

‘No effort must be spared’ to prevent abuse

Pope issues letter to the People of God

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – “No effort must be spared” to prevent future cases of clerical sexual abuse and “to prevent the possibility of their being covered up,” Pope Francis said in a letter addressed “to the people of God.”

“I acknowledge once more the suffering endured by many minors due to sexual abuse, the abuse of power and the abuse of conscience perpetrated by a significant number of clerics and consecrated persons,” the pope wrote in the letter dated and released Aug. 20.

The letter was published less than a week after the release of a Pennsylvania grand jury report on decades of clerical sexual abuse and cover-ups in six dioceses.

“The heart-wrenching pain of these victims, which cries out to heaven, was long ignored, kept quiet or silenced,” Pope Francis said. “But their outcry was more powerful than all the measures meant to silence them.”

“The pain of the victims and their families is also our pain,” he said, “and so it is urgent that we once more reaffirm our commitment to ensure the protection of minors and of vulnerable adults.”

In his letter, Pope Francis insisted all Catholics must be involved in the effort to accompany victims, to strengthen safeguarding measures and to end a culture where abuse is covered up.

The letter insisted that “clericalism” has been a key part of the problem and said the involvement of the laity will be crucial to addressing



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the crime and scandal.

Change, he said, will require “the active participation of all the members of God’s people.”

“Many communities where sexual abuse and the abuse of power and conscience have occurred,” he said, are groups where there has been an effort to “reduce the people of God to small elites.”

“Clericalism, whether fostered by priests themselves or by lay persons, leads to a split in the ecclesial body that supports and helps to perpetuate many of the evils that we are condemning today,” Pope Francis said. “To say ‘no’ to abuse is to say an emphatic ‘no’ to all forms of clericalism.”

In his letter, Pope Francis acknowledged the church’s failure.

“With shame and repentance, we acknowledge as an ecclesial community that we were not where we should have been, that we did not act in a timely manner, realizing the magnitude and the gravity of the damage done to so many lives,” he wrote.

As members of the church, he said, all Catholics should “beg forgiveness for our own sins and the sins of others.”

Pope Francis also asked Catholics to pray and to fast so that they would be able to hear “the hushed pain” of abuse survivors.

(Editor’s Note: The full text of the Holy Father’s letter can be found on the Diocesan website: www.dioceseofscranton.org – see Child Protection/Safe Environment page.)

DAY OF ATONEMENT AND HEALING

Dear Friends,

In his letter of August 20, to the whole people of God, Pope Francis called on the Catholic community worldwide to unite so that: “every one of the baptized should feel involved in the ecclesial and social change that we so greatly need. This change calls us to see things as the Lord does, to be where the Lord wants us to be, to experience a conversion of heart in his presence.”

On our behalf, I have accepted and extend now to all parishes and all members of the Diocese of Scranton, the Holy Father’s invitation to a *penitential exercise of prayer and fasting*. While such an experience does not need a specific start or finish, in order to benefit from the communal expression of this commitment, **all parishes have been asked to consider a twenty-four hour period beginning the evening of Friday, September 14 – the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross. This time of Atonement and Healing will continue throughout the day on Saturday, September 15 – the Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows.**



Each parish received a packet of resources to assist in planning for individual, family, parish and Diocesan-level participation. Options provided include Evening Prayer, Holy Hour with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Morning Prayer, Memorial Mass for Our Lady of Sorrows, Rosary Meditations, Booklet for Personal or Small Group Prayer and Reflection, Booklet for Family Participation (at home or at church), Intercessions to be included in weekend Masses, and Prayer Cards for individual or communal use.

Personally, I will unite with you among the participants, during the observance of this Day of Atonement and Healing with the community of the Cathedral of Saint Peter.

Taking to heart Pope Francis’ words, together we call on each other to realize that “being part of a people and a shared history will enable us to acknowledge our past sins and mistakes with a penitential openness that can allow us to be renewed from within.”

As the Universal Church becomes open to this kind of renewal, the Pope suggests that: “We will come up with actions that can generate resources attuned to the Gospel. For ‘whenever we make the effort to return to the source and to recover the original freshness of the Gospel, new avenues arise, new paths of creativity open up, with different forms of expression, more eloquent signs and words with new meaning for today’s world’ (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 11).

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *Joseph C. Bambera*

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



Bishop Bambera Announces Decision on Status of Bishop Emeritus James C. Timlin

Dear Friends,

The Fortieth Statewide Grand Jury Report released earlier this month shared the tragic details of child sexual abuse in the Catholic Church of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania over the past seventy years. The report focused not only on abusive priests, but also brought increased attention to the role of those who enabled such abuse to continue. Thus, I took the unprecedented step of asking the Independent Review Board of the Diocese of Scranton to review how Bishop James Timlin handled allegations and his role in all cases prior to the *Dallas Charter* in 2002. I recently received a recommendation from the Independent Review Board.

As background, the board – comprised of three lay persons, a religious sister and a religious priest – is a confidential consultative body put in place to advise a bishop on the assessment of allegations of abuse. These individuals are highly qualified and equipped to assist me with this decision, as each boasts expertise related to law enforcement, education, counseling or victim advocacy. Their combined experience brings a unique perspective that I simply do not have. Though it is unusual for a sitting bishop to review a prior bishop, I insisted the board use the same process for Bishop Timlin as is used for any accused priest or lay person.

I understand that it is unfair to judge past actions against present day standards. However, I also know that the Church could have – should have – done more to protect our children. We cannot ignore this fact today.

It is with this context that I share my decision around Bishop Timlin. After much thought and with careful consideration of the recommendation from the Independent Review Board, I have decided to permanently restrict Bishop Timlin from representing the Diocese of Scranton at all public events, liturgical or otherwise.

This is the fullest extent that my authority permits me to act relative to another bishop. I have, though, also referred this matter to the Vatican Congregation for Bishops, which has jurisdiction over additional aspects of Bishop Timlin’s ministry. This was not a decision that was taken lightly.

It is important that I make this very clear: Bishop Timlin did not abuse children, nor has he ever been accused of having done so. Instead, he mishandled some cases of abuse. He presided over the Diocese of Scranton for nearly 20 years – a time in which the Diocese fell short of its duty to protect children. And, in many of the cases detailed in the Grand Jury report, Bishop Timlin fell short, too. While he followed the existing rules and policies when handling most of these cases, there was more he could have done to protect children.

Some have asked why I did not restrict Bishop Timlin from publicly representing the Diocese of Scranton sooner, given the information that was shared in the Grand Jury report. Frankly, when I became Bishop in 2010, my concern at the time was not with Bishop Timlin, but on the need to keep predator priests out of ministry and to create environments in which our children would be safe. Bishop Timlin had no administrative role within the Diocese at the time, and had been out of office for seven years by the time of my appointment. Yet, the sobering report of the statewide Grand Jury has shown me that I could have done more in this regard immediately upon my appointment to Bishop. It has also caused me to reflect on my own role in handling allegations of abuse in the Church, too. To those who feel I betrayed their trust in me by allowing Bishop Timlin to continue to minister publicly in the Diocese of Scranton since his retirement, I apologize.

The Grand Jury report has not only compelled me to review the actions of Bishop Timlin but also to consider my role and past actions in protecting children. As many of you know, I have been a priest of the Diocese of Scranton for 35 years. Prior to becoming your Bishop in 2010, I served in numerous parish and administrative assignments. For three years from 1995 to 1998, I served as Vicar for Priests under Bishop Timlin. In that role, I became aware of accusations that were brought against several priests. In those cases, priests were ultimately permanently removed from ministry, in two instances as many as five years before the *Charter for the Protection of Youth and Young Adults’* mandate of zero tolerance for credibly accused priests was enacted in the United States.

In 2002, I was appointed to an ad hoc committee to review certain files pertaining to several men who had been accused of abuse. The task of this committee was to make recommendations to the Bishop to ensure that all men credibly accused of abuse were removed from ministry, as mandated by the *Charter* – not to assess how Bishop Timlin handled cases of abuse. Following this extensive review process, 10 men were removed from ministry.

Following Bishop Timlin’s retirement in 2003, Bishop Joseph Martino led the Diocese and served for nearly seven years before I took office. Bishop Martino also carefully reviewed the Diocese’s response to the *Dallas Charter*, taking into account both the terms of the *Charter* and canonical processes.

Since my appointment in 2010, I have been hyper-focused on keeping our children safe, both by ensuring that no credibly accused individual remain in ministry, and also by closely following the *Dallas Charter* and our own Safe Environment Program. When I took office in 2010, I twice commissioned complete reviews of all Diocesan files – again – to make sure no credibly accused man was in ministry. I have also twice revised our policies and procedures to make necessary improvements along the way.

I can tell you with full confidence that, since I became your Bishop, every single allegation of abuse has been reported to civil authorities and Pennsylvania Child Line. Every credibly accused priest has been removed from ministry. And the public has been notified of every priest removed from ministry as a result of an allegation of abuse.

Based on a thorough review of the Grand Jury report, we have found that 93 percent of the abuse detailed in the report occurred before 2000, showing what we already know to be true: reforms in the United States – and our prevention efforts – are working as the occurrences of abuse have been drastically reduced over the last two decades.

Despite these vigilant efforts, we know there is more work to be done, and we must constantly review and update our policies and procedures. The Grand Jury report has caused me – and many of my peers – to look at past events, decisions and decision makers through a different prism.

After thoughtful reflection and prayers, I recognize that there have been times when I, too, could have done better. I ask for your forgiveness in these instances and promise you now – I will continue to do all that is in my power to ensure the safety of our youth moving forward. That has and always will be my priority as Bishop.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *Joseph C. Bambera*

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



'Lord, to whom shall we go?'

Bishop offers contrition, consolation and hope at parish Mass

John 6:60-69

Bishop Bambera celebrated the Mass at the Church of Saint Gregory on Sunday, August 26, on the occasion of the symbolic groundbreaking for a parish expansion project. Following is his homily:

This is the second week in a row that many of you have had to listen to me at the time of the homily. This week, I'm privileged to join with you as you break ground for a much-needed extension of your Church. Last week, my presence should not have been necessary, but, sadly, it was (referring to his video message shown at all Masses in the Diocese). I'd ask for just another moment to share a few more thoughts.

As the reality of the Grand Jury report starts to settle in, most of our feelings have become even more complicated and conflicted. To say that this is a difficult time is an understatement. It surely is a painful time for victims, many of whom have had to struggle in the shadows for years and are now only finally having their experiences validated – even as they relive the nightmare of abuse. It's a painful time for their families, and for each of you who make up our Church community. While words can be so empty at times, I would again like to offer my sincere apologies to our entire community – and especially the victims. None of you deserves to be confronted with the behavior described in this report.

Yet, however difficult, we must face this tragic reality and learn from the past as we move forward and help victims heal. While most of the cases described in the report date back decades, we must continue to improve our child protection policies and procedures to ensure that we provide a safe environment for all of our children and youth here in the Diocese of Scranton. There simply is no place in a civilized world for the abuse of children – and certainly not within the Church.

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. Today's Mass and the groundbreaking that follows reminds us that as hard as it is to move forward, we *can* – be we can also never forget. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to address that issue once again.

Today's Gospel passage could not be more appropriate as we attempt to move forward through these challenging days. Many of Jesus' followers were having a difficult time understanding his teaching about the Eucharist and its roots in the cross – the suffering and death that Jesus would inevitably face. ... And a lot of his followers walked away.

In the face of that exodus, Jesus turned to his closest followers – the twelve apostles – and asked a sobering question: "What about you? Do you also want to leave?" To which Peter responds with his well-known confession of faith, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."



Parishioners filled the Church of Saint Gregory in Clarks Summit for a Mass on Sunday, August 26, celebrated by Bishop Bambera and followed by the groundbreaking of the parish expansion project.

The Catholic Light Photos/
Mike Melisky



Parishioners witness the the symbolic groundbreaking for the expansion project. Wielding the shovels are, from left: Michele Musheno, David Hemmler, Bishop Bambera, David Tressler and Mayor Patty Lawler. In background are Deacon Robert Sheils and Reverend John Lapera, pastor. Julie Nastasi and Bridget Walsh also participated.



That's a pretty timely and relevant question for us, isn't it? ... In the midst of some unbelievable things with which we've been confronted these past two weeks, what about you? Do you also want to leave?

People leave the Church for all sorts of reasons. They leave because of changes that have taken place over the years – because of personal encounters that have been hurtful or misunderstood – and I have no doubt that many will leave because of what we've had to face here in the Diocese of Scranton and in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

But you are here today – for any number of reasons, I suppose. Perhaps not for every one of you, but for *some* of you, I am certain, your response to the question of Jesus in today's Gospel likely echoes that of Peter, "Lord, to whom shall we go?" For all of its human limitations and shortcomings, we see the Church as the place where we have encountered God and through which God has touched our lives.

Perhaps the question that Jesus really prompts us to address today is less whether we're going to leave and much more this query, "Why do you stay?" ... Why do you or any of us stay with the Church in the midst

of all that you've had to face during these past weeks.

Chances are that the answer to that question starts with what you see as you look around this church. We see a family of believers, don't we? And in as much as some of the members of that family can prompt us to want to run away at times, that same family contains the key to why any of us stay. ... We stay because of a daughter or a grandson who was just baptized and who teach us through their innocence about the boundless love of God. ... We stay because of selfless neighbors who set aside their own comfort to serve the poorest and those who struggle the most in our communities. ... We stay because of that unique individual whom we so admire who has been given the grace to look beyond obvious hurt and pain to forgive. ... We stay because we sense deep within our hearts that there's more to this world than we can see and touch and understand, and this Church, for all of its imperfections, opens the door to that which is holy! ... And we stay because we believe that somehow, through the power of God, we connect with that which is holy through the sacramental life of the Church.

Continued on next page

Bishop participates in groundbreaking celebration for Saint Gregory Parish expansion

Continued from page 3

Why do you stay?

I've thought a lot about this question over the past few weeks. One of the reasons I stay is rooted in something that a great aunt of mine taught me around the time I was ordained a priest, 35 years ago, when she was well into her 80s. She'd given birth to three children. Two died before they were 5 years of age – one because of a sickness and the other in a tragic house fire. Her third and only remaining son lived into his 60s and died suddenly in front of her on New Year's Eve. For all of her loss, she embraced life well and with a great deal of enthusiasm and hope. One time, not long before her passing, I asked her how she managed to be so upbeat, given all of the loss that she endured throughout her life. Here's what she said, "Nobody will ever know the volume of tears that

I shed, but I believe with all my heart that there's nothing we can't endure if we have faith."

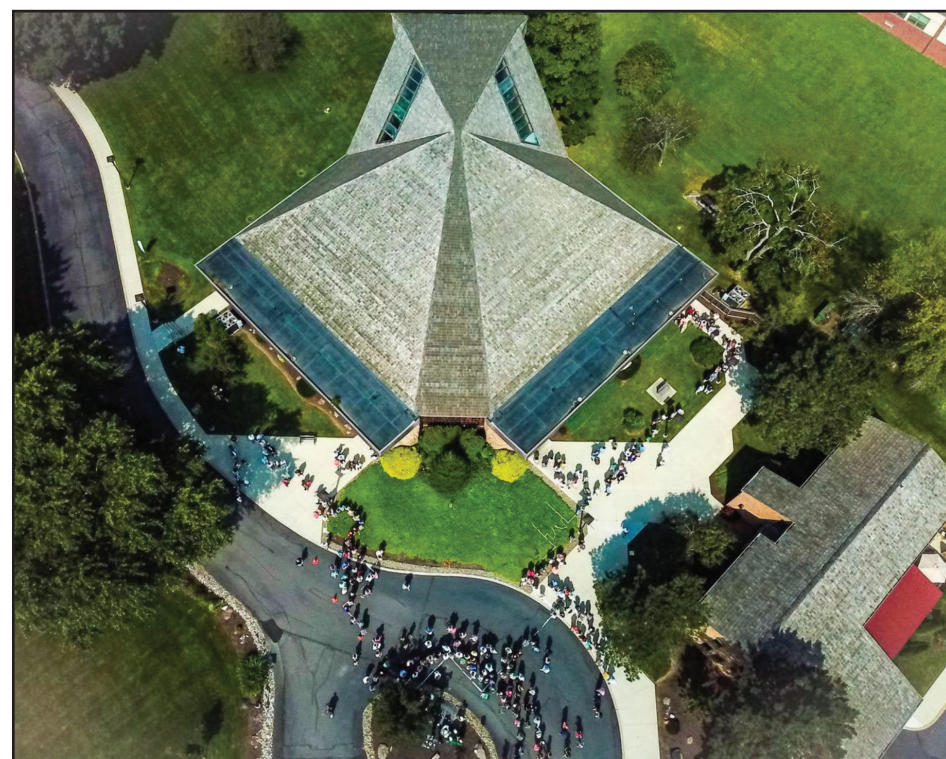
For me, I stay because my faith is nurtured in this Church community, no matter how tarnished it has become. ... What about you? ... Why do you stay? ... Why are we breaking ground today to expand this worship site? ... "Why do you stay?" ... I suspect that somewhere in the midst of however we answer this question, we'll find *something* that has to do with faith – and the belief that for as imperfect as the *members* of the Church may be – especially its leaders – God has given us the grace to discover within this community signs of his life, his mercy, his love, and a reason to hope – the surest and the only things that will give us lasting peace.

For me – and hopefully for you – those are pretty good reasons to stay!

Feast of Saint Jeanne Jugan



Bishop Bambera celebrated Mass at Holy Family Residence in Scranton for the Feast of Saint Jeanne Jugan, foundress of the Little Sisters of the Poor who minister to the elderly. This year marks the 150th anniversary of the Little Sisters coming to America. The Bishop thanked the Sisters for providing compassionate care to the elderly in our Diocese.



This view from a drone shows parishioners forming "living stones" around the outline of the expansion to the Church of Saint Gregory in Clarks Green. The project will include renovations to the church, which was built in 1976, and development of a Ministry Center that will provide space to meet increasing needs and opportunities for worship and sacramental celebrations; sacred music and education; and religious formation, including RCIA, children's liturgy of the Word, faith sharing, study groups, Vacation Bible School, and retreats. After the Mass and groundbreaking ceremony parishioners enjoyed a summer barbecue.

(Photo/Maxwell Stevens)

CLERGY APPOINTMENT

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

ASSISTANT PASTOR

Reverend Michael S. Drevitch, from Leave of Absence, to Assistant Pastor, Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Honesdale, effective September 1, 2018.



BISHOP BAMBERA'S SCHEDULE

September 6-9 – National Advisory Council Meeting, Baltimore, Md.

September 10-12 – Administrative Committee Meeting, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, D.C.

September 13 – Mass of the Holy Spirit, Diocesan Pastoral Center, 12:10 p.m.

September 18 – Confirmation, Saint Boniface and Saint Joseph the Worker Parishes, Saint Boniface Church, Williamsport, 5:00 p.m.

September 20 – Confirmation, Saint Rose of Lima Parish, Carbondale, 5:00 p.m.

Youth gearing up for Day of Service activities across the Diocese

In his Prayer Vigil Address at World Youth Day 2016, Pope Francis passionately shared:

“Dear young people, we didn’t come into this world to ‘vegetate,’ to take it easy, to make our lives a comfortable sofa to fall asleep on. No, we came for another reason: to leave a mark.

Following Jesus demands a good dose of courage. Take the path of the ‘craziness’ of our God, who teaches us to encounter him in the hungry, the thirsty, the naked, the sick, the friend in trouble, the prisoner, the refugee and the migrant, and our neighbors who feel abandoned.”

In response to our Holy Father’s challenge and the recommendations of members of the young church, our Diocesan Offices for Parish Life and Vocations are once again sponsoring a **Diocesan Day of Service** (#Leaveamark18) for those aged 16 to 35 and adult chaperones on **Saturday, September 15, 2018**. The day will consist of an opening Mass, registration, volunteering at a nonprofit organization site, lunch, and prayer/reflection on the experience.

“There is much energy and excitement around this event once again this year. It will be a great day in all four Episcopal regions of our Diocese as high school students, college students, young adults, and adult chaperones unite in prayer and service,” said Dominick Costantino, vocation program coordinator.

For more information and/or to register, visit vocations.dioceseofscranton.org.

Scenes from the 2017 Diocesan Day of Service



Participants who started the day in prayer at Holy Redeemer High School, Wilkes-Barre.



Volunteers in East Stroudsburg.



Volunteers at the Welcome Scranton event.



Volunteers at the Habitat for Humanity Restore project in Nanticoke during the 2017 Diocesan Day of Service.



Fall 2018

*Eucharistic Adoration – Speaker – Praise & Worship Music –
Reconciliation – Social*

Monday, September 10, 6:30PM

Diocesan Pastoral Center, 330 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton

Monday, October 15, 6:30PM

Saint Boniface Parish, 326 Washington Blvd., Williamsport

Friday, November 16, 7:00PM

Saint Matthew Parish, 78 Ridgeway St., East Stroudsburg

Monday, December 3, 6:30PM

Nativity of Our Lord Parish, 127 Stephenson St., Duryea

*For more information, visit vocations.dioceseofscranton.org
or call 570-780-2996.*

Mass in Italian Celebrated



Banners are carried into the Diocesan Pastoral Center for the Mass in Italian that is celebrated annually in conjunction with La Festa Italiana held on Courthouse Square in Scranton. *The Catholic Light Photo/Mike Melisky*



Two new principals have joined the Diocesan Catholic School System for the 2018-19 school year. They are, seated: Dr. Becca Torregrossa, Monsignor McHugh School in Cresco, and Jason Tribbet, Holy Family Academy in Hazleton. Standing: Jason Morrison, Diocesan Secretary for Catholic Education/Chief Operating Officer; Ms. Kathleen Gilmartin, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; and Monsignor David L. Tressler, Superintendent of Catholic Schools.

Office for Parish Life

2018 Ministry Formation Skills Workshop Series

Pray and Proclaim!

Saturday, September 15, 2018 from 9:00AM-2:30PM
St. Monica Parish, West Wyoming

Presented by
Dr. Maria Poggi Johnson and Kitty Scanlan

Dr. Maria Poggi Johnson will give introduction to basic public speaking techniques, and provide opportunity for participants to try out these methods.

Kitty Scanlan will discuss topics such as: Why do we pray? How do we pray? What are some ideas and resources for planning prayer with groups, or in the classroom? The ways in which ministers cultivate spirituality outside of the Mass not only enriches Sunday worship but can bring the reality of God into our everyday lived experience.

Dr. Poggi Johnson is a professor of Theology and Religious Studies at the University of Scranton.

Kitty Scanlan is the Coordinator for Lay Ministry Formation for the Diocese of Scranton in the Office for Parish Life.

For more information contact Kitty Scanlan at 570-207-2213. To register, visit dioceseofscranton.org.

Save the Date! WORD Convocation (Convocation for Catechists)

Saturday, October 20, 2018
Diocesan Pastoral Center
330 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton

The Office for Parish Life invites DREs, catechists, RCIA teams, Youth Ministers, those on parish WORD Commissions and anyone engaged in Ministry of the Word to share in the WORD Convocation.

The Keynote Speaker will be Joan Weber offering a presentation entitled, "Calling Families to Be Living Gospels."

Joan is the Coordinator of the National Workshop Series and Lifelong Faith Formation at the Center for Ministry Development. Joan is the former president of the National Catholic Young Adult Ministry Association and content editor and author for the USCCB's book Connecting Young Adults to Catholic Parishes.

The day will begin at 9:00 with Mass in the Cathedral of Saint Peter, followed by the keynote presentation, lunch and a choice of workshops. Please save the date. Registration will be open later in August.

For more information, please contact Mary Anne Malone: Mary-Anne-Malone@dioceseofscranton.org or (570) 207-2213, ext. 1100.

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Considering downsizing?

Open House

for a tour and refreshments.

Thursday, October 4th
9 a.m. to 6 p.m.



For information call **570-826-1031**
www.stlukesvilla.org

80 E. NORTHAMPTON ST.

WILKES-BARRE, PA 18701

Bishop Bambera Celebrates Mass for Holy Redeemer Regional School System

As the Diocese of Scranton continues the observance of the 150th Anniversary of its founding, Bishop Bambera is celebrating Masses in each of the four regional Catholic School systems. The Mass for the Holy Redeemer Regional System was celebrated on September 4 at Saint John the Evangelist Church in Pittston.

The Holy Redeemer System is comprised of Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre, Good Shepherd Academy in Kingstons, Holy Family Academy in Hazleton, Holy Rosary Elementary School in Duryea, Saint Jude Elementary School in Mountain Top, Saint Nicholas-Saint Mary Elementary School in Wilkes-Barre, and Wyoming Area Catholic Elementary School in Exeter.

Citing the history of the Diocese, Bishop Bambera encouraged the students to take their place among the countless individuals who have built this local church and enabled it to grow throughout the years.

He asked the students to “give Jesus some room in your life and in your heart.”

“The Church needs *you* far more than it needs me,” the Bishop said. “Make someone else’s life better because they have encountered you. And ask, ‘Lord, show me the way.’”



The Catholic Light Photos/Mike Melisky



Reforms Have Been Working

A Message from Bishop Bambera

For several weeks now, a pall of suffering, disbelief, anger and betrayal has fallen upon Pennsylvania and far beyond. While the 40th Statewide Grand Jury report finally validated the suffering of countless victims of sexual abuse by members of the clergy, sadly, far too many victims and their families have had to face, yet again, these painful memories.

Devoted parishioners have been betrayed by once beloved members of the clergy. Good and faithful priests, deacons and parish leaders have had to speak for a Church that let its people down, even as they suffer with those entrusted to your care, bearing their own feelings of grief, loss, anger and pain.

And people of all faith traditions and none at all have come face-to-face with nothing short of evil in the midst of an already challenged world.

None of you deserve to be confronted with the tragic details described in the report. To all of you – I am sorry. The Church has failed you.

While so much of the 70-year history that was chronicled in the Grand Jury report portrays leadership in the Church that has lost its way, the fact is that our children are safer today than ever before.

Since becoming Bishop in 2010, it has been my priority not only to properly handle allegations of abuse quickly and transparently in partnership with law enforcement, but also to eradicate abuse from the Church altogether. This has – and will remain – a critical matter to me and to the many clergy and staff at the Diocese of Scranton who are committed to providing safe environments for our children and youth.

In 2002, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops established the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, offering procedures and guidelines for addressing allegations of abuse related to healing, accountability and prevention. At the Diocese of Scranton, we follow the Charter closely and have adopted our own Child Protection/Safe Environment Program that includes a zero tolerance policy on abuse. Since the Charter, we've trained nearly 29,000 adult employees and volunteers on prevention, reporting and signs of abuse.

We have consistently reported all credible allegations of abuse to law enforcement and Pennsylvania Child Line, and we alert the public when an individual is removed from ministry based on these allegations. That is our standard practice that has been in place since 2002.

The Grand Jury Report reflects these efforts. In fact, 93 percent of the abuse detailed in the report occurred before 2000. This goes to show what we already know to be true: reforms in the United States – and our prevention efforts – are working as the occurrences of abuse have been drastically reduced over the last two decades. We know there is more work to be done, and we're constantly reviewing and updating our policies and procedures.

When abuse does occur, we maintain a Victim Assistance Coordinator who serves as a compassionate advocate for victims and assists throughout the healing process.

And in an effort to maintain transparency, we shared the list of accused individuals with all 11 district attorneys within the Diocese before we were even aware of the Grand Jury investigation. On August 14 we publicly released that list, which includes information about each individual, his assignment, work history and last known residence. Publishing this list was not meant to make victims re-live the past, but to validate victims, to encourage others to come forward, and to protect our communities.

We're doing everything in our power to prevent future cases of abuse, and to properly handle allegations when they do come forward. But that doesn't change heartbreaking events of the past.

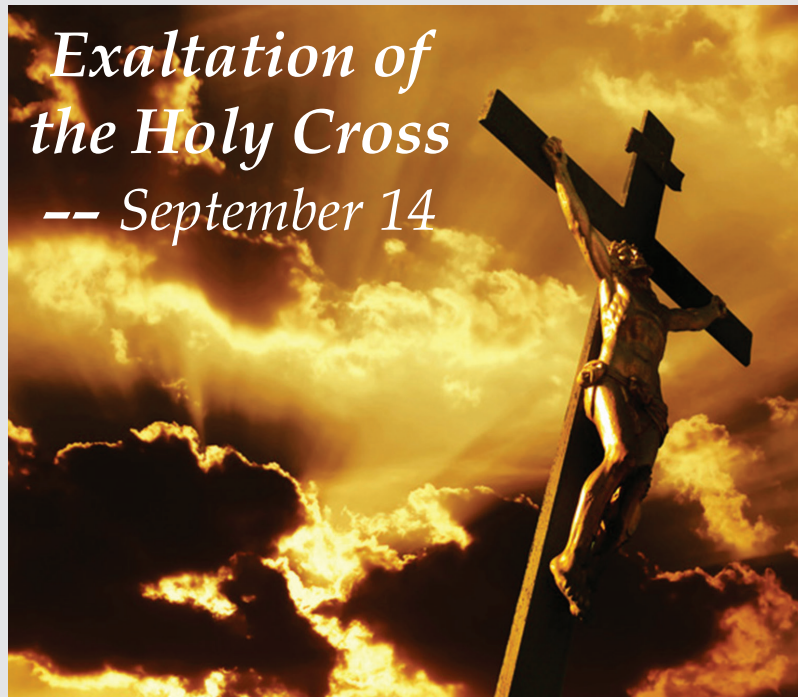
We know cases were not always handled properly. Therefore, I asked our Independent Review Board to formally assess Bishop Emeritus James Timlin's handling of previous allegations of abuse during his time in leadership. On August 31, I announced my decision to permanently restrict Bishop Timlin from representing the Diocese at all public events, liturgical or otherwise. I have also referred this matter to the Vatican Congregation for Bishops, which has jurisdiction over additional aspects of Bishop Timlin's ministry. This decision was not made lightly, as explained in my letter on page 2.

While much good work has been and continues to be done through the Church, I know this report is both disturbing and painful. I hope that your trust in the Church can one day be restored. I know that will take time and will only happen when you encounter behavior by all clergy and Church leaders that earns your trust.

I pray that we learn from the past and create a better future for the Diocese of Scranton. For my part, I will do all that I can to keep our children and youth safe.

(Editor's Note: This message was submitted to area newspapers as an Op-Ed.)

Exaltation of the Holy Cross -- September 14



Prayer Requests for Priests

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

September 6, Monsignor John Bergamo; September 7, Father Jacek Bialkowski; September 8, Father William Blake; September 9, Monsignor David Bohr; September 10, Passionist Father Vincent Boney; September 11, Father John Boyle;


September 12, Father Michael Bryant; September 13, Passionist Father Edward Buchheit; September 14, Passionist Father Richard Burke; September 15, Jesuit Father Timothy Cadigan; September 16, Father William Campbell; September 17, Father David Cappelloni; September 18, Father Thomas Cappelloni; September 19, Father Sean Carpenter.



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Diocese of Scranton
DIOCESAN
ANNUAL APPEAL 

Volume 118 Number 12 — Thursday, September 6, 2018

Families called to share joy, love, life with the world, pope says



Pope Francis arrives to celebrate Mass at Phoenix Park in Dublin Aug. 26.

DUBLIN (CNS) – In a stadium of Catholic families from around the world, Pope Francis told the laypeople they are the vast majority of church members and that, without them, the church would be cold, a collection of statues.

“God wants every family to be a beacon of joy of his love to our world,” the pope said Aug. 25, celebrating the Festival of Families in Dublin’s Croke Park Stadium.

The Irish dance troupe Riverdance thrilled the crowd and brought a big smile to Pope Francis’ face. “The Priests,” a classical Irish trio of priests, performed, as did Nathan Carter, an Irish country singer, and tenor Andrea Bocelli.

Families from India, Canada, Iraq, Ireland and Burkina Faso stood on stage near the pope while pre-recorded video versions of their testimonies played.

The Canadian couple, Marissa and Aldo d’Andrea of Toronto, spoke about their 54 years of marriage, their four children and 13 grandchildren – and one on the way.

The Iraqi couple, Enass and Sarmaad Mekhael, are refugees living in Australia. Enass’ brother was Father Ragheed Aziz Ganni, a

35-year-old Chaldean Catholic priest murdered in 2007 at a parish in Mosul, Iraq.

The families, who have faced joys and heartache and have held on to each other and to their faith, are models of how each Catholic family is called to give a witness in the world to the love of God, the pope said.

“That is what holiness is all about,” he said. “I like to speak of the saints next door, all those ordinary people who reflect God’s presence in the life and history of the world.”

Pope Francis insisted, “The vocation to love and to holiness is not something reserved for a privileged few,” but is a call that comes with baptism.

One key aspect of God’s love is God’s willingness to forgive, and that is an essential part of family life, too, the pope said.

Every family experiences tensions and arguments, the pope said, but “sometimes you are angry and tempted to sleep in another room – alone and apart – but just knock on the door and say: ‘Please, can I come in?’ All it takes is a look, a kiss, a sweet word and everything returns to normal.”

Pope Francis said the stories shared by the couples clearly show the strength

and power that come from faith and from the grace of sacramental marriage.

“The love of Christ that renews all things is what makes possible marriage and a conjugal love marked by fidelity, indissolubility, unity and openness to life,” he said. “God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – created mankind in his image to share in his love, to be a family of families and to enjoy the peace that he alone can give.”

Pope cites crimes of abuse in country

The pope began his visit by acknowledging the failures “of bishops, religious superiors, priests and others” in the Catholic Church to protect children from the “repugnant crimes” of physical and sexual abuse, Pope Francis began his two-day visit to Ireland.

Meeting with civil, cultural and religious leaders in Dublin Castle Aug. 25, the pope said he knew that the horrendous history of abuse and its cover-up in Ireland “has rightly given rise to outrage and remains a source of pain and shame for the Catholic community.”

“I myself share those sentiments,” the pope said.

Pope Francis spent 90 minutes meeting privately

with eight survivors of sexual, physical and emotional abuse at the hands of Catholic clergy or in Catholic-run schools and institutions.

Ireland has seen major changes since then-Father Jorge Mario Bergoglio studied English there. In 1995, voters approved a referendum to legalize divorce; the Good Friday agreements bringing peace to Ireland and Northern Ireland were signed in 1998; gay marriage was approved in a 2015 referendum; and

in May, 66 percent of Irish voters approved a referendum to legalize abortion. The legislation is expected to be signed in the fall.

Still, Pope Francis said, Catholics have and will continue to enrich the country with the values of their faith.

“Even in Ireland’s darkest hours,” he said, the people “found in that faith a source of the courage and commitment needed to forge a future of freedom and dignity, justice and solidarity.”

As Ireland grows more diverse, the pope said, he hoped the country would “not be forgetful of the powerful strains of the Christian message that have sustained it in the past and can continue to do so in the future.”

Thanking Ireland for hosting the World Meeting of Families, the pope said the Catholic Church wants “to support families in their efforts to respond faithfully and joyfully to their God-given vocation in society.”



Pilgrims from Queen of the Apostles Parish, Avoca, attended the World Meeting of Families in Ireland. They are pictured here at Saint Mary’s Church in Dublin.

Local Faithful Enjoy Pilgrimage to Emerald Isle

A 44-person delegation from Queen of the Apostles Parish, Avoca, was among 500,000 pilgrims who gathered in Ireland last month for the World Meeting of Families with Pope Francis. Led by their pastor, Father Phil Sladicka, they prayed at Churches and Shrines in Ireland, and converged at the Our Lady of Knock Shrine, Croke Stadium and Phoenix Park, and on the streets of Dublin. They came to be in the presence of our Holy Father and to talk about family life, just as many had in Philadelphia in 2015.

The local pilgrims traveled to Attymass and the home of Father Patrick Peyton, where they had an anointing service there and prayed for healing.

They toured the Wild Atlantic Way up the west coast of Ireland – from Shannon to the Cliffs of Moher to a Castle tour and banquet in Claregalway, and finally on to Dublin.

Mass was celebrated each day, and remembrance was paid to the ancestors who came to America to bring the Catholic faith to Northeastern PA and were founders of the Scranton Diocese over 150 years ago.

The pilgrimage was an opportunity – in the traveling, the conversations and the silences – to reflect on the journey of life and our journey homewards to God, and to meet the One who is always there beside us on the journey. Beckoned or not beckoned, God is always with us.



For the Journey

‘The Hiding Place’

By Effie Caldarola

Suffering a bout of insomnia, I wandered to a book shelf in the middle of the night and selected the Vietnam War memoir, “In Pharaoh’s Army: Memories of the Lost War,” by Tobias Wolff.

Although not exactly balm to soothe the weary soul, Wolff’s first-person experiences in war did serve one purpose in my nighttime restlessness. It reminded me, yet again, that as bad as things look in our nation right now, we’ve gone through a host of bad times. History is often written in blood.

We need history’s long perspective. It’s why I’m reading “The Blood of Emmitt Till,” by Timothy Tyson, about the murder of a young black boy that propelled the modern civil rights movement. His heroic mother insisted that his battered body be displayed for the world to see what racial hatred could do.

Everyone probably has one book that has brought history alive for them. If that book also gave you hope and enriched your faith, both in God and in the potential for human goodness, then grab that book and give it another good read. While history is full of tragedy, it’s also replete with saints and heroes.

I recently dug out my dog-eared copy of “The Hiding Place” by Corrie ten Boom and reread it.

“The Hiding Place” recalls ten Boom’s experiences during World War II when she and her Dutch family were swept up in the Nazi occupation of Holland.

By then, Corrie was a middle-aged spinster who believed the parameters of her life were well-defined. Living in a narrow old Haarlem house, she assisted her elderly father with his watch repair shop.

But the times in which she lived showed her that God had more for her to do.

The ten Booms were devout members of the Dutch Reformed Church. It was not a superficial Sunday faith. Scripture was read together daily and absorbed into the ten Boom spirit like nutrients into the body.

When the crisis hit, the extended family risked everything and built a secret hiding place for Jews in their eccentric old home. Corrie became the unlikely ringleader of an underground resistance network.

The activism of the ten Boom family resulted directly from their deep faith in God and reminds us that political activism begins with God, which helps keep us from anger and discouragement.

Captured, Corrie and family members were sent to a concentration camp, where they demonstrated a remarkably inclusive

spirit. All faiths were welcome at their Scripture studies and prayer, and when she was taken away, Corrie entrusted leadership to a Roman Catholic woman.

Earlier, it was inspiring to see the reverence in which the family, particularly the elderly father, held the Jewish faith. There were no Muslims around, but had there been, the ten Booms would have embraced them as well.

Real faith leads us to embrace all, the “other,” the immigrant, the homeless, the death row prisoner. History’s tragedies often begin with the exclusion of another group.

Despite loss, ten Boom’s story brims with faith and joy.

Martin Luther King Jr. said, “The moral arc of the universe is long but it bends toward justice.”

Sometimes as we struggle with today’s events, we think that moral arc is bending very, very slowly. But then we look to the cross. If even Jesus suffered unjustly at the hands of the state, seeming to fail in his mission, we know that we’re called to fight the good fight despite setbacks.

Who inspires you? Who gives you hope? Read about a favorite saint or hero of history, and have faith.

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In Light of Faith

The Path Forward for the Church

By Nicole Perone

“Youth is an original and exciting stage in life, that Christ himself went through, sanctifying it with his presence.” The working document of the Synod of Bishops on “Young people, faith and vocational discernment” begins the process of interpreting the situation of young people today with this observation.

The presynod gathering, of which I was blessed to be a part, was something I consider historic. Like the online questionnaire, it provided a platform for young people to be honest and hopeful about their needs and the ways the church can be their home.

When reading the working document, I had to pause to marvel at that sentence. What an awe-inspiring concept: that the almighty God chose to enter into our humanity as a young person, whose ministry culminated during what is now termed “young adulthood.”

In a chapter of life that is so tumultuous with growth and change, that sentence struck me as the ultimate comfort for a young person: Our Lord knows these challenges and joys as intimately as we do.

The truth is, those challenges are stronger than ever.

There are so many undercurrents of evil that reverberate in our world: war, violence, abuse, addiction, religious persecution, lack of respect for the sanctity of life, crises of leadership, illness, inequalities of gender, race, socioeconomic status and religion, and so much more that varies throughout the myriad of cultures and situations across the globe.

These tempests can rock the worlds of young people, fostering in them anxiety and uncertainty.

Thankfully, we have a Savior who walks on water and calms storms. This stage of life is the most crucial of times to come to know, love and serve him and his church. The church has a responsibility to serve as a refuge for young people in a world that presents so many disruptions to their peace.

For many young people, their experience in the church is one that fosters stability and peace; however, like anything living and breathing, the church must continue to grow

in her mission of bringing Christ’s life and peace to the world.

It is my fervent prayer that the synod fathers will respond with openness and enthusiasm to the concerns of young people that were raised. However, the presynod document is simply one contribution of many (from Vatican documents to papal remarks to online questionnaire responses) that will foster the discussion at the synod. While the working document is informative and directional, it is the synod fathers who must forge the path forward for the church.

That path cannot be walked alone. Young people around the world have been clear that they are not content to be passive recipients of what the church offers, but rather protagonists of their own faith journeys and deeply invested in the life of the church.

What better opportunity to ensure future generations of committed young people giving of their gifts faithfully than to begin collaboratively empowering the laity to step up, not facing challenges outside of the

church but alongside her?

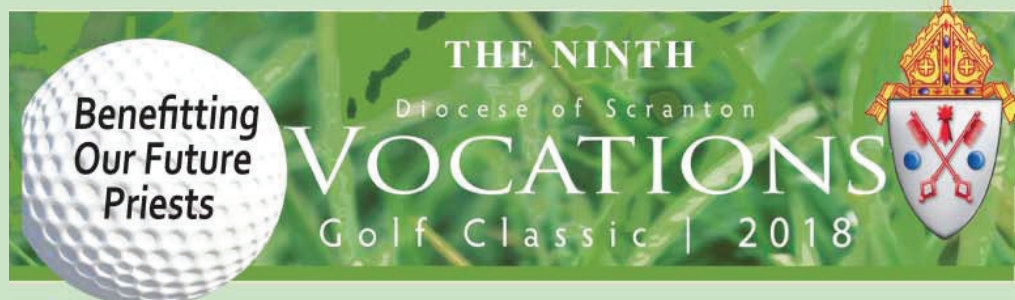
In this moment, the church is at a crossroads: This synod has the opportunity to be more than a platitude -- a deeply transformational moment for the church and the world in which she operates.

It is comforting to remember that the church has a rich and heroic history of being unafraid to go toe-to-toe with concerns that the people of God face. This knowledge is what girds us in hope that the church we love, by reaching out to young people through this process, will not only survive but thrive.

Young people know this crossroads well, as it is a hallmark of this moment in life. Once, while in a moment of great discernment so typical of young adulthood, I sought counsel from a beloved priest whose wisdom was simple: “The Holy Spirit would not take you this far to abandon you.” And so it is with the church we love.

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Thank You for Your Support

The following names were inadvertently omitted from the "thank you" listing donors to the Ninth Vocations Golf Classic which appeared in the last issue of The Catholic Light. We regret the oversight and express our sincere gratitude to those who contributed to the Vocations Classic to benefit Diocesan seminarians.

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In Memory of All Priests & Deacons

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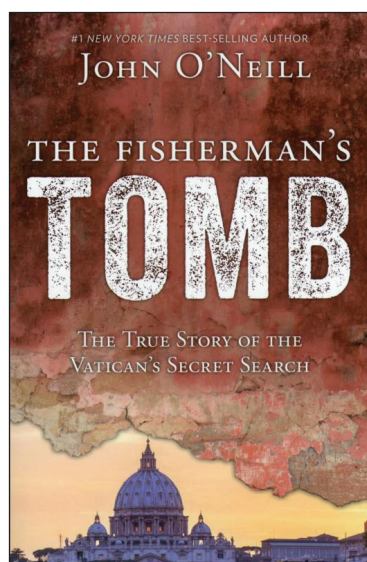
St. Ann Parish - Shohola

The Fisherman's Tomb: The True Story of the Vatican's Secret Search

By John O'Neill

Our Sunday Visitor (Huntington, Indiana, 2018). 205 pp., \$21.95

*Reviewed by Mitch Finley
Catholic News Service*



archaeologist Margherita Guarducci as those of Saint Peter are, indeed, precisely that.

One of the key events in numerous attempts to decipher ancient inscriptions was Guarducci's ultimate success at doing so. O'Neill explains that "Guarducci had a strange genius of her own. She was consumed by inscription puzzles, and she had a special sight — a combination of deduction and genius — that would allow her in time to decipher the clues leading to Peter."

Three inscriptions scratched and disguised on ancient walls that she finally deciphered were absolutely key to the identification of Peter's remains: "Near Peter," "Peter is within" and "Peter pray for me." "This could not be a coincidence," O'Neill remarks. "Clearly early Christians had prayed to Peter here, in the presence of his actual relics." Indeed, in this same location Guarducci found Peter's name inscribed more than 20 times. She wrote a book about her findings in 1960.

Oddly enough, one of the main strands of O'Neill's narrative is his discussion of a heated disagreement, one that lasted many years, between Guarducci and a Vatican priest-archaeologist, Father Antonio Ferrua. The latter discovered some bones that he declared were those of Peter, and even though they were later discredited he continued to insist that Guarducci's work was invalid.

O'Neill's book also tells the story of several popes who were

involved over more than 75 years with the quest for Peter's bones. Beginning with Pope Pius XII in 1939 until the papacy of Pope Francis, popes were either indifferent to this project or personally and heavily invested in it.

A major subtext to all this is, during World War II, the actions of Vatican officials to save the lives of hundreds upon hundreds of Italian Jews — a true story that deserves a book of its own, especially given the accusations of some that Pope Pius did little to help such projects.

Gripping as any novel, this book, ultimately about the search for truth above all, holds not only historical value but theological value, as well. For example, those who accuse Catholics of virtual idolatry for praying to saints for their intercession must face the archaeological evidence that Christians were praying to saints, like Saint Peter, from the church's earliest days.

The appearance of this book is a highly significant event in American Catholic publishing, and it deserves to be read widely.

The Human Side

Principal Causes Behind Unkindness

By Father Eugene Hemrick

What are some leading causes of heartless conflicts in life?

One look at kindness and its opponent gives the answer.

Kindness is being well-disposed toward our self, neighbors, world, government, church and God. Kindness respects, values and promotes the development of another. Understanding the enemies of kindness is the best antidote for resolving conflicts.

Three opponents of kindness stand out most: the desire to dominate, resentment and envy.

Of the many broken marriages that I have witnessed, most have been because of a husband or wife who was domineering. The result was one spouse cutting off the space of the other, creating suffocation. Marital separation or violent domestic battles often followed.

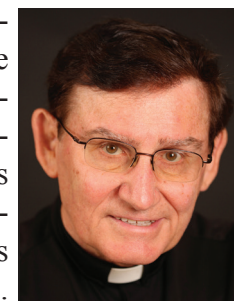
The desire to dominate is natural. Early on in our

education, we are encouraged to be No. 1, to climb to the top of the ladder and overcome all odds in achieving success. However, when this desire for achievement and being No. 1 becomes authoritarian, a pre-eminent value of life is absent: being humane and thinking of others first before self. When altruism, which is the heart of humanity, is missing, a selfish disposition sets in, with mayhem following.

Resentfulness is another

antithesis to kindness. Often it is due to the feeling of having suffered an injustice, expectations that ended in disappointment or rights being disregarded. A sour disposition erupts into feelings of revenge aimed at countering the hurt. The desire to pardon, practice magnanimity and let life begin anew evaporate.

Resentment is a dreadful disease because the more we dwell on a hurt, the more it festers and grows. It also takes the light out of our eyes. I have experienced resentful people who could never get over a grudge. They had become sad sacks who lost their sparkle and sense of joy.



Envy, yet another opponent of kindness, means: Your gain is considered my loss. Every time a person is promoted, it is seen as my demotion. Every time a person looks better than me, I feel I look worse because of him or her. Kindness on the other hand looks beyond itself. It does not begrudge others for what it lacks; rather, it rejoices with them.

When undesirable conflicts surface, they usually point to ill dispositions. Their solution is to understand the moods behind them.

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Diocese of Scranton
CATHOLIC
 SCHOOL SYSTEM
 FAITH • ACADEMICS • SERVICE

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



Some students from **Holy Rosary School in Duryea** received a sneak peek of the school's new science lab, which will also be the 6th grade homeroom. Natalia DeSena, Brenley Harashinski, Morgan Hembury, Sara Nealon, Ellie Faulent, Brooke Kroptavich, Taylor Skibitsky and Anna Pietrowski had the chance to admire the updated space while envisioning the science experiments they will do when school begins.



Students from **Saint Nicholas/Saint Mary School in Wilkes-Barre** advanced to the state competition after winning awards at the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS) regional competition. Science teacher Janice Szczechowicz poses with the PJAS participants: Gabriella Randazzo, Sophia Magistro, Laney Schulz, Chisom Eneh, Matthew Maciejczyk, Christopher Maciejczyk, Madeline Nguyen, Rosalyn Partington, Katharine Fitzgerald, Tessa Martin and Grace Nealon.



James Renfer, a teacher and parent at **Wyoming Area Catholic School in Exeter**, poses with daughters Joyce and Samantha at the school's annual Father Daughter Dance.



The 1st grade classes at **Good Shepherd Academy in Kingston** participated in the school's third annual "Dress Like a Character Day" at the conclusion of the 2017-18 school year. Students read their favorite book, completed a book report, dressed like one of the book's characters, and shared a portion with their classmates.



Epiphany School in Sayre is celebrating 90 years of faith, academics and service in Bradford County. Students can learn about the school's illustrious history by viewing a specially designed billboard, which showcases special moments in time.



Elizabeth Coval and Michael Coval, students at **Saint Mary of Mount Carmel School in Dunmore**, welcome the school's new icon, which will be displayed throughout the 2018-19 school year.



The students and faculty of **Notre Dame Elementary School in East Stroudsburg** gathered for an assembly as part of the school's celebration of World Kindness Day. Students were encouraged to be kind-hearted and caring towards others through the interactive presentation that included storytelling, music and video.



Holy Family Academy in Hazleton welcomes Rachel Vidumsky as their 1st grade teacher for the 2018-19 school year; here she is joined by her teacher's aide, Mary Theresa Hoegg, as they prepare their classroom.



Nineteen students at **Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre** were recognized at the end of the 2017-18 school year for their achievement on the National Spanish Exam. The exam, administered by the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese, measures achievement in vocabulary, grammar, and interpretive communication.



After days, weeks and years of working hard together, the 8th grade class at **All Saints Academy in Scranton** celebrated their “sweet” friendships at Hersheypark just before graduation.



Students and faculty at **Saint Jude School in Mountain Top** wanted to give back to their community in a very special way — so they painted a plow, which will be used by the crew that takes care of the township’s snow removal. When it was completed, school Principal Sister Ellen Fischer, art teacher Mrs. Danielle Correll, and office assistant Sister Mary Theresa Wojcicki posed with the plow along with students Autumn and Richie Lont.



The faculty of **Monsignor McHugh School in Cresco** prepared for the beginning of the school year by sharing a day of prayer and reflection at Our Lady of Victory Parish in Tannersville.



Students from **La Salle Academy in Jessup** showed their school spirit this summer at the annual Jessup Parade and Picnic.

At the end of the 2017-18 school year, 5th grade students at **Our Lady of Peace School in Clarks Green** celebrated their D.A.R.E. graduation.



Saint Paul's Block Party

September 14th, 15th and 16th
 Fri and Sat: 6-10 pm
 Sun: 1-6 pm

Live Entertainment

Fri: DJ Danny K ~ 7-10 pm
 Sat: Crimson Tears ~ 7-10 pm
 Sun: EJ The DJ ~ 2-6 pm



Raffle: \$2,000 & Other Assorted Prizes

Games of Chance ~ Variety Baskets ~ Silent Auction
 Refreshments ~ Potato Pancakes ~ Pizza Fritta
 Sausage and Peppers ~ Pierogies ~
 Cabbage and Noodles ~ Buddy Clarke Wings ~
 Mamma Mia's Pizza ~ Kids' Games ~
 Bounce House ~ Face Painting

Also Featuring

Meg Cullen Brown
 3 on 3 Basketball ~ Saturday 12pm

1510 Penn Ave. ~ Green Ridge ~ 570-961-1549

Scranton Delegation at NPM Convention



Fourteen church musicians from the Diocese of Scranton participated in the recent 41st Annual Convention of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians in Baltimore. The theme for the convention was "Praise, Grow and Serve," with thousands of liturgical musicians from across the country and beyond attending the event. The gathering featured keynote presentations by Bishop Frank J. Caggiano of Bridgeport, Conn., Joyce Ann Zimmerman, Valimar Jansen, Robert Feduccia and Deacon Thom Winner, as well as institutes for musical and pastoral ministry; workshops by prominent liturgical composers; concerts and exhibits. Participants representing the Scranton Diocese pictured above are, foreground from left, Doreen Ignatovich, Joanne Stahura, Joan Schoonover, Marge Stahura, Joan Roginski, and Marilee Beyer. Background, Mark Ignatovich, Paul Lukasiewicz, John Schoonover, David Baloga, Tom Wierbowski and Liz Powell. Also in attendance from the Diocese were Nancy Valtos and Jeffrey Keyes.

TRAVELWORLD



SMOKY MOUNTAIN TENN. BUS TOUR
 Sept. 30-Oct. 6
\$995 PP
 Including Pigeon Forge & Gatlinburg, Great Tour, 4-Shows, Visit Dollywood, 10-Meals!
4-SEATS LEFT

HAPPY FALL FALL IN ATLANTIC CITY
 NOV. 11-13
\$219 PP
 \$60 PP Meal Credit \$25 PP Slot Play & Show.

SENECA LAKE WINE TOUR
 SATURDAY, OCT. 6
\$129 PP
Luncheon Cruise & 3-Wineries!

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS
 March 21-25, 2019
\$1299 PP
"Great New Tour"

11-NIGHT BREAKAWAY CARIBBEAN CRUISE
 OCTOBER 16-27
FROM \$1,195 PP **FREE DRINKS**
 Sail from NYC/Bus Included • Visit San Juan-St Thomas-St. Maarten-St. Kitts & Tortola!

7-NIGHT NORWEGIAN ESCAPE "BAHAMAS" CRUISE
 OCTOBER 21-28, 2018
FROM \$1350 PP/Balcony **FREE DRINKS**
 Sail from NYC/Bus Included

SPRING NEW ORLEANS
 May 13-17, 2019
\$1299 PP
 Stay at the Maison Dupuy
"Complete Tour"

THE ORIGINAL BROOKLYN PIZZA TOUR
 SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21
\$109 PP
 Bus-Brooklyn Tour Visit 2 Pizza Places + Coney Island

NOTRE DAME vs PITTSBURGH
OCT. 11-14 • \$635 PP
 R/T Bus via Martz, Tail-Gate Party, 2-Nights at the Quality Inn South Bend, Notre Dame Pep Rally, Game ticket plus Free time on Campus!!!

1-Day WEST POINT TOUR + Winery & Lunch
 Sunday-October 21
\$99 PP
 Visit the Military Academy, The Brotherhood Winery & Enjoy a Buffet lunch!

7-NIGHT BERMUDA & BOSTON CRUISE
ANTHEM OF THE SEAS
 NOVEMBER 3-10
\$899 PP
 (Balcony) Bus Included to Pier! 3-Staterooms Left!!!

2019 WINTER SPLASH
 February 5-12
\$1299 PP
RIU-Playacar
All Inclusive!!!

3-Day Salem Witch & Boston Weekend
OCTOBER 19-21 • \$389 PP
 Enjoy this Great Weekend!
 Bus, 2-Nights Hotel, Boston Trolley Tour, Harbor Cruise, Salem Witch Museum, 2-Breakfasts & More!

COLUMBUS DAY WEEKEND IN NIAGARA FALLS
 OCTOBER 6-8
\$399 PP
Stay on the Canadian Side

MONTREAL GET-A-WAY
 OCTOBER 5-8
\$659 PP
 "Stay right in downtown Montreal!"
 Meals, Tours & much more
 Call Now!

15-DAY SPRING "CIRCLE" HAWAII CRUISE
 MARCH 10-26, 2019 • FROM \$2995 pp
"This is a New Cruise Offer including Airfare to Los Angeles"
 Stay 1-Night in Los Angeles & Cruise around the HAWAIIAN ISLANDS!
 Sail Aboard the Emerald Princess • Call now for full details!



Music Ministers Workshop September 29

The Office for Parish Life and the Scranton Chapter of the National Association for Pastoral Musicians is sponsoring a musicians' workshop with Dr. Elaine Rendler-McQueeney on Saturday, September 29, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Diocesan Pastoral Center in Scranton.

The topic of the workshop will be: "Here We Go Again: Rediscovering and Renewing Our Commitment to Music Ministry." All cantors, choir members, choir directors, organists, pianists, and instrumentalists are encouraged to participate.

The registration fee is \$20, and registration may be completed on the Diocesan website: www.dioceseofscranton.org, under Parish Life. Deadline to register is Monday, September 24.

Elaine Rendler-McQueeney is a nationally recognized musician, teacher, author, composer, pastoral liturgist and speaker. She holds a doctor of musical arts degree (DMA) in organ performance from The Catholic University of America.

She serves as associate professor of music theory at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia, and for many years was

the director of the Georgetown Chorale in Washington, D.C.

Elaine is perhaps best known as the editor of *Today's Liturgy*, the quarterly liturgy preparation magazine from OCP. Her weekly columns and music suggestions in *Today's Liturgy* have been offering practical wisdom to generations of pastoral musicians for more than 30 years.

The composer of *Keyboard Praise*, Volumes 1 and 2, a collection of organ arrangements based on traditional and contemporary hymn tunes, Elaine is also the artist behind *The Seven Last Words of Christ*, a recording of French composer Theodore Dubois' famous choral work.

She is also the author of two books: *This Is the Day* and *In the Midst of the Assembly*, collections of her best columns from *Today's Liturgy*, and co-author of *Celebrating Marriage, Revised Edition*.

Elaine is a prolific workshop leader and presenter, working with parishes and dioceses to focus on the preparation of ministers and selecting the music for the liturgy.

She currently resides in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, where she is music director and organist at her home parish.

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First Friday Devotions Throughout the Diocese

Masses & Devotions

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

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

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

Pro-Life Rosary Vigils

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

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

Eucharistic Adorations

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

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

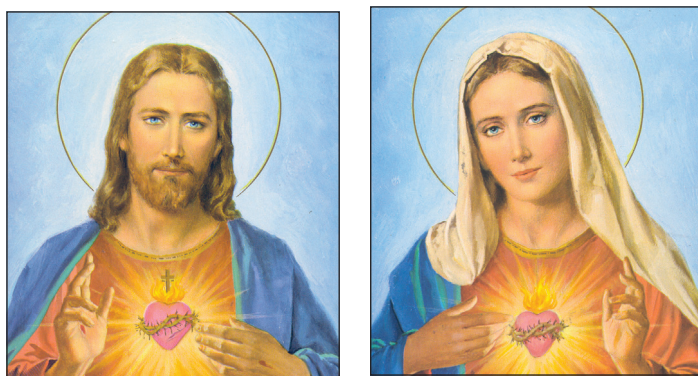
— offered for the special intention of vocations to the priesthood; hosted by Saint Ann Basilica Parish, Saint Ann's St., west Scranton. Adoration begins with 8:30 a.m. Mass and concludes with benediction at 4:45 p.m.

Healing Masses

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

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

Blue Army Reparation Vigil



The next monthly First Friday Reparation Vigil, dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary and sponsored by the Blue Army, will be held **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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SEPTEMBER 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)				BUGTIME ADVENTURES
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)	MY TIME WITH JESUS
1:30 AM	THE BIBLE AND THE SACRAMENTS	EWTN GALLERY	EWTN NEWS NIGHTLY (Encore)				CAT CHAT
2:00 AM	ICONS SPOTLIGHT		EWTN GALLERY	EWTN GALLERY	EWTN GALLERY	EWTN GALLERY	
2:30 AM	CATHOLIC ANSWERS LIVE	AT HOME WITH JIM & JOY	EWTN GALLERY	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	LIFE ON THE ROCK	BATTLE READY	CONSECRATION TO JESUS THROUGH MARY
3:00 AM	EWTN ON LOCATION			ANGELUS FROM NAZARETH	SAINTS SCOUNDRELS VS	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOG	YOU'RE AMAZING
3:30 AM	EWTN LIVE (Encore)	DOOR OF FAITH	OUR FAITH IN ACTION	PAPAL AUDIENCE(3:50AM)	BOB AND PENNY LORD PRESENT	WEB OF FAITH 2.0	SAVORING OUR FAITH
3:40 AM		DEFENDING LIFE	CONTEMPLATION		FORGOTTEN HERITAGE		BEHOLD THE MAN
3:50 AM	EWTN LIVE (Encore)	CATHOLIC VIEW FOR WOMEN	CONTEMPLATION	PAPAL AUDIENCE(3:50AM)	FORGOTTEN HERITAGE	WEB OF FAITH 2.0	BEHOLD THE MAN
4:00 AM							
4:30 AM	FR. RUTLER: CHRIST IN THE CITY	EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL	CONSUMING THE WORD	EWTN SPECIALS	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY	CATHOLIC BEGINNINGS
5:00 AM	LIFE IS WORTH LIVING	A FORCE FOR GOOD	APOSTOLATE FOR FAMILY CONSECRATION	FUNDAMENTALS OF CATHOLICISM			CATHOLICS COME HOME
6:00 AM	ANGELUS WITH POPE FRANCIS	EWTN ORIGINAL PRODUCTIONS					
6:30 AM	WHERE GOD WEEPS	LIVING THE CHRISTIAN LIFE	CHURCH AND THE POOR	MATTHEW'S TESTIMONY TO JESUS	ICONS SPOTLIGHT	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						THE HOLY ROSARY FROM LOURDES
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	YOU AND THE GOD OF MERCY	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY	SCRIPTURE AND TRADITION (ENCORE)	EWTN LIVE (Encore)	THE WORLD OVER (Encore)	ROAMIN' CATHOLIC
9:30 AM	EWTN BOOKMARK	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOGUE	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
10:30 AM	AT HOME WITH JIM AND JOY	WOMEN OF GRACE					
11:00 AM	FUNDAMENTALS OF CATHOLICISM	WOMEN OF GRACE					
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.					
12:30 PM	(1:10PM) LITANY OF THE SACRED HEART	AT HOME WITH JIM & JOY	PRO LIFE WEEKLY	AT HOME WITH JIM & JOY	10 COMMANDMENTS OF CATHOLIC FAMILY LIFE	AT HOME WITH JIM & JOY	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOGUE
1:00 PM	IN CONCERT	FATIMA: HEAVEN'S PEACE PLAN	FORGOTTEN HERITAGE	IMAGES OF MARY	QUEEN OF HEAVEN	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	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					CALLED TO COMMUNION
4:30 PM	LIFE IS WORTH LIVING	BUGTIME ADVENTURES	MY TIME WITH JESUS	CHILDRENS SPECIALS	THE FRIAR	WAY OF THE CROSS FOR KIDS	
5:00 PM	THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL	EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHOICES WE FACE	CONVERSATIONS FROM THE WORLD OVER SHOW	BOB & PENNY LORD PRESENT	A FORCE FOR GOOD	CATHOLIC ANSWERS LIVE
5:30 PM	SAINTS VERSUS SCOUNDRELS	SPECIALS					
6:00 PM	PASSIONIST SUNDAY MASS	EWTN NEWS NIGHTLY (Live)					
6:30 PM	VATICANO	CATHOLICS COME HOME	REAL LIFE CATHOLICS	CHURCH UNIVERSAL	TBA		CHURCH AND POOR
7:00 PM	THE JOURNEY HOME	THE DAILY MASS FROM ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL, (Encore)					DAILY MASS
7:30 PM		THE HOLY ROSARY			POPE'S AUDIENCE	THE HOLY ROSARY	
8:00 PM	YOU AND THE GOD OF MERCY	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	WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN	THE CHOICES WE FACE	FOCUS	LIVE WITH PASSION	WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN	
9:30 PM	HOLY ROSARY W MOTHER ANGELICA	THE WORLD OVER LIVE (ENCORE)	SCRIPTURE AND TRADITION (ENCORE)	FR. SPITZER'S UNIVERSE	PRO-LIFE WEEKLY	LIFE ON THE ROCK	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY
10:00 PM	EWTN SPECIALS	FATHERS FOR GOOD	LONG RIDE HOME	CROSSING THE GOAL	BEHOLD THE MAN	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	WEB OF FAITH 2.0
10:30 PM	CATHOLIC BEGINNINGS	WOMEN OF GRACE					
11:00 PM	CATHOLIC VIEW FOR WOMEN	WOMEN OF GRACE					

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 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).

Memorial Vigil at Cathedral Monument

SCRANTON — In observance of the sixth annual National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children, the Scranton Chapter of Pennsylvanians for Human Life will host a memorial service on Saturday, Sept. 8, at the memorial site for the unborn on the grounds of the Cathedral of Saint Peter.

A solemn pro-life vigil gathering is scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. at the Saint Peter's Cathedral Monument of Our Lady Madonna of the Streets, located in the 300 block of Wyoming Ave. in downtown Scranton. All are welcome to participate.

For more information, contact Pennsylvanians for Human Life, Scranton Chapter, at (570-347-8299) or Email@prolifescranton.org.

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

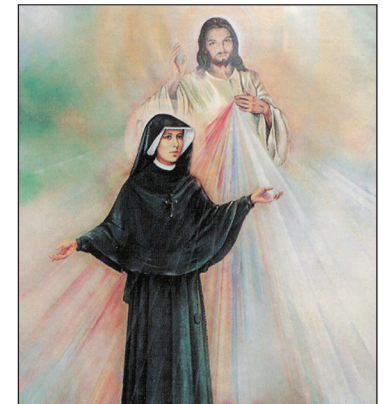
PITTSTON — The Eucharistic Apostle of Divine Mercy Cenacle will host their annual pilgrimage to the National Shrine of Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, Mass., in October to coincide with the Feast of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska — the saint of Divine Mercy.

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, Laffin. 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).

Spiritual Offerings

First Friday Marian Devotion & Healing Mass — SEPT. 7, hosted by St. Lucy Parish at St. Lucy Church, 949 Scranton St., west Scranton; begins at 6:30 p.m. with recitation of the Rosary and devotional prayers led by Adele Garofalo. Healing Mass celebrated at 7 p.m., including prayers for healing and anointing blessing. Music ministry provided by Ernie Pappa. All faithful are welcome.

Weekly Bible Study — SEPT. 7, 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 — SEPT. 7, 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.

Fall Preached Retreat for Women: "The Adventure to Live Holiness" — SEPT. 7-9, hosted by St. Gabriel's Retreat Center in Clarks Summit; retreat begins on

Friday evening at 7 p.m. (no meal served) and concludes following the noon meal on Sunday. Retreat director: Passionist Father Richard Nalepa of St. Paul's Monastery in Pittsburgh. For more information and reservations, call (570-586-4957) or email: kporter@epix.net. Deposit is required.

Weekly Queen of Our Hearts Rosary Prayer Service — SEPT. 8, 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.

Monthly Ladies Afternoon of Recollection — SEPT. 8, 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. 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.

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.

Saint Gabriel's facilities are also available for private, directed and hosted-group retreats. A paid deposit is required.

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

Sunday Our Lady of Guadalupe Rosary Devotion — SEPT. 9, hosted by St. Lucy Church, 949 Scranton St., west Scranton; devotion held every Sunday evening from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the church or at the outdoor grotto (weather permitting) through the first week of December. Includes recitation of the 15 decades of the Rosary (Joyful, Sorrowful & Glorious Mysteries) and additional prayers offered for the special intentions of world peace, an increase in vocations to the priesthood/religious life, and an end to abortion.

Spiritual Support Group: Scranton Mental Health Ministry — SEPT. 9 & 23, hosted by the Cathedral of St. Peter in Scranton; providing a safe, supportive space for individuals who are experiencing mental illness. Group meets at 10 a.m. on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month in the Bishops Hall at the Cathedral Rectory, 315 Wyoming Ave. Meetings will be approximately 90 minutes; refreshments provided. For more information, contact Deacon Ed Shoener at St. Peter's Cathedral, (570-344-7231).



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Spiritual Offerings

Weekly "Flame of Love" Prayer Group Meeting — SEPT. 10, 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.

Monthly Monday Night Worship — SEPT. 10, hosted by St. Faustina Kowalska Parish in Nanticoke; monthly devotion begins at 7 p.m. at the parish worship site of Holy Trinity Church, 520 South Hanover St., Nanticoke. All faithful are welcome to join together for a Holy Hour of praise and worship with word and music; includes Eucharistic adoration and silent prayer. For more information, contact Paul Walters at (570-332-2963).

"Alpha" Spirituality Course Sessions — SEPT. 11-NOV. 20, hosted by St. Ignatius Loyola Parish, 330 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).

Evening of Prayer with the Sisters of IHM — SEPT. 12, sponsored by the Congregation of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary; monthly prayer service held on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel at the IHM Center, 2300 Adams Ave., Scranton (top of University Ave., beyond Marywood University). All are welcome. For more information, call (570-346-5404).

Wednesday Eucharistic Adoration — SEPT. 12, 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 Marello, founder of the Oblates of St. Joseph religious congregation. For more information, contact the OSJ seminary at (570-654-7542).

Weekly Bible Study — SEPT. 12, 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 — SEPT. 12, 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).

Misericordia Program Examining 'Humanae Vitae' on 50th Anniversary

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

The free program opened Sept. 5 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.

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) 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.

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.

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Spiritual Offerings

Weekly Divine Mercy Devotion — SEPT. 12, 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.

Weekly Bereavement Support Group — SEPT. 12-26, series of 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).

Evening of Marian Devotion — SEPT. 13, hosted by the Diocesan Legion of Mary in response to the Blessed Mother's request at Fatima for prayers for world peace; devotion begins at 6 p.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel, 1604 Oram St., Scranton. Prayer service will include recitation of the Rosary, Fatima prayers, hymns and newly composed music for the Scriptural mysteries, led by Ernie Pappa. All are invited to attend and offer devotional prayers to Mary for peace throughout the world.

Meeting of Lay Carmelites — SEPT. 15, 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).

Bereavement Support Gatherings — SEPT. 16, 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.

Monthly Evening of Marian Devotion — SEPT. 17, 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 Rosary, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, 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.

Charismatic Mass & Healing Service — SEPT. 20, hosted by St. John Bosco Parish in Conyngham; 7 p.m. in St. John Bosco Church. Music ministry by Sue Shaw begins at 6:45 p.m. Guest celebrant:

Father August Ricciardi, spiritual director of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the Diocese of Scranton. Light refreshments will follow the Mass and healing service. All faithful are welcome.

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. No reservations required.

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 (570-226-3183).

Ladies of Charity Fundraiser Party

WILKES-BARRE — The Ladies of Charity of the Diocese of Scranton will host their annual Bingo/Card Party on Sunday, Sept. 30, at 2 p.m. in the cafeteria of St. Aloysius Church at St. Robert Bellarmine Parish in Wilkes-Barre.

The event, which is the sole fundraiser of the year that enables the Ladies of Charity to continue their apostolate of providing charitable works, offers card and bingo games with monetary and door prizes.

Raffle tickets will also be sold during the event. Admission fee is \$2; refreshments are provided. All are invited and new members are always welcome.

For more information, contact Barb at (570-474-5531).

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Mission Message

Go Forth

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



As I reflect on a year of serving as director of the Pontifical Mission Societies for the Diocese, I remembered this original post that I wrote and thought it appropriate to share it with you again.

In the midst of these challenging times, we certainly need to recommit ourselves to be missionary disciples and to share the Gospel more than ever and not allow the heaviness of these times to silence our voices in proclaiming the saving message of the Gospel.

Ite missa est! This Latin phrase serves as the words of dismissal of Mass in the Roman Rite. The words translate simply, “go, it is sent.”

What is this “it”? Scholars and inquisitive minds have pondered this question not simply from a grammatical perspective but also to determine the theological meaning of these simple words that dismiss the congregation from Mass. It is sometimes argued that

it’s a grammatical stretch in Latin to assert that this word *missa* means anything other than a literal dismissal.

However, I have frequently reflected on these words in my personal prayer and have often used them as a topic in homilies at Mass to encourage folks not simply to see these words as an indication that Mass is now over and we’re given permission to go home.

The “it” of the dismissal seems to indicate that the congregation is being sent, not sent home, but sent out into the world to bring the message of the Gospel to our homes, our workplaces, our schools, and our places of leisure.

Pope Benedict spoke about this notion in his Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Sacramentum Caritatis*. He reflected therein of the Eucharist as the source and summit of the Church’s life and beautifully offers the following on the “*ite missa est*”: “In antiquity, *missa* simply meant ‘dismissal.’ In Christian usage, however, it gradually took on a deeper meaning. The word ‘dismissal’ has come to imply a ‘mission.’ These few words succinctly express the missionary nature of the Church” (*Sacramentum Caritatis*, 51).

I hope each of us will reconsider the call we have received:

The call we have received from Baptism and the call we receive when we receive the Eucharist and are sent forth strengthened and nourished by Christ in the Blessed Sacrament and by the Scriptures; both given to us to ensure we have the means to preach the Gospel well and to serve the poor with love and devotion.

Ite missa est — go, it is sent.

The Church is sent into the world. You are sent into the world. “As the Father has sent me, so I send you,” Jesus charges the early apostles (John 20:21). Jesus charges you and me to the same call of being “apostolic” — of being sent forth into the world to be missionaries.

We do not need to go far to take the message of the Gospel seriously; we need faithful, loving, and zealous missionaries here in the 11 counties of this Diocese we love and serve. As we respond “thanks be to God” each time at Mass as we are “dismissed,” may we pause in prayer and in faith to recommit ourselves to the missionary work of the Church and to proclaim the kingdom of God.

Then, let us go forth.

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Papal Intention for September 2018

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2019: January: 10, 11, 12, 13, 24, 25, 26, 27

February: 7, 8, 9, 10, 21, 22, 23, 24

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PEDDLERS VILLAGE SHOPPING & APPLE FESTIVAL – Nov. 3
MACY'S THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE, NYC – Nov. 22
KING OF PRUSSIA MALL HOLIDAYS SHOPPING – Nov. 24
DICKENS CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL, WELLSBORO – Dinner – Dec. 1
PA CHRISTMAS AND GIFT SHOW – Harrisburg – Dec. 1
CIRQUE DREAMS "HOLIDAZE" SHOW – Sands Casino – Dec. 3
BROADWAY 2019 – "King Kong" – Jan. 26, "Come from Away" – March 30, "Head over Heels" – March 30, "The Cher Show" – May 11
PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW – Daily Trips March 2 thru 10, 2019
HOLLYWOOD CASINO & TANGER OUTLETS – April 6, 2019
SIGHT AND SOUND 2019 DINNER THEATER – "Jesus" – April 13, 2019
9/11 MUSEUM & CIRCLE LINE CRUISE, NYC – Meal - April 20, 2019
ELLIS ISLAND & LIBERTY ISLAND – Ferry Fees – May 4, 2019
BALTIMORE INNER HARBOR & AQUARIUM – May 11, 2019
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DIOCESAN DATEBOOK

"Rachel's Vineyard": Post-Abortion Healing Retreat -- Nov. 2-4. Confidential weekend retreat facilitates spiritual and emotional healing for men and women struggling with the pain of abortion. Exercises based on Scripture are designed to help participants experience God's mercy and compassion, and to reconcile with their church, themselves and their child. The retreat concludes with a memorial service and Mass of Entrustment. Participation is strictly confidential; financial assistance available. For more information, including registration, contact Denise Rowinski Mengak at (570-822-7118, ext. 333) or drowinski@csswb.org.



'Rhythm & Wine' Event Supports Veterans

Rhythm & Wine, a fundraiser for Catholic Social Services veterans programs, recently raised \$12,169 for the agency. The event, which was held for the sixth year at the Bartolai Winery, has now raised more than \$70,000. Shown, from left: Alan K. Stout, Catholic Social Services; Alison Splendido, Rhythm & Wine founder; Dave Kuharchik and Brittany Sweeney, honorary media co-chairs representing WBRE-TV/PA Live; and Mike Abate, Pocono Supper Club.

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REGISTRATION: Cost: \$20 Register online at: Facebook Events: Full of Grace 2018 OR <https://goo.gl/forms/PpaHe4z2TospaBor2> (Late registration will be taken at the door)

WHERE: **IHM Center**, 2300 Adams Avenue, Scranton, PA 18509
Theresa Maxis Conference Center (Lower, back parking lot)

WHO?: Young women 7th – 12th grade

CONTACT: dosfullofgrace@gmail.com
 or, for more information, call and leave a message: 570-346-5414



Instagram

Catholic Happenings Around the Diocese

“Soup for the Souls” Soup Sale — SEPT. 6, sponsored by the Soup for the Souls Committee at Exaltation of the Holy Cross Parish, 420 Main Road, Buttonwood section of Hanover Township; sale held from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the church hall (take-out orders only). Cost: \$8 per quart. Featured soup of the month: Polish Wedding Soup. Pre-orders requested. For more information or to place orders, call (570-825-6370).

University of Scranton Performance Music Series: In Recital — SEPT. 7, featuring Matt Munisteri on guitar; 7:30 p.m. in the University’s Houlihan-McLean Center on campus, corner of Mulberry St. & Jefferson Ave. Performance is open to the public free of charge.

Annual Summerfest — SEPT. 8, hosted by St. Leo/Holy Rosary Parish in Ashley; held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Featuring arts & crafts, farmer’s market, flea market, bake sale and food menu. For more information, call (570-824-6346).

Weekly Bingo — SEPT. 10, 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).

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 homemade buffet dinner, including desserts and soft drinks; followed by “oldies” music for listening and dancing pleasure provided by Millennium. Patrons may provide

PICNIC TIME

SEPTEMBER

- 14, 15** — Holy Name of Mary, Montrose, parish grounds, 278 Main St.
- 14, 15, 16** — Our Lady of Lourdes, Montoursville, church grounds, 800 Mulberry 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.

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).

Annual Flea Market — SEPT. 15-16 & SEPT. 22, sponsored by St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church in Old Forge; held for three days in the church hall, 320 Vine St. Market hours: Saturday, Sept. 15, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday, Sept. 16 (half-price sale), 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; and Saturday, Sept. 22 (bag & box sale), 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sale items include antiques, jewelry, household goods, furniture, and children’s items; variety of ethnic foods, baked goods and refreshments will also be available.

“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).

Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary Bingo — SEPT. 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).

University of Scranton Performance Music Series: Family Weekend President’s Concert — SEPT. 22, celebrating the inauguration of Jesuit Father Scott R. Pilarz as University president; featuring the University of Scranton Concert Band & Concert Choir, with special guest Dr. Wycliffe Gordon. Concert begins at 7:30 p.m. in the University’s Houlihan-McLean Center on campus, corner of Mulberry St. & Jefferson Ave. Performance is open to the public free of charge.

Potato Pancake Picnic & Flea Market — SEPT. 23, sponsored by the Men’s Club of Exaltation of the Holy Cross Parish, Buttonwood section of Hanover Township; held from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the church bazaar grounds. Cost for potato pancakes is \$5 per person (five pancakes with no limit); soft drinks and water will be available. Flea market continues on Friday, Sept. 28, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.;

Saturday, Sept. 29, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Friday, Oct. 5, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; and Saturday, Oct. 6, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Annual Turkey Bingo & Raffle — SEPT. 23, sponsored by the Christian Women of Our Lady of Hope Parish in Wilkes-Barre; hosted at the Marymount Parish Center, 154 South Hancock St., Wilkes-Barre. Doors open at 12 noon; early bird games start at 1 p.m. Admission fee: \$3. Raffle drawing prizes include handmade quilt and three handmade afghans. Raffle tickets and refreshments available for purchase.

18th Annual Craft Fair — SEPT. 29, sponsored by the Women’s Guild of Divine Mercy Parish, Davis Street, Minooka section of Scranton; held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the parish center. Featuring displays by more than 40 local crafters, including handmade jewelry and seasonal decorations & gifts; door prizes awarded throughout the day. Refreshments available for purchase. Admission fee: \$2.

Continued on Page 26



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Catholic Happenings

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.

Columbus Day Weekend Craft Fair — OCT. 6 & 7, hosted by St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish in Pocono Pines; held on Saturday,

from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the lower level hall, 5112 Pocono Crest Road, Pocono Pines. Fair features white elephant sale and raffle drawings; children's items, homemade baked goods, handmade arts & crafts by a variety of vendors, and homemade foods.

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).

Vendor Craft Fair & Car Show — OCT. 7, hosted by St. Faustina Kowalska Parish in Nanticoke; held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Parish Grove, Robert St., Sheatown section. Event also features food concessions and musical entertainment.

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 Respeto 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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Williamsport VBS Gets 'Shipwrecked'



"Shipwrecked" was the fun island theme for the Vacation Bible School held early this summer at Saint Joseph the Worker Parish in Williamsport. The host parish partnered with another Williamsport faith community — Saint Ann's — to provide a full week of activities for the more than 75 youngsters who took part in summer religion program.

Vacation Bible School Hosted in Nanticoke



The "Mini-Ministry" Vacation Bible School hosted by Saint Faustina Kowalska Parish in Nanticoke in July was well attended a large number of children from the community.

Death Claims IHM Sister Mary Mark Lowery

SCRANTON — A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Immaculate Heart of Mary Sister Mary Mark Lowery on Aug. 22 at Our Lady of Peace Residence. She died Aug. 17 at Our Lady of Peace, where he had been residing and serving in the prayer ministry since 2014.

Born Catherine Teresa Lowery on Feb. 10, 1930, in Pittsburgh, daughter of the late Michael and Catherine Coyne Lowery, Sister Mary Mark entered the Congregation of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary on Sept. 8, 1948, and made her final profession of vows Aug. 2, 1954.

She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education/English and master's degree in education from Marywood

College, Scranton, and a certificate in administration from Duquesne University, Pittsburgh.

During her religious life, Sister Mary Mark ministered in Catholic education in the Diocese of Scranton as a teacher at Saint Rose Elementary School, Carbondale, and principal of Holy Rosary Elementary School, Scranton.

During 1974-78, Sister Mary Mark served as formation director for the IHM Congregation in Scranton. From 2000 to 2011, Sister occupied the position of administrator of the IHM Center, Scranton, where she subsequently served as director of resident services and also as a volunteer at Our Lady of Peace Residence.

Interment was held at Saint Catherine's Cemetery in Moscow.

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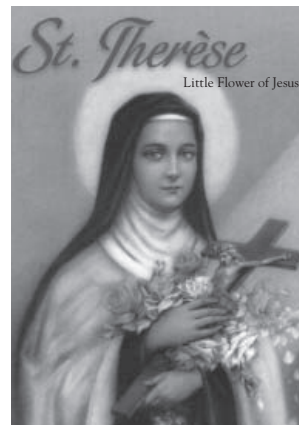
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St. Thérèse Annual 9-Day Novena

St. Anthony + St. George Parish will be celebrating 91 years of devotion to St. Thérèse of the Little Flower of the Infant Jesus.



The Novena will take place at St. George Chapel, located at 79 Loomis St. Wilkes-Barre 18702

The 9-Day Novena begins on Sunday, Sept. 23rd and will end on Monday, Oct. 1st. Every Novena will conclude with individual veneration and blessing with the original Relic of St. Thérèse.

There will be Bake Sale with **HOMEMADE** goods, all Novena.

NOVENA SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, SEPT. 23rd at 6:00p.m.

Mass, followed by Novena - Guest Speaker: **Deacon William Behm**

MONDAY, SEPT. 24th - SUNDAY, SEPT. 30th

6:00p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions

6:30p.m. - Rosary / **7:00p.m.** - Novena

MONDAY, OCT. 1st at 6:00p.m.

Roman Catholic Mass, followed by Novena

Guest Speaker: **Father Thomas Looney (Kings College)**

Reception will follow in the Church Hall.



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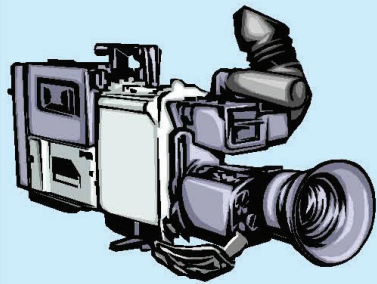
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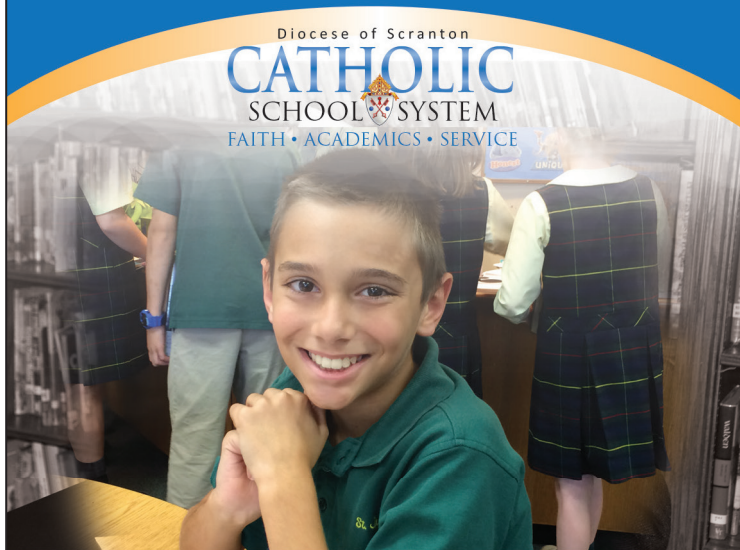
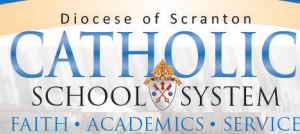


The Diocese of Scranton's website includes video of certain programs broadcast by CTV: Catholic Television. The programs include the Daily Mass from St. Peter's Cathedral, the monthly news program "Our Faith, Our Diocese" and other special programs. To watch the videos, go to www.dioceseofscranton.org.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

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