:29) That promise was fulfilled ten days later on Pentecost. "You



shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you shall be witnesses for me....even to the ends of the Earth." (Acts 1:8)

The second chapter from the Acts of the Apostles speaks of tongues, as of fire, coming to rest on each disciple. The fire of the Holy Spirit didn't fall on church buildings or externals. The Holy Spirit fell on people, ordinary people, like you and me — fishermen, carpenters, tax collectors, housewives and husbands — people from all parts of the world. And out of those people on that first Pentecost, the Church

Perhaps the real miracle of Pentecost was that ordinary people - hiding behind locked doors and full of fear - suddenly became church and then went out on the streets, boldly proclaiming the Good News. They were the same disciples in the same world, but the fear was gone. That's the power of the Holy Spirit. How the Church has grown since then!

The story of the first Pentecost is also our story. At times we are like the first disciples locked behind the doors of our fears. And just like that first Pentecost, on Pentecost 2017 the Risen Christ stands in our midst, holds out his hands to us, and says: "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

Jesus doesn't send us alone. "Receive the Holy Spirit," he says. But do we open our hearts and minds to the Holy Spirit? Do we really ask for the Holy Spirit? The answer to those questions was given to us by Jesus when He insisted that His followers would be identifiable as His followers by their fruits: "You will know them by their fruits" (Matthew 7:16). "The fruits of the Spirit are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control" (Galatians 5:22)

St. Paul goes on to speak of "the fellowship that is ours in the Holy Spirit." That fellowship reaches up to God and it reaches out to people. Can we draw strength from Jesus' promise of peace, so we can reach out to people who are different from us, stand up for them when they suffer discrimination or persecution, share our lives with them, and ask them to share their lives with us? If we can, the fruits of the Holy Spirit will come.

Looking back at the places I have been, both here in the United States and around the world, I have seen the Holy Spirit at work. Though we cannot see them all the time, the fruits are there.

> Continued on Page 24



Mark Your Calendar — Around the Diocese

Catholic Happenings

Flea Market, Food & Bake Sale — JUNE 2 & 3, sponsored by St. Andre Bessette Parish, 668 North Main St., Wilkes-Barre; held in the parish's Father Zolcinski Hall (located directly behind the church). Hours: Friday, 5 to 8 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Featuring a wide array of new and used flea market items; food & bake sales include homemade halushki, wimpies, pizza and baked goods.

11th Annual "Play Fore the Kids" Golf Tournament — JUNE 3. hosted by the McGlynn Learning Center of Wilkes-Barre; held at Edgewood in the Pines Golf Course in Drums, beginning with registration at 8 a.m. "Captain & Crew" tournament play begins with shotgun start at 9 a.m. Registration fee: \$100 per golfer (\$400/foursome); tournament limited to 120 golfers. Cost includes full round of golf w/ riding cart, "Pot O' Gold" competition entry, snacks, post-tourney reception and buffet dinner; guests may attend the dinner for \$30 each. Various levels of sponsorship available. All proceeds benefit the McGlynn Learning Center, a youth-enrichment program founded by the Sisters of Mercy. For more information, call (570-824-8891).

Sixth Annual St. Jude International Fest in the Grove — JUNE 3 & 4, sponsored by St. Jude Parish in Mountaintop; festival hours: Saturday, 4 to 11 p.m., and Sunday, 12 noon to 9 p.m., on the parish grounds, 420 South Mountain Blvd. International festival features ethnic foods, beverages & desserts representing countries throughout the world; also includes traditional American favorites.

12th Annual CSS Golf
Tournament & Dinner —
JUNE 7, sponsored by Catholic
Social Services of the Diocese
of Scranton; hosted at Elmhurst
Country Club, Gardner Road,
Moscow. Tournament theme:
"Veterans Serving Veterans."
Event begins with registration
& lunch at 11 a.m., followed
by tournament play (Captain
& Crew format) with shotgun
start at 12:30 p.m. Round of golf
followed by cocktail reception at
5 p.m. and dinner/presentation of

awards at 6 p.m. Entry fee: \$150, includes green fees w/cart, lunch, reception and awards dinner. Rain date will be provided in the event of inclement weather. For more information and registration form, contact bhaggerty@cssscranton. org or call (570-209-9200 ext. 101).

Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary Bingo — JUNE 7 & 21, 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. Players attending five consecutive weeks are eligible for a cash prize. Free admission; for more information, call (570-876-1061).

Free Community Luncheon

— JUNE 10, 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.

Continued on Page 25

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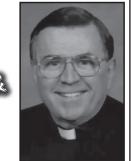
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Blue Army Reparation Vigil





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 **June 2** 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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Mission Message: The Promise

Continued from Page 22

When I was in Kenya I met a woman named Virginia, a cook at the Sisters of St. Francis Orphanage for Boys. As I watched her simmering soup, I asked her if she liked her job. She replied: "I love my job, but my job is not cooking. Oh, it is partly that, but my real job is loving these boys and passing on the faith to them. They never really had that. But one day, with a little kindness and patience and love, the fruits of the Spirit will blossom. Perhaps not in my lifetime, but one day! I'm sure of it."

We can learn much from that simple story out of Africa. It reminds us that we are the Church, a people with a variety of gifts and that God calls each of us to mission — to bear witness to the Gospel in the trenches of everyday living, loving, struggling and dying.

Virginia had it right. Our faithfulness should not be contingent on seeing the fruits of the spirit. The race is far from over, and the baton is continually passed on and will be passed on beyond our lifetimes.

Let us never forget the Promise — we are not alone! God is with us in the gift of the Holy Spirit. This gives us hope that its fruits blossom and will blossom and overflow into the whole world.

Apostleship of Prayer

Papal Intention for June 2017

National Leaders —

That national leaders may firmly commit themselves to ending the arms trade, which victimizes so many innocent people.

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Mark Your Calendar — Around the Diocese

11th Annual Golf Tournament JUNE 10, sponsored by the Little Sisters of the Poor at Holy Family Residence, Scranton; at Scranton Municipal Golf Course, Mount Cobb. Event begins with registration/pre-tournament reception at 12 noon, followed by 1 p.m. shotgun start (captain & crew format). Cost: \$100 per golfer, includes refreshments, green fees (w/riding cart), complimentary tournament golf shirt, gift bag and awards dinner at course clubhouse. Tournament sponsorships and advertising

available. For information, contact Jackie Galvin at Holy Family Residence (570-343-4065 ext. 3144) or scdevelopment@ littlesistersofthepoor.org. To register online, visit: www. littlesistersofthepoorscranton.org.

Alzheimer's Association Seminar: Lunch & Learn — JUNE 14, hosted by St. Mary's Villa Personal Care Home, 516 St. Mary's Villa Road, Elmhurst; begins with lunch at 12 noon, followed by seminar at 12:30 p.m. Association representative will

discuss strategies for connecting with loved ones through the stages of Alzheimer's, minimizing the caregiver effect on behaviors, awareness, and available resources. Those planning to attend are requested to register by calling (570-795-2810).

Annual Parish Flea Market — JUNE 23-25, sponsored by Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish in Brodheadsville; held at the parish church grounds, located on Route 209 & Weir Lake Road, Brodheadsville. Market hours: Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sunday (Bag Day), 1 to 5 p.m. Includes large silent auction and Bargain Tent area, raffle drawings, bake sale, food and refreshments; vendors welcome. For more information, contact the parish at (610-681-6137) or www.qopchurch.org.

Pre-Picnic Flea Market — JULY 6, hosted by Nativity of Our Lord Parish in Durvea; flea market open from 5 to 8 p.m. in the Sacred Heart Upper Hall, 529 Stephenson St., Duryea. All are welcome.

Gate of Heaven Summer Youth Music Camp — JULY 24-28, hosted by Gate of Heaven Parish, 40 Machell Ave., Dallas; open free of charge to children age 8 to 15. Summer camp sessions held each day from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon at Gate of Heaven Church; daily schedule includes choir rehearsals. faith lesson, games and snacks. Camp concludes with special Youth Liturgy, featuring music by camp participants, on Sunday, July 30, at 11:30 a.m. in the parish church. For more information or to register, call (570-675-2121).

"Holy Cow" Flop Fundraiser & Barbecue — AUG. 12, sponsored by St. John Vianney Parish, Montdale, at St. Pius X Church grounds, 3615 State Route 106, Clifford Township (Royal); held from 12 noon to 6 p.m. Featuring Kundla's barbecue chicken dinners (\$10 each) and a variety of foods and refreshments, live music, bake sale, basket raffles, games and prizes for all ages. For advance tickets or more information, call (570-254-9502).

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PICNIC TIME

- 15, 16, 17 Mary, Mother of God, Scranton, Holy Rosary Center & grounds, Wayne & West Market streets, North Scranton (Providence section).
- 23, 24 Resurrection, Muncy, church grounds, Musser Lane & Main St.
- 24, 25 St. Mary's (Our Lady, Help of Christians), Dorrance, church grounds, 3529 St. Mary's Road.

- 7,8—St. Patrick's, Scranton, parish grounds, 1400 block of Jackson St., West Scranton.
- 7, 8, 9 Nativity of Our Lord, Duryea, parish picnic grounds at Sacred Heart Church, 529 Stephenson St., Duryea.
- 8 Holy Family, Sugar Notch, church grounds, 828 Main St.
- 8,9 Good Shepherd, Drums, church grounds, 87 South Hunter Highway.
- 13, 14, 15 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Swoyersville, church grounds, 116 Hughes St.
- 14, 15, 16 Holy Name of Jesus, West Hazleton, Transfiguration Church grounds, 213 West Green St., West Hazleton.
- 28, 29 Holy Rosary, Hazleton, parish grounds, 240 South Poplar St.

AUGUST

- 10, 11, 12 St. John the Evangelist, Pittston, church grounds, Church & Broad streets.
- 11, 12, 13 SS. Anthony & Rocco, Dunmore, St. Rocco Church grounds, 122 Kurtz St., Dunmore (Bunker Hill section).
- 11, 12, 13 St. Matthew's, East Stroudsburg, church grounds, 78 Ridgeway St.
- 12 St. John Vianney, Montdale, St. Pius X Church grounds, 3615 State Route 106, Royal (Clifford Township).
- 19, 20 Queen of Heaven (St. Mauro Festival), Hazleton, parish grounds, 750 North Vine St., Hazleton.

SEPTEMBER

15, 16, 17 — St. Paul's, Scranton, church grounds, 1510 Penn Ave., Green Ridge section.



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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

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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Monsignor Bendik Celebrating Golden Jubilee

PITTSTON — Monsignor John J. Bendik, pastor of the Parish Community of St. John the Evangelist in Pittston, will celebrate the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on Sunday, May 28, when he will serve as principal celebrant of a concelebrated Golden Jubilee Mass of Thanksgiving at 3 p.m. in St. John the Evangelist Church.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, son of the late John and Helen Sterbinsky Bendik, Monsignor Bendik received his early education in Kingston public schools and graduated from the former West Central Catholic High School in 1959.

He pursued his preparatory studies for the priesthood at St. Meinrad Seminary in St. Meinrad, Indiana. In tribute to his continued commitment to his alma mater, he was awarded the Distinguished Alumnus Award by the St. Meinrad Alumni Association in 2000.

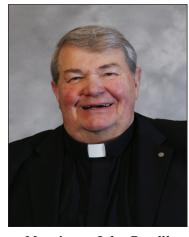
Monsignor Bendik was ordained a priest of the Diocese on May 27, 1967, by Bishop J. Carroll McCormick, sixth bishop of Scranton, at the Church of the Nativity, south Scranton. Following ordination, he was assigned to the Parish Community of St. Matthew in East Stroudsburg.

In addition to serving as assistant pastor, he ministered to the students of East Stroudsburg State College (now East Stroudsburg University) and also taught at Notre Dame High School, East Stroudsburg.

In 1970, Monsignor Bendik was named the first full-time campus minister in the Diocese to serve the East Stroudsburg college students. He remained in the position until 1981 when he was assigned as student chaplain at College Misericordia (now Misericordia University) in Dallas.

During his distinguished campus ministry career, Monsignor Bendik served in many local, state and national leadership roles, including Diocesan Director of Campus Ministry.

In 1986, Monsignor Bendik was assigned as pastor of Our Lady of the Snows Parish in Clarks Summit. During his tenure, a second parish worship site, the Church of St. Benedict, was built in Newton Township and dedicated on Dec. 8, 1991. He also was



Monsignor John Bendik

responsible for providing many new outreach ministries for the parish community, with emphasis on worship and spiritual renewal, social justice, adult religious education, youth ministry, evangelization, and stewardship.

In 1995, following sabbatical studies at St. Meinrad School of Theology, he was assigned as interim pastor of the Church of St. Mary of Czestochowa in Greenwood, Moosic. On July 8, 1996, he became pastor of the Parish Community of St. Casimir, St. John the Evangelist and St. Joseph in Pittston and, in 2005, also assumed the pastorate of nearby St. John the Baptist Parish.

Serving as pastor of the four diverse parish communities, Monsignor Bendik in 2008 successfully shepherded the combining of the congregations into one vibrant community of faith — St. John the Evangelist Parish.

During his longtime tenure as pastor in Pittston, he spearheaded the establishment of several parish ministries that have become a paradigm for service to the community, especially the underprivileged.

St. John's Care and Concern Ministries has evolved in response to the needs of the people of the Greater Pittston area. Its Free Health Clinic, since opening its doors on Nov. 7, 2007, has experienced more than 24,000 medical office visits from 4,000 individual patients. Other apostolic services based at the parish include the Greater Pittston Food Pantry, Kids Clothes Closet, Free Pediatric Clinic, "Healing Hearts" Bereavement Ministry and a Knitting Ministry that provides warm winter clothing to the less fortunate.

In addition to his parochial duties, the jubilarian serves on the

Board of Trustees of Misericordia University, Board of Regents of the University of Scranton, Board of Trustees of St. Meinrad School of Theology, and the Greater Pittston Ministerium.

On the Diocesan level, Monsignor Bendik currently serves as president of the Presbyteral Council. His many memberships on governing boards and commissions in the Diocese have included the College of Consultors to the Bishop, Board of Education, Religious Education Commission, Building Commission, Finance Council, Vocations Commission and as the first chair of the Diocesan Annual Appeal.



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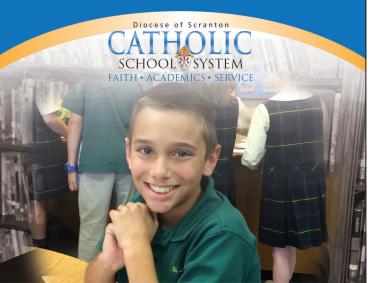


The Diocese of Scranton's website includes video of certain programs broadcast by CTV: Catholic Television. The programs include the Daily Mass from St. Peter's Cathedral, the monthly news program "Our Faith, Our Diocese" and other special programs. To watch the videos, go to www.dioceseofscranton.org. Click on 'News & Events" tab and then click on Catholic Television.

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