

The Catholic Light



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'Rejoice and Be Glad'

In new exhortation, Pope addresses how we can be holy in today's world

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – God calls all Christians to be saints – not plastic statues of saints, but real people who make time for prayer and who show loving care for others in the simplest gestures, Pope Francis said in his new document on holiness.

“Do not be afraid of holiness. It will take away none of your energy, vitality or joy,” the pope wrote in *Gaudete et Exsultate* (“Rejoice and Be Glad”), his apostolic exhortation on “the call to holiness in today’s world.”

Pope Francis signed the exhortation March 19, the feast of Saint Joseph, and the Vatican released it April 9.

Much of the document was written in the second person, speaking directly to the individual reading it. “With this exhortation I would like to insist primarily on the call to holiness that the Lord addresses to each of us, the call that he also



Pope Francis kisses the foot of an inmate during Holy Thursday Mass at Regina Coeli prison in Rome. “Christian wisdom can never be separated from mercy toward our neighbor,” the pope wrote in his apostolic exhortation, *Gaudete et Exsultate* (“Rejoice and Be Glad”), released April 9. (CNS photo/Vatican Media)

addresses, personally, to you,” he wrote near the beginning.

Saying he was not writing a theological treatise on holiness, Pope Francis focused mainly on how the call to holiness is a personal call, something God asks of each Christian and which requires a personal response given one’s state in life, talents and circumstances.

“We are frequently tempted to think that holiness is only for those who can withdraw from ordinary affairs to spend much time in prayer,” he wrote. But “that is not the case.”

“We are all called to be holy by

living our lives with love and by bearing witness in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves,” he said.

He wrote about “the saints next door” and said he likes “to contemplate the holiness present in the patience of God’s people: in those parents who raise their children with immense love, in those men and women who work hard to support their families, in the sick, in elderly religious who never lose their smile.”

Pope Francis also noted the challenges to holiness, writing at length and explicitly about the devil just two weeks after an uproar caused by an elderly Italian journalist who claimed the pope told him he did not believe in the existence of hell.

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2017 Diocese of Scranton
DIOCESAN
ANNUAL APPEAL

WALK TOGETHER
IN THE Light of Christ

Annual Appeal Surpasses \$5 Million Goal

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera has announced that the **2017 Diocesan Annual Appeal: Walking Together in the Light of Christ**, has raised \$5,002,000 in gifts and pledges, surpassing the goal of \$5 million. The Annual Appeal has received gifts and pledges from nearly 30,000 donors. Seventy-three parishes have met their Annual Appeal parish goal. The full Diocesan Annual Appeal Parish Goal Report for all 120 parishes is on page 5.

“I offer my sincere appreciation to all of our parishioners and friends who supported this year’s Diocesan Annual Appeal and commend them for their commitment to reflect the love and mercy of Jesus in our lives,” said Bishop Bambera. “In this holy season

of Easter, we give thanks for their example and for their witness to the risen Jesus alive among us.”

Gifts to the Diocesan Annual Appeal support the mission of our local Church to:

- + feed the hungry, clothe and provide shelter and assistance for those most in need;
- + care for our retired bishops and priests who have faithfully served, and continue to serve, the needs of the faithful in our Diocese;
- + encourage and support our men who are in formation to become priests and deacons as we look to the future of our parishes and our Diocese;

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In service to the Church



The annual Mass and Jubilee Celebration for Women and Men Religious was offered on Sunday, April 8, at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton. Religious priests, brothers and sisters who are celebrating jubilee anniversaries of ordination or profession of vows were honored. See page 3.

THIS ISSUE'S 150TH FEATURE

WOMEN AND MEN IN CONSECRATED LIFE

'We are all called to be holy'

Continued from page 1

"We should not think of the devil as a myth, a representation, a symbol, a figure of speech or an idea," the pope wrote in his exhortation. "This mistake would lead us to let down our guard, to grow careless and end up more vulnerable" to the devil's temptations.

"The devil does not need to possess us. He poisons us with the venom of hatred, desolation, envy and vice," he wrote. "When we let down our guard, he takes advantage of it to destroy our lives, our families and our communities."

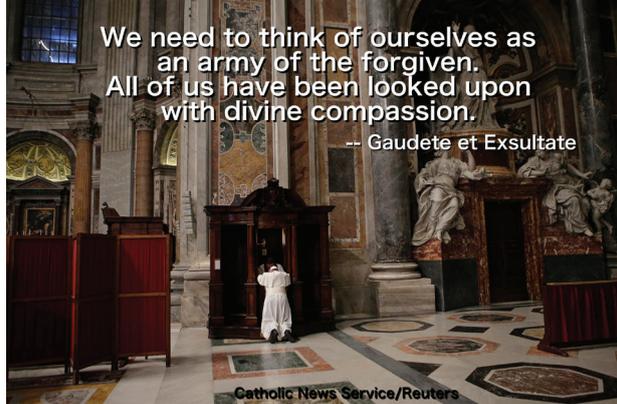
The path to holiness, he wrote, is almost always gradual, made up of small steps in prayer, in sacrifice and in service to others.

Being part of a parish community and receiving the sacraments, especially the Eucharist and reconciliation, are essential supports for living a holy life, the pope wrote. And so is finding time for silent prayer. "I do not believe in holiness without prayer," he said, "even though that prayer need not be lengthy or involve intense emotion."

"The holiness to which the Lord calls you will grow through small gestures," he said, before citing the example of a woman who refuses to gossip with a neighbor, returns home and listens patiently to her child even though she is tired, prays the rosary and later meets a poor person and offers him a kind word.

The title of the document was taken from *Matthew* 5:12 when Jesus says "rejoice and be glad" to those who are persecuted or humiliated for his sake.

The line concludes the Beatitudes, in which, Pope Francis said, "Jesus explained with great simplicity what it means to be holy": living simply, putting God first, trust-



We need to think of ourselves as an army of the forgiven. All of us have been looked upon with divine compassion.

-- Gaudete et Exsultate

ing him and not earthly wealth or power, being humble, mourning with and consoling others, being merciful and forgiving, working for justice and seeking peace with all.

The example of the saints officially recognized by the church can be helpful, he said, but no one else's path can be duplicated exactly.

Each person, he said, needs "to embrace that unique plan that God willed for each of us from eternity."

The exhortation ends with a section on "discernment," which is a gift to be requested of the Holy Spirit and developed through prayer, reflection, reading Scripture and seeking counsel from a trusted spiritual guide.

"A sincere daily 'examination of conscience'" will help, he said, because holiness involves striving each day for "all that is great, better and more beautiful, while at the same time being concerned for the little things, for each day's responsibilities and commitments."

Pope Francis also included a list of cautions. For example, he said holiness involves finding balance in prayer time, time spent enjoying others' company and time dedicated to serving others in ways large or small. And, "needless to say, anything done out of anxiety, pride or the need to impress others will not lead to holiness."

Being holy is not easy, he said, but if the attempt

BISHOP BAMBERA'S STATEMENT ON GAUDETE ET EXSULTATE (Rejoice and Be Glad)

Pope Francis has offered another hopeful message that should inspire each one of us to strive to be the person God created us to be. The Holy Father calls all of us to bear witness to God in our everyday lives and in all that we do, in particular by treating everyone we encounter with dignity and respect, especially the most vulnerable and those in need of our compassion and assistance – the unborn, the poor and destitute, migrants and refugees.

Our Holy Father states, "Let the grace of your baptism bear fruit in a path of holiness. Let everything be open to God; turn to him in every situation. Do not be dismayed, for the power of the Holy Spirit enables you to do this, and holiness, in the end, is the fruit of the Holy Spirit in your life."

As we reflect with gratitude on this Apostolic Exhortation, Pope Francis reminds us that our identification with Christ and His will involves a commitment to build with Him a "kingdom of love, justice and universal peace."

makes a person judgmental, always frustrated and surly, something is not right.

"The saints are not odd and aloof, unbearable because of their vanity, negativity and bitterness," he said. "The apostles of Christ were not like that."

In fact, the pope said, "Christian joy is usually accompanied by a sense of humor."

The exhortation included many of Pope Francis' familiar refrains about attitudes that destroy the Christian community, like gossip, or that proclaim themselves to be Christian, but are really forms of pride, like knowing all the rules and being quick to judge others for not following them.

Holiness will grow through small gestures . . .



Chloe Pearce and Caroline Kranick from Holy Cross High School, and Allison Huegel from Scranton High School, chat with Sister Jane Ellis, IHM during the "Side-by-Side" day on March 11, one of several IHM service projects held during National Catholic Sisters Week. Gathering at local IHM convents, Sisters and students, along with many other volunteers, made hundreds of sandwiches and cookies for distribution at area soup kitchens. Interested in serving with IHM Sisters? Contact Sister Mindy Welding, IHM at weldingm@sistersofihm.org and visit us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/sistersofihm>



The Saint Francis of Assisi Kitchen in Scranton thanked hundreds of supporters for enabling it to continue its mission of feeding the needy at an Appreciation Reception on April 11 at Genetti's in Dickson City for contributors to the Kitchen's annual Host-for-a-Day campaign, which enables the Kitchen to serve a free daily meal to needy men, women and children, including weekly meals at three Lackawanna County parishes. Several individuals were honored for outstanding support to the Kitchen. From left: Monsignor Joseph P. Kelly, executive director of the Kitchen; and honorees John Granahan, Advisory Board president; Connie Mychayliw and her mother, the late Grace Spalletta, volunteers at the Kitchen for 30 years; and Randy Palko, general chair of the 2017 Host-for-a-Day campaign.

'The Gift of Consecrated Life'

Diocese Honors Women and Men Religious Jubilarians

The Diocese of Scranton's annual Mass and Jubilee Celebration for Women and Men Religious was offered on Sunday, April 8, at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera was principal celebrant for the Mass, during which Religious priests, brothers and sisters who are celebrating jubilee anniversaries of ordination or profession of vows were honored.

"Today we gather in

prayer to reflect upon a unique gift that is a part of the life-giving Church of the risen Jesus: the gift of consecrated life," said Bishop Bambera in his homily. "We reflect upon women and men who have understood and embraced the Lord's universal call to holiness and mission.

"What a blessing you have been and continue to be for all of us. We celebrate each of you, my sisters and brothers in Con-

secrated Life, who have abandoned your very lives and – with deep trust, and with the recognition of your own human limitations, doubts and struggles – have handed yourselves over to God, in the sure and certain hope that comes from the resurrection of Jesus, in order to be used as His instruments in the work of salvation, bringing life and hope to all."



Women and men Religious celebrating jubilees this year participate in the Consecrated Life Mass on April 8 at the Cathedral. This year's honorees collectively represent over 3,335 years of service to the People of God.

WOMEN RELIGIOUS

75 Years

Sister Paula Mary Aumen, R.S.M., Sister Ave Maria Foley, I.H.M., Sister Mary Canisia Hockensmith, R.S.M., Sister M. Priscilla Kolbarchik, I.H.M., Sister M. Romaine Krug, I.H.M., Sister M. Leonore McAllister, I.H.M., Sister M. Stephanie Olek, R.S.M., and Sister Jean Toolan, I.H.M. (note: in the previous edition, Sister Jean Toolan was not identified correctly)

70 Years

Sister M. Janice Barry, I.H.M., Sister Paulette Berrang, R.S.M., Sister M. Monica Byrne, I.H.M., Sister Anne Fleming, R.S.M., Sister Mary Laetitia Gillis, R.S.M., Sister M. Michel Keenan, I.H.M., Sister Caritas Kennedy, R.S.M., Sister M. Chrysta Lerhinan, I.H.M., Sister Linus Loesch, R.S.M., and Sister Maria Voorneveld, I.H.M. (recently deceased)

65 Years

Sister Mary Frances Ambs, I.H.M., Sister M. Carleen Boehlert, I.H.M., Sister M. Josaire Brady, I.H.M., Sister Maureen Cryan, I.H.M., Sister M. Anysia Donohue, I.H.M., Sister Theresa Fitzgerald, I.H.M., Sister Dorothy Haney, I.H.M., Sister M. Anine Hopkins, I.H.M., Sister Mary Edward Loftus, I.H.M., Sister M. Jamesella Mawhinney, I.H.M., Sister Mary Joy O'Neill, I.H.M., Sister M. St. Kenneth Polley, I.H.M., Sister Mary Rassley, I.H.M., Sister M. Mercille Schneider, I.H.M., and Sister M. Francis Regis Vagt, I.H.M.

60 Years

Sister Jacquelyn Donohue, I.H.M., Sister Margaret Gannon, I.H.M., Sister Mary Martha Gardiner, I.H.M., Sister Marie Therese Marques, R.S.M., Sister M. Martin de Porres McHale, I.H.M., Sister Loretta Mulry, I.H.M., Sister Marilyn Muro, I.H.M., Sister Rita Ann Naughton, I.H.M., Sister Jeanne d'Arc Salinger, R.S.M., Sister Mary Clare Stopper, S.C.C., and Sister Eileen Marie Toole, R.S.M.

50 Years

Sister Mary Frances Conrad, R.S.M., Sister Jean Coughlin, I.H.M., Sister Rosemary Goulet, I.H.M., Sister Patricia Hauser, I.H.M., Sister M. John Michele Southwick, I.H.M., Sister Mary Denise Thomas, I.H.M., and Sister Ann Walsh, I.H.M.

25 Years

Sister Martina Hanrahan, SS.C.M.

MEN RELIGIOUS

50 Years

Brother Stephen LaMendola, C.S.C.



Sister M. Romaine Krug, I.H.M. (left), 104 years young and celebrating her 75th year in religious life, is greeted by another jubilarian, Sister Martina Hanrahan, SS.C.M.



Bishop Bambera with two jubilarians who proclaimed the readings at the Mass, Brother Stephen LaMendola, C.S.C., and Sister Ann Walsh, I.H.M.



The jubilarians who were able to attend the Mass are pictured with Bishop Bambera. First row, from left: Sister Jacquelyn Donohue, I.H.M.; Sister Marie Therese Marques, R.S.M.; Sister M. Romaine Krug, I.H.M.; Sister Theresa Fitzgerald, I.H.M.; Sister M. Carleen Boehlert, I.H.M.; Sister Mary Martha Gardiner, I.H.M.; Sister Jean Coughlin, I.H.M. Second row: Sister Mary Clare Stopper, S.C.C.; Sister Rosemary Goulet, I.H.M.; Sister Martina Hanrahan, SS.C.M.; Bishop Bambera; Sister Mary Denise Thomas, I.H.M.; Sister Anne Fleming, R.S.M.; Sister Marilyn Muro, I.H.M.

The Catholic Light Photos/Mike Melisky

Vocations Mass To Be Celebrated This Sunday in Williamsport

“In the diversity and the uniqueness of each and every vocation, personal and ecclesial, there is a need to listen, discern and live this word that calls to us from on high and, while enabling us to develop our talents, makes us instruments of salvation in the world and guides us to full happiness,” said Pope Francis on the upcoming occasion of the 55th Anniversary of World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

He continued, “These three aspects – listening, discerning and living – were also present at the beginning of Jesus’ own mission, when, after his time of prayer and struggle in the desert, he visited his synagogue of Nazareth. There, he listened to the word, discerned the content of the mission entrusted to him by the Father, and proclaimed that he came to accomplish it ‘today’ (Lk 4:16-21).”

The World Day of Prayer for Vocations will be celebrated this year on Sunday, April 22, the Fourth Sunday of Easter. The Diocesan celebration will held at Saint Joseph the Worker Parish, Williamsport, at

5:00 p.m. with Bishop Joseph C. Bambera as celebrant and homilist.

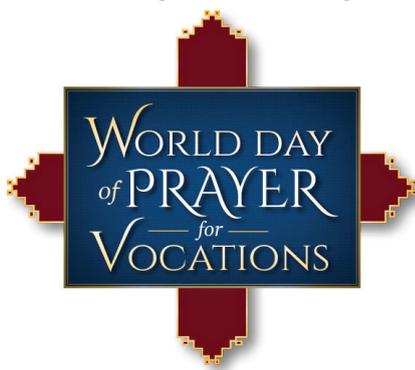
“This is our third year moving the celebration throughout the Diocese,” said Father Donald Williams, Diocesan Director of Vocations and Seminarians. “Our hope is we will reach even more people and continue to create a culture of vocations throughout the Diocese of Scranton. All are welcome to participate.”

The Diocese and vocation directors of religious communities will display materials at a light reception following

the liturgy.

In addition to the Diocesan celebration, parishes are encouraged to have vocation-based homilies, vocation-themed youth ministry nights, lessons in religious education programs, recitation of the Rosary for vocations, and Holy Hours.

For more information, please contact the Vocation Office at (570) 207-1452 or email vocations@dioceseofscranton.org.



XLT (Exalt!)

XLT (Exalt!) will be held Friday, April 27, from 7-9 p.m. at Saint Matthew Parish, 78 Ridgeway Street, East Stroudsburg. The event, sponsored by the Diocesan Offices for Parish Life and Vocations, will consist of Eucharistic Adoration; praise & worship music by Francis Zelinka; a talk by Dori Hurley, youth minister, Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish, Brodheadsville; reconciliation, and a social. Father Gregory Reichlen, pastor, Saint John Parish, East Stroudsburg, is presider and homilist. All are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Dominick Costantino at 570-780-2996.

Annual Appeal surpasses goal again; 30,000 donors make gifts

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✦ support our young people in our Catholic schools and in our parish religious education programs by helping them to prepare for fulfilling and faith-centered lives;

✦ renew and strengthen our parish communities by providing opportunities for all of us to more fully share their personal gifts in devoted service to God and one another;

✦ joyfully proclaim the message of the Gospel by informing and inspiring the faithful of our Diocese through *The Catholic Light*, CTV: Catholic Television, and the Diocesan website.

“Thank you to our pastors, parish staffs, Annual Appeal regional chairs and parish representatives for their devoted work to promote and support the Appeal in our parishes throughout the past several months,” said Jim Bebla, Diocesan Secretary for Development. “Their contributions are instrumental in the success of our Diocesan Annual Appeal each year.”

This year’s Annual Appeal Regional Lay and Clergy Chairs were:

Bradford, Sullivan & Susquehanna Counties – Joan and John Schoonover, Epiphany Parish, Sayre, and Father Joseph Manarchuck, pastor, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Wyalusing.

Lackawanna & Wyoming Counties – Dr. Linda & Dr. Bryan Franz, Saint John Neumann Parish, Scranton, and Father John Doris, pastor, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Dunmore.

Luzerne County – Mary & Allen Erwine, Saint Therese Parish, Shavertown, and Father Joseph Kakareka, pastor, Holy Family Parish, Sugar Notch.

Lycoming & Tioga Counties – Maria and Ken Danielsen, Saint Boniface Parish, Williamsport, and Father Bert Kozen, pastor, Immaculate Conception Parish, Williamsport, and Saint Luke Parish, Jersey Shore.

Monroe County – Lynn & Mike Savage, Our Lady of Victory Parish, Tannersville, and Father Gerald Shantillo, pastor, Saint Matthew Parish, East Stroudsburg.

Wayne & Pike Counties – Katie & Thomas Bright, Saint Mary Parish, Waymart, and Father Stephen Stavoy, pastor, Saint Thomas More Parish, Lake Ariel.

Gifts to the 2017 Diocesan Annual Appeal will continue to be accepted until the fiscal year ends on June 30, 2018. Anyone wishing to make a donation may access our online giving site at www.annualappeal.org or may contact the Diocesan Development Office at Development@dioceseofscranton.org or 570-207-2250.

Reverend Joseph M. Boles Dies April 15; Funeral Mass to be Celebrated Friday

Reverend Joseph M. Boles passed away peacefully on April 15, 2018, at Geisinger CMC, Scranton.

Father Boles was born in Scranton on June 7, 1939. He was the son of the late James W. and Margaret (Miller) Boles.

Father Boles received his early education at Saint Paul’s Grammar School and Saint Paul’s High School, Scranton. He attended Saint Charles College, Catonsville, and entered Saint Mary’s Roland Park Seminary, Md., where he studied for the priesthood and obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and a Bachelor of Sacred Theology. He also received his Master of Arts in Education from the University of Notre Dame.

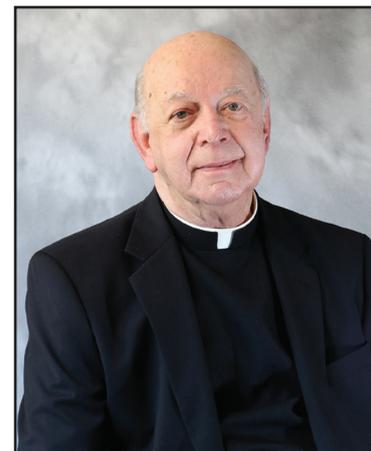
Father Boles was ordained to the priesthood on June 12, 1965, in the Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, by the Most Reverend Jerome D. Hannan, D.D., late Bishop of Scranton.

Father Boles served as assistant pastor at Saint John the Evangelist, Pittston, from 1965 to 1970; and Saint Ignatius, Kingston, from 1970 to 1972. During his time as assistant pastor at Saint Ignatius, Father also served as Director of Religious Formation and catechist at Central Catholic High School, Kingston.

Father was appointed in residence at Saint Cecelia, Exeter, in 1970 and administrator pro tem in 1972. He was appointed in residence at College Misericordia, Dallas, in 1973 and served as acting chaplain from 1975 to 1980.

Father Boles received his first pastorate in 1980 at Holy Cross Church, Scranton. He was then appointed pastor of Our Lady of the Abingtons, Dalton, in 1983, where he remained until his retirement and appointment as pastor emeritus in 2001.

In addition, Father Boles also served as outside confessor/spiritual director at Saint Pius X Seminary, Dalton, from 1988 to 1989 and again from 1990 to 1993; and Dean of the Abington Deanery from 1995 to 2000.



Reverend Joseph M. Boles

While residing at The Villa of Saint Joseph, he devoted much of his time assisting and caring for his brother priests, in spite of his own physical limitations, resulting from a five-decade battle with multiple sclerosis. Through his life, his faith never wavered; to the end, he carried on his calling as a parish priest, providing spiritual guidance, advice, encouragement and clarity to his many parishioners, friends and family. He will truly be missed by those whose lives he touched.

In addition to his parents, Father Boles was preceded in death by his four sisters, Mary Breslin and husband Cyril, Anne Mitchell and husband Patrick, Loretta Tolan and husband Leonard, Catherine Boles; and his brother, James P. Boles.

Father Boles is survived by his sister-in-law, Mrs. James P. Boles, and numerous nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews from the Breslin, Mitchell, Tolan and Boles families.

A Pontifical Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by Bishop Joseph C. Bambera on Friday, April 20, 2018, at 11:00 a.m. at Saint Paul Church, 1510 Penn Avenue, Scranton. Interment will be in Cathedral Cemetery, Scranton.

Friends may call at the church on Thursday, April 19, 2018 from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Solemn Vespers will be celebrated at 7:00 p.m. following the viewing. An additional viewing hour will take place on Friday at the church at 10:00 a.m. prior to the funeral Mass.

PARISH	GOAL	PLEDGES	PERCENTAGE
All Saints - Plymouth	\$40,000.00	\$29,766.00	74%
Annunciation - Hazleton	\$35,000.00	\$29,968.00	86%
Ascension - Forest City	\$27,000.00	\$28,187.50	104%
Blessed Sacrament - Throop	\$17,000.00	\$20,262.00	119%
BVM Queen of Peace - Hawley	\$81,000.00	\$104,712.50	129%
Christ the King - Archbald	\$71,000.00	\$85,679.00	121%
Corpus Christi - West Pittston	\$32,000.00	\$37,081.00	116%
Divine Mercy - Scranton	\$67,000.00	\$70,355.00	105%
Epiphany - Sayre	\$90,000.00	\$97,474.10	108%
Exaltation of the Holy Cross - Hanover Twp.	\$16,500.00	\$20,375.00	123%
Gate of Heaven - Dallas	\$50,000.00	\$44,734.00	89%
Good Shepherd - Drums	\$26,000.00	\$28,577.99	110%
Holy Child - Mansfield	\$30,000.00	\$30,448.50	100%
Holy Cross - Olyphant	\$50,000.00	\$49,867.00	100%
Holy Family - Luzerne	\$42,500.00	\$46,675.00	110%
Holy Family - Sugar Notch	\$20,000.00	\$21,281.00	106%
Holy Name of Jesus - West Hazleton	\$23,000.00	\$20,240.00	88%
Holy Name of Mary - Montrose	\$21,000.00	\$18,337.22	87%
Holy Rosary - Hazleton	\$18,000.00	\$24,348.00	135%
Holy Spirit - Mocanaqua	\$30,000.00	\$29,898.44	100%
Immaculate Conception - Scranton	\$42,000.00	\$59,688.00	142%
Immaculate Conception - Williamsport	\$28,000.00	\$24,810.00	89%
Immaculate Heart of Mary - Dushore	\$41,000.00	\$30,774.38	75%
Mary, Mother of God - Scranton	\$60,000.00	\$60,222.50	100%
Most Holy Trinity - Cresco	\$65,000.00	\$57,270.00	88%
Most Precious Blood - Hazleton	\$38,000.00	\$51,675.38	136%
Nativity of Our Lord - Duryea	\$42,000.00	\$37,365.00	89%
Nativity of the BVM - Tunkhannock	\$34,000.00	\$31,770.00	93%
Our Lady Help of Christians - Dorrance	\$19,000.00	\$19,400.00	102%
Our Lady of Fatima - Wilkes-Barre	\$47,000.00	\$33,565.50	71%
Our Lady of Hope - Wilkes-Barre	\$40,000.00	\$44,386.67	111%
Our Lady of Lourdes - Montoursville	\$44,000.00	\$45,575.00	104%
Our Lady of Mount Carmel - Carbondale	\$25,000.00	\$25,005.00	100%
Our Lady of Mount Carmel - Dunmore	\$60,000.00	\$61,565.00	103%
Our Lady of Mount Carmel - Lake Silkworth	\$20,000.00	\$25,951.00	130%
Our Lady of Perpetual Help - Wyalusing	\$20,000.00	\$21,105.00	106%
Our Lady of the Abingtons - Dalton	\$17,500.00	\$13,175.00	75%
Our Lady of the Eucharist - Pittston	\$17,000.00	\$17,034.00	100%
Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception - Freeland	\$28,000.00	\$24,331.00	87%
Our Lady of the Snows - Clarks Summit	\$92,000.00	\$98,688.00	107%
Our Lady of Victory - Harveys Lake	\$39,000.00	\$45,688.00	117%
Our Lady of Victory - Tannersville	\$55,000.00	\$60,565.09	110%
Our Lady Queen of Peace - Brodheadsville	\$62,000.00	\$77,024.00	124%
Prince of Peace - Old Forge	\$36,000.00	\$23,550.00	65%
Queen of Angels - Jessup	\$28,000.00	\$23,063.00	82%
Queen of Heaven - Hazleton	\$31,000.00	\$34,455.00	111%
Queen of the Apostles - Avoca	\$25,000.00	\$28,660.00	115%
Resurrection - Muncy	\$35,000.00	\$32,960.00	94%
Sacred Heart of Jesus - Dupont	\$32,000.00	\$21,660.00	68%
Sacred Heart of Jesus - Peckville	\$44,000.00	\$50,472.45	115%
Sacred Heart of Jesus - Weston	\$12,000.00	\$12,173.00	101%
Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary - Jermyn	\$23,000.00	\$25,285.00	110%
SS Anthony & Rocco - Dunmore	\$50,000.00	\$45,043.91	90%
SS Cyril & Methodius - Hazleton	\$46,000.00	\$50,692.00	110%
SS Peter & Paul - Plains	\$70,000.00	\$50,466.25	72%
SS Peter & Paul - Scranton	\$14,000.00	\$8,510.00	61%
SS Peter & Paul - Towanda	\$33,000.00	\$43,316.00	131%
St. Andre' Bessette - Wilkes-Barre	\$32,000.00	\$25,255.00	79%

PARISH	GOAL	PLEDGES	PERCENTAGE
St. Andrew - Wilkes-Barre	\$18,000.00	\$15,373.00	85%
St. Ann Basilica - Scranton	\$32,000.00	\$32,003.00	100%
St. Ann - Shohola	\$22,000.00	\$33,720.00	153%
St. Ann - Williamsport	\$63,000.00	\$65,026.00	103%
St. Barbara - Exeter	\$33,000.00	\$36,210.16	110%
St. Benedict - Wilkes-Barre	\$22,000.00	\$14,915.00	68%
St. Boniface - Williamsport	\$68,000.00	\$61,128.64	90%
St. Brigid - Friendsville	\$24,000.00	\$28,705.00	120%
St. Catherine of Siena - Moscow	\$67,000.00	\$79,315.00	118%
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton - Swoyersville	\$47,000.00	\$54,526.00	116%
St. Elizabeth - Bear Creek	\$25,500.00	\$29,968.67	118%
St. Eulalia - Elmhurst	\$42,000.00	\$38,799.99	92%
St. Faustina Kowalska - Nanticoke	\$50,000.00	\$58,093.71	116%
St. Frances X. Cabrini - Carverton	\$14,500.00	\$15,080.00	104%
St. Gregory - Clarks Green	\$79,000.00	\$94,646.15	120%
St. Ignatius Loyola - Kingston	\$90,000.00	\$72,990.52	81%
St. John Bosco - Conyngham	\$59,000.00	\$69,428.00	118%
St. John Neumann - Lords Valley	\$30,000.00	\$36,834.00	123%
St. John Neumann - Scranton	\$55,000.00	\$52,278.00	95%
St. John - E. Stroudsburg	\$61,000.00	\$65,524.00	107%
St. John the Baptist - Larksville	\$23,000.00	\$19,539.00	85%
St. John the Evangelist - Honesdale	\$68,000.00	\$68,724.00	101%
St. John the Evangelist - Pittston	\$60,000.00	\$62,329.00	104%
St. John the Evangelist - Susquehanna	\$13,000.00	\$13,290.00	102%
St. John Vianney - Montdale	\$32,000.00	\$35,150.00	110%
St. Joseph Marello - Pittston	\$29,000.00	\$31,500.00	109%
St. Joseph - Matamoras	\$40,000.00	\$34,245.08	86%
St. Joseph the Worker - Williamsport	\$80,000.00	\$76,003.75	95%
St. Jude - Mountain Top	\$84,000.00	\$95,545.20	114%
St. Katharine Drexel - Pleasant Mount	\$14,000.00	\$18,307.50	131%
St. Lawrence - Great Bend	\$12,000.00	\$12,200.00	102%
St. Lawrence - S. Williamsport	\$28,000.00	\$24,815.00	89%
St. Leo - Ashley	\$35,000.00	\$23,271.25	66%
St. Lucy - Scranton	\$20,000.00	\$12,837.00	64%
St. Luke - Jersey Shore	\$17,000.00	\$13,149.50	77%
St. Luke - Stroudsburg	\$120,000.00	\$143,992.00	120%
St. Maria Goretti - Laffin	\$45,000.00	\$32,133.50	71%
St. Martin of Tours - Jackson	\$10,000.00	\$11,545.09	115%
St. Mary of the Lake - Lake Winola	\$13,000.00	\$11,390.00	88%
St. Mary - Waymart	\$20,000.00	\$32,046.00	160%
St. Matthew - E. Stroudsburg	\$70,000.00	\$61,101.00	87%
St. Maximilian Kolbe - Pocono Pines	\$26,000.00	\$37,545.00	144%
St. Michael - Canton	\$13,000.00	\$19,392.00	149%
St. Michael - Scranton	\$10,000.00	\$10,745.00	107%
St. Monica - West Wyoming	\$33,000.00	\$35,872.00	109%
St. Nicholas - Wilkes-Barre	\$55,000.00	\$57,953.00	105%
St. Patrick - Milford	\$35,000.00	\$28,178.00	81%
St. Patrick - Nicholson	\$10,000.00	\$8,780.00	88%
St. Patrick - Scranton	\$45,000.00	\$39,957.00	89%
St. Patrick - White Haven	\$17,000.00	\$13,725.00	81%
St. Paul of the Cross - Scranton	\$55,000.00	\$43,961.26	80%
St. Paul - Scranton	\$70,000.00	\$64,995.00	93%
St. Peter - Wellsboro	\$46,500.00	\$49,821.50	107%
St. Peter's Cathedral - Scranton	\$75,000.00	\$89,760.00	120%
St. Rita - Gouldsboro	\$15,000.00	\$15,471.00	103%
St. Robert Bellarmine - Wilkes-Barre	\$36,000.00	\$37,237.00	103%
St. Rose - Carbondale	\$66,000.00	\$64,792.00	98%
St. Therese - Shavertown	\$75,000.00	\$91,979.40	123%
St. Thomas More - Lake Ariel	\$52,000.00	\$59,339.00	114%
St. Thomas the Apostle - Elkland	\$14,000.00	\$11,795.00	84%
St. Vincent de Paul - Milford	\$45,000.00	\$34,620.00	77%
Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Dickson City	\$59,000.00	\$54,951.00	93%



Arrupe Award from University of Scranton Honors Diocese in 150th Anniversary Year

Noting the interwoven paths of The University of Scranton and the Diocese of Scranton, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera accepted the University's Pedro Arrupe, S.J., Award for Distinguished Contributions to Ignatian Mission and Ministry on behalf of the more than "250,000 Roman Catholics from 120 parishes in eleven counties of northeastern and north central Pennsylvania."

The University honored the Diocese of Scranton, which is celebrating the 150th anniversary of its founding, with the Arrupe Award at a ceremony on campus April 4.

In his remarks, Bishop Bambera thanked students, faculty, staff and alumni for their continued service to the shared mission of the Diocese and the University. "My gratitude, then, is for your commitment to live the Gospel of Jesus. . . . My gratitude is for your generous embrace of the mission of the Church in service of the neediest in our midst. . . . My gratitude is for your willingness to take the faith that was given to you and to pass it on to others who are searching for meaning, purpose and peace in their lives," said Bishop Bambera.

The Arrupe Award, which the University instituted 1995, is named in honor

of the late Very Reverend Pedro Arrupe, S.J., the superior general of the Society of Jesus from 1965 to 1983, and is intended to further his vision by recognizing men and women for outstanding contributions in a wide variety of Ignatian-inspired ministries.

"Father Arrupe challenged his Jesuit brothers, and their works, to be in solidarity with the poor and to make our world a better, more merciful place. The challenge for the people of God and the mission of this Diocese and this University is to carry on that legacy and continue to be agents of change in a world that needs to know and experience God's merciful love," said Reverend Herbert B. Keller, S.J., interim president of The University of Scranton.

"Today we celebrate the work of the Diocese of Scranton. And today we celebrate the faith-filled leadership of its shepherd, Bishop Bambera," Father Keller said at the ceremony. "Bishop, your presence among us in this diocese is an inspiration to us and a gift that we cherish. Your support and friendship to this University and to the Society of Jesus is appreciated more than words can say. You honor us today by accepting this honor in the name of the Diocese."



The University of Scranton presented its annual Pedro Arrupe, S.J., Award for Distinguished Contributions to Ignatian Mission and Ministry to the Diocese of Scranton at a ceremony on campus April 4. From left: Reverend Herbert B. Keller, S.J., interim president of The University of Scranton; Bishop Joseph C. Bambera; Reverend Patrick Rogers, S.J., executive director, The Jesuit Center; Rose Sebastianelli, Ph.D., professor of operations and information management; Rebekah Bernard, information and technology specialist, Office of Admissions; and Virginia Farrell '20, a history major from Scranton.



BISHOP BAMBERA'S SCHEDULE

April 19 – Bishop's Youth Awards, St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, 7:00 p.m.

April 22 – World Day of Prayer for Vocations Mass, St. Joseph the Worker Parish, Williamsport, 5:00 p.m.

April 23 – Confirmation, St. John Bosco Parish, Conyngham, & Most Precious Blood Parish, Hazleton, at St. John Bosco Church, Conyngham, 5:00 p.m.

April 25 – Confirmation, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Dunmore, 5:00 p.m.

April 28 – V Encuentro – Region 3, St. Robert Bellarmine Co-Cathedral, Freehold, N.J., 11:00 a.m.

April 30-May 1 – Bishops of Pennsylvania Meeting

May 1 – Confirmation, St. Paul's Parish, Scranton, & Immaculate Conception Parish, Scranton, at St. Paul's Church, Scranton, 5:00 p.m.

May 2 – Confirmation, St. Maria Goretti Parish, Laflin, & St. Joseph Marelo Parish, Pittston, at St. Maria Goretti Church, Laflin, 5:00 p.m.

May 3 – Confirmation, Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Hawley, 5:00 p.m.

May 5 – Catholic Men's Conference, King's College, Wilkes-Barre

May 6 – Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine Commencement, Kirby Center, Wilkes-Barre, 11:00 a.m.

Cathedral Celebrates Sesquicentennial in Song



The Cathedral of Saint Peter celebrated in song the Sesquicentennial of the Diocese with a concert titled "How Firm a Foundation: A Musical Celebration of Our First 150 Years" presented on Friday, April 13. The concert featured the Choral Society of Northeast Pennsylvania. Formed in 1999 through the merger of the former Singers' Guild of Scranton, Wyoming Valley Oratorio Society, and Wyoming Valley Children's Chorus, the Choral Society of Northeast Pennsylvania has quickly established itself as a regional force for choral performance and arts education. In 2001 the Society also formally recognized the many contributions being made by members of the former Hazleton Oratorio Society.

The Catholic Light Photo/Mike Melisky

Speaker will share insights as a Catholic woman, parent and wife

By Mary Rable
for *The Catholic Light*

Through her books, television appearances, talks and blog, Judy Landrieu Klein speaks from the heart and spares nothing when sharing her journey as a Catholic woman, a parent and wife.

She is the keynote speaker for the First Annual

Catholic Women's Conference, "Refresh Your Faith," on Saturday, June 23, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Byron Complex at the University of Scranton. The conference is being presented by the Diocese of Scranton in partnership with Altus for Women.

Judy was happily married to her husband Bernie and busy raising their five children when her husband suffered a massive heart attack and a near-death experience. He shared his journey to heaven and back with his worried wife, transforming their lives and the lives of their family.

Bernie converted to Catholicism just before ultimately succumbing to his heart ailment. Judy chronicled this experience in her first book, Amazon Christian Books best seller *Miracle Man*, setting her on a path she never anticipated. The success of her first book and the challenges of being a Catholic parent to her children, the youngest of who was only 9 years old when Judy's husband died, led her to write her second book, *Mary's Way: The Power of Entrusting Your Child To God*.

In her own words, Judy states, "The issues I tackle in *Mary's Way* are not theoretical, but have been borne of my own suffering as a mother: having a child who has suffered from addiction, a child who had a baby out of wedlock, a child who has experienced crippling anxiety, and five children, including four young adults and a 9-year-old, who lost their father to a massive heart attack. How does one navigate such trials with grace, faith, and hope? And to whom can anxious parents look as a model of faith and perseverance in suffering?"

Her answer is the Virgin Mother and understanding the trials and heartache faced by Mary in her own time and as the mother of Christ.

As Judy shares her journey from despair to fully living the life God intended, her message will resonate

First Annual Catholic Women's Conference

Refresh Your Faith

Saturday, June 23, 2018
Byron Complex
The University of Scranton
8am-4pm

Gather with women from Northeast PA & beyond to

Refresh Your Faith

at our First Annual Catholic Women's Conference. You will be inspired by passionate, faithful speakers and beautiful music, while connecting with other women of faith! The day also includes:

Mass with Bishop Joseph Bambera
Confessions, Lunch, Adoration
& shopping at our Marketplace!

\$40 early bird tickets/\$50 after June 1
\$20 students; Women Religious FREE

Speakers & Musicians:



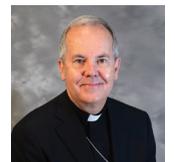
Judy Landrieu Klein



Fr. Richard McAlear



His Own



Bishop Joseph Bambera



Megan Murphy

To REGISTER, go to:

dioceseofscranton.org/catholic-womens-conference



For additional information, go to:
altusforwomen.com/conference

with every woman who hears her story. Her absolute faith in the wisdom of God and his plan will give all in attendance the courage to live fully in God's grace and the strength to discover their own destiny as Catholic women and women of faith.

The June 23 Catholic Women's Conference also includes music by *His Own*, globally renowned teacher and healer Father Richard McAlear, Mass with Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, lunch, confessions, Adoration and shopping in the conference

marketplace.

Tickets are \$40 prior to June 1 and \$50 after. Students pay only \$20 and women Religious attend for free. To register, please go to www.dioceseofscranton.org/catholic-womens-conference.

Altus for Women Groups Holding Spring Meetings

Altus for Women, a Catholic women's ministry in partnership with the Diocese of Scranton Office for Parish Life, is sponsoring a series of gatherings throughout the Diocese during the spring season for 16 Altus groups — 15 onsite meetings and one online.

The women's gatherings began during the week of April 16 and will continue on a weekly basis for six sessions.

The small-group meetings are led by a reading of the book *Mary's Way* by Judy Landrieu Klein.

In addition to being the featured author for the spring Altus group gatherings, Ms. Klein will also serve as the keynote speaker for the Diocese's first Catholic Women's Conference, to be held on June 23 at the University of Scranton.

Registration fee for participation in the meetings is

\$20 per person (plus the cost of the book).

The cost also includes access to the online Altus Facebook group and admission to the ministry's Tea Party Finale on Wednesday, May 23, at the Diocesan Pastoral Center in Scranton.

For a complete listing of Altus group gatherings, including times and locations, and to register, visit: www.altusforwomen.com.

Register By Mail!

First Name Last Name

Primary Phone Number

Address

Town State Zip Code

Email Address

Home Church

Select from the following options:

- Registration Fee, \$50
 Early Bird Registration Fee, \$40
 Student Registration Fee, \$20
 Religious Registration Fee, \$0

Additional Guests Names:

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Mail the complete form and check to :

Office for Parish Life
Attn: Women's Conference
330 Wyoming Ave
Scranton, PA 18503

*Please make all checks payable to Diocese of Scranton

Rallies, prayer services celebrate life, legacy of Rev. Martin Luther King



(CNS photo/Jaclyn Lippelmann, *The Catholic Standard*)

Franciscans hold signs during an “A.C.T. to End Racism” rally on the National Mall in Washington April 4. The rally marked the 50th anniversary of the assassination of civil rights leader the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Fifty years after the assassination of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. — he was gunned down April 4, 1968 — the great civil rights advocate continues to be an outstanding example of how to live the Gospel message, according to Catholic clergy and others.

About 2,000 people gathered on the National Mall April 4 to mark the 50th anniversary of the assassination of Rev. King and to commit themselves to fighting racism and discrimination.

The gathering — called the “A.C.T. to End Racism” Rally — was organized by the National Council of Churches and featured clergy from numerous faith traditions, including Catholics, Orthodox Christians, various Protestant denominations, Jews, Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs, Zoroastrians and others.

“This tragic loss (of Rev. King) did not still his voice — it continues to ring out and inspire new generations in confronting the challenges of prejudice, injustice and division today,” Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl of Washington wrote in an April 4 blog.

At dawn, several people gathered at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial near the National Mall in Washington for a silent prayer to remember the life and legacy of Rev. King.

Various faith leaders, including Washington Auxiliary Bishop Roy E. Campbell, spoke at a rally on the Mall that followed the prayer service at the memorial. The Archdiocese of Washington sponsored a “Catholics Against Racism” banner at the rally with local Catholics marching behind it. Some participants carried small signs with the same message.

Toward evening churches across the country planned to toll their bells 39 times, symbolizing the civil rights leader’s age when he was killed in Memphis, Tennessee.

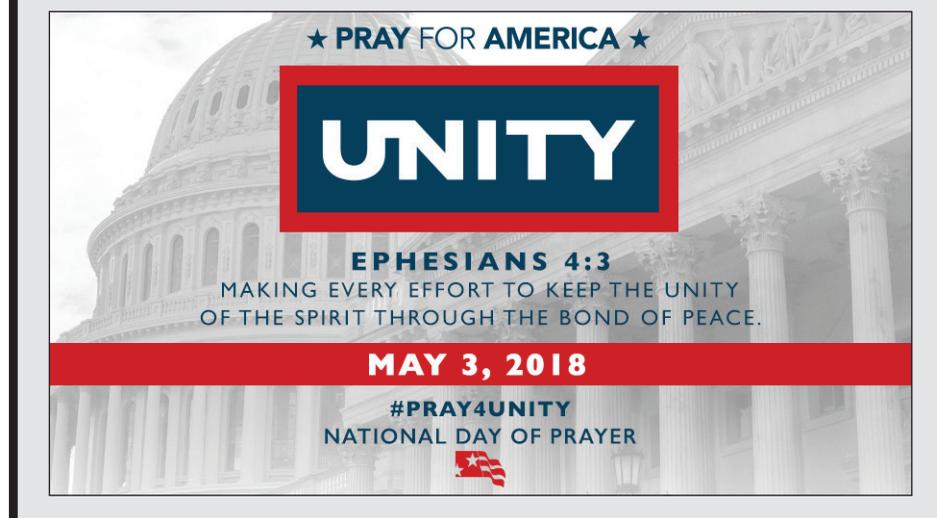
Numerous U.S. Catholic churches and schools planned to participate in the tolling of bells. The Chicago Archdiocese asked all its churches and schools to ring their bells 39 times, and Chicago Cardinal Blase J. Cupich was to preside at an evening ecumenical service at a Catholic church.

Other churches ringing their bells included St. Patrick’s Cathedral in New York City and the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington. Near the shrine are the headquarters of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, which announced it joined in solidarity in the shrine’s tribute to Rev. King’s “legacy and his many contributions including the principle of nonviolent resistance.”

“The moment is also an opportunity for us to pause and reflect individually on what we are doing to build the culture of love, respect and peace to which the Gospel calls us and to also ask ourselves how we seek to help our brothers and sisters still suffering under the weight of racism,” the USCCB said.

In a statement issued March 28, the U.S. bishops’ Administrative Committee said that on this King anniversary, “we need to ask ourselves if we are doing all we can to build the culture of love, respect and peace to which the Gospel calls us.”

National Day of Prayer -- May 3



Prayer Requests for Priests

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

April 19, Father Patrick McLaughlin; April 20, Father John Melnick; April 21, Father Peter Menghini; April 22, Father Edward Michelini; April 23, Jesuit Father J. Patrick Mohr; April 24, Father Joseph Mosley; April 25, Father Joseph Motsay; April 26, Monsignor Thomas Muldowney, V.G.; April 27, Father

Kevin Mulhern; April 28, Father Paul Mullen; April 29, Father James Nash; April 30, Jesuit Father Eugene Nolan; May 1, Pope Francis; May 2, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI; May 3, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera; May 4, Father Theodore Obaza; May 5, Father John O’Bell; May 6, Father Albert Oldfield; May 7, Father Thomas O’Malley; May 8, Father Peter O’Rourke; May 9, Passionist Father Sibi Padinjaredath.



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Diocese of Scranton
DIOCESAN
ANNUAL APPEAL

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Education, awareness key components of safe environment program

VIRTUS Protecting God's Children Program has trained 28,677 people in Diocese

One of the key elements of a safe environment program is awareness – awareness of the dangers of child sexual abuse and how to recognize, report, and ultimately prevent it.

Beginning in 2003, the Diocese of Scranton implemented a multi-faceted national program called *VIRTUS Protecting God's Children*. Sessions, which include videos and discussions, have been conducted throughout the 11 counties of the Diocese. Participants receive educational materials and continue their training by completing regular online lessons.

Since the inception of the VIRTUS program, 28,677 clergy, religious, staff, youth program volunteers, teachers, parents and other adults have been trained.

“It is my belief that we can prevent child abuse if we understand the issue and make a commitment to become involved. Providing education thru the VIRTUS Protecting God's Children Program is a critical first step,” says Kathy Bolinski, Safe Environment Coordinator for the Diocese.

Kathy notes that sexual abuse is a difficult topic to discuss, and for many of the attendees, it is new and troubling information. However, she says, “caring adults must understand that they can and should intervene as soon as possible. The VIRTUS program addresses this issue in a sensitive manner. By providing the training, the Diocese of Scranton endeavors to inform and educate everyone who interacts with youth. It is both a moral and legal obligation.”

The success of the VIRTUS program is due in large measure to the many individuals who have volunteered to serve as facilitators, presenting the information to others at parish, school and other sites throughout the Diocese.

“I am blessed to have the assistance of many concerned individuals – their work is vital in our efforts to create strategies that protect children,” Kathy says.

Mariel Consagra, a parishioner of Saint Ann's Basilica in Scranton and an experienced CCD teacher, says she thoroughly enjoys being a VIRTUS facilitator



Addie Rocco, a VIRTUS facilitator, leads a recent session at Saint Catherine's Parish in Moscow. She appreciates the proactive approach to the training and believes it provides knowledge that anyone who interacts with children should have.

and feels it is a highly valuable and informative program.

“I have received many comments, even years after the presentation, by people who feel as strongly as I do about the benefits of this program,” she says. “They left a bit more secure in their new roles as protectors of God's children in a very challenging world.”

Jennifer Frye's experience as a VIRTUS facilitator for five years has also been very positive: “The vast majority of those taking the class have told me, either in person or in their evaluations, that they were so glad they took the training, because it really opened their eyes to a problem that most people don't even think about. (Even for those who came reluctantly just to fulfill the requirement), by the end of the training, they have changed their minds because they *did* feel they received some valuable information.”

Jennifer, who is Director of Religious Education at Resurrection Parish in Muncy and married to Deacon Steve Frye, the deacon and pastoral associate at Saint Ann's Parish in Williamsport, says “most people are glad to have learned the material; many are also shocked at the material, because, as we know, if you are not a child molester, you don't think like a child molester. Most feel that the presentation is very well done, as do I.”

Through his work with children at the Wyoming Valley Catholic Youth Center for the past 33 years, currently as Executive Director, Mark Soprano has had to report a few instances of child sexual abuse, in each case committed

by a family member. Other family members were shocked to hear the stories their children were telling. They were unaware of the warning signs that they could have seen if given the proper knowledge.

“I felt it was important to become involved and help spread the word about the signs of and prevention of the sexual abuse of children. Seeing this and the number of children we serve here at the CYC, it was a great opportunity for me to make a difference and maybe save a child from a terrible experience,” says Mark about his decision to become a VIRTUS facilitator.

Participants have told him they never thought of the many factors involved in child sexual abuse, and are outraged to see how perpetrators manipulate children and their parents. Each session brings new personalities, new topics and some fruitful discussions on issues facing our children today.

Mark recalls one participant who became very emotional and had to leave the room during the videos. She returned and explained that she was a victim of sexual abuse as a child at the hands of a family member. She was very open with the entire group and shared her experience with everyone – it was a very sad, yet eye-opening session.

“Overall, being a facilitator has been a very fulfilling experience,” Mark says “I've been able to meet many people from throughout the Diocese; most are very thankful for the information and grateful that the program is available to them.”

Continued on next page

Diocese of Scranton Maintains Comprehensive Child Protection Program

The Diocese of Scranton remains firmly committed to offering pastoral care to survivors of sexual abuse and maintaining a comprehensive array of policies and programs to protect children.

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera said, “We offer our support, compassion and assistance to help survivors of sexual abuse achieve healing. We remain vigilant and firmly committed to doing everything we can to prevent abuse within our Church, parishes, school communities, and Diocesan run facilities.”

Our mission is to create safe environments for children through education and prevention programs, and establishing policies that clearly set standards of behavior regarding contact with minors. These endeavors include:

- The Diocese of Scranton maintains a zero tolerance policy for clergy, lay employees and volunteers who engage in misconduct with minors and takes immediate action when an accusation is made. Any allegation of abuse is reported immediately to law enforcement, and any substantiated allegation against a member of the clergy results in immediate and permanent removal from ministry.

- For many years, the Diocese has reported to its parishioners and issued notices to public media regarding instances where clerics were removed from or left ministry due to allegations of child sexual abuse. This policy – grounded in vigilance, transparency, and healing – has evolved and been improved for more than twenty-five years. The Diocese endorses and applauds all efforts to bring this critical issue to the public's attention.

- The Diocese retains a Victim Assistance Coordinator who coordinates assistance for the immediate pastoral care of persons who claim to have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy. Each year, this program offers substantial support to survivors and their families by underwriting expenses related to counseling, medication and other forms of care.

- All employees in parishes, schools and Diocesan run facilities – clergy, religious and laity – as well as volunteers, including teachers and coaches, must have up-to-date criminal background and child abuse clearances. In addition, all employees and volunteers receive training on the nature of child sexual abuse and how a parish/school community can work together proactively to prevent it. Since 2003, the total number of adults trained by the Diocese now stands at 28,677.

- In order to strengthen the protection of children and assure that all mandated reporters of child abuse have accurate information, the Diocese of Scranton requires all identified mandated reporters to complete a training course.

- The Diocese has also implemented a safe environment program for students in grades K-12 in Catholic schools and parish religious education programs to teach them how to recognize and avoid situations that could lead to sexual abuse. It also encourages communication between children and their parents so that potentially dangerous situations and incidents are reported promptly.

- Our website (www.dioceseofscranton.org) contains comprehensive information about our Child Protection/Safe Environment policies and procedures. In every edition of *The Catholic Light*, we publish a notice about reporting sexual abuse of a minor to the Victim Assistance Coordinator, Mary Beth Pacuska, at 570-862-7551 or mary-beth-pacuska@dioceseofscranton.org; or the Vicar General, Monsignor Thomas M. Muldowney, at 570-207-2269 or Msrgr-Muldowney@dioceseofscranton.org. We also urge anyone to report incidents of child abuse immediately to the 24-hour PA Child Abuse Hot Line. The toll-free number is 1-800-932-0313.

- Every diocese in the U.S. undergoes an annual audit to determine if it is complying with the provisions of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*. The Diocese of Scranton has been in compliance with all audits conducted since inception of the audit process. We constantly assess our procedures to insure that we are following our policies.

- The Safe Environment Advisory Committee was established in 2016 to provide recommendations and feedback concerning policies and practices of the Safe Environment Program. Currently 40 members from throughout the Diocese of Scranton serve on the Committee.

Merciful service Catherine McAuley Center helping women and children since 1984

By founding the Sisters of Mercy in 1831 in Dublin, Ireland, Catherine McAuley extended the Catholic Church's ministries of healing and teaching to the poor, sick, and uneducated.

That mission continues today in the Diocese of Scranton through the endeavors of Mercy Sisters at facilities that bear the name and charism of their order's foundress.

The Catherine McAuley Center directly ministers to women and to the economically poor by providing temporary shelter for women and children in crisis; assisting women to attain safe, affordable, permanent housing; offering support services leading to self-reliance; and helping individuals and families access medical and community resources. In some cases, the clients served by the Center are survivors of abuse.

The Catherine McAuley Center owes its foundation to the vision of Sister Anne Paye, R.S.M., who became aware of the crisis in housing for women and children in 1979. By 1983, Sister Anne joined with

two other Sisters of Mercy, Sister Dorothy McLaughlin and Sister Elizabeth Brandreth, and they created an environment to assist women with housing in the Scranton area.

The first step began with the Sisters moving into the former Saint Joseph Lithuanian Convent in North Scranton, where they shared their extra bedrooms with women in need of shelter. From a modest beginning on September 1, 1984, when the Sisters accepted their first guest, a new ministry developed in Northeastern Pennsylvania's Luzerne and Lackawanna Counties.

The Catherine McAuley Center was formally incorporated in 1985 and is a sponsored work of the Sisters of Mercy Mid-Atlantic Community.

The Center now encompasses two Emergency Shelters in Plymouth and Scranton, transitional housing, three rapid re-housing programs, two permanent supportive housing programs for chronically homeless adults with mental health and other disabilities, and chronically homeless families where at least



Some members of The Board and staff on the steps of Therese's Home, a new emergency shelter residence for homeless women and children in Lackawanna County, named in honor of Sister Therese Marques, R.S.M., and her legacy of service to the Catherine McAuley Center.

one member has a disability, and seven units of permanent housing.

In addition the Center provides to its clients supportive or emergency services; used furniture at no cost to women as they move back into safe, decent, and affordable housing; supplemental food items; and the Adopt-A-Family Program that matches local individuals and

organizations with needy families in Northeastern Pennsylvania during the Christmas holiday season.

For the past 24 years, the Catherine McAuley Center has been led by Sister Therese Marques, R.S.M., in collaboration with her collegial Sisters, dedicated staff and volunteers, and the generous support of the community. As

Sister Therese prepares for a well deserved retirement as executive director, she reflects on the mission and future goals of the ministry.

"In the past year, 417 homeless women and children were assisted with the assurance of a safe place to live, counseling and life skills, access to health care and training opportunities and economic independence. Over 2,560 of our neighbors were assisted with gifts of food, household supplies, diapers and infant care items and presents and clothes for children. These are the homeless women and children we see and work with every day.

"Over the years the Center has assisted thousands of women, children and some men – and their stories have continued to touch my heart over these past 24 years. I cherish the memory of the long journey the Center has had so far, the contributions of the gifts of all who have served, our Foundress Sister Anne Paye, our amazing and compassionate Board members and staff, and all our generous volunteers and donors."

Awareness key to protecting children from abuse

Continued from page 9

Addie Rocco's past and present career and educational backgrounds made her a "great fit" to serve as a VIRTUS facilitator. She was in law enforcement for over 15 years, most of them as a Scranton Police Officer, including a position as a School Resource Officer stationed at the Scranton State School for the Deaf.

Now she is the Director of Mission Integration and Spiritual Care at Saint Mary's Villa Campus in Elmhurst and a member of Saint Eulalia's Parish in Roaring Brook Township, where she is a cantor and Eucharistic Minister. In May of 2017, she earned a master's degree in theology from Loyola University in partnership with the Diocese of Scranton's Formation for Servant Leadership program.

"I am a mother of four beautiful daughters. They say it takes a village to raise a child and I believe that it takes a community to protect our children," Addie says. "I truly enjoy the proactive approach to the VIRTUS training. The program focuses on becoming aware of your surroundings and watching for warning signs. It is exactly what every parent and volunteer working with children should be trained to do as well as every grandparent."

The VIRTUS videos make a great impact on the participants, she notes, especially as survivors of abuse give testimony and two offenders tell about their abuse and how they would groom their victims over a period of time.

"Many participants have come up to me after the training, relieved to have tools of knowledge to help combat child abuse," Addie says. "The VIRTUS Program focuses on safety measures and warning signals to stop abuse before it starts. And knowledge is power."

That power, the VIRTUS facilitators hope, will help to break the silence about sexual abuse and prevent children from becoming victims.

As Mark Soprano notes, "We may never see that or be able to measure it, but by offering the VIRTUS Program, we can say that many more adults are educated about the signs of child sexual abuse, and maybe someday they can use that information to prevent a child from enduring a terrible experience in their young lives."

Sisters of Saint Casimir and Foundress Have History in Diocese

The Sisters of Saint Casimir are intimately connected with the Diocese of Scranton. Bishop Michael Hoban and the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary at Marywood were instrumental in seeing that this new order of Sisters became a reality.

Father Anthony Kaupas, pastor at Saint Joseph Church, North Scranton, invited his 17-year-old sister, Casimira, to come to Scranton as his housekeeper. During her four-year stay she had seen Sisters for the first time and asked her brother, "Who are they?" To which he responded, "they are women who live for God alone." Upon hearing this, she desired to consecrate herself to the Lord and serve his people. As a Lithuanian immigrant herself, she witnessed the plight of her people and knew that their faith and culture would soon be lost without someone to minister to them.

After three years of study in Switzerland, Casimira returned to the United States and continued her religious training under the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary at Marywood. In 1907, when she pronounced her religious vows in their Motherhouse chapel and became Sister Maria, along with two other companions, the Sisters of Saint Casimir were founded.



Venerable Mother Maria Kaupas founded the Sisters of Saint Casimir in Scranton.

Mother Maria was proclaimed "Venerable Servant of God, Maria Kaupas" in 2010.

For 67 years, the Sisters of Saint Casimir staffed Saint Joseph School in North Scranton. Many of the Sisters received their degrees at Marywood College, continuing the bond of friendship with the IHM Sisters.

As the Congregation grew in

numbers, a Motherhouse had to be built. Chicago was chosen as the site, since there were 11 Lithuanian parishes already established and had the greatest concentration of Lithuanian immigrant children needing an education.

For 27 years, Mother Maria carried out her responsibilities of leading the congregation with great humility and charity. She died in the Chicago Motherhouse on April 17, 1940. Her holy remains are in a sarcophagus in the chapel.

The ongoing process continues in Rome for her beatification/canonization, as do the ties to the Diocese of Scranton. The Vice Postulator of the cause is Sister Margaret Petcavage, S.S.C., a Scranton native who was a member of Saint Joseph Parish, graduated from its school and also received two degrees from Marywood.

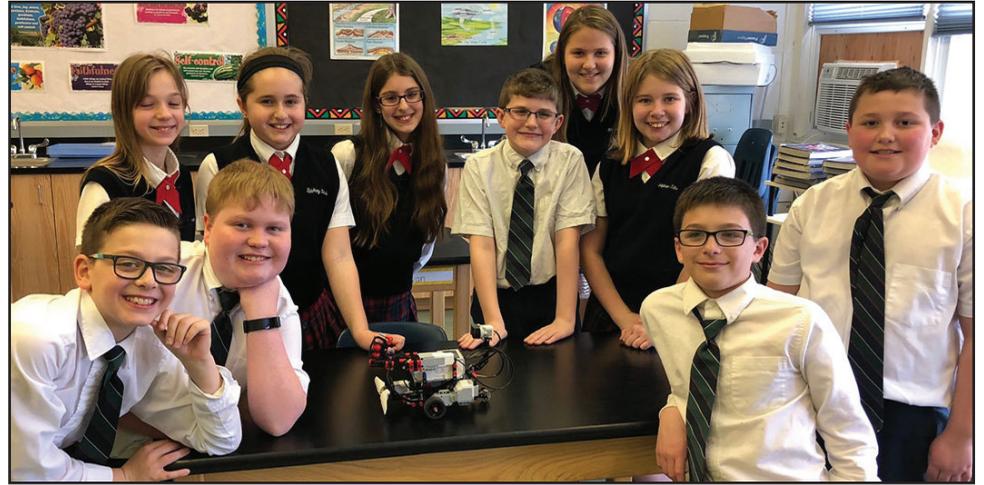
"I am most privileged to be the Vice Postulator for Mother Maria's Cause, since she had prayed in the very church in which I was baptized and attended throughout my growing years," Sister Margaret says. "How good is the Lord with His blessings!"

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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.



All Saints Academy in Scranton is opening the doors of its launch pad on Sunday, April 29, from 1-3 p.m. Children (ages 3-10) are being invited to blast off for an amazing adventure where they'll "walk on the moon," "dress like an astronaut," and "taste the Milky Way." There will be stories and songs from galaxies far away along with the chance to see an alien or two. Call (570) 343-8114 for more information or to reserve a spot.



Sixth-grade students at Epiphany School in Sayre demonstrate their programming skills to 5th graders by creating a "Biathlon" program for the LEGO EV3 Robot using both touch and fire sensors.



The Kindergarten class at Holy Family Academy in Hazleton presented the Stations of the Cross just before Easter as a reminder of the sacrifice made for them by Jesus.



Members of the Interscholastic Reading Competition Team from Saint John Neumann Elementary School in Williamsport hold their favorite books.



The Mock Trial Team from Holy Cross High School in Dunmore won the District Championship and then traveled to the State Competition in Harrisburg, finishing 4th overall. Pictured are members Joseph Lennon, Jordan McAndrew, Mia Sandy, Ericka Pica, Caroline Kranick, Gianna Sacchetti, Olivia Zehel, Serge Grega, Nicholas Klein, Domenick Arbie, moderator and faculty member Mrs. Janine Wetter, Elisabeth Johnson, Sarah Mies, Mary Arcuri, Elizabeth Arbie, Lauren Palmiter and Anysia Jurgiewicz.



Ten students from **Good Shepherd Academy in Kingston** recently competed in Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science; seven will compete at Penn State University in May. Pictured are team members Jaden Evanoski, Michael Fino, Izzy Romano, Emily Williams, Jillian DelBalso, Eva Szura, Jenna Skibitsky, Charles Floryan, Lucas Dwyer and Matthew White.



John Gilroy, Laura James, Gianna DiLauro, Rachel Flynn, Angelina Catiburis and Chelsea Cirillo, members of the Mock Trial Team from **Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School in East Stroudsburg**, placed 2nd in the county competition held at the Monroe County Courthouse.



The 8th grade class from **Our Lady of Peace School in Clarks Green** re-enact the Stations of the Cross just before Easter.



Seventh and 8th grade students from **Saint Mary of Mount Carmel School in Dunmore** were recently inducted into the National Junior Honor Society. Congratulations to Daniel Otway, Cecelia Otis, Morgan Seamon, Mary McHugh, Alicia Bellagamba, Kaeden Carr, Jacque Kakareka, Julia Bergman, Shannon O'Malley, Grace Osborne, Sydney Hartland and Grace Castellano.



Students representing the different homerooms at **La Salle Academy in Jessup** pose with some of the 108 Easter baskets that were donated to the Friends of the Poor. The entire LSA community collected items to create the baskets, which were given to the less fortunate who otherwise would not have received one on Easter morning. Pictured are Adriyanna Kushner, Aiden Wudarski, Kaitlyn Farrell, Gavin Jones, Diane Idhaw, Joey Sandrowicz, Samantha Sawyer, Mia Cravath and DJ Smith.



The students, faculty and staff, and families of **Monsignor McHugh School in Cresco** collected household and toiletry items to be donated to the Little Sisters of the Poor for the elderly residents in their care. Principal Becca Torregrossa, 1st grade teacher Mrs. Melissa Dusavic and Student Council representatives present some of the items to the Sisters.



Preparing for the season of Lent, Holy Week and Easter, the 6th grade Religion Class at **Wyoming Area Catholic School in Exeter** held a Seder meal celebration. Menu consisted of an apple, matzo bread, butter, hard boiled egg and grape juice. This was a culmination of their study of the relationship between the Hebrews' Passover celebration and Jesus' Last Supper meal coupled with a Freedom Prayer Service.



The 2nd grade students of **Saint Nicholas/Saint Mary School in Wilkes-Barre** wrote and illustrated their own stories. The books, entitled "If I Could Rule the World," were then published, and copies were given to each of the students to keep.



Students from **Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre** were recently inducted into the National Speech & Debate Honor Society.



The Drama Department at **Saint John Neumann Jr./Sr. High School in Williamsport** recently presented their spring musical "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown" at the high school gym.



The 6th grade students at **Notre Dame Elementary School in East Stroudsburg** performed the Living Stations of the Cross in preparation for the Paschal Triduum and Easter.



Images shown above: Mercy Hospital in Scranton, established by Sisters of Mercy. | Pilgrims are blessed at the annual Novena to Saint Ann conducted by the Passionists of Saint Paul of the Cross Province. | Student volunteers assist food distribution by Friends of the Poor, a ministry founded by Sister Adrian Barrett, I.H.M. (far left) | Sister Ellen Fischer, S.C.C. and students at a First Communion Retreat at Saint Jude, Mountain Top.

Consecrated Life

WOMEN AND MEN RELIGIOUS SERVE CHURCH IN MANY CAPACITIES

Women and men religious from numerous orders have served the Diocese of Scranton from its earliest days, teaching in our schools, sponsoring health care institutions, ministering to the poor, advocating for justice and doing the work of the Gospel of Jesus.

WOMEN RELIGIOUS

The **Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary** of Scranton lived and served in the region before there even was a Diocese of Scranton, having arrived in Northeastern Pennsylvania in **1858** at the request of Bishop of Pennsylvania (now Saint) John Neumann. In areas where parents worked as mine, mill, and railroad workers, schools for their children were opened in numerous towns and cities. Saint Joseph's Center, which was founded by the IHM Sisters to care for abandoned children, now provides pregnancy, family and adoption services, and programs for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. In 1915 the IHM Congregation opened Marywood College, the first Catholic college for women in Pennsylvania, and in 1926, the Sisters opened Saint Joseph's Hospital in Carbondale, which served the community for 86 years. The **Sisters of Christian Charity** first came to America to serve in German immigrant parishes, including Saint Nicholas in Wilkes-Barre. In **1873**, foundress Blessed Pauline von Mallinckrodt



Religious Sisters were among the pioneers that brought the faith to the people; pictured here are Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius, on their way to teach school in Hazleton in 1913, using the mode of transportation of the era.

personally chose Wilkes-Barre as the site of the new Motherhouse. The Sisters began serving in the teaching apostolate and pastoral ministry in various areas of the Diocese. The Sisters inspired Bishop William J. Hafey to establish Divine Providence Hospital in Williamsport.

The **Sisters of Mercy** became involved in the local area in **1875**, at the invitation of Bishop William G. O'Hara, the first Bishop of Scranton. They taught in numerous parish schools and ministered to the poor, sick, and needy. In 1898 they opened the doors of Mercy Hospital in Wilkes-Barre and began a century of ministry in health care that would extend to the

Mercy Hospital in Scranton. In 1924, the Sisters established Luzerne County's first four-year institution of higher learning, College Misericordia in Dallas, initially for young women and now co-educational.

In **1908**, the **Little Sisters of the Poor** arrived to administer what was then known as the Maloney Home, the first Catholic institution to care for the elderly in this area. In 1976, Holy Family Residence replaced the Maloney Home on the same property, providing hospitality to over 100 residents, and serving as the "Juniorate" for Little Sisters in formation.

In response to the influx of immigrants from Slovakia to the United States in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Father Matthew Jankola, a Slovak priest of the Diocese of Scranton, founded the **Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius** in **1909** for the purpose of educating the children of Slovak immigrants in parish schools. They also cared for the sick and destitute aged in homes and hospitals. The first (temporary) Motherhouse of the Sisters was Saint John the Baptist Convent in Pittston; eventually it moved to Danville. While establishing many schools, the Sisters also cared for orphans and worked in parish catechetical programs.

At the invitation of Bishop J. Carroll McCormick, the **Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm**

partnered with the Diocese to staff Little Flower Manor, a nursing home in Wilkes-Barre that received its first residents in 1975. The facility expanded with Saint Therese Residence, an on-campus personal care facility that opened in 1998. In 2011, the Diocese acquired the former Heritage House nursing home in Wilkes-Barre and renamed it Saint Luke's Villa. The Carmelite Sisters offer spiritual support to the residents of all three facilities as they continue their mission to bring Christ to those they serve.

MEN RELIGIOUS

The University of Scranton, founded as Saint Thomas College in **1888** by Bishop O'Hara, was staffed by Diocesan priests and seminarians, the Xaverian Brothers, and the Christian Brothers until 1942 when, at the invitation of Bishop William J. Hafey, 19 members of the Society of Jesus (the **Jesuits**) arrived on campus to administer the University. The Jesuits also operate the Scranton Preparatory School, which opened its doors in 1944 for high school boys. The school became co-educational in 1971 and was the first Jesuit High School in the country to do so.

In **1902**, Bishop Michael J. Hoban invited the Congregation of the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ (the **Passionists**) to the Diocese of Scranton. They built Saint Ann's Monastery in West Scranton, and began novena devotions to Saint Ann in 1924. The next year Father John Joseph Endler, C.P., established Saint Ann's as a public pilgrimage site with the annual novena conducted from July 17 to 26.

In **1929** the first **Oblates of Saint Joseph** from

Italy responded to the personal invitation by Bishop Thomas C. O'Reilly to minister to the growing number of Italian immigrants within the Diocese of Scranton — specifically in the Greater Pittston area. The Oblate Fathers were assigned to several parishes and quickly associated themselves with the poor and struggling immigrants as they integrated themselves into the American way of life.

The **Congregation of Holy Cross** serves the Church in the ministry of education and in parishes. King's College in Wilkes-Barre was established in **1946** by the Community to enable the sons of coal miners to have a college education. As events developed, the College saw the need to be co-educational and now offers the opportunity for educational advancement to all.

Communities of religious who are serving or have served in the Diocese over the years also include: **Bernardine Franciscan Sisters, Capuchin Sisters of Nazareth, Franciscan Missionary Hermits of Saint Joseph, Holy Cross Sisters, Nuns of the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ Contemplative, Priestly Fraternity of Saint Peter, Religious Teachers Filippini, Sisters of the Holy Child, Sisters of Notre Dame, Sisters of Saint Casimir, Sisters of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart, Sisters of the Third Order of Saint Francis, Maryknoll Sisters, Daughters of Our Lady of Mercy, Poor Sisters of Jesus Crucified and the Sorrowful Mother, Sisters of Saint Basil the Great (Byzantine Rite), and Sisters of Saint Joseph.**

FAITH FACTS:

- Father Matthew Jankola, a Slovak priest of the Diocese, founded the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius, approved by the Holy See in 1909.
- Through several facilities that bear the name of their foundress Catherine McAuley, the Sisters of Mercy provide housing to women and children in need. They also offer academic assistance to children who live in low-income family housing developments, and help to care for elderly residents.
- In August 1996, Pope John Paul II declared the Passionist-run Saint Ann's Church a minor basilica. Rededication as a national shrine basilica occurred on October 18, 1997.
- Care for the elderly is among the charisms of the Little Sisters of the Poor and the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm.
- In 2015, Pope Francis proclaimed a **Year of Consecrated Life** to celebrate the Church's religious sisters, brothers and priests.



JUNE 7 ISSUE:
Catholic Higher Education

1902

Scranton - The IHM Sisters establish Marywood Seminary for girls in the Green Ridge section of Scranton.



1926

Clarks Summit - The Passionist Nuns found Saint Gabriel's Monastery.



1940

Dunmore - The Religious Teachers Filippini (The Filippini Sisters) open a mission at Saint Anthony of Padua Parish.



1942

Scranton - The Reverend W. Coleman Nevils, S.J. becomes first Jesuit president of the University of Scranton.



1953

Mount Pocono - The Villa of Our Lady of the Poconos Retreat Center is established and staffed by the Bernardine Franciscan Sisters.



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VOCATIONS
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 Diocese of Scranton Development Office, 300 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, PA 18503-1279

Catholic Men's Conference May 5 at King's College

All Catholic men who want to grow in their faith are invited to the Diocese of Scranton Catholic Men's Conference scheduled for May 5 at King's College in Wilkes-Barre.

The conference will feature inspirational speakers, Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and a concluding Mass celebrated by Bishop Joseph C. Bambera. Many ministries will be represented and a variety of books, CDs and other material will be available.

The Catholic Men's Conference will bring together hundreds of Catholic men for good fellowship and a re-commitment to promoting and living out our Christian heritage in our homes, workplaces and society.

You can register on line at: www.beamanconference.com or call the Diocesan Pastoral Center at 570-207-2213. For more information or to volunteer, please call or email Michael Kilmer at 570-746-0100 or mkilmer@thekilmergroup.com.

Catholic Home Missions Appeal Collection in Diocese April 28-29

The Catholic Home Missions Appeal will be taken up in the Diocese of Scranton the weekend of April 28-29.

This special collection, established by the U.S. bishops in 1998, primarily supports home mission dioceses — those dioceses in the United States that are unable to offer their people the basic pastoral ministries of word, worship, and service without outside help. It may also give grants

to other dioceses in the U.S. for particular projects, and to organizations and religious communities engaged in missionary work.

The collection supports a wide range of pastoral services. However, it principally focuses on evangelization activities; religious education; ministry training for priests, deacons, religious sisters and brothers, and laypeople; and support of poor parishes across the country.



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Baby Shower to Aid Saint Joseph's Center

The Social Concerns Committee of Blessed Sacrament Parish, Throop, and Holy Cross Parish, Olyphant, will host its annual "Baby Shower" to benefit Saint Joseph's Center in Scranton on Sunday, April 22, beginning at 2 p.m. in Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall, 216 Rebecca St., Throop.

Items being sought for donation to the Baby Pantry at Saint Joseph's to aid infants and young children include: unwrapped baby toiletries, diapers and pull-ups, baby towels and washcloths, in-

fant food and formula, all types of baby accessories and infant-care products, and clothing for ages newborn to 14.

Admission fee is \$15 or a comparable gift. Complimentary food, desserts and beverages will be provided, and the event will also include party games and prizes, and basket and cash raffle drawings.

Advance reservations are being accepted. For more information, call (570-489-5125) or (570-383-0710).

Towanda Knights Plan Celebration

The Knights of Columbus Saint John Neumann Assembly 979 of Towanda will hold their annual celebration on Sunday, May 6, at Saint Basil the Great Church in Dushore.

Guest speaker for the program will be Father Richard Rojas, incoming Faithful Friar for the Assembly.

A native of Brooklyn, N.Y., and convert to the Catholic faith, Father Rojas previously served as a Presbyterian minister and eventually came into communion with the Anglican Church.

In accordance with the Ordinariate of the Chair of Saint Peter established by Pope Benedict XVI, Father Rojas completed his

Catholic formation, received papal dispensation for ordination as a married man, and was ordained to the priesthood in August 2013.

He recently appeared on the EWTN segment "The Journey Home," which features the personal conversion stories of newcomers to the Catholic Church.

The Knights' celebration will begin with a Eucharistic liturgy at 9:30 a.m. in Saint Basil Church, followed by refreshments in the adjacent hall and dinner at 1 p.m.

Reservations are open to all K of C members and their guests and are requested by April 27. Contact an Assembly representative at (570-772-6524).

Construction Begins This Spring

Mount Olivet Offering New Garden Mausoleum



A lasting memorial for your loved ones without many of the traditional expenses.

The beautiful Mount Olivet Cemetery of the Diocese of Scranton will begin construction on a new Mausoleum in Carverton this spring to offer additional space for those who wish to be entombed in an above-ground setting. The building of granite and marble will accommodate caskets and cremains, providing a final resting place in pleasant landscaped surroundings easily accessible to family and friends.

The Mount Olivet Mausoleum will also feature companion crypts which accommodate placement of two caskets with one plaque for engraving of both names of the deceased interred therein.

One of life's most difficult decisions should be made before the need arises - while those concerned are able to consult and discuss options together. The Mausoleum at Mount Olivet may provide an appropriate, attractive and affordable memorial for your family's needs.

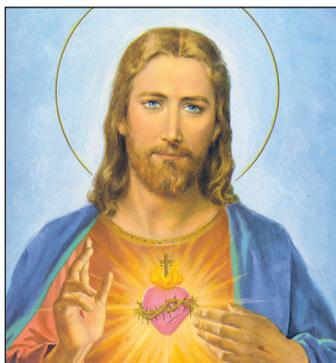
- Mausoleum entombment eliminates many expenses associated with traditional in-ground burials.
- Options may be available to exchange existing plots for crypts.
- Individuals of all faiths are welcome to be interred at Diocesan cemeteries.
- Burial plots and cremain niches are also available.

Pre-Construction Discounts of 10% until September 1, 2018

For more information:
Mount Olivet Cemetery
612 Mount Olivet Road
Wyoming, PA 18644
570-696-3636



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 **May 4** at Saint 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.

Additional Diocesan Cemeteries:

Calvary Cemetery, Drums
570-876-1061

St. Catherine's Cemetery, Moscow
570-842-8411

Holy Cross Cemetery, Old Forge
570-347-9251

Resurrection Cemetery, Montoursville
570-368-2727

Visit www.DioceseofScranton.org or phone to discuss your needs.

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Mark Your Calendar — Around the Diocese

Spiritual Offerings

Friday Holy Hour for Vocations — **APRIL 20**, hosted by the Little Sisters of the Poor at Holy Family Residence, 2500 Adams Ave., Scranton; weekly devotion held every Friday at 4:30 p.m. in the Residence chapel. Holy Hour includes recitation of the Rosary, evening prayer (vespers) and benediction. All faithful are welcome.

Weekly Bible Study — **APRIL 20**, 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 — **APRIL 20**, sponsored by the Catholics Defending Life Prayer & Awareness Team; group resumes weekly gatherings every Friday (except on First Fridays) from 1 to 1:30 p.m. at the Pro-Life Monument located next to St. Peter's Cathedral in Scranton (300 block of Wyoming Ave.). Recitation of the Rosary offered, along with pro-life meditations, Divine Mercy Chaplet

and other prayer devotions for the respect and dignity of all human life from conception to natural death. Pro-life signs are welcome.

Weekly Queen of Our Hearts Rosary Prayer Service — **APRIL 21**, 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.

"Amazing Grace" Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Retreat — **APRIL 21**, hosted by Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish in Brodheadsville; Marian devotion will be held from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, 1402 Route 209, Brodheadsville. All faithful are welcome.

Meeting of Lay Carmelites — **APRIL 21**, 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).

Sunday Our Lady of Guadalupe Rosary Devotion — **APRIL 22**, 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.

Monthly Evening of Marian Devotion — **APRIL 23**, 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, Laffin (Pittston). Prayer service will include recitation of the Rosary, Fatima prayers, hymns, and newly composed music for the Scriptural mysteries led by Ernie Pappa, who will facilitate the evening. All are invited to attend and offer devotional prayers to Mary for world peace.

Annual 13-Week Novena to St. Anthony of Padua — **APRIL 24-JUNE 12**, hosted by Our Lady of Hope Parish, 40 Park Ave., Wilkes-Barre; St. Anthony Novena devotion offered on 13 consecutive Tuesday evenings, beginning each week at 5:30 p.m. in the parish church. Novena theme: "Patron Saints of the Hopeless: St. Damien of Molokai and St. Marianne Cope." All faithful are welcome to attend; for more information, call (570-824-7832).

Weekly Bible Study — **APRIL 25**, hosted by Prince of Peace Parish in Old Forge; weekly sessions offered on Wednesdays

Continued on Page 19



The Church of Saint Luke
818 Main Street, Stroudsburg
Celebrating 50 years
presents Catholic Speaker
Mr. Tim Staples
April 28, 2018

9:30 a.m. Jimmy Swaggart Made Me Catholic

11:00 a.m. Now that We are Catholic

2:00 p.m. Teen Apologetics

All are welcome at no charge.
Light refreshments will be served.
R.S.V.P. by April 24, 2018 to
(570)421-9097 or by emailing
office@churchofsaintluke.org



Apostleship of Prayer

Papal Intention for May 2018

EVANGELIZATION

The Mission of the Laity —

That the lay faithful may fulfill their specific mission,
by responding with creativity to the challenges
that face the world today.

Spiritual Offerings

Continued from Page 18

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. For more information, call (570-881-9916).

Wednesday Eucharistic Adoration — **APRIL 25**, hosted at St. Joseph's Oblate Seminary, Route 315, Laffin; adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held every Wednesday evening from 6 to 7 p.m. in the seminary chapel. Includes recitation of the Rosary and opportunity for confessions. Mass celebrated at 7 p.m., followed by Novena prayers to St. Joseph and St. Joseph Marelo, founder of the Oblates of St. Joseph religious congregation. For more information, contact the OSJ seminary at (570-654-7542).

Weekly Divine Mercy Devotion — **APRIL 25**, 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.

Wednesday Eucharistic Adoration — **APRIL 25-MAY 16**, hosted by Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Tunkhannock; exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament held every Wednesday until Pentecost Sunday from 3 to 7 p.m. in Nativity BVM Church, 99 East Tioga St., Tunkhannock. All faithful are welcome.

Parish Speaker: Catholic Evangelist Tim Staples — **APRIL 28**, hosted by St. Luke Parish, 818 Main St., Stroudsburg; daylong program includes three presentations. Schedule: 9:30 a.m., "Jimmy Swaggart Made Me Catholic"; 11 a.m., "Now That We are Catholic"; and 2 p.m., "Teen Apologetics." Light refreshments served before and after each event in the Jacques Center. All are welcome; reservations requested by April

20. Contact the parish office at (570-421-9097) or email: office@churchofsaintluke.org.

Padre Pio Prayer Ministry — **MAY 2**, hosted by St. Faustina Kowalska Parish in Nanticoke; begins with celebration of Mass at 6 p.m. in the parish worship site of Holy Trinity Church, 520 South Hanover St., Nanticoke, followed by exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, intercessory prayers to St. Padre Pio, recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and benediction. All faithful are welcome.

Monthly Ladies Afternoon of Recollection — **MAY 5**, 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

Continued on Page 20

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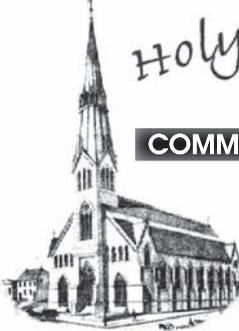
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Spiritual Offerings

Continued from Page 19
 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.

Monthly Monday Night Worship — **MAY 7**, 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. For more information, contact Paul Walters at (570-332-2963).

O.F.F.: Opioid Fact Forum — **APRIL 19**, presented by the heritage Knights of Columbus, President John F. Kennedy Council 372 and Assembly 948 of Greater Pittston; held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Pittston Memorial Library. Open to the

Monthly Gathering of Theresians International of Scranton — **MAY 8**; group gathers at Immaculate Conception Church in the Hill section of Scranton. Recitation of the Patriotic Rosary begins at 11:30 a.m. in the church's adoration chapel, followed by Mass celebrated at 12:10 p.m. Theresians' luncheon meeting follows at 12:45 p.m. at Cooper's Seafood House, North Washington Ave., Scranton. Month's guest speaker: Bishop Emeritus James C. Timlin.

Evening of Marian Devotion — **MAY 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 St. Mary of Mount Carmel Church, Chestnut St., Dunmore. 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.

Gathering of the Secular Discalced Carmelites — **MAY 20 & JUNE 10**, canonically established community of the Diocese of Scranton; gatherings are usually held on the third Sunday of every month at Holy Annunciation Monastery in Sugarloaf, Luzerne County. All are welcome, especially those who feel called to a deeper consecration in life and wish to experience Carmelite spirituality and community. Call Ann Marie Fierro (570-454-4493), Nicole Tranguch (570-751-4729) or Marie Schimmelbusch (570-822-6561) for more information.

Catholic Happenings

public free of charge; light refreshments will be served.

Easter Concert: "The Journey Makes Us One!" — **APRIL 22**, featuring the combined choirs from the Pittston parishes of St. John the Evangelist and St. Joseph Marelo, along with several instrumentalists; begins at 2 p.m. in St. John the Evangelist Church, William St., Pittston. Concert event presented to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Diocese of Scranton. All are welcome free of charge.

Bingo & Basket Raffle — **APRIL 22**, sponsored by All Saints

Parish in Plymouth; hosted in the Holy Child Faith Formation Center, 119 Willow St., Plymouth. Doors open at 12 noon; games begin at 1 p.m. with cash prizes. Event includes 15 regular games and several specials. Admission cost: \$5, includes three cards for any regular game; additional regular and special game cards will be sold. Basket raffle tickets and refreshments available for purchase. Early reservations encouraged; limited tickets available at the door. For more information and advance tickets, call (570-332-1176).

*Continued on
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Weekly Bingo — **APRIL 23**, 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).

Rummage Sale — **APRIL 23 & 24**, sponsored by the Confraternity of Christian Mothers of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, 116 Hughes St., Swoyersville; held in the parish's school gymnasium. Sale hours: Monday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Tuesday (\$2 bag day), 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Includes sale of baked goods, refreshments and food items.

Annual "Tastings & Tapas" Event — **APRIL 27**, hosted by St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Moscow; held from 7 to 10 p.m. in the parish's Kelly Hall at St. Catherine Church, 220 Church St., Moscow. Evening offering of music, tastings of a variety of wines, craft & domestic beers, and a live auction hosted by auctioneer Pat Verrastro and featuring a wide variety of luxury gift items and attractions. Live music provided

Catholic Choral Spring Concerts Set

SCRANTON — The annual spring concerts of the Catholic Choral Society of Scranton will be presented next month, beginning on Friday, May 18, at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Rosary Church, 316 William St., Scranton.

Joining the Catholic Choral as guest performers for this event will be the Abington Heights Honor Chorus, under the direction of Dana Cerminaro and accompanied by Stephen Murphy.

A second spring concert performance will be held on Sunday, May 20, at 7 p.m. at St. Ignatius Church, 339 North Maple Ave.,

by the Teddy Young Duo. Must be at least 21 years of age to attend. Advance tickets cost \$25 each; tickets at the door are \$30 each. Limited number of reserved tables for eight are available. For more information and advance reservations, call (570-842-4561).

Beef Stew & Biscuits Take-Out Dinner — **APRIL 28**, sponsored by Gate of Heaven Parish, 40 Machell Ave., Dallas; take-out dinner orders available from 4 to 7 p.m. Cost: \$9 for a quart of homemade beef stew, including two rolls and butter. To place orders, call (570-675-2121).

Pancake & Sausage Breakfast/Basket Raffle Fundraiser — **APRIL 28**, to benefit the Friends of the Poor Monsignor Anthony C. Marra Memorial Fund; hosted from 8 to 10 a.m. at Applebee's Restaurant at the Viewmont Mall in Scranton. Breakfast cost: adults, \$7; children, \$4. For more information and ticket reservations, call Toni DiVizio (570-344-2388) or Mary Ann Coviello (570-344-3737).

Night at the Races — **APRIL 28**, sponsored by St. André Besette Parish in Wilkes-Barre; hosted at St. Mary's Byzantine Social Hall, 522 Madison St., Wilkes-Barre. Doors open at 6 p.m.; races start at 7 p.m. Includes food and beverages. Admission fee: \$5 (must be at least 21 years of age to attend). For more information, call (570-823-4988).

Kingston.

The Choral Society will host as guest performers the Hazleton Area High School Cougar Chorus, directed by Kimberly Sharonoff with Ethan Mariano as accompanist.

Ann Manganiello, of Exeter, serves as director of the Catholic Choral; Jean Shields, Scranton, is the accompanist.

Admission cost for each concert performance is \$10 for adults; \$8, seniors and students. Children under age 12 are free of charge.

Tickets are available at the door, from society members, or by calling (570-587-2753).

Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary Bingo — **MAY 2 & 16**, 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).

Bereavement Support Gatherings — **MAY 2 & 20**, 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.

Continued on Page 25

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Mission Message

Go Forth

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



Are you a saint? If we were asked that question, many of us likely would respond in the negative. If Pope Francis were to have his way, I think he'd want us all to say, "I hope to be" or "God knows, I'm trying."

Our Holy Father recently published an apostolic exhortation entitled *Gaudete et Exsultate* (Rejoice and Be Glad), encouraging all of us to embrace the universal call to holiness. Saints are not only "those already beatified and canonized. The Holy Spirit bestows holiness in abundance among God's holy and faithful people...[bestows holiness on those right next door]..." (GE 6).

This is part and parcel of the call of the Gospel, this is truly good news that sanctity is not something obscure or out of touch for those of us who consider themselves pretty average. Holiness can be ours and it's God's will for us to attain it by His grace.

There's a beautiful section of the exhortation which Pope



Francis entitles simply "For You Too." What incredible simplicity that breaks down the self-imposed barriers we place around holiness and sainthood.

Many times, I think that average disciples believe it's inappropriate to say he or she hopes to be a saint. We often put holiness out of reach; after all, holiness is for priests and nuns and martyrs, right? It's time to stop making holiness a disposition only to be pursued and embraced by particular groups.

As the Holy Father so gently reminds us, holiness is for *you*; it's for everyone. If the simplest definition of a saint is one who has died and now lives in heaven, then surely we all want to be saints.

The other side of the coin, of course, regarding holiness, is that we help to make others saints as well. More than anything, husbands and wives are called to make each other holy and, if they are blessed with children, to engender holiness in their offspring. No matter our vocation in this life, we are called to inspire holiness in each other, encouraging others to live a life of holiness and even demand it.

"Each saint is a mission, planned by the Father to reflect and embody, at a specific moment in history, a certain aspect of the

Gospel" (GE 19). This is our time in history to be missionaries of holiness, to inspire others to embrace a life of serving God and our neighbor.

If there's ever a message with which we need to go forth with, it's this: to embrace "an authentic process of leaving ourselves behind in order to approach the mystery of God, who helps us to carry out the mission to which he has called us, for the good of our brothers and sisters" (GE 175).

To approach the mystery of God is to become holy and when we are made holy we can cooperate with God in such a way that we inspire each other and draw others to approach God's mysterious presence. Each era in history we seem to say "now more than ever" we need God. Surely this is true for us.

So, we go forth, turning to God and His divine mercy and are enlivened by the power and promise of Psalm 37: "commit your way to the LORD; trust in Him and He will act. And make your righteousness shine like the dawn, your justice like noonday" (Psalm 37:6-7).

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The Catholic Light Photos/Mike Melisky

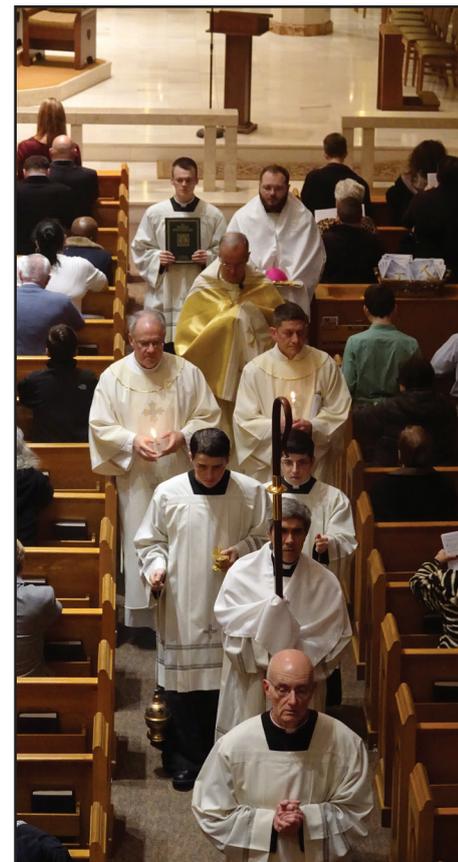
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Kentucky Derby Day Night at the Races — **MAY 5**, sponsored by Holy Family Parish, 828 Main St., Sugar Notch; held in the church hall, with doors opening at 5 p.m. Buffet dinner served at 5:30 p.m.; races start at 6:30 p.m. Buffet, featuring dessert and beverages, is included with race horse sponsorship of \$10. For more information or to sponsor a horse, contact the parish rectory at (570-822-8983).

11th Annual St. Mary's Classic Golf Tournament — **MAY 6**, sponsored by Queen of the Apostles Parish in Avoca; held at Pine Hills Country Club, 140 South Keyser Ave., Taylor. Tournament play begins with an 8 a.m. shotgun start (captain & crew format). Cost: \$85 per golfer, includes prizes and awards dinner at Queen of the Apostles Parish Hall, 742 Spring St., Avoca. Hole sponsorships available for \$100. For more information, contact Jim McMahon at jimcmahon1@verizon.net or John Soy at johnsoy@comcast.net.

American Red Cross Blood Drive — **MAY 10**, hosted by St. Mary's Villa Nursing Home, 516 St. Mary's Villa Road, Elmhurst Township; held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the dining hall. For an appointment, call Addie Rocco at St. Mary's Villa (570-842-7621 ext. 1125).

Excursion to Sight & Sound Theatre Show: "Jesus" — **MAY 15**, sponsored by the Little Sisters of the Poor; bus departs Holy Family Residence, 2500 Adams Ave., Scranton, at 7:30 a.m. and returns at 7 p.m. Cost: \$105 per person, includes transportation, light refreshments and balcony section admission ticket. Lunch stop scheduled for return trip. For more information/reservations, contact Jackie Galvin at (570-343-4065) or scdevelopment@littlesistersofthepoor.org. Reservations available online at: www.littlesistersofthepoorscranton.org.

Senior Support Services Event — **MAY 19**, sponsored by St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Moscow; hosted from 1 to 4 p.m.

at the Moffat Estate, 20 Moffat Drive, Covington Township. Program for senior adults, families and caregivers offers direct access to support resources; information also provided for local transportation services and estate planning. Event also includes raffle drawings and prizes. Open free to the public.

Parish Rummage Sale Fundraiser — **MAY 19**, sponsored by Visitation of the BVM Parish in Dickson City; held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the former St. Mary's Visitation School, 625 Dundaff St., Dickson City. Drop-off times for donated items include: April 28 & May 12, 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and May 5, 12 noon to 3:30 p.m. For information on acceptable donations and restrictions, call the parish office at (570-489-2091).

Parish Group Tour: Historic/Religious Sites of Baltimore & Washington, D.C. — **MAY 29-31**, sponsored by Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Dickson City; motorcoach excursion (three days and two nights) includes tour of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption (America's first cathedral) in Baltimore, and celebration of Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and tour of St. John Paul II National Shrine in Washington. For complete itinerary, including accommodations, meals and cost details, call St. Mary's Visitation parish office at (570-489-2091 or 570-383-0544).

Knights of Columbus Baseball Trip to Baltimore & Inner Harbor — **JUNE 2**, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council 10729, Jessup-Peckville; motorcoach excursion for Baltimore Orioles-New York Yankees baseball game at 4 p.m. at Camden Yards, preceded by visit to Baltimore's Inner Harbor. Bus departs Jessup Hose Company No. 2 at 8 a.m.; return trip follows the game. Cost: \$95 per person, including round-trip transportation and game ticket. For more information and reservations, contact John Bogdanovicz (570-489-0023) or Bob Wasilchak (570-383-0347).

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Who makes house calls?

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

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



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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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Homeless Warm Up to Pocono Parish's Unique Idea



Super Bowl Sunday at Saint Matthew's Warming Center

During the week, the sunny cafeteria in the hall of Saint Matthew Parish serves as the gathering space for the various ministries offered by the East Stroudsburg Catholic community. But on Saturdays, the same space fills up with as many as 40 homeless "guests," who are welcomed with a hot meal, relief from the outside elements and some much-needed fellowship at the so-called "Saint Matthew's Warming Center."

Part of the area's "working poor," the homeless adults and their children who rely on over-

night shelter accommodations provided by a social service agency in Stroudsburg consider the Saint Matthew Parish Hall site their weekly "Clubhouse."

This past Super Bowl Sunday the coveted gathering place, where volunteers regularly provide their guests with toiletries, some comfortable clothing and enjoyable diversions, truly became a fun spot the watch the big game for some 36 underprivileged.

Complete with a tailgate-atmosphere for Super Bowl LII that included lawn chairs and stadium

seated provided by volunteers, the Warming Center entertained the appreciative football fans with a great venue and food to match for their spectating pleasure.

"These are true friends, and we appreciate them taking time away from their families for us," said Susan, who has been visiting the Warming Center for months with her husband and daughter. "It is nice to be at place where they are there for you, especially when you need a friend."

Saint Matthew's volunteers and guests seem to inspire each other, as those who are grateful for what the ministry offers provide an opportunity for ministry members to become friends with those from their community they would otherwise never get to know.

Barbara Cullin, a volunteer at the Warming Center, said, "Being part of the collective American experience of Super Bowl Sunday by watching the game, enjoying the culinary delights and cheering on your favorite team made for a special day for the homeless in our community!"

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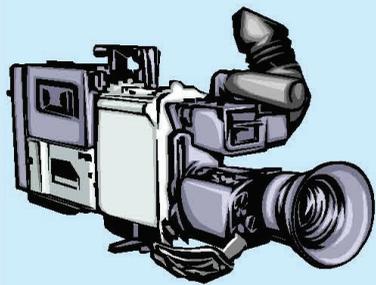
- Wellness Reboot: Saturdays, April 28-June 2
- Girls Basketball Camp: July 15-20
- Girls Resident Camp: July 22-27
- Boys Resident Camp: July 29-Aug 3
- Boys Basketball Camp: July 29-Aug 3
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- Women's Weekend: Aug 10-12

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