

Bishop Responds to Grand Jury Report

As the Catholic Church and the community at-large cope with the findings of a statewide Grand Jury investigation into child sexual abuse, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera has again expressed his apologies to any victims of abuse and sorrow for the pain they and their families have suffered, and affirmed the Diocese of Scranton's commitment to swiftly deal with any allegations of abuse and ensure safe environments for children.

The state Attorney General released the findings of the Grand Jury investigation on August 14. The report covers cases of child sexual abuse, and how the Church responded to those cases, over

a period of 70 years within six dioceses in Pennsylvania: Allentown, Erie, Greensburg, Harrisburg, Pittsburgh and Scranton.

"I offer my deepest apologies to the victims who have suffered because of past actions and decisions made by trusted clergymen, to victims' families, to the faithful of the Church, and to the community at-large," Bishop Bambera said. "No one deserves to be confronted with the behaviors described in this report. Although painful to acknowledge, it is necessary to address such abuse in order to foster a time when no child is abused and no abuser is protected."

The Bishop emphasized that the Diocese of Scranton cooperated fully with the Grand Jury because of its firm belief that child sexual abuse cannot be tolerated and must be eradicated from the Church. On the day the report was released, he held a news conference in the Diocesan Pastoral Center to discuss the report and answer questions from the media.

Now that the report has been made public, Bishop Bambera has released the list of all of the credibly accused clergy, staff and volunteers within the Diocese of Scranton. The Diocese shared the list of abusers with all 11 district attorneys

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Bishop Bambera answers questions from the media during a news conference in the Diocesan Pastoral Center on Tuesday, August 14, the day the Grand Jury report was released.

Bishop Releases List of Credibly Accused Individuals

The Diocese of Scranton has disclosed the names of all credibly accused individuals to authorities, the public and the press since 2010. In conjunction with the public release of the Grand Jury Report, Bishop Bambera has released the full list of credibly accused individuals that was provided to the Attorney General's office for their investigation and the District Attorneys for the 11 counties in which the Diocese of Scranton operates.

This list is being published as part of the Diocese of Scranton's ongoing commitment to transparency and to encourage sexual abuse victims to come forward. The list is posted on the Diocesan website: www.dioceseofscranton.org (see *Child Protection/Safe Environment* page).

The priests, religious, and lay employees named in this list have either served or resided in the Diocese of Scranton. Allegations of abuse were corroborated by secular legal proceedings, canon law proceedings, self-admission by the individual, and/or other evidence. This list diverges from the list of priest abusers included in the 40th Statewide Investigating Grand Jury Report in two main ways. First, this list includes non-clergy accuseds. Second, this list includes the names of several credibly accused abusers who were not included in the Grand Jury Report.

While the listed priests' various current statuses are listed, it should be clear that none of them are permitted to engage in any form of public ministry or to present themselves publicly as priests.

Despite the Diocese's best efforts to assure that this information is accurate and complete, this list may include errors or be incomplete. If anyone is aware of additional allegations of wrongdoing or any information that should be included on this list, please contact immediately the Victim Assistance Coordinator, Mary Beth Pacuska at (570) 862-7551, or Monsignor Thomas Muldowney, Vicar General, at (570) 207-2216.

Finally, anyone sexually abused by clergy or by anyone working on behalf of the Diocese is also encouraged to contact the Victim Assistance Coordinator.

THE DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Keeping Our Youth Safe



Following the release of the Grand Jury investigation this week, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera would like to assure the community that the safety of our children is our highest priority. Our current standards are built upon years of ongoing improvements as we constantly reevaluate and improve our procedures and policies.

HOW DO WE PROTECT OUR CHILDREN?

- All volunteers and employees must have criminal background and child abuse clearances
- Every person is trained extensively on sexual abuse prevention, reporting, victim advocacy and more
- Since 2003, we have trained more than 28,000 adults in child protection awareness
- Every child in kindergarten through 12th grade is taught how to recognize and report inappropriate behavior

HOW DO WE HANDLE ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE?

- We strictly adhere to a zero tolerance policy on abuse
- We immediately notify law enforcement of all allegations of abuse
- We notify Pennsylvania Child Line
- We remove abusers from ministry and immediately notify the parish and the public
- And we provide all necessary support to victims, knowing that the healing process can be difficult and lengthy

WHERE CAN YOU FIND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES?

- Catholic Social Services (cssdioceseofscranton.org)
- Darkness to Light (d2l.org)
- Prevent Child Abuse America (preventchildabuse.org)
- Stop It Now! (stopitnow.org)

Dear Friends,

I want to speak with you about a critical matter confronting the Diocese of Scranton and other dioceses in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Many of you are aware of the statewide Grand Jury investigation into child sexual abuse within the Catholic Church.

The Grand Jury has issued its report of findings.

While this is an uncomfortable and unsettling topic, we must speak openly and frankly about it.

First of all, none of you deserve to be confronted with the behavior described in the report. It's unsettling, tragic, – it breaks your heart.

To all of you – most especially to those of you who are victims of such heinous actions by members of the clergy – to those of you who have suffered because of misguided and inappropriate decisions of Church leaders – and to those of you who make up the blessed faithful of our Church, who are simply trying to live your lives as sincere and committed servants of the Lord – I offer my deepest apologies for such behavior and for the consequences of this tragic reality in our Church. There are simply no words that I can offer to take away the pain that this has caused.

Simply put, child sexual abuse cannot be tolerated and must be eradicated from our Church. Sadly, the Church has taken far too long to do that.

While the investigation and report represent a disturbing and painful chapter in the life of our Church, it is necessary for us to address them in order for us to move ahead in a more positive way.

The Diocese of Scranton fully supported and cooperated completely with the work of the Grand Jury.

This included providing hundreds of thousands of pages of documents covering the past 70 years and a detailed statement describing how the Diocese responds to allegations of child sexual abuse.

The Grand Jury report addresses a dark and difficult time in our 150-year history.

Many of the cases that were presented in the Grand Jury Report are not new to you, particularly those that surfaced in recent years. Some cases, however, are not known to most of you and reveal details that are quite unsettling. Compounding the disturbing nature of these cases is the fact that many of you have known and trusted one or more of these clergymen, and are now confronted with feelings of betrayal and anger.

Even more unsettling are instances where church leaders made decisions that placed children in harm's way.

You have a right to be angry. I'm angry, too. While such behavior is unacceptable in any element of society, it is particularly abhorrent in the Church, which calls us all to something better. And we have made changes to be better.

Since I became Bishop in 2010, the Diocese has implemented many changes to improve how we handle allegations of abuse.

- We strictly adhere to a zero tolerance policy on abuse.
- We immediately notify law enforcement of all allegations of abuse.
- We notify Pennsylvania Child Line.
- We remove abusers from ministry and immediately notify the parish and the public.
- And we provide all necessary support to victims, knowing that the healing process can be difficult and lengthy.

To demonstrate our commitment to transparency, long before we were made aware of the Grand Jury, we provided a comprehensive list of all accused members of the clergy and their current status to every District Attorney in each of our 11 counties.

Now, while properly handling such allegations is critical, our utmost goal is stopping abuse altogether and protecting the children in our Diocese.

- All volunteers and employees must have criminal background and child abuse clearances.
- Every person is trained extensively on sexual abuse prevention, reporting, victim advocacy and more.

- Since 2003, we have trained more than 28,000 adults in child protection awareness.
- We also teach our children in grades K-12 how to recognize and report inappropriate behavior.

Once again, as your bishop, I am deeply sorry for the hurt that this scandal has brought to our church and, like you, I grieve for the victims who have suffered.

While much good work has been and continues to be done through the generous and faithful service of so many of our clergy, it is understandable that this report is both disturbing and painful for you, and especially to the victims who have suffered so much. I would hope that your trust in the Church can be restored at some point. I know that takes time and only happens when you encounter behavior on the part of our clergy – bishops, priests and deacons alike – that warrants such trust.

Our faith in Jesus promises us that the crosses of this world, no matter how painful, always give way to life, hope and peace.

While none of us can change the past, I pray that we learn from it in order to create a better world in the parishes and schools that make up the Diocese of Scranton. I will continue to do all that I can to ensure the safety and well-being of our children and to lead a Church that once again enables you to trust, to have hope and to find peace.

Thank you. And God bless you.

† *Joseph C. Bambera*

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

(This message in video form has been provided to all parishes to be shown at all weekend Masses in the Diocese. The video can also be viewed on the Diocesan website at www.dioceseofscranton.org from the homepage or the Child Protection/Safe Environment page. It has also been posted to Bishop Bambera's Twitter page and the Diocesan Facebook and Twitter pages.)

Queridos amigos,

Quiero hablar con usted acerca de un asunto crítico que se enfrenta a la diócesis de Scranton y otras diócesis en el estado de Pennsylvania.

Muchos de ustedes ya conocen de la investigación del gran jurado estatal sobre el abuso sexual infantil dentro de la iglesia católica.

El gran jurado ha emitido su informe de hallazgos.

Si bien, este es un tema incómodo e inquietante, debemos hablar abierta y francamente al respecto.

En primer lugar, ninguno de ustedes merecen ser enfrentado con el comportamiento descrito en el informe. Es inquietante, trágico, – te rompe el corazón.

A todos ustedes – especialmente a aquellos de ustedes que son víctimas de tales acciones atroces por parte de algunos miembros del clero – a aquellos de ustedes que han sufrido debido a decisiones equivocadas e inapropiadas de líderes de la iglesia – y a aquellos de ustedes que conforman los benditos fieles de la Iglesia, que simplemente está tratando de vivir sus vidas como siervos sinceros y comprometidos del Señor – ofrezco mis más profundas disculpas por este comportamiento y por las consecuencias de esta trágica realidad en nuestra iglesia. Simplemente no hay palabras que puedo ofrecer para quitar el dolor que esto ha causado.

En pocas palabras, el abuso sexual de los niños no puede ser tolerado y debe ser erradicado de nuestra iglesia. Lamentablemente, la iglesia ha tardado demasiado en hacerlo.

Mientras que la investigación y el informe representan un capítulo inquietante y doloroso en la vida de nuestra iglesia, es necesario que confrontemos este asunto para continuar hacia adelante de una manera más positiva.

La diócesis de Scranton apoyó y cooperó completamente con el trabajo del gran jurado.

Esto incluyó proporcionar cientos de miles de páginas de documentos que cubrió los últimos 70 años y una declaración detallada que describía cómo la diócesis respondió a las alegaciones de abuso sexual infantil.

El informe del gran jurado aborda un momento oscuro y difícil en nuestra historia de 150 años.

Muchos de los casos que fueron presentado en el informe del gran jurado no son nuevos para usted, en particular los que surgieron en los últimos años. Algunos casos, sin embargo, no son conocidos por la mayoría de ustedes y revelar detalles que son bastante inquietantes. Agravando la naturaleza inquietante de estos casos es el hecho de que muchos de ustedes han conocido y confiado en uno o más de estos clérigos, y ahora se enfrentan a sentimientos de traición y enojo.

Aún más inquietantes son los casos en que los líderes de la iglesia toman decisiones que ponen a los niños en peligro. Ustedes tienen el derecho de estar enojado. Yo también estoy enojado. Si bien este comportamiento es inaceptable en cualquier elemento de la sociedad, es particularmente aborrecible en la iglesia, lo que nos llama a todos a algo mejor. Y hemos hecho cambios para ser mejores.

Desde que me convertí en obispo en 2010, la diócesis ha implementado muchos cambios para mejorar la forma en que manejamos las acusaciones de abuso.

- Nos adherimos estrictamente a una política de cero tolerancia al abuso.
- Notificamos inmediatamente a la policía todas las alegaciones de abuso.
- Notificamos a Pennsylvania Child line.
- Removemos inmediatamente de ministerio al abusador/a y notificamos la parroquia y el público.
- Y proporcionamos todo el apoyo necesario a las víctimas, sabiendo que el proceso de curación puede ser difícil y largo.

Para demostrar nuestro compromiso con la transparencia, mucho antes de que nos hicieran conscientes del gran jurado, proporcionamos una lista completa de todos los miembros acusados del clero y sus estado actual a cada fiscal de distrito en cada uno de nuestros 11 condados.

Ahora, si bien el manejo correcto de tales alegaciones es crítico, nuestro objetivo máximo es detener el abuso por completo y proteger a los niños en nuestra diócesis.

Todos los voluntarios y empleados deben tener un cotejo de antecedentes criminales y declaración, libre de abuso de menores.

Cada persona es sometido a entrenamiento extensivo en la prevención del abuso sexual, la divulgación, la defensa de la víctima y más.

- Desde 2003, hemos entrenado a más de 28.000 adultos en la competencia de la protección de los niños.
- También enseñamos a nuestros niños en los grados K-12 Cómo reconocer y reportar comportamientos inapropiados.

Una vez más, como su obispo, lamento profundamente el dolor que este escándalo ha traído a nuestra iglesia y, como usted, me entristecen las víctimas que han sufrido.

Si bien el buen trabajo ha sido y sigue haciéndose a través del servicio generoso y fiel de muchos de nuestros clérigos, es comprensible que este informe sea inquietante y doloroso para usted, y especialmente para las víctimas que han sufrido tanto. Espero que su confianza en la Iglesia pueda ser restaurada en algún momento. Sé que lleva tiempo y sólo sucede cuando uno se encuentra con un comportamiento por parte de nuestro clero – obispos, sacerdotes y diáconos por igual – que garantiza esa confianza.

Nuestra fe en Jesús nos promete que las cruces de este mundo, no importa cuán dolorosas, siempre dan paso a la vida, la esperanza y la paz.

Mientras que ninguno de nosotros puede cambiar el pasado, rezo para que aprendamos de él con el fin de crear un mundo mejor en las parroquias y escuelas que conforman la diócesis de Scranton. Seguiré haciendo todo lo que pueda para asegurar la seguridad y el bienestar de nuestros hijos y dirigir una iglesia que una vez más le permita confiar, tener esperanza y encontrar la paz.

Gracias. Y que Dios los bendiga.

† *Joseph C. Bambera*

El Reverendo Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., canónico
Obispo de Scranton

(este mensaje en forma de video ha sido proporcionado a todas las parroquias para ser mostrado en todas las Misas de fin de semana en la diócesis. El video también puede ser visto en el sitio web diocesano en www.dioceseofscranton.org desde la página de inicio o la pagina de protección del niño/entorno seguro. También ha sido enviado a Bishop Bambera Página de Twitter y las páginas de Facebook y Twitter diocesanos.)

Church must address its leaders' 'moral failures of judgment'

WASHINGTON (CNS) – Archbishop Theodore E. McCarrick “will rightly face” a Vatican canonical process regarding sexual abuse allegations against him, but the U.S. Catholic Church must take steps to respond to church leaders’ “moral failures of judgment,” said the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The accusations

against Archbishop McCarrick, a former cardinal and retired archbishop of Washington, “reveal a grievous moral failure within the church,” said Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston.

“They cause bishops anger, sadness, and shame; I know they do in me,” he said in an Aug. 1 statement. “They compel bishops to ask, as I do, what more could

have been done to protect the people of God. Both the abuses themselves, and the fact that they have remained undisclosed for decades, have caused great harm to people’s lives and represent grave moral failures of judgment on the part of church leaders.”

To determine a course of action for the USCCB to take, Cardinal DiNardo said he convened the bishops’

Executive Committee.

“This meeting was the first of many among bishops that will extend into our Administrative Committee meeting in September and our general assembly in November,” he explained. “All of these discussions will be oriented toward discerning the right course of action for the USCCB.”

Such work will “take some time,” but he laid out

four points to be acted upon immediately:

- He encouraged each bishop in their diocese “to respond with compassion and justice to anyone who has been sexually abused or harassed by anyone in the church. We should do whatever we can to accompany them.”

- He urged anyone who has experienced sexual assault or harassment by anyone in the church to come forward. “Where the incident may rise to the level of a crime, please also contact local law enforcement.”

- The USCCB “will pursue the many questions surrounding Archbishop McCarrick’s conduct to the full extent of its authority; and where that authority finds its limits, the conference will advocate with those who do have the authority. One way or the other, we are determined to find the truth in this matter.”

- “Finally, we bishops recognize that a spiritual conversion is needed as we seek to restore the right relationship among us and with the Lord. Our church is suffering from a crisis of sexual morality. The way forward must involve learning from past sins.”

Cardinal DiNardo said the failures of judgment by church leaders in the case of Archbishop McCarrick “raise serious questions.”

“Why weren’t these allegations of sins against chastity and human dignity disclosed when they were first brought to church officials?” he asked. “Why wasn’t this egregious situation addressed decades sooner and with justice? What must our seminaries do to protect the freedom to discern a priestly vocation without being subject to misuse of power?”

In conclusion, he asked all to “pray for God’s wisdom and strength for renewal as we follow Saint Paul’s instruction: ‘Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.’”

On July 28, Pope Francis accepted the resignation from the College of Cardinals of then-Cardinal McCarrick and ordered him to maintain “a life of prayer and penance” until a canonical trial examines accusations that he sexually abused minors.

Chilean bishops acknowledge failures in handling abuse cases

SANTIAGO, Chile (CNS) – Chile’s bishops acknowledged they had “failed to fulfill our duty by not listening, believing, attending or accompanying the victims of grave sins” after a five-day meeting to discuss the clergy sexual abuse crisis rocking the country.

Bishop Santiago Silva of the Military Diocese of Chile, president of the bishops’ conference, also apologized to abuse survivors for the bishops’ failure to “react in time to the painful sexual abuse and abuse of power and authority” as the general assembly concluded Aug. 3 in Punta de Tralca on the Pacific Coast.

He outlined a series of steps the bishops would take as they released “Declaration, Decisions and Commitments of the Bishops Conference of Chile,” a set of national guidelines for responding to abuse

allegations. The guidelines were developed during the assembly.

Besides asking for forgiveness, the bishops expressed their “repentance” to those who have accompanied the victims: “to their families, to those who have made responsible efforts to seek justice, reparation and purification, and to the hundreds of consecrated persons and laypeople who are daily witnesses to the love, mercy and redemption of Christ and who are affected in their ministry because of errors, sins and crimes committed.”

Among the decisions reached, the bishops said they would collaborate with public officials in releasing information about the sexual abuse of minors. In the past, the church has been accused of covering up or withholding information.

The bishops also con-



Bishop Santiago Silva of the Military Diocese of Chile, president of the Chilean bishops’ conference, right, and Auxiliary Bishop Fernando Ramos, apostolic administrator of Rancagua, Chile, participate in a press conference after the 116th Extraordinary Plenary Assembly of the Episcopal Conference in Punta de Tralca, Chile, Aug. 3.

firmed that all previous investigations of alleged sexual abuse of minors carried out in their jurisdictions will be disclosed.

Every Chilean bishop in May offered his resignation to

Pope Francis after a three-day meeting at the Vatican to discuss the clerical sexual abuse scandal. To date, the pope has accepted the resignations of five bishops.

Response to Grand Jury report

Continued from page 1 within the Diocese in 2016 before it knew of the investigation, and then with the Grand Jury as part of the investigation. This is the complete list of names supplied to the Attorney General. It is posted on the Diocesan website: www.dioceseofscranton.org (Child Protection/Safe Environment Page).

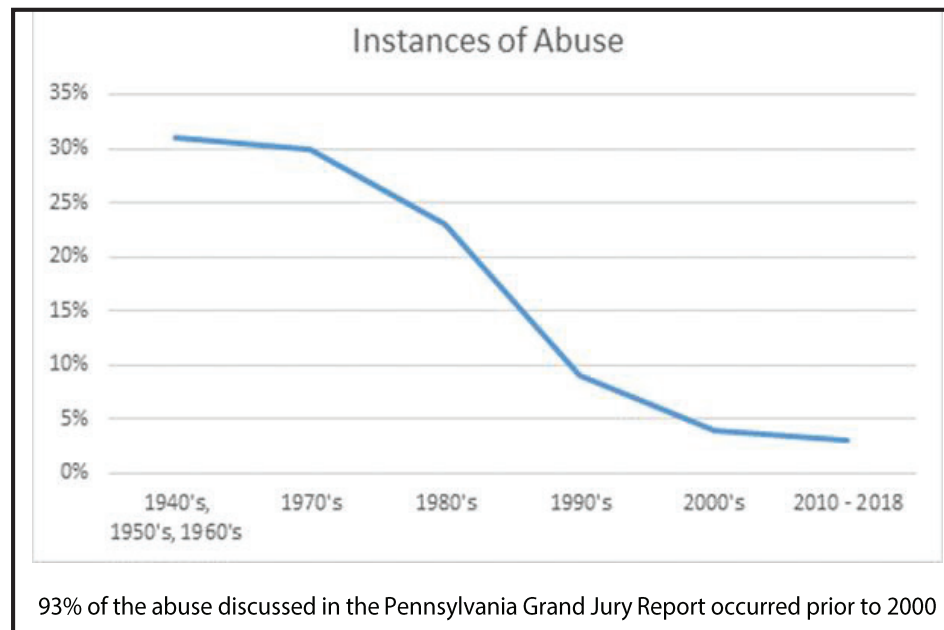
In response to the report, Bishop Bambera recorded a video message that has been provided to all parishes to be shown at all Masses in the Diocese this weekend. The video can also be viewed on the Diocesan website, and it has been posted to Bishop Bambera’s Twitter page and the Diocesan Facebook and

Twitter pages. (The text of the message is printed on page 2.)

For well over a decade, Bishop Bambera noted, ongoing improvements have been made to the manner in which abuse allegations are addressed. The Diocese of Scranton adheres to a strict zero tolerance policy, immediately informing law enforcement and removing the accused from the community when allegations are brought forth. And while properly handling allegations is critical, the ultimate goal of such efforts is to stop abuse altogether. (A summary of these efforts can be found on page 3; more detailed information is on the Diocesan website

– Child Protection/Safe Environment Page.)

In his video message to the faithful of the Diocese, the Bishop acknowledges that “while much good work has been and continues to be done through the generous and faithful service of so many of our clergy, it is understandable that this report is both disturbing and painful for you, and especially to the victims who have suffered so much. I would hope that your trust in the Church can be restored at some point. I know that takes time and only happens when you encounter behavior on the part of our clergy – bishops, priests and deacons alike – that



warrants such trust.”

While none of us can change the past, Bishop Bambera says, “I pray that we learn from it in order

to create a better world in the parishes and schools that make up the Diocese of Scranton. I will continue to do all that I can to ensure

the safety and well-being of our children and to lead a Church that once again enables you to trust, to have hope and to find peace.”

Diocesan Secretary of Catholic Education/Chief Operating Officer Position Created; Bishop Bambera Appoints Jason Morrison to Serve in This New Role

Bishop Bambera has created a new position, Diocesan Secretary of Catholic Education/Chief Operating Officer, to focus on the long-term sustainability and growth of the Diocesan Catholic Schools. He has appointed Jason Morrison to serve in the position, effective August 20.

In this new position, Jason's primary responsibilities include financial stability (including tuition and associated issues), enrollment growth, fund-raising, and other related duties.

Jason will be collaborating with Monsignor David L. Tressler, who will continue to serve as Diocesan Superintendent of Schools and has the responsibility for the Catholic identity of our schools and our educational programs.

"Catholic education in the Diocese has been a vital part of our Catholic heritage since the last quarter of the 19th century. We have undertaken this restruc-



Jason Morrison

turing to help assure the continued excellence and sustainability of our schools well into the future," Bishop Bambera said.

"Through his previous association with the Diocese and his professional experience, Jason is well suited to assume this important responsibility."

Jason served as Diocesan Secretary of Development from

2011 to 2013, after which he joined the Healey Education Foundation, first as Regional Director and then as Vice President of Operations. In that capacity, he consulted on a nationwide basis with Catholic school system leadership to address the many challenges and opportunities of the current environment in Catholic education.

During his tenure there, he not only provided direct service to elementary schools and high schools, but also oversaw regional growth in the Diocese of Allentown, the Archdiocese of Saint Paul-Minneapolis and the Diocese of Wilmington.

Additionally, he influenced enhancements to the methodology and broadened the Foundation's expertise in the areas of governance and strategic planning, and most recently assisted in the development of a new vision and strategic

direction for the Foundation.

He brings this very specific strategic and operational expertise to his new role with our Diocesan schools.

"I am humbled and honored to have the opportunity to assume this leadership position for the Catholic schools in the Diocese of Scranton," Jason said. "For generations, Catholic schools have served the unique mission of providing an educational environment that transforms the whole child – mind, body and spirit. To fulfill this promise, we will work in partnership with the team of committed educators, families, students and alumni to not only

achieve excellence, but also provide opportunities that are affordable and accessible."

Jason has also served as Executive Director of the Lackawanna Bar Association, Director of Stewardship and Donor Relations at the University of Scranton, and Director of Alumni at Scranton Preparatory School.

He received a bachelor's degree from Villanova University and an MBA from Saint Joseph's University.

He resides in Clarks Summit with his wife and two children (ages 7 and 3). The family belongs to Saint Gregory Parish and their daughter is a student at Our Lady of Peace School.

Closing Mass for Saint Ann Novena

Bishop Bambera celebrated the Closing Mass for the Novena on July 26, the Feast of Saint Ann. He is pictured here blessing a pilgrim with the relic.

The Catholic Light Photos
/Mike Melisky



This year's guest preachers, Father Donald Ware, CP, and Father Michael Rowe, CP, share a fraternal fist bump as the assembly acknowledges their efforts.

CLERGY APPOINTMENTS

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

ADMINISTRATOR

Reverend Peter Tran, from Senior Priest, Christ the King Parish, Archbald, to Administrator, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Wyalusing, effective August 20, 2018.

ASSISTANT PASTOR

Reverend Dominic Obour, from Priest in Residence, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Wyalusing, to Assistant Pastor, Christ the King Parish, Archbald, effective August 20, 2018.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Reverend Marek Wasilewski, from Assistant Pastor, Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Honesdale, to Leave of Absence, effective, July 25, 2018.

RETIREMENT FOR REASONS OF HEALTH

Reverend John J. Kulavich, from Chaplain, Mercy Center, Dallas, to retirement for reasons of health, effective July 31, 2018.



BISHOP BAMBERA'S SCHEDULE

August 19 – 2019 World Youth Day Meeting, 3:00 p.m.

August 21 – Diocesan Catholic Schools Principals Meeting, 9:00 a.m.

August 26 – Mass – Church of Saint Gregory Expansion Project Groundbreaking, 10:00 a.m.

August 30 – Mass – Feast of Saint Jeanne Jugan, Holy Family Residence Chapel, Scranton, 11:00 a.m.

'He restores our soul'

Charismatic Conference gathers faithful from near and far

Spirit-filled faithful again convened here for the 36th annual Catholic Charismatic Conference held August 3-5 at the University of Scranton. Conducted by the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the Diocese of Scranton, the event drew more than 1,700 people from this area and beyond for several days of worship and inspirational presentations.

According to new conference coordinator Karen McLain, participants came from various locations, including Canada, New York, Florida, Indiana and Maryland.

"It was a wonderful conference," she said. "We were very blessed to have our three bishops with us (over the course of the weekend)."

Referring to the conference theme, "...He restores my soul," she added: "God did that for lots of people."

Bishop Bambera celebrated the Mass on Saturday and posed a question: How do we best keep close to the Lord? Then he offered an answer:

"Take a look at all that is being offered to you during these days: opportunities for prayer – teachings on the Word of God and the life of the Spirit in Church – fellowship with brothers and sisters who remind us always that where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in their midst – and the sacramental life of the Church, found particularly in the Sacrament of Penance, where we are given a way forward through the forgiveness of our sins, and of course, the Eucharist in and through which we are united with the very life of Jesus."

The Bishop noted there is something else that keeps us close to Jesus, something else that, when present, assures us that we are on the way to living as Jesus calls us to live – that we are willing to pay the price for what it means to be authentic disciples.

"Do you recall the words of Pope Francis during his inaugural Mass, when he challenged us to see authentic power in the Church as being rooted in Jesus' example of service of our sisters and brothers?" Bishop Bambera asked. "Those words mirror Jesus' invitation to his disciples and to each of us. ... Serve. ... Give of your lives selflessly as Jesus did, if you seek to be his followers."

The Catholic Light Photos/Mary Beth Roberts



Bishop Bambera presents a plaque to Bob Valiante in recognition of his 35 years of service as coordinator of the annual conference. Also pictured is Bob's daughter Maria and wife Sue. While Bob has retired from his role of conference coordinator, he remains the Bishop's liaison to the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the Diocese.

Pilgrimage to National Shrine Approaching

**DIocese of SCRANTON 150th ANNIVERSARY PILGRIMAGE
 TO THE BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
 SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2018**



Another milestone on the year-long celebration of the Diocese of Scranton's 150th Anniversary will be reached on Saturday, September 22, when Bishop Joseph C. Bambera leads a pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

Buses will begin to depart from various locations between 5:30-6:00 a.m., with Morning Prayer recited during the ride. Arrival is estimated at 11:00 a.m. and Father Andrew HvozdoVIC, Diocesan Director of Pilgrimages, will welcome the pilgrims in the Upper Church at noon.

The afternoon proceeds in the Upper Church with a Tour of Faith and Rosary for World Peace, followed by free time for lunch, touring and private prayer from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

There will be opportunity for Confession at 2:00 p.m. in the Crypt Church. Pilgrims will gather at 3:00 p.m. in the Upper Church to prepare for a Pontifical Mass at 3:15 p.m. with Bishop Bambera as principal celebrant and homilist.

Buses will depart from the National Shrine at 4:45 p.m. and Evening Prayer will be said at 5:30 p.m.

RESPONSE IS NEEDED FROM PARTICIPATING PARISHES BY AUGUST 31 – options include:

* If your parish has a large delegation, you may reserve a full bus to depart from your parish site – the fee of \$2,750 reserves a 55-passenger bus, and you would still collect the individual fee of \$55 from at least 50 passengers.

* If your parish prefers to make and pay for your own bus arrangements, please let us know – we will still include you in the pilgrimage – and the nominal fee of \$5 per person will offset the other costs of hosting the pilgrimage, and the pilgrim journal for each person.

* If your parish has a smaller delegation, send in the names and \$55 fee per person, and we will see that you are included in a bus departing from a school or church site nearest to you.

For additional information and/or to register your parish delegation, contact the Office for Parish Life, attention: Nancy 570-207-2213.

Information Sessions for Lay Ministry Formation

Pastors, Parish Life Coordinators, and Parish Lay Leaders are invited to take part in informational sessions with Kitty Scanlan, Coordinator for Lay Ministry Formation, to learn how the Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry formation program, and other resources of "OPL," can benefit and grow the leadership of your faith community. There will also be opportunity to meet team member, Katy Windel, Coordinator for SERVICE and Social Justice! Sessions will be held on the following dates:

Wednesday, August 22: 7:00pm-8:30pm, Our Lady of Victory, Tannersville

Thursday, August 23: 7:00pm-8:30pm, Holy Name of Jesus, W. Hazleton

Tuesday, August 28: 7:00pm-8:30pm, St. Ann's, Williamsport

Wednesday, August 29: 7:00pm-8:30pm, St. Leo's, Ashley

Thursday, August 30: 7:00pm-8:30pm, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Wyalusing

If you do not see an existing date that fits your schedule, let us know if you would like to host an additional session for your parish leaders!

Contact the Office for Parish Life, at 570-207-2213, for you and your parish leaders to sign up to attend these informational sessions!

BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
 AMERICA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Pilgrimage Cost: \$55/person + lunch
Register through your parish
For more information, call:
Office for Parish Life
570-207-2213

6:00 a.m. Buses begin to depart from various locations
9:30 a.m. Morning prayer on individual buses
11:00 a.m. Arrival at the Basilica of the National Shrine
12:00 p.m. Welcome in the Upper Church, Fr. HvozdoVIC
12:10 p.m. Tour of Faith - Upper Church – National Shrine Director of Pilgrimages
12:30 p.m. Rosary for World Peace - Upper Church
1:00-3:00 p.m. FREE TIME for lunch, touring, private prayer
2:00 p.m. Confession opportunity in the Crypt Church
3:00 p.m. Gather in the Upper Church to prepare for Mass
3:15 p.m. Pontifical Mass
 The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L.,
 Bishop of Scranton, Celebrant and Homilist
4:45 p.m. Buses depart National Shrine
5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer on individual buses
10:30 p.m. Approximate return time to point of departure

Up & Over
MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT

SEPTEMBER 28-30 2018

Camp Orchard Hill
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 Grades 6-8

The Up & Over Jr. High School Retreat is a weekend of fun, friendship, and faith for 6th – 8th grade students 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! There will also be a number of fun activities and events, including a movie, free time and an outdoor obstacle course. Come and join us for an outstanding experience. You will have a great time, meet new friends and come closer to God who loves you!

Registration includes cabin lodging, delicious home cooked meals, a t-shirt and unforgettable memories!

ARRIVAL: Friday, September 28, at 7:00 p.m.

DEPARTURE: Sunday, September 30, at 12:00 Noon

COST: \$140 (which includes a \$70 non-refundable deposit)
Some parishes help with the cost, so don't be afraid to ask!

Deadline to register is September 21, 2018 – **Register online at www.dioceseofscranton.org** Call Shannon Kowalski at 570-207-2213 x 1155 with questions or for more information.

FOUNDATION OF FAITH

Mass celebrated at first church built in Diocese

Standing on the shoulders of all who have gone before – you have sustained the faith and continued to build the Kingdom of God in this corner of the Diocese of Scranton.

With that salutation, Bishop Bambera greeted the worshippers who filled the historic Saint Augustine Church in Silver Lake, Susquehanna County, on August 5 for a Sunday Mass in the space on which the first church in the Diocese was built 193 years ago.

The liturgy was another special occasion marking the Diocese's year-long Sesquicentennial Celebration.

In his homily, the Bishop said the earliest settlers in our region of this great land knew implicitly that if the faith they cherished was ever to grow, *they* would be the ones responsible for carrying out the Church's mission in northeastern and north central Pennsylvania.

This reality, he noted, was clearly evident beginning in 1793 – just 17 years after the founding of the United States – when a French colony was established on the banks of the Susquehanna River between Wyalusing and Towanda – just about 35 miles from where we gather today. Within that colony was found the first verifiable presence of the Catholic faith

in what is now the Diocese of Scranton.

Thirty-two years later in 1825, an Irish-born missionary priest by the name of Father Jeremiah Francis O'Flynn used his own savings to purchase the land on which the first Catholic church within the territory of what we now know as the Diocese of Scranton would be built. While a fire destroyed the original church, it is by the grace of God "that we can proudly affirm this day that the Eucharist has been celebrated on this plot of ground for over 193 years – beginning 43 years before the Diocese of Scranton was founded. What a blessing and gift we've been given in this community of faith. And look at how God has worked and all that has emerged from the tiny seeds of faith that were planted in this corner of God's kingdom."

The Bishop recounted how, from the



Claire and Bernie Griffin were the gift bearers.



The year-long celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Diocese of Scranton continued on August 5 with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Bambera in the historic Saint Augustine Church in Silver Lake, Susquehanna County – which in 1825 was the first church to be built in the territory of Pennsylvania that would become the Diocese of Scranton in 1868.

time that Father O'Flynn first settled in Susquehanna County, the fledgling Church in northeastern and north central Pennsylvania began to grow – so much so that missionary priests from the Diocese of Philadelphia and several religious congregations traveled to this region of Pennsylvania to serve the People of God until the founding of the Diocese in 1868.

"Much can and should be said about the selfless service of the clergy and religious who laid a solid foundation of faith for this blessed local Church of Scranton. Yet, no matter how heroic or selfless, each of them was only able to fulfill the work entrusted to their care because of the commitment of the faithful souls they served – souls who had been touched by the mercy and love of God and who realized that they too – in their own way – were responsible for proclaiming the good news of the gospel," Bishop Bambera said.

"My friends, those faithful souls are like all of you, who understand that even and particularly today, it is your responsibility – just as much as it is mine – to build the Church – the body of Christ – and to be his hands and voice and heart to a world so much in need of God's grace.

"My sisters and brothers – may this blessed anniversary year of celebration and remembrance serve as a time of renewal for each



***In the Hoofsteps of History* – Like his predecessors of long ago, including founding pastor Father Jeremiah Francis O'Flynn and pioneer Bishop Saint John Neumann, Bishop Bambera traveled the final portion of the trip to the church by horse and carriage, driven by Al Fargnoli, and accompanied by the current pastor, Father Casimir Stanis.**

of us who are called to make the mission of Jesus our own. Just like the first missionaries who traveled to our eleven counties in times that were different but just as challenging as our own, we too have the responsibility to build Church."

After the Mass, parishioners and guests honored another tradition that dates to the very beginning of Saint Augustine Church – the annual chicken barbecue.



Before the Mass, Bishop Bambera prayed at the grave of Father Jeremiah Francis O'Flynn, founding pastor of Saint Augustine Church in 1825.

Father Ronald J. Hughes

In a week or so, local cross country teams will begin preparing for a new season. Cross country is the one sport that parents really cannot watch — the kids run through wooded areas over three miles. But that really doesn't matter anyway. The fact of the matter is that everybody gathers at the same place — the finish line. That's what everybody cares about — the finish line (and) who gets there first.

Isn't that how life works, too. We all care a lot about the finish line. I wish I could erase that line, but I cannot. I wish I could delay it, but I won't. I wish I could at least predict it, but I dare not try. I just know it is there somewhere in front of me. Someday, I will die.

But... we know something special, something sacred. The finish line isn't the end at all. As the oft-used preface for this Mass tells us, "Life is changed, not ended." See, we are Christians. As Christians we have a different view.

We're not here because Father Hughes has died, but because Jesus died, and in so doing opened... a way to eternal life.

Just as the cross-country runner often staggers to the finish line, Jesus himself staggered and fell on his way to Calvary. But he carried his cross boldly — all because of his love for us — and destroyed the power of death. When Jesus says, "It's finished," he is right — DEATH is finished. It is Satan who is in tears on Calvary because Satan knows he has finally met his match — Jesus Christ!

We are a people of hope — hope for eternal life where there is no finish line. Today, we pray our dear friend and brother priest, Father Ron Hughes, into eternal life.

Listen to the hopeful feel of today's readings: "The souls of the just are in the hand of God and no torment can touch them." "They are in peace!" Because we believe they are in peace, we are not in pieces — not at all.

Yes, we hurt over the loss of a friend and for Billy, a natural brother, and for Kathy, a sister-in-law. In the gospel, Jesus reminds us that "I am going to prepare for you" and then he will come back to take us to himself. For the Christian, natural grief gives way to a longing to go home to be with God forever.

If we embrace the Christian understanding of death, then we can look back over a person's life with fond memories. Father Ron and I go back a long way — all the way back to Saint Pius X Seminary. But it was his early years in the priesthood that really impacted me. I was impressed with the time he spent with the teens from Valley View High School. He made himself a fixture at athletic events and made himself approachable for the teens.

I learned a lot from this. The fish do not jump into the boat; you have to go find them.

Interestingly, just this past Wednesday night I was at the Dream Game — at Valley View Stadium — along with 7,200 other fans. Of those, 99 percent (were) teens. I could imagine Father Ron sitting in the stands watching the game. The outcome of the game was irrelevant; his presence was important.

I also learned a lot from Father Ron about rectory living. Like many of our generation, he didn't always have the easiest assignments early on. Many of the priests of my generation found ourselves assigned with older men who hadn't heard about the Vatican Council. You had to learn to deal with this natural tension, and Father Ron helped me to do that. I respected and appreciated it a great deal.

Hence it was so sad when Father Ron's health became such an issue. Life was not fair to him... not at all. But God was fair and helpful. He received a lot of help trying to cure his maladies. I know he appreciated this, as did his family.

As things only progressed, we would speak often of how you have to turn sickness into true suffering — something where you can sense God's healing touch. Eventually, I think Father Ron understood that his high rise or nursing home was his new parish. The room he was "assigned" became his chapel, and the wheelchair his altar. It is amazing how God works.

Many cross-county races end where they begin. We do the same: Father Ron was baptized on February 14, 1954, at Christ the King Parish. I imagine the first place he went was to church for that sacrament. Here we are — in church — at the end of his life.

Let us pray our brother into eternal life this day.

Excerpted from the homily by Father Cyril D. Edwards, V.E., at the Mass of Christian Burial celebrated for Father Ronald J. Hughes on July 20 at Saint Mary of Mount Carmel Church in Dunmore.



Prayer Requests for Priests

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

August 16, Father Joseph Adonizio;
August 17, Holy Cross Father Genaro Aguilar;
August 18, Saint Peter Priestly Fraternity Father Zachary Akers;
August 19, Father Patrick Albert;
August 20, Father John Albosta;

August 21, Father James Alco; August 22, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera; August 23, Monsignor Thomas Banick; August 24, Father David Bechtel; August 25, Father Richard Beck; August 26, Saint Joseph Oblate Father Mariusz Beczek; August 27, Monsignor Francis Beeda; August 28, Jesuit Father John Begley; August 29, Monsignor John Bendik.



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Diocese of Scranton
DIOCESAN
ANNUAL APPEAL

Volume 118 Number 11 — Thursday, August 16, 2018

Seminarians gather to reflect and relax

Rite of Candidacy celebrated for four men

The annual summer gathering for Diocesan seminarians was held last week at the Jesuit Retreat Center at Chapman Lake in Scott Township. It brought together our current seminarians, as well as those who will begin formation this fall.

Over the course of three days, the men were able to pray together, have conversation and enjoy some relaxation after a busy summer, including for some a 10-week experience serving in a parish. Assistant vocation directors, pastors, and several men who are discerning a vocation participated. Family and friends were also present for a portion of the gathering.

“This is an opportunity to bring all of our seminarians together before they resume their studies,” said Father Don Williams, Diocesan Director of Vocations and Seminarians. “It helps to build fraternity as they prepare for another year in the seminary.”

During the gathering, on August 8, Bishop Bambera celebrated a Mass and the Rite of Candidacy for four of the men: Bernie Gardzalla, Jonathan Kuhar, Kevin Miller and Shawn Simchock. Candidacy marks a seminarian’s public announcement of his intention to be ordained and the Church’s acceptance of him as a candidate for Holy Orders, affirming that his vocation is authentic and he possesses the qualities necessary for the ordained ministry.

The Bishop reminded that Jesus depends upon all of us – “and especially

you, Jonathan, Shawn, Kevin and Bernie – to be his voice – his hands – his heart.

“You are being asked to make a radical decision today – a decision framed by the Word of God that challenges all of the baptized and particularly you, as you seek a share in the sacrament of Holy Orders. You are being given the opportunity to deepen your resolve to follow the Lord Jesus and to serve the People of God. Just as the first disciples, you have been chosen for this role.”

With this formal recognition of your candidacy, Bishop Bambera told them, “you enter into a new and deeper phase of formation to prepare you for the singular seal of the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Holy Orders. ... *Your openness to the call to serve the Church* demands that you come to know well that you cannot succeed in this way of life apart from the grace of God. ... *Your openness to the call to serve the Church* also demands a continual letting go of your own ego, needs, interests and control in order to imitate Jesus – who washed the feet of his friends in humble service of their needs and then commands all who hear his words, ‘As I have done, so you must do.’ We’d all do well never to forget those words. Our prayer today is that you make these words your own!”

Please continue to pray for our seminarians as they start a new semester of seminary formation.



Four seminarians received the Rite of Candidacy at a Mass celebrated by Bishop Bambera during the gathering. From left: Shawn Simchock, Bernie Gardzalla, the Bishop, Jonathan Kuhar, Kevin Miller.

Family and friends participated in the liturgy and a cookout that concluded the gathering.

The Catholic Light Photos/ Mike Melisky



The retreat center by the lake offered an ideal setting for the gathering.

Seminarians at the summer gathering with Bishop Bambera. Pictured, with their parishes noted, front row from left: Jan Carlo Perez, Saint Matthew, East Stroudsburg; Bernie Gardzalla, Saint Faustina Kowalska, Nanticoke; Marc Phillips, Saint Maria Goretti, Laffin; Michael Boris, Saint Andre Bessette, Wilkes-Barre; Bishop Bambera; William Asinari, Saint John the Evangelist, Honesdale; Andrew McCarroll, Saint Robert Bellarmine, Wilkes-Barre; Christopher Kircher, Saint John Neumann, Lords Valley. Back row: Kevin Miller, Saint Nicholas, Wilkes-Barre; Mark DeCelles, Immaculate Conception, Scranton; Shawn Simchock, Queen of Heaven, Hazleton; Mark Watrucki, Saint John, East Stroudsburg; Jonathan Kuhar, Saint Jude, Mountain Top.





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Seminarians attending and assisting at the Golf Classic shown with Bishop Joseph Bambera are, from left, Marc Phillips, Christopher Kircher, Andrew McCarroll, William Asinari, Bernard Gardzalla, Kevin Miller, Michael Boris, Jonathan Kuhar, Shawn Simchock and Mark DeCelles. Not pictured are Mark Watrucki and Jan Carlo Perez.

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Tournament sponsor Sally A. Spudis, center, with Father Donald Williams, Director of Vocations and Seminarians, and Bishop Bambera.

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Sandy Orlando and Mary Lou & David Glassberg chat with Bishop Bambara.



Vinny O'Bell, Tom Hendrian and Davie Price with Bishop Bambara.



With Bishop Bambara are Jake and Michael Brown, Ryan Brown and Paddy Casey.



The St. John Neumann Knights of Columbus Foursome with Bishop Bambara are, from left, Bob D'Elia, Gilman Ouellette, seminarian Christopher Kircher, James Marino and John Meenan.

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Seminarian Jonathan Kuhar sells a Pot of Gold ticket to Alby Albert while Michael Lambert looks on.



Chris DiMaggio and Bill Bender wait for the shot-gun start.

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Golf Classic Exceeds Record High for Vianney Endowment

Donors and golfers throughout the Diocese of Scranton again expressed their support for our future priests by making the Ninth Annual Vocations Golf Classic another record-breaking event. Held at Blue Ridge Trail Golf Course, the tournament grossed \$108,015 for the St. John Vianney Endowment, exceeding last year's record of \$106,724. Contributing were 302 sponsors and 178 golfers who traveled to the 27-hole golf course in Mountain Top to spend the day with seminarians, priests and fellow sponsors. The participation reflects an increase of 40 donors and 22 golfers over last year.

"We are continually encouraged by the numbers of faithful people who support the Vocations Golf Classic," said Bishop Joseph Bambera, honorary chair. "As bishop of this local Church, I'm especially grateful to see lay people, businesses, parishes, priests and religious, all coming together year after year to offer spiritual and financial assistance to our seminarians through this event. Because of the contributions of so many throughout the Diocese, we had another 'best tournament ever!'"



Seminarian Michael Boris, second from right, and his foursome with Bishop Bambera, from left, Bob Cirko, Jr., Joe Boris, Jr., and Bob Cirko, Sr.

The Vianney endowment, named for the patron of parish priests, supports seminary education and programs fostering vocation discernment in the Diocese. It also provides direct support so no man may hesitate to answer God's call due to financial obligation. The golf event is a collaboration of the Diocesan Vocations Office and the Development Office.

"Through the tournament we say 'thank you' to the seminarians who have committed their lives to formation for priestly service," said Father Donald J. Williams, Diocesan Director of Vocations and Seminarians and event chair. "The tournament also gives seminarians a chance to say 'thank you' to the

committee, golfers and sponsors on a personal level. The more people get to know our seminarians, the more comfortable they will feel inviting other young men to consider priesthood."

Michael Boris addressed the golfers during the reception dinner on behalf of his fellow seminarians. A parishioner of St. André Bessette Parish, Wilkes-Barre, he will be attending St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore this fall. "I would like to thank you for your generous support, monetarily, but we also greatly appreciate your willingness to support 'the conversation of vocations.' In this culture that is often afraid to talk about vocations or priesthood or God in general, it's important to receive your support for what we're pursuing as seminarians and what God is calling us to do.

"Your support has helped me for the past four years," Mr. Boris continued. "I've attended many Vocations Office programs - *Quo Vadis* ("Where are you going?") summer camps, #Leave-a-Mark Mass and Day of Service, retreats and lunches - all were beneficial in my decision to enter the seminary... Today, it was wonderful to meet so many golfers. One of my golf partners said, 'I've never seen so many sponsor signs at any tournament!'"

"People donate to the event to support the vocations effort, but for golfers it's also the reputation of the Golf Classic," said Father Williams. "It's an exceptional tournament, run efficiently and held at a beautiful golf course. No one seems to mind the drive, though they come from the Poconos, Sayre, and Williamsport."



Paul Woelkers

New to the Golf Classic this year is Paul Woelkers.

"I was invited to join the committee by Father (David) Cappelloni. I serve on many committees because I believe in supporting local charities. When Father told me the Classic funds would assist seminarians, I didn't hesitate. I thoroughly enjoyed the outing. I look forward to next year," he added.

Said Karen Clifford, a golfer and charter member of the Classic



Championship Flight winners with a score of 57 were the SS. Anthony and Rocco Foursome, Dunmore. From left are Charlie Mecca, Father David Cappelloni, Richard Masucci, Fran DeAndrea and Lanny Masucci.



Karen Clifford

committee, "I'm honored to be part of something that started so small but has grown into something that will help grow our Diocese. That's important to me. And I ask others to join me. We business people know it's a circle. Everyone gives back. Our faith is intertwined with all we do."

For Dr. Albert Giallorenzi, the Classic is "a wonderful day. We meet a lot of our friends each year. We enjoy seeing the seminarians monitoring the holes and selling tickets. But we don't do it to play golf. We do it because it helps seminarian education. We need our seminarians."



Dr. Albert Giallorenzi



Assisting at the Classic are, from left, Susan Ruane, administrative assistant, Office of Clergy Formation; Father Don Williams, event chair; Carole Paswinski, Marilouise Agnone Ruane, director of Stewardship and Donor Relations and event co-chair; Dominick Costantino, program coordinator, Vocation Office and Community Connections Consultant, Office for Parish Life; Irene Bambera, mother of Bishop Bambera; Kieran Williams, mother of Father Williams, and Jim Bebla, Diocesan Secretary of Development.

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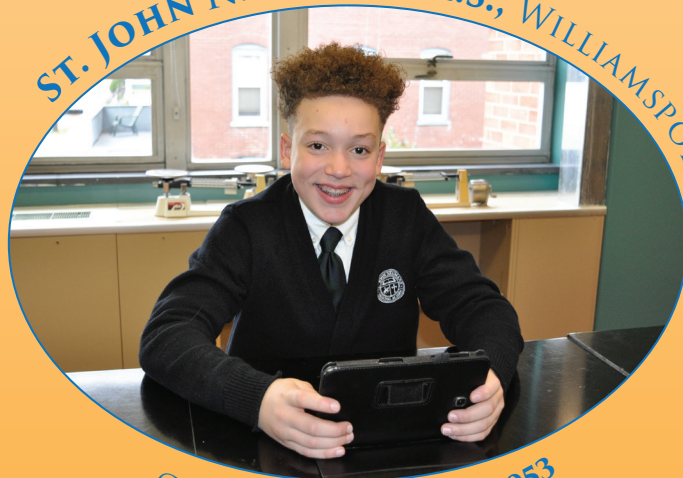
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The Church Today...And Tomorrow!

Diocese Experiences Summer Youth Movement

'Habitat for Divinity'



"Habitat for Divinity" — Youth & Young Adult Summer Mission Experience — had parish youth groups refreshing their faith by helping to restore the historic Saint John Neumann Shrine at Saints Philip and James Church in Sugar Ridge, Sullivan County. Pictured taking part in the weeklong mission are young members of Our Lady of the Snows Parish, Clarks Summit, and Saint John the Evangelist and Saint Joseph Marelo parishes, Pittston. Catholic youth also lending a hand hailed from Saint Jude's, Mountain Top; Our Lady of the Abingtons, Dalton; and nearby Immaculate Heart of Mary in Dushore.



Steubenville Youth Conference



Catholic youth groups from Saint Joseph the Worker Parish in Williamsport (above) and Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Montoursville (right), are shown attending a Summer Youth Conference on the campus of Franciscan University of Steubenville in Ohio. Participants also included young people throughout the Diocese representing parishes from Montdale to the Back Mountain, from the Poconos to the Abingtons.



ISLI



During July 9-12, the Diocese of Scranton hosted 38 students at Misericordia University, Dallas, for the annual International Student Leadership Institute (ISLI) — a peer-facilitated retreat designed to strengthen leadership skills of high school students and take them deeper in their faith. Throughout the summer retreat experience, the young participants engage in small group activities, listen to guest speakers, and attend daily Mass and adoration. The winter ISLI is scheduled for February 15-17, 2019, at Camp Ladore in Waymart.



'Light the Fire' Youth Rally

June 27 at Misericordia in Dallas





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AUGUST SCHEDULE

CTV LOCAL ORIGATION IS BOXED IN BOLD BORDER, OTHER PROGRAMMING IS FROM EWTN

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
12:00 AM	EWTN SPECIALS	SUNDAY MASS (Encore)	DAILY MASS (Encore)				FR. SPITZER'S UNIVERSE
1:00 AM	AT HOME WITH JIM & JOY	(1:10AM) LITANY OF THE SACRED HEART	THE JOURNEY HOME (Encore)	MOTHER ANGELICA LIVE CLASSICS	EWTN LIVE (Encore)	THE WORLD OVER (Encore)	AT HOME WITH JIM & JOY
1:30 AM	PRAYING AS A FAMILY	EWTN GALLERY	EWTN NEWS NIGHTLY (Encore)				THE BIBLE & VIRGIN MARY
2:00 AM	TOTAL CONSECRATION TO JESUS THRU MARY		EWTN GALLERY	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	LIFE ON THE ROCK	BATTLE READY	LONG RIDE HOME W/ BEAR WOZNICK
2:30 AM	CATHOLIC ANSWERS LIVE	DEFENDING LIFE	EWTN GALLERY	ANGELUS FROM NAZARETH	SAINTS VS SCOUNDRELS	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOG	CATHOLIC VIEW FOR WOMEN
3:00 AM	EWTN ON LOCATION		THE BEATITUDES	WHERE GOD WEEPS	PAPAL AUDIENCE(3:50AM)	BOB AND PENNY LORD PRESENT	WEB OF FAITH 2.0
3:30AM	EWTN ON LOCATION	DEFENDING LIFE	EWTN GALLERY	ANGELUS FROM NAZARETH	SAINTS VS SCOUNDRELS	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOG	CATHOLIC VIEW FOR WOMEN
3:40 AM							
3:50AM	EWTN LIVE (Encore)	SUNDAY NIGHT PRIME	WHERE GOD WEEPS	PAPAL AUDIENCE(3:50AM)	BOB AND PENNY LORD PRESENT	WEB OF FAITH 2.0	SAVORING OUR FAITH
4:00 AM		THE BEATITUDES	FOURTH RUPTURE				CRASH COURSE IN THE SAINTS
4:30 AM	EWTN LIVE (Encore)	THE BEATITUDES	THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL	GENESIS TO JESUS	EWTN SPECIALS	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY	AUTHENTICALLY FREE AT LAST
5:00 AM			BEAUTY TRUTH & GOODNESS	EWTN BOOKMARK			APOSTOLATE FOR FAMILY CONSECRATION
5:30 AM	LIFE IS WORTH LIVING	A FORCE FOR GOOD	THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL	GENESIS TO JESUS	EWTN SPECIALS	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY	CATHOLICS COME HOME
6:00 AM	ANGELUS WITH POPE FRANCIS	EWTN ORIGINAL PRODUCTIONS					
6:30 AM	OUR FAITH IN ACTION	EWTN CATALOG	CHURCH AND THE POOR	MATTHEWS TESTIMONY TO JESUS	THE WILD GOOSE	THE CHOICES WE FACE	SAINTS vs. SCOUNDRELS
7:00 AM	THE CHAPLET OF ST. MICHAEL					STATIONS OF THE CROSS	THE CHAPLET OF ST. MICHAEL
7:30 AM	HOLY LAND ROSARY						
7:50 AM	ROSARY FROM LOURDES	LITANY OF LORETO	LITANY OF THE HOLY NAME	LITANY OF ST. JOSEPH	LITANY OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD	PAPAL AUDIENCE	THE HOLY ROSARY FROM LOURDES
8:00 AM	SUNDAY MASS (Live)	DAILY MASS (Live)					
9:00 AM	(9:10AM) LITANY OF THE SACRED HEART	SUNDAY NIGHT: PRIME (Encore)	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY	SCRIPTURE AND TRADITION (ENCORE)	EWTN LIVE (Encore)	THE WORLD OVER (Encore)	ROAMIN' CATHOLIC
9:30 AM	EWTN BOOKMARK	THE FUNDAMENTALS OF CATHOLICISM	LIVE WITH PASSION	CTV SPECIAL PRESENTATION	FOCUS	WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN	HERMIE & FRIENDS
10:00 AM	PRO LIFE WEEKLY	MOTHER ANGELICA LIVE CLASSICS	FAMILY THEATER		FOCUS	FOCUS	AT HOME WITH JIM AND JOY
10:30 AM	AT HOME WITH JIM AND JOY	WOMEN OF GRACE					BOB & PENNY LORD PRESENT
11:00 AM	CATHOLIC VIEW FOR WOMEN	WOMEN OF GRACE					BOB & PENNY LORD PRESENT
11:30 AM	HOLY ROSARY FROM LOURDES	THE CHOICES WE FACE	WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN	MUSIC AND THE SPOKEN WORD	MASTERPIECE DONUT SHOP	LIVE WITH PASSION	HOLY ROSARY FROM LOURDES
12:00 PM	SUNDAY MASS (Encore)	THE DAILY MASS FROM ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL, LIVE AT 12:10 p.m. "DIOCESAN DATEBOOK" airs before and after Mass.					EWTN DAILY MASS (Encore)
12:30 PM	(1:10PM) LITANY OF THE SACRED HEART	AT HOME WITH JIM & JOY	PRO LIFE WEEKLY	AT HOME WITH JIM & JOY	PRAYING AS A FAMILY	AT HOME WITH JIM & JOY	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOGUE
1:30 PM	IN CONCERT	THE BIBLE AND THE VIRGIN MARY	HAIL HOLY QUEEN	OUR LADY IN SCRIPTURE AND TRADITION	KNOWING MARY THROUGH THE BIBLE	TOTAL CONSECRATION TO JESUS THRU MARY	EWTN BOOKMARK
2:00 PM		CALL TO COMMUNION	SCRIPTURE AND TRADITION	FR. SPITZER'S UNIVERSE	THE JOURNEY HOME	SPECIALS	EWTN ON LOCATION
2:30 PM	THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY IN SONG						
3:00 PM	REFLECTIONS						
3:15 PM	REFLECTIONS						
3:30 PM	THE HOLY ROSARY IN STAINED GLASS	THE DAILY MASS FROM ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL, (Encore)					ROSARY FOR LIFE
4:00 PM	GRAB YOUR CATECHISM	THE HOLY ROSARY DIOCESAN DATEBOOK					CALL TO COMMUNION
4:30 PM	LIFE IS WORTH LIVING	HERMIE & FRIENDS	ROAMIN' CATHOLIC	CHILDRENS SPECIALS	CAT CHAT	WAY OF THE CROSS FOR KIDS	CALL TO COMMUNION
5:00 PM	THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL	EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHOICES WE FACE	CONVERSATIONS FROM THE WORLD OVER SHOW	BOB & PENNY LORD PRESENT	LIFE ON THE ROCK	CATHOLIC ANSWERS LIVE
5:30 PM	SAINTS VERSUS SCOUNDRELS	SPECIALS					THE FUNDAMENTALS OF CATHOLICISM
6:00 PM	PASSIONIST SUNDAY MASS	EWTN NEWS NIGHTLY (Live)					OUR FAITH IN ACTION
6:30 PM	VATICANO	CATHOLICS COME HOME	REAL LIFE CATHOLICS	CHURCH UNIVERSAL	TBA		CHURCH AND POOR
7:00 PM	THE DAILY MASS FROM ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL, (Encore)						
7:30 PM	THE JOURNEY HOME	THE HOLY ROSARY		POPE'S AUDIENCE	THE HOLY ROSARY		DAILY MASS
8:00 PM	SUNDAY NIGHT PRIME (Live)	THE JOURNEY HOME (Live)	CTV SPECIAL PRESENTATION	EWTN LIVE	THE WORLD OVER (Live)	SPECIALS	EWTN CINEMA
8:30 PM	CATHOLICS COME HOME	EWTN NIGHTLY NEWS (Encore)		EWTN NIGHTLY NEWS (Encore)			
9:00 PM	LIFE ON THE ROCK	EWTN NIGHTLY NEWS (Encore)	EWTN NIGHTLY NEWS (Encore)				EWTN CINEMA
9:30 PM	HOLY ROSARY W MOTHER ANGELICA	WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN	THE CHOICES WE FACE	FOCUS	LIVE WITH PASSION	WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY
10:00 PM	EWTN SPECIALS	THE WORLD OVER LIVE (ENCORE)	SCRIPTURE AND TRADITION (ENCORE)	FR. SPITZER'S UNIVERSE	PRO-LIFE WEEKLY	A FORCE FOR GOOD	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY
10:30 PM	EWTN SPECIALS	THE WORLD OVER LIVE (ENCORE)	SCRIPTURE AND TRADITION (ENCORE)	FR. SPITZER'S UNIVERSE	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOG	GENESIS TO JESUS	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY
11:00 PM	DEFENDING LIFE	BATTLE READY	LONG RIDE HOME	CROSSING THE GOAL	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	YOU'RE AMAZING	WEB OF FAITH 2.0
11:30 PM	CATHOLIC VIEW FOR WOMEN	WOMEN OF GRACE					WEB OF FAITH 2.0

Pilgrimage to Divine Mercy Shrine Slated for Saint Faustina's Feast Day

PITTSTON — The Eucharistic Apostle of Divine Mercy Cenacle will host their annual pilgrimage to the National Shrine of Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, Mass., in October to coincide with the Feast of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska — the saint of Divine Mercy.

The pilgrimage will be held on Saint Faustina's feast day, Friday, Oct. 5, which this year commemorates the 80th anniversary of her death.

The bus excursion will depart for the Divine Mercy Shrine at 7 a.m. from the grounds of Saint Maria Goretti Church, 42 Redwood Drive, Laflin. Estimated arrival time at the shrine in Stockbridge is 11 a.m.

Upon arrival, pilgrims will participate in the day's events at the Mother of Mercy outdoor shrine, beginning with a presentation on Saint Faustina.

The remainder of the day's itinerary is as follows: 1 p.m. — Eucharistic adoration and opportunity for private confessions; 1:30 p.m. — recitation of the Rosary for Life; 2 p.m. — celebration of Holy Mass; 3 p.m. — Divine Mercy Chaplet, benediction, veneration



of first-class relic of Saint Faustina, and blessing of religious articles; and 4:45 p.m. — departure from shrine for home, including dinner stop at Bogie's Restaurant in Great Barrington, Mass.

Cost for the pilgrimage, including complimentary snack items/water, entrance fee to the Divine Mercy Shrine and full-course dinner, is \$67 per person.

For more information and reservations, contact Cathy Mack, trip coordinator and leader of the Divine Mercy Cenacle, at (570-654-6063).

Labor Day Weekend

Oblates' Labor Day Triduum, Mass to Honor Saint Joseph the Worker

PITTSTON — The Oblates of Saint Joseph congregation will host their annual Labor Day Triduum and Mass in honor of Saint Joseph the Worker during the upcoming Labor Day Weekend, Aug. 31-Sept. 3, at the Oblates' seminary chapel, located on Route 315 in Laflin.

Masses during the Triduum — Friday, Aug. 31, through Sunday, Sept. 2 — will be celebrated each evening at 7 p.m., followed by devotional prayers to Saint Joseph as the patron saint of laborers. Confessions and recitation of the Rosary will precede each Mass.

The Triduum will conclude with a special Labor Day Mass honoring Saint Joseph the Worker on Monday, Sept. 3, at 11 a.m., concelebrated by the Oblate Fathers.

Principal celebrant and homilist will be Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus John M. Dougherty. At the conclusion of the Mass, bread will be blessed and distributed to the faithful as a symbol of the "fruit of our labor."

All are welcome to attend the Triduum services and Labor Day Mass, which are being offered for the special intentions of those who are unemployed, thanksgiving for workers, and blessings upon students, teachers and education staff for the new school year.

For more information, call the OSJ seminary office at (570-654-7542).



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Saint John Bosco Parish in Conyngham recently hosted dedication ceremonies for a new Pro-Life Cross memorial provided to the parish through the efforts of the Knights of Columbus Our Lady of Fatima Council 8613, Conyngham. Constructed and installed on the grounds of Saint John Bosco Church by local Knights Al Olshefski, John Morris and Tom Pandolfi, the new monument dedicated to the sacred lives of the unborn replaced an older pro-life cross that was in place for more than 25 years. Principals of the dedication shown above are, from left, Ron Bzdil, Fourth Degree Navigator; Deputy Grand Knight Al Olshefski; John Morris, Chancellor; Father Richard Polmounter, pastor of Saint John Bosco; Deacon Maurice Cerasaro; Grand Knight Andrew Pitonyak; and Tom Dalesandro, treasurer.



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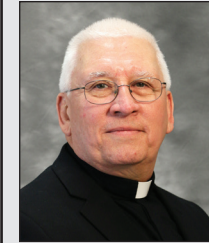
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Avoca Parish Leads Diocesan Pilgrims to World Meeting of Families in Dublin

Pilgrims from the Diocese of Scranton will travel to Ireland later this month to attend the much-anticipated World Meeting of Families by way of a pilgrimage being hosted by Queen of the Apostles Parish in Avoca.



Father Phil Sladicka

Led by Father Phillip Sladicka, pastor, and Deacon Jim Rose, the pilgrimage will depart for the Emerald Isle on Saturday, Aug. 18, for the nine-day excursion culminating with the Meeting's closing ceremonies on Sunday, Aug. 26.

Begun by Saint John Paul II, and held every three years, the World Meeting of Families (WMOF) is a major international event celebrating the family as the cornerstone of life and society.

Pope Francis, who decreed Dublin as the host for WMOF 2018, will be in Ireland's capital city for the event's final two days, celebrating the closing Mass in Phoenix Park.

Opening ceremonies for the World Meeting will take place simultaneously across all 26 Dioceses of Ireland on the evening of Aug. 21, with the primary event being held in Dublin.

Father Sladicka announces, leading up the pilgrims attending the WMOF's closing ceremonies, the local Diocesan delegation will visit the homestead of Venerable Patrick Peyton in Attymass, site of the Father Peyton Centre historical museum, and the Our Lady of Knock Shrine on Aug. 22, the memorial of the Queenship of Mary and patronal feast day of Queen of the Apostles Parish.

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SAVE THE DATE...



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316 Parrish Street, Wilkes-Barre

Sunday, October 21, 2018

Doors open at Noon – Bingo begins at 1 PM

Tickets will be limited to 200

For further information, call the parish office
570-822-8330 or 570-823-1948

Spiritual Offerings

Weekly Bible Study — AUG. 17, hosted by St. Lawrence Parish in Great Bend; held every Friday at 7 p.m. in the Trinity Center, adjacent to St. Lawrence Church. All are welcome.

Friday Pro-Life Rosary Vigil — AUG. 17, sponsored by the Catholics Defending Life Prayer & Awareness Team; group gathers every Friday from 1 to 1:30 p.m. at Lackawanna County Courthouse Square, North Washington Ave., in downtown Scranton (weather permitting). Recitation of the Rosary offered, along with pro-life meditations, Divine Mercy Chaplet and other prayer devotions for the respect and dignity of all human life from conception to natural death. Pro-life signs are welcome.

Weekly Queen of Our Hearts Rosary Prayer Service — AUG. 18, hosted every Saturday morning at Good Shepherd Church

in Drums; group gathers weekly beginning at 11 a.m. Devotion includes recitation of the Chaplet of the Infant of Prague, the Holy Rosary, and Chaplet of the Divine Mercy. Prayer petitions may be submitted at the church. All faithful are welcome.

Meeting of Lay Carmelites — AUG. 18, hosted by Our Lady of the Mountains Lay Carmelite Chapter; meetings held on the third Saturday of each month at Little Flower Manor, 200 S. Meade St., Wilkes-Barre. For more information, contact Rose Bordi at (570-445-5457).

Gathering of the Secular Discalced Carmelites — AUG. 19, canonically established community of the Diocese of Scranton; gatherings are usually held on the third Sunday of every month at Holy Annunciation Monastery in Sugarloaf, Luzerne County. All are welcome, especially those who feel called to a deeper consecration in life and wish to experience Carmelite spirituality and community. Call Ann Marie Fierro (570-454-4493), Nicole Tranguch (570-751-4729) or Marie Schimmelbusch (570-822-6561) for more information.

Sunday Our Lady of Guadalupe Rosary Devotion — AUG. 19, 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 Decem-

ber. 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 priesthood/religious life, and an end to abortion.

Bereavement Support Gatherings — AUG. 19 & SEPT. 5, hosted by Our Lady of the Snows Parish in Clarks Summit; support group meetings held in the Gathering Room (lower level) of Our Lady of the Snows Church, 301 South State St., Clarks Summit, on the first Wednesday of the month, at 10 a.m., and the third Sunday of the month, at 2 p.m. All are welcome; no registration is required.

Catholic Charismatic Regional Prayer Meeting — AUG. 20, sponsored by local Charismatic prayer groups; begins at 7:30 p.m. in Queen of the Apostles Parish Hall, 715 Hawthorne St., Avoca. Gathering includes songs, praise, spiritual gifts, and faith witness; fellowship with refreshments will conclude the meeting. All faithful are welcome.

Monthly Evening of Marian Devotion — AUG. 20, hosted by the Oblates of St. Joseph, Diocesan Sacred Heart Enthronement Guild, and the Legion of Mary; devotion begins at 6 p.m. in the chapel of St. Joseph's Oblate Seminary, Route 315, Laflin (Pittston). Prayer service will include recitation of the

Continued on Page 21

ANNUAL SUMMER FESTIVAL

Saint John Neumann Parish

at
NATIVITY OF OUR LORD CHURCH GROUNDS
 633 Orchard Street, Scranton

AUGUST 16 - 17 - 18

Thurs. & Fri. 6:00 - 11:00 p.m.

Saturday 5:30 - 11:00 p.m.



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Come each evening & enjoy great food, games, raffles, children's games, & community!

Saint Pio Group to Gather August 19

HONESDALE — The Saint Padre Pio Prayer Group invites all faithful to their devotional gathering on Sunday, Aug. 19, at Saint Mary Magdalen Church, 416 Church St., Honesdale, beginning with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 2 p.m.

Father William Langan, host pastor and group spiritual director, will lead the faithful in prayers offered for all priests, followed by recitation of the Rosary.

A reading from sacred Scripture will be followed by a spiritual reflection by Father Langan.

The Book of Special Intentions invoking the intercession of Saint Padre Pio will be presented, and prayers and petitions for other special intentions will be offered.

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be administered to those who are seriously ill or about to undergo surgery.

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be chanted at 3 p.m., followed by Liturgy of the Hours (vespers), benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, a closing hymn to the Blessed Mother and individual blessing with the relic of Saint Pio.

Spiritual Offerings

Continued from Page 20

Rosary, Fatima prayers, hymns, and newly composed music for the Scriptural mysteries led by Ernie Pappa, who will facilitate the evening. All are invited to attend and offer devotional prayers to Mary for world peace.

Weekly "Flame of Love" Prayer Group Meeting — AUG. 20, hosted by St. Barbara Parish at St. Anthony of Padua Church, Memorial St., Exeter; prayer group meets every Monday at 11:15 a.m. Mass is celebrated at 12:10 p.m. following recitation of the "Flame of Love" Rosary. All faithful are welcome.

Wednesday Eucharistic Adoration — AUG. 22, hosted at St. Joseph's Oblate Seminary, Route 315, Laffin; Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held every Wednesday evening from 6 to 7 p.m. in the seminary chapel. Includes recitation of the Rosary and opportunity for confessions. Mass celebrated at 7 p.m., followed by Novena prayers to St. Joseph and St. Joseph Marelo, founder of the Oblates of St. Joseph. For more information, contact the OSJ seminary at (570-654-7542).

Centralia's Ukrainian Church to Host 'Call to Prayer' Pilgrimage August 26

Assumption of the BVM Ukrainian Catholic Church in Centralia will host the third annual Call to Prayer Pilgrimage on Sunday, August 26.

The pilgrimage begins at 12 noon with the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, concelebrated by Bishop Andriy Rabi, apostolic administrator of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia, and deanery clergy.

Responses to the Divine Liturgy will be sung by the choir of the National Shrine of the Holy Family from Washington, D.C.

From 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. confessions will be available for the pilgrims at various locations throughout the church grounds.

A Living Rosary will be prayed at 2 p.m. before the historic and jeweled 18th-century copy of the Icon of Our Lady of Pochaiv.

Weekly Bible Study — AUG. 22, hosted by Prince of Peace Parish in Old Forge; weekly sessions offered on Wednesdays from 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. in the downstairs meeting room at St. Lawrence Church, Main St., Old Forge. Guest facilitator: JoAnn Wilbur. All faithful are welcome; refreshments will be provided.

Wednesday Eucharistic Adoration — AUG. 22, hosted by Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Tunkhannock; exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament offered every Wednesday from 3 to 5 p.m. in Nativity BVM Church, 99 East Tioga St., Tunkhannock. All faithful are welcome. For more information, call (570-881-9916).

Weekly Divine Mercy Devotion — AUG. 22, hosted by St. Lawrence Parish in Great Bend; Hour of Mercy devotion held every Wednesday at 3 p.m. in St. Lawrence Church. All faithful are welcome.

Spiritual Support Group: Scranton Mental Health Ministry — AUG. 25, 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 Ladies Afternoon of Recollection — SEPT. 1, hosted by the Ladies Society of St. Joseph Melkite Greek-Catholic Church, 130 North St. Frances Cabrini Ave., west Scranton; gatherings are held on the first Saturday of the month beginning at 1 p.m. Centered around the theme of prayer, sessions are offered for the spiritual enrichment of its members and the larger community; meetings end at approximately 2:15 p.m.

Continued on Page 25

Bishop Ronald Gainer of Harrisburg will lead the service.

At 3 p.m. Monsignor James Melnic will celebrate the Akafist to the Dormition of the Most Holy Mother of God before the Holy Shroud of the Dormition.

All will gather at 4:30 p.m. at the outdoor chapel for a candlelight procession to the church with the Icon of Our Lady of Pochaiv and for the celebration of a Moleben prayer service to the Mother of God. Bishop Andriy will serve as homilist.

At the conclusion of the Moleben, prayers for healing and the anointing of all pilgrims will be offered.

Light refreshments will be available for purchase throughout the day. For more information, contact the church rectory at 570-339-0650.

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Mission Message

Go Forth

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



So often, when praying the Creed at Mass, I revel in the phrase we utter in affirming our common belief in “all things visible and invisible” or, as we prayed for years before, “of all that is seen and unseen.”

Understanding fully that what we speak of in terms of our belief in these sections of the Creed refers to what is visible and invisible — or seen and unseen — about God, I can’t help but wonder how the reality of the Christian life vis-à-vis seeing and not seeing God present in others is something for us all to take stock of in our daily lives.

Many appreciate more and more that there are aspects of God’s existence and even His work in our world that either escapes our notice because we’re not paying attention or aren’t open enough to it or, in fact, it is truly “invisible.” I propose another consideration:

How much of the quiet suffering of the poor and vulnerable is invisible to us or — perhaps better said — unseen by us?

At the time of the publication of this reflection, I will be full into a week of service with students from Holy Cross High School who are taking time from their summer vacation to face that very question. We are spending these days of service in what some may think to be an unlikely place to find folks in need.

The energies of these young missionaries will be focused on several groups and families living near Coastal New Jersey. Hardly the place where one would expect to find vulnerability, poverty or desperate need, right? Wrong! What has long been brushed aside by media as a story come and gone is the ever-real struggle of many whose lives were dramatically changed in the aftermath of Super Storm Sandy some six years ago.

Families who dutifully engaged the process available to them and entrusted their flood insurance benefits to a contractor who did not deliver on a promise and disappeared with thousands of dollars. Veterans who have waited years to find a suitable and comfortable home after losing every-

thing as they were left to languish while government funds were tied up in bureaucratic channels. Single men and women — perhaps the ever-unseen among us — desperately trying to make a new life after a simple, yet stable life was changed forever with seemingly little concern or care from others.

While we ponder the things of God that are visible and invisible, He would also have us take time to sit back and pray — truly mine our souls and minds — for those among us who are unseen or who, heaven forbid, have become invisible to us. I am reminded of the line from Scripture, “If anyone says, ‘I love God,’ but hates his brother, he is a liar; for whoever does not love a brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen” (1 John 4:10).

God asks us to look, to search, to find our brother and sister in need. We needn’t choose whether to see our brother/sister or to see God. God would rather us try to see both, or at least to search for both the occasional unseen God and our occasional unseen brother or sister.

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Apostleship of Prayer

Papal Intention for August 2018

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On July 26 and 27, the Respect Life/Social Concerns Committee of Queen of the Apostles Parish in Avoca hosted eight "Crossroads Across America" walkers, who began their 3,000-mile trek from Seattle in May with their sights set on the finish line in Washington, D.C., on Aug. 4. Founded in 1995 and now based in Arlington, Va., "Crossroads" is a pro-life movement on a mission: "To witness to the dignity and sanctity of all human life, especially the unborn." The international organization was launched in response to a call by Saint John Paul II during World Youth Day in Denver in 1993 — that youth around the globe take an active role in the pro-life movement "to establish a culture of life." The transcontinental walkers traveling through the Diocese — all college-age students — took up residence for the two days at Queen of the Apostles rectory. "It was an inspiration to be with them," host pastor Father Phil Sladicka said of his guests, who fasted and prayed daily for the success of their mission. One walker, a young man from Spain named Juan Pablo — after Pope John Paul — traversed 27 miles the day he arrived in Avoca. The "Crossroads" walkers are pictured with Father Sladicka and committee members around the Pro-Life Monument at Queen of the Apostles Parish on the grounds of Saint Mary Church.

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Continued from Page 21

and are followed by fellowship in the church hall. Anyone interested in attending may receive handout materials and Scripture readings in advance by emailing: melkite.scranton@gmail.com.

Padre Pio Prayer Ministry — **SEPT. 5**, hosted by St. Faustina Kowalska Parish in Nanticoke; begins with celebration of Mass at 6 p.m. at the parish worship site of Holy Trinity Church, 520 South Hanover St., Nanticoke, followed by exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, intercessory prayers to St. Padre Pio, recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and benediction. All faithful are welcome.

Weekly Bereavement Support Group — **SEPT. 5-26**, series of four consecutive weekly meetings, addressing topics dealing with the grief process in order for participants to find healing; Bereavement Support Group meets 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).

Scranton Mental Health Ministry: Spiritual Support Group for Family & Friends — **SEPT. 6**, hosted by the Cathedral of St. Peter in Scranton; providing a safe, supportive space for parents, family members and friends of individuals who are experiencing mental illness. Group meets at 6 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month in the Bishops Hall at the Cathedral Rectory, 315 Wyoming Ave. Meetings are approximately 90 minutes; refreshments provided. For more information, contact Deacon Ed Shoener at (570-344-7231).

"Alpha" Spirituality Course Sessions — **SEPT. 11-NOV. 20**, hosted by St. Ignatius Loyola Parish, 339 North Maple Ave., Kingston; weekly series gatherings offered on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 8 p.m. "Alpha" courses provide a safe and open environment to explore life issues and a path to happiness through Jesus Christ; sessions

include meal-sharing, video screening and faith discussions in the context of small group interaction. All faith questions are welcome and encouraged. Pre-registration requested by Sept. 4; contact the parish office at (570-288-6446).

Spiritual Retreat — **SEPT. 29**, hosted by the Capuchin Sisters of St. Joseph Convent in Jackson; offered from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at St. Martin of Tours Church, Routes 492 and 92, Jackson. Open to all men and women free of charge. Retreatants are requested to provide their own lunch; coffee and tea will be available.

Weekly Bereavement Support Group — **OCT. 9-NOV. 13**, hosted by the Bereavement Ministry of the parish community of Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace and St. Veronica, Hawley; support group will meet on Wednesday mornings from 9 to 11:30 a.m. (following celebration of Mass) in the parish hall. Six-week program offered to those seeking healing by addressing topics dealing with the grief process. For more information, contact Rosemarie at (570-390-4196) or the rectory office at (570-266-3183).

Remembrance Day for Abortion Victims

The Diocese of Scranton will participate in the sixth annual National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children on Saturday, Sept. 8 — Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary — when pro-life Americans will honor the memory of the nearly 60 million unborn victims of abortion since its legalization in 1973.

Diocesan observances on Sept. 8 will include a Memorial Service for Victims of Abortion to be held at 11 a.m. at Mount Olivet

Cemetery, 612 Mount Olivet Road, Carverton.

The pro-life gathering will take place at Mount Olivet's Wyoming Valley Knights of Columbus "Tomb for the Unborn," located on the top of the hill on the cemetery grounds.

During the memorial observance, the Rosary will be recited in remembrance of all aborted babies.

All faithful are invited. For more information, contact Ada Magni at (570-693-1338).

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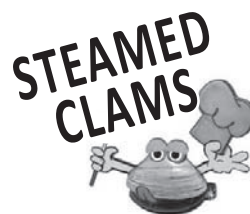
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Notice Regarding Reporting Sexual Abuse of a Minor

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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Saint Joseph's Festival Blessing



Saint Joseph's Center in Scranton hosted its 57th annual Summer Festival on the grounds of Marywood University from July 27 to 29. Prior to the opening of the festival, Monsignor Thomas M. Muldowney, Vicar General of the Diocese, blessed the grounds. From left are: Monsignor Muldowney; Immaculate Heart of Mary Sister Ellen Maroney, President, IHM Leadership Team; Marlene Graham, Co-President, Saint Joseph's Center Auxiliary; Danelle Hogan, Co-President, Saint Joseph's Center Auxiliary; Immaculate Heart of Mary Sister Maryalice Jacquinot, President/CEO of Saint Joseph's Center; and Immaculate Heart of Mary Sister Catherine Luxner, Director, Swartz Center for Spiritual Life at Marywood University.

Misericordia Program to Examine 'Humanae Vitae' on 50th Anniversary

DALLAS — The Department of Religious Studies at Misericordia University is presenting the three-part program, "Humanae Vitae at 50: A Review of the Controversial Papal Encyclical that Defined the Catholic Church's Teaching on Conception," beginning Wednesday, Sept. 5, on campus.

The free program opens Sept. 5 at 6:30 p.m. with the presentation, "Why Did Pope Francis Call Humanae Vitae Prophetic?: The Predictions of Pope Paul VI in Section 17," by Father Eric Bergman, pastor of Saint Thomas More Parish in Scranton, in the Huntzinger and Alden Trust Rooms 218-219 of Sandy and Marlene Insalaco Hall.

Father Bergman served as an Episcopalian priest before being ordained to the Catholic priesthood in 2007 under the Pastoral Provision of St. John Paul II.

Professor Joseph C. Curran, Ph.D., and Assistant Professor Christopher M. Carr, Ph.D., of the Department of Religious Studies at Misericordia University, are collaborating on the presentation, "The Legacy of Humanae Vitae: Doctrinal Development and

Historical Context," to be given on Wednesday, Sept. 12, at 6:30 p.m. in Huntzinger and Alden Trust Rooms 218-219 Rooms of Insalaco Hall.

The program concludes Wednesday, Sept. 19, with the program, "In Search of a Better Medicine: Artificial Birth Control or Fertility Awareness-Based Methods," with Delia Lurrari, M.D., FACOG, OB-GYN, at 6:30 p.m. in Huntzinger and Alden Trust Rooms 218-219 of Insalaco Hall. Dr. Lurrari is the medical director of the Gianna Center of Philadelphia, a reproductive health clinic that offers services consistent with Catholic teaching.

An encyclical written and promulgated by Pope Paul VI in 1968 as one of the major documents of the Second Vatican Council, "Humanae Vitae" provides clear teaching about God's plan for married love and the transmission of life. The text was issued at a Vatican press conference on July 29, 1968.

For more information, contact Misericordia University at (570) 674-6400 or visit www.misericordia.edu.

Vatican Installs Allen Organ In St. Peter's Basilica.



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Catholic Happenings

Parish Yard Sale Extravaganza — **AUG. 17-19**, sponsored by Most Holy Trinity Parish in Cresco; hosted at Monsignor McHugh School, Route 390, Cresco. Sale hours: Friday & Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. Sale items include toys, bikes, baby items, furniture, kitchen appliances, tools, housewares, jewelry, electronics, sporting goods, books and home décor; food for purchase and bake sale also available. All proceeds benefit the Most Holy Trinity Parish New Building Fund. For more information, call the parish office (570-595-3100).

St. Juliana's Rock Lake Picnic — **AUG. 18**, sponsored by St. Katharine Drexel Parish, Pleasant Mount; held on the grounds of St. Juliana Church, Route 247-North (Creamton Drive), Rock Lake. Featuring family-style ham & turkey dinner served from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (take-out orders available until 3 p.m.); supper served at 5 p.m. Mass will be celebrated in the church at 6:30 p.m. Picnic also includes giant flea market, bingo,

games & prizes. Square-dancing entertainment provided by "Just Us" from 8 to 11 p.m.

Misericordia Open House — **AUG. 18**, open house event sponsored by Misericordia University in Dallas (Back Mountain section of Luzerne County); for high school students and their parents. Program begins with registration at 9 a.m. in the Anderson Sports and Health Center, followed by "Meet the Coaches" session from 9 to 10 a.m. Open house held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; includes campus tours, faculty session and lunch, and meetings with representatives of student services, athletics and financial aid. For more information and registration, contact the Misericordia Admissions Office at (570-675-4449 or 1-866-262-6363) or by email: admiss@misericordia.edu.

Annual Festival for the Intellectually Disabled — **AUG. 19**, sponsored by the local Alhambra Caravan (No. 4) of Alhambra, an international Catholic group of men and women dedicated to serving persons with special needs; held from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the

Plains American Veterans Pavilion in the Wilkes-Barre area. For more information or to volunteer, contact Ray Kownacki, Alhambra Grand Advocate, at (570-823-2894).

Parish Concert: French Boys Choir — **AUG. 19**, featuring "Les Moinesaux," the world-renowned French boys choir on summer tour in America; hosted by St. Joseph Marello Parish at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 237 William St., Pittston, beginning at 7 p.m. Concert performance will include musical selections from the 16th century and French folklore; conducted by Francois Olivier, titular organist of the choir organ at St. Eustache Church in Paris, France. All are welcome; free-will offering will be taken.

St. Mary's Villa Golf Tournament — **AUG. 20**, hosted at Glen Oak Country Club in Clarks Summit; begins with registration and luncheon at 11 a.m. For more information, registration and sponsorships, contact David Leonori at (570-842-5274) or dleonori@stmmarysvilla.com.

Continued on Page 29

Rev. Scott Sterowski and the parishioners of

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PICNIC TIME

AUGUST

16, 17, 18 — St. John Neumann, Scranton, Nativity of Our Lord Church grounds, 633 Orchard St., South Scranton.

17, 18, 19 — Blessed Sacrament, Throop, parish grounds & hall, 215 Rebecca St., Throop.

18 — St. Juliana's, Rock Lake, church grounds, Route 247-North (Creamton Drive).

18, 19 — Queen of Heaven (St. Mauro Festival), Hazleton, parish grounds, 750 North Vine St., Hazleton.

31, Sept. 1 — St. Mary's, Waymart, church grounds, 242 Carbondale Road.

SEPTEMBER

1, 2 — St. Mary's, Mocanaqua, church picnic grounds.

1, 2 — St. Martha's, Fairmount Springs, church grounds, 260 Bonnierville Road.

3 — Immaculate Conception, Bastress, church grounds, 5973 Jacks Hollow Road.

14, 15 — Holy Name of Mary, Montrose, parish grounds, 278 Main St.

14, 15, 16 — St. Paul's, Scranton, church grounds, 1510 Penn Ave., Green Ridge section.

30 — St. John Vianney, Montdale/Royal, Corpus Christi Church grounds, Montdale.

Catholic Happenings

Weekly Bingo — AUG. 20, hosted by Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Dickson City; bingo games held every Monday evening, with doors opening at 4:30 p.m. Early bird games begin at 6:40 p.m.; regular games start at 7 p.m. Admission fee includes 20 games; progressive jackpot each week. Homemade food sold before the bingo; homemade pizza available during the games and for take-out. Return coupon for new players; door prizes awarded each week. Van shuttle service provided free of charge from Carbondale and Scranton. For more information, call (570-489-2091).

16th Annual Parish Golf Classic — AUG. 25, sponsored by St. John Bosco Parish in Conyngham; hosted at Sugarloaf Golf Course in lower Luzerne County. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m.; followed by tournament play with 9 a.m. shotgun start. Individual, foursome and partial team registrations accepted. Cost: \$85 per golfer (\$340/foursome), includes refreshments and awards banquet. For more information and registration, contact Tom Lagana or Pat Raico by calling the parish office (570-788-1997 ext. 3).

Polka Mass & Polish Dinner — AUG. 25, sponsored by the Ladies of Mary Society of Exaltation of the Holy Cross Parish, 420 Main Road, Buttonwood section of Hanover Township. Mass celebrated at 4:30 p.m. in the parish church; followed by dinner and dancing at 6 p.m. on the surrounding grounds. Musical entertainment provided by John Stevens Double Shot. Dinner cost: \$25 per person, includes Polish foods, dessert and various beverages. Reservations are limited and requested as soon as possible. For more information and tickets, call (570-824-5965).

Fifth Annual Parish Golf Outing & Dinner — AUG. 26, sponsored by St. Monica Parish in West Wyoming, to benefit the parish's Christian Society; hosted at Emanon Golf Course in Falls. Begins with registration at 12 noon, followed by tournament play with shotgun start at 1 p.m. Cost: \$65 per person, includes dinner, raffle drawings, prizes and on-course refreshments. Registrations available following all weekend Masses. For more information, sponsorships and donations, call Howard Kelley

(570-574-1677), John Piszak (570-313-8586) or Frank Casarella (570-313-5515).

Labor Day Picnic — SEPT. 3, sponsored by Immaculate Conception Church, 5973 Jacks Hollow Road, Bastress; featuring family-style turkey & ham dinner, served from noon to 6 p.m. in the parish hall. Cost: adults, \$9.50; children (age 4 to 12), \$4. Also includes refreshments, games, summer foods and treats.

Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary Bingo — SEPT. 5 & 19, sponsored by Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary Parish, Jermyn; games held on the first and third Wednesdays of the month in the parish center, 624 Madison Ave., Jermyn. Doors open at 5 p.m.; early-bird games start 6 p.m. (regular games, 6:30). Event includes homemade foods and desserts; specialty games, refreshments, door prizes and progressive jackpot. Free admission; for more information, call (570-876-1061).

Free Community Luncheon — SEPT. 8, 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 31



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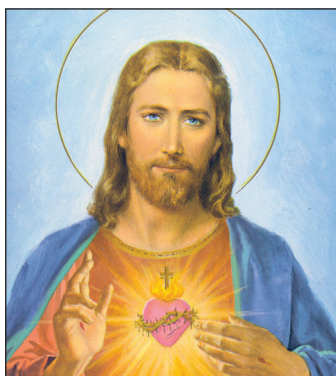
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Blue Army Reparation Vigil



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 **September 7** 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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Honesdale Youth Take Part in Catholic Camp Mission



Members of the Catholic youth group from Saint John the Evangelist Parish in Honesdale traveled to Dover, Delaware, early this summer for a mission experience at the Catholic Heart Work Camp. The theme for the week was "Echo God's Love." A total of 17 young people and eight adults from the Honesdale parish participated in the mission, including Father Marek Wasilewski. During the week, the group served at a variety of work sites, including private residences, youth camps, soup kitchens, and an animal rescue zoo. Each night, youth and adult participants gathered for communal faith-sharing, fellowship and socializing. Mass was celebrated each day, and the Saint John's youth group led rosary prayers for one the evenings. Youth participants pictured are, front row from left, Connor Coar, Nicholas Bochnovich, Sophia Goyette, Libby Stephens and Aidan Pietraszewski. Back row, Shannon O'Day, Azlyn Fritz, Hannah McConnell, Sydney Cummings, McKenzie Meagher, Abby Meagher, Beth Ann Hnatko, Kayla Tanines, Jordan Palmer and Breanna Tanines.

rosary prayers for one the evenings. Youth participants pictured are, front row from left, Connor Coar, Nicholas Bochnovich, Sophia Goyette, Libby Stephens and Aidan Pietraszewski. Back row, Shannon O'Day, Azlyn Fritz, Hannah McConnell, Sydney Cummings, McKenzie Meagher, Abby Meagher, Beth Ann Hnatko, Kayla Tanines, Jordan Palmer and Breanna Tanines.

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Catholic Happenings

Fall "Oldies" Dinner Dance

— SEPT. 14, sponsored by St. André Bessette Parish in Wilkes-Barre; held from 6 to 10 p.m. at St. Mary's Byzantine Social Hall, 522 Madison St., Wilkes-Barre. Featuring home-made buffet dinner, including desserts and soft drinks; followed by "oldies" music for listening and dancing pleasure provided by Millennium. Patrons may provide their own beverages; includes basket raffle and other prizes. Cost: \$20 per person (must be at least 21 years of age). Tickets may be obtained at the parish office at 668 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre, weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., or by calling Tina at (570-814-9227).

"Soulful Music" Concert

— SEPT. 16, hosted by St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Williamsport; begins at 6:30 p.m. Concert features keynote performer Amanda Vernon, recording artist and songwriter of soul music. Open to the public free of charge.

Inaugural Designer Purse Bingo

— SEPT. 16, hosted by Saints Peter & Paul Parish, 13 Hudson Road, Plains, in the parish's Bernardine Hall (former school auditorium); doors open at 11:30 a.m. and games start at 1 p.m. Event also includes basket raffles and cash drawing. Admission fee: \$20 in advance or \$25 at door (if not sold out); "early bird," intermission, and two grand prize games sold separately. For more information, contact the parish

office at (570-825-6663).

Harvest Festival

— SEPT. 30, sponsored by St. John Vianney Parish, Montdale & Royal; featuring a home-cooked turkey dinner served from 12 noon to 5 p.m. at Corpus Christi Church in Montdale (take-out orders available). Tickets at the door (adults, \$12; children, \$6). Also featuring wreaths & wall hangings, homemade baked goods, bountiful baskets, raffle drawings & prizes, and children's hayrides. Public is welcome.

Annual Handmade Quilt Bingo

— OCT. 7, sponsored by SS. Peter and Paul Parish, 13 Hudson Road, Plains; held in the parish's Bernardine Hall (former school auditorium). Doors open at 11:30 a.m. and games start at 1 p.m.; winners will choose from a wide variety of handmade quilts. Admission fee: \$20 (in advance) or \$25 (at door), includes six-card game piece for each regular game; other specials sold separately. For more information, contact the parish office at (570-825-6663).

The Catholic Light calendar lists events that are sponsored by the Diocese of Scranton, its parishes, schools and institutions, and other Catholic organizations in the Diocese. All submissions are subject to review before publication. To submit an item for consideration, send email to Kevin-McDonnell@dioceseofscranton.org, fax to 570-207-2271, or call 570-207-2229 for more information.

Passionist Nuns to Host Two Fall Retreats at Saint Gabriel's

CLARKS SUMMIT — The Passionist Sisters of Saint Gabriel's Retreat Center will host two fall weekend retreat experiences, beginning with a Women's Retreat with the theme "The Adventure to Live Holiness," scheduled for the weekend of Sept. 7-9.

The second retreat weekend offering, "The Passion of Jesus Christ," will begin on Oct. 19. Open to both men and women, this retreat is designed to provide a more silent spiritual experience.

Serving as retreat director/preacher for the two programs will be Passionist Father Richard

Nalepa of Saint Paul's Monastery in Pittsburgh.

Both retreats will begin on Friday at 7 p.m. and conclude following the noon meal on Sunday. No meals are provided by Saint Gabriel's on Friday evening.

Preached retreats consist of conferences on the spiritual life, time for personal meditation/reflection, prayer service, Sacrament of Reconciliation, and celebration of the Eucharistic liturgy.

For more information, call the Retreat Center office at (570-586-4957) or email: kporter@epix.net.

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Catholic Charismatic Renewal of the Diocese of Scranton



Healing Retreat

Guest Speaker: Fr. Richard McAlear, OMI

Friday & Saturday
September 14th-15th

7:00 p.m. Fri. to 8:30 p.m. Sat.

Join Us For:

- Fr. McAlear's teaching presentations and homily
- Healing prayer ministry
- Mass and Confession
- Eucharistic Adoration

Villa of Our Lady Retreat House

245 Meadowside Road,
Mount Pocono, PA 18344

Requested Donation (includes 3 meals on Saturday):

- \$120 per person, double-occupancy room
- \$135 per person, single room
- \$75 for commuters (no overnight room)

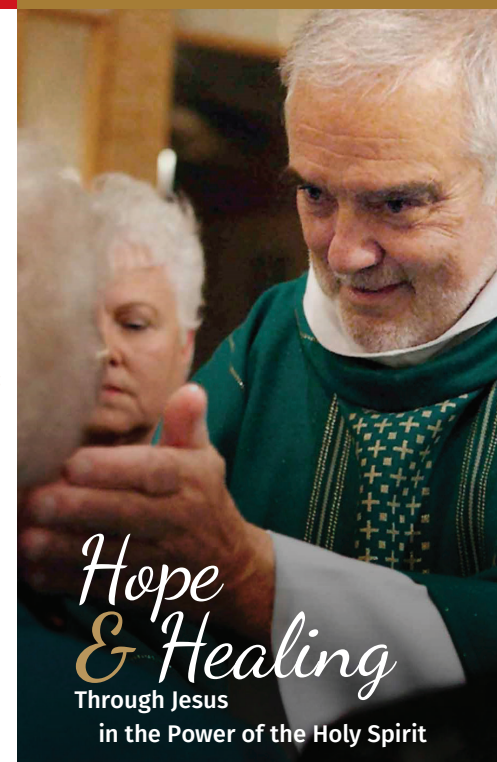
\$20 discount available for Volunteers from the annual Scranton Charismatic Conference in 2016, '17, or '18

Register by September 5th!

For a registration form or more information:

(570) 344-2214 • ccrenewal@comcast.net

(Registrations via voicemail or email will not be accepted)



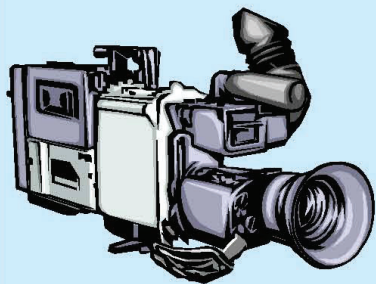
Hope
& Healing
Through Jesus
in the Power of the Holy Spirit



About Fr. McAlear, OMI

Father Richard McAlear entered the religious order of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate in 1960 and was ordained in 1970. In 1972 he became involved in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, and his gifts led him to begin a healing ministry in 1976. His ministry and work have brought him to every part of the United States, Asia, South America, Canada, Australia, New Guinea, Guatemala, Italy, France, Portugal, and Scotland. He is now assigned to devote himself full time to teaching and the healing ministry.

Watch Video

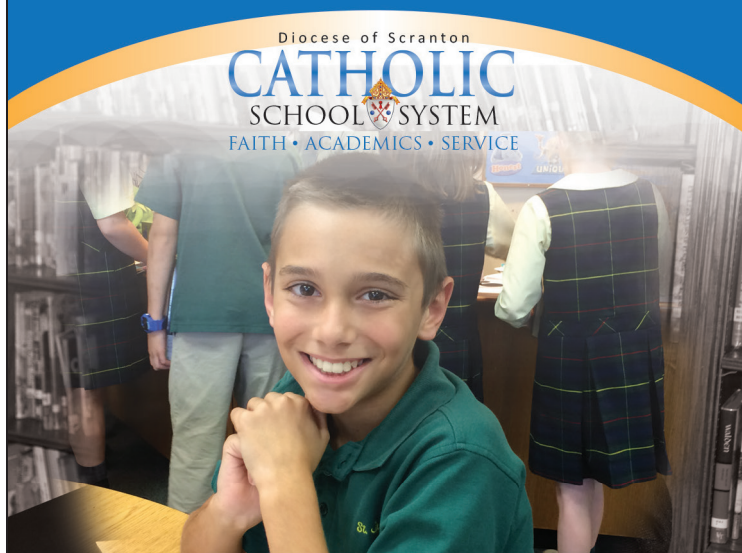
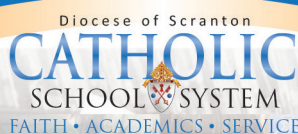


The Diocese of Scranton's website includes video of certain programs broadcast by CTV: Catholic Television. The programs include the Daily Mass from St. Peter's Cathedral, the monthly news program "Our Faith, Our Diocese" and other special programs. To watch the videos, go to www.dioceseofscranton.org.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

The Catholic Light

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