

GoodNewsNotes

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON OFFICE FOR PARISH LIFE

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Ash Wednesday Retreat



The Office for Parish Life will offer a Retreat on Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2018 at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 330 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton. The day will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 2:30 p.m.

Rev. Thomas P. Looney, CSC, will lead the retreat. Fr. Looney is the College Chaplain and Director of Campus Ministry at King's College in Wilkes-Barre. The theme is "Create a Clean Heart in Me, O God." Father will offer three topics for reflection:

- I. Searching and Knowing My Heart
- II. Nourishing a Heart Renewed
- III. Rejoicing in a Heart Embraced by Mercy

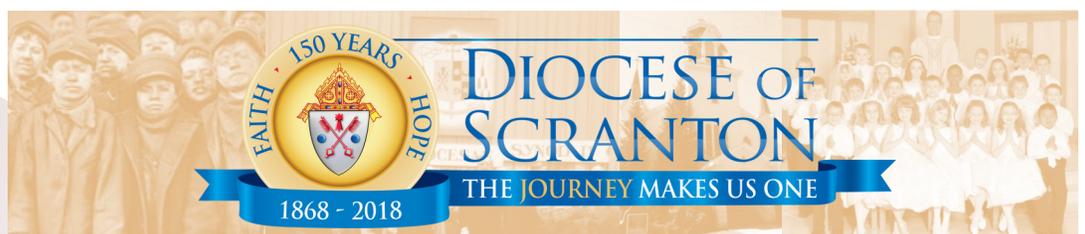
The retreat day will include Mass celebrated in St. Peter's Cathedral with distribution of ashes. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available prior to Mass. Lunch will be served following the noon Mass. The fee for the day is \$30, which includes lunch. To register, call Mary Anne Malone at the Office for Parish Life, 570-207-2213, or e-mail Mary-Anne-Malone@dioceseofscranton.org.

Repent, and believe in the Gospel.

Mass for the World Day of the Sick
Saturday, February 10,
at 12:10PM
Cathedral of Saint Peter

Rite of Election
Sunday, February 18
at 2:30PM
Cathedral of Saint Peter

Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities Awareness Mass
Sunday, February 25
at 10:00AM
Cathedral of Saint Peter





WORD

"I CALL us to be servant leaders who are people of the WORD, preaching, teaching, evangelizing and cherishing the Gospel message throughout our entire lives."

DRE Network Meetings

Two DRE Network Meetings remain. A meeting in Cresco has been added to the original schedule. All DREs are invited to come and represent their parishes! If the DRE is not available, another parish catechetical leader should attend. The agenda will include:



- Discussion of upcoming events including Catechist Camp and the Fall Word Convocation
- Ways that DREs can stay connected through Social Media
- Update on Safe Environment with Kathy Bolinski
- Opportunities for catechetical workshops available in your parish or region

Wednesday, February 7

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
St. Ann Basilica
Shrine Dining Room
1250 St. Ann Street
Scranton, PA 18504

Wednesday, February 28

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Most Holy Trinity Parish
236 Route 390
Cresco, PA 18326

Please R.S.V.P. to Mary Anne Malone (570) 207-2213, ext. 1100 or mary-anne-malone@dioceseofscranton.org.

'Come and See' Vocation Retreat

A unique opportunity to answer the call to Missionary Discipleship

Friday, February 23-Saturday, February 24 Villa of Our Lady Retreat House, Mount Pocono

This vocation retreat is designed to help men aged 18 and older understand God's call to Diocesan Priesthood. Interactive presentations will include: practical steps for discerning a vocation to Diocesan Priesthood, seminary life, academics, spiritual life, and pastoral ministry. Seminarians and priests will share their vocation stories. There will be free time to relax, pray, and connect with others from throughout the Diocese.



For more information, contact your parish priest or deacon.

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Youth & Young Adult Events 2018

UP&OVER

Weekend Retreat for 6th, 7th, & 8th grade students. The weekend focuses on team-building and problem solving skills - including a low-ropes team-building course.

June 1-3
September 28-30
@ Camp Orchard Hill - Dallas, Pa

ISLI

The International Student Leadership Institute is a retreat formulated at The University of Notre Dame for High School students. It focuses on improving leadership skills through 5 different objectives.

February 16-18
July 9-12

XLT

An evening filled with Eucharistic adoration, praise & worship, a dynamic speaker, reconciliation, and socializing with individuals from all over the Diocese of Scranton

February 9
March 23, April 27, May 18
June 15, July 27

BOLD CHOICES

A 24-hour retreat for young adults that includes presentations & interactive sessions on prayer, making choices based in faith, finding your passion, the art of discernment, small group discussions & more.

August 10-11

QUO VADIS DAYS

A camp for young Catholic men in High School to deepen their faith, learn more about all vocations, better discern God's call in their lives. The camp will feature dynamic talks, prayer, games, sports, activities, music & more.

June 24-27
Misericordia University

OTHER EVENTS

- June 15th - Steve Angrisano Mission @ St. Mark's - Thornhurst
- June 16th - Transformed Youth Rally @ St. John Neumann Regional Academy, Williamsport
- June 27th - Light the Fire Youth Rally @ Misericordia University
- September 15th - Youth/Young Adult Diocesan Day of Service
- September 27th - Chris Stefanick Mission @ St. John the Evangelist - Pittston

CONTACT US

For more information about an event contact:

Shannon Kowalski
Coordinator for Youth/Young Adult Ministry
(570) 207-2213 x1155

Dominick Costantino
Vocation Program Coordinator
(570) 207-1452 x1069

Rite of Election

The **Rite of Election** will be celebrated by **Bishop Bambera on Sunday, February 18 at 2:30PM** (please note the change in time from previous years). This ritual marks the beginning of a period of intense preparation for those catechumens anticipating the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter. During the liturgy, the Church judges the catechumens' readiness and then the catechumens enroll their names as a pledge of fidelity to this call. The bishop then declares their "election" or admission to receive the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. Candidates (those already baptized) are also invited to attend this liturgy as they participate in the Call to Continuing Conversion. The RCIA Coordinator Information and Enrollment forms are now available on the diocesan website under [Christian Initiation Resources](#). Parishes with new RCIA Coordinators are asked to contact Nancy Valtos at the Office for Parish Life and provide their new contact information.

Evening of Reflection on the Paschal Triduum

The Scranton Chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM) will be holding an Evening of Reflection on the Paschal Triduum on Tuesday, March 6, 2018 from 6:00PM to 8:30PM at St. Ann's Basilica Parish, 1233 St. Ann Street, Scranton. The Evening of Reflection will be facilitated by Sr. Catherine Luxner, IHM, Director of Campus Ministry at Marywood University. The evening begins with dinner, followed by the presentation and then Night Prayer. There is no fee, but a free-will offering will be taken up to help offset the cost of dinner. To register, [click here](#) or visit [ScrantonNPM.com](#) by Thursday, March 1, 2018. For more information, please contact David Baloga at 570-207-2213 ext. 1158.



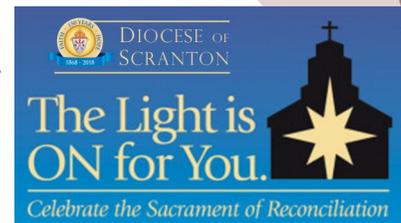
Lent & Easter Liturgical Resource

The Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions (FDLC) has compiled a liturgical resource to assist parishes in preparing liturgies for the Lent and Easter seasons. This resource includes a complete presider's text for the *Rite of Reconciliation of Several Penitents with Individual Confession and Absolution* with readings, sample penances, and music suggestions, as well a liturgical calendar advisory for Lent, Triduum, and the Easter Season, preparation worksheets for the Paschal Triduum and Evening Prayer for Easter Sunday.

To download this resource, [click here](#) or visit www.fdlc.org and click on "resources."

The Light Is On for You

The Church encourages us to make confession a regular part of our spiritual life, especially during the holy season of Lent, as we reflect on our baptism and repentance. Again this year, parishes are participating in a Lenten initiative called *The Light Is On for You*. Every Monday evening during the Lenten season, beginning on the first Monday of Lent, February 19, and continuing through Monday of the last full week of Lent, March 19, confessions will be heard in every parish from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. so that Catholics can come to or return to this incredible source of God's grace, mercy and healing. [Click here](#) for 150th Diocesan Anniversary resources for *The Light Is ON for You* initiative or visit the diocesan website.



Extraordinary Minister of Communion Training

The Office for Parish Life will offer an all-day training session for new Extraordinary Ministers of Communion on **Saturday, February 10 from 9:00AM to 2:30PM at Gate of Heaven Parish, 40 Machell Ave., Dallas**. Candidates for the training should have the approval of his or her pastor/parish life coordinator. There is no fee for the training and lunch will be provided. To register, please contact Dede, DRE & Coordinator of Ministries at Gate of Heaven Parish, at gohccd@aol.com or at 570-674-1652.

Immaculate Conception Parish, Scranton
invites you to a

Workshop for Parish Ministers with Vince Ambrosetti

Saturday, March 10, 2018
from 9:00AM to 12 Noon

and a

Vince Ambrosetti Concert

Sunday, March 11, 2018 at 7:00PM

at Immaculate Conception Parish
801 Taylor Ave. Scranton

For more information, please call 570-961-5211.





COMMUNITY

"I CALL us to be servant leaders who build COMMUNITY through hospitality, respect, inclusion and holiness."

Informational Session for Prospective PreCana Presenting Couples

Are you, or is someone you know, interested in considering a ministry to our engaged couples? The Office for Parish Life is hosting an informational session for Prospective PreCana Presenting Couples on February 24, 2018, from 9:00 to 11:00, at the Diocesan Pastoral Center. Come learn how our Diocesan PreCana Program operates and how your witness as a married couple can enrich this experience for our engaged couples. Couple Candidates for this ministry should have the approval of their pastor/parish life coordinator. There is no fee and light refreshments will be provided. To register, or to gather more information, please contact Jennifer Housel, Coordinator for Marriage and Family Life, 570-207-2213 ext. 1104 or jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org Please join us and learn if becoming part of our PreCana Presenting Team is a calling for you! Deadline to register is February 16, 2018.

Retrouvaille Program (To Re-Discover)

Retrouvaille is a program that helps couples who may be experiencing tension, stress and loneliness in the marriage relationship. The program helps couples, even those separated and divorced to better communicate and resolve conflicts in their relationships. Please call 1-800-470-2230 or visit the website www.helpourmarriage.org for more information or to pre-register. All calls confidential. Cost of program is by donation. The next local Retrouvaille weekend is March 2-4, 2018 at the Ramada Inn, Clarks Summit. The local contacts are Nettie and Bob Goldate at 570-587-0415.



Speaker - Praise & Worship Music
Eucharistic Adoration - Reconciliation - Social

Friday, February 9 from 7:00-9:00PM

Saint Catherine of Siena Parish,
220 Church St., Moscow
All are welcome to attend.

For more information,
contact Dominick Costantino at 570-780-2996.

World Day of the Sick

A Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Bambera for the twenty-sixth World Day of the Sick will on Saturday, February 10, 2018 at 12:10PM at the Cathedral of Saint Peter. Parishes around the diocese are encouraged to offer a Mass for the Sick that includes the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick either on February 11 or another convenient day near it. [Resources for World Day of the Sick](#) can be found on the diocesan website.

Mass for Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities Awareness



The Diocese of Scranton is celebrating Developmental & Intellectual Disabilities Awareness Sunday with a Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton on Sunday, February 25, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. Bishop Joseph C. Bambera will be the principal celebrant and homilist. The Mass will be sign-language interpreted for the hearing impaired. This liturgy prayerfully celebrates the many gifts those with developmental or intellectual disabilities bring to the Church and the community. They are indeed full members of the Body of Christ! Partners in this celebration include St. Joseph Center in Scranton, the Diocesan SPRED community (Special Religious Education) and the Catholic Deaf Community of the Diocese of Scranton. All are welcome. CTV: Catholic Television will also broadcast the Mass. Resources which may assist your parish response to persons with developmental and intellectual disabilities can be found at each of these links:

[Diocese of Scranton—Ministry with Persons of Disabilities](#)

[Diocese of Scranton—Ministry with the Deaf](#)

[Disability Awareness Month and Observances](#)

[USCCB—Guidelines for the Celebration of Sacraments with Persons with Disabilities](#)

ISLI

FEBRUARY 16-18

FOR GRADES 9-12

CAMP LADORE - WAYMART, PA

CALL (570) 207-2213 FOR INFO
OR REGISTRATION



"I CALL us to be servant leaders who engage in SERVICE to our neighbors near and far and who work for justice and stewardship to hasten the Reign of God."

SERVICE



Encounter Lent: Companions on the Journey

Through the **Catholic Relief Services' Rice Bowl**, we share the journey with members of our human family around the world, and commit our Lenten prayers, fasting and almsgiving to deepening our faith and serving those in need. To begin the Rice Bowl collection in your parish this Lent and to view all of the resources that Catholic Relief Services offers to assist your parish collection, please visit crsricebowl.org/begin. One of the resources is a DVD that includes 3-5 minute videos to inspire and enrich your Lenten journey of encounter.



2018 Ministry Skills Workshop Series — Mark Your Calendars!

Rules and Regs: An Exploration of Canon Law & Administrative Strategies for Ministry

Saturday, February 3, 2018 from 9:00AM to 3:00PM at Divine Mercy Parish, Scranton

Presented by Fr. Jeff Tudgay and Catherine Butel

For the morning session, Fr. Jeff Tudgay will overview the components of Canon Law and focus especially on those of import for lay persons serving in leadership roles in various parish ministry areas such as Faith Formation, RCIA, Liturgy and Marriage Preparation. In the afternoon, Catherine Butel will facilitate discussion and provide practical strategies for parish ministry topics such as: time management, project implementation, working relationships, and effective meeting design. **To register, visit the Office for Parish Life page at www.dioceseofscranton.org.**

Techniques for Intuitive Ministry

Saturday, April 14 from 9:00AM-3:00PM at Gate of Heaven Parish, Dallas

Presented by Sr. Jane O'Donnell, RSM and Dr. John Lemoncelli

Ministers are often called to meet people where they are and help create an environment of trust, while being attuned to themselves and God. In the morning session, Sr. Jane will guide participants in skills for intentional listening, being present to others and to listen with the eyes, ears and the heart. In the afternoon, Dr. Lemoncelli will provide an introduction to mediation of relationships and boundaries within ministry, and offer resources and methods for addressing a variety of interpersonal encounters.

"Pray and Proclaim!"

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

Presented by Dr. Maria Poggi-Johnson and Kitty Scanlan

Dr. Maria Poggi-Johnson will give introduction to basic public speaking techniques, and provide opportunity for participants to try out these methods. Kitty Scanlan will discuss topics such as: *Why do we pray? How do we pray? What are some ideas and resources for planning prayer with groups, or in the classroom?* The ways in which ministers cultivate spirituality outside of the Mass not only enriches Sunday worship but can bring the reality of God into our everyday lived experience.

Ecumenism & Interfaith Dialogue and Intercultural Competencies

Saturday, November 17 from 9:00AM-3:00PM at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, Scranton

Presented by Fr. Alex Roche and Alejandra Marroquin

Ecumenism and Interfaith Dialogue: Fr. Alex Roche, Pastor at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Lake Silkworth will explain Vatican II's call to dialogue with our fellow Christians and those of other faiths, what has been done since the Council to continue this dialogue, and how the dialogue plays out in parish life.

Cultural Diversity and Parish Unity: Alejandra Marroquin will unpack best practices for intercultural competencies with parishes of culturally diverse populations to encourage integration and unity within the Church.

For more information

contact Kitty Scanlan at 570-207-2213, x 1157, or kitty-scanlan@dioceseofscranton.org.

150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Scranton



■ A liturgical resource to assist parishes in commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Scranton on the weekend of March 3 & 4, 2018 is available on the diocesan website. This resource includes hymn suggestions, an introduction to the liturgy, homily topic points, a sample introduction, intercessions and concluding prayer for the Universal Prayer. This resource includes the Anniversary logo, a calendar of events for the year, suggestions for local parish participation, and a parish liturgical resource to help commemorate the Anniversary year. [Click here](#) to access this valuable resource to help commemorate the 150th Anniversary Year.

■ Be sure to “like” Diocese of Scranton 150th Anniversary on [Facebook](#). This will be the central location on social media with all information about the anniversary, pictures, videos and events going on in the different parishes and schools throughout the Diocese. Help us spread the word by sharing the page!

We encourage everyone to use the hashtag #DoS150 on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram when posting about diocesan, parish and school events related to the 150th Anniversary Year.

■ Thanks to the parishes who have been notifying us of your Anniversary related events we can post these on the 150th Anniversary Facebook page. **We are also collecting photos and visual effects** from your various Anniversary activities for an exhibit to conclude the year.

■ The **Office for Parish Life Calendar for the 150th Anniversary** is available for all parishes. Several copies were mailed to each parish, but let us know if you would like to have additional copies for your Pastoral Council, staff, and other parish leaders.

■ **Historic Sites in the Diocese—there’s an app for that!** One of the ways we can partake in the celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese is through a visit to some of the historic sites here. The Office of Parish Life 2018 calendar features a number of those locations, and now there is a free app to guide you there.

The Scranton Diocese Pilgrimage app includes directions to each site, a description of what you will find when you arrive, a brief history, some photos and a “punch card” to help you keep track of the sites you have visited. Get the app and get on the road!

Android/Google Play App Store

Open Google Play > Tap “My Apps” > Search for “Scranton Diocese Pilgrimage” > Tap “GET”

iOS/Apple App Store (Anticipated available by February 2)

Open “App Store” app on iPhone > Search the App Store for “Scranton Diocese Pilgrimage” > Tap “GET”



OPL TEAM MEMBERS

- Diocesan Secretary for Parish Life: **Catherine Jantsch Butel**
Director for WORD and Lifelong Faith Formation: **Mary Anne Malone**
Coordinator for Youth/Young Adult Ministry: **Shannon Kowalski**
Consultant for Youth and Campus Ministry: **Fred Mercadante**
Director for WORSHIP: **David Baloga**
Coordinator for RCIA: **Fr. Bob Simon**
Director for SERVICE and Social Concerns:
Coordinator for Pilgrimages: **Fr. Andrew Hvozdovic**
Coordinator for Marriage and Family Life: **Jen Housel**
Coordinator for Ecumenical/Interfaith Relations: **Msgr. Vincent Grimalia**
Consultant for Community Connections: **Dominick Costantino**
Coordinator for Lay Ministry Formation: **Kitty Scanlan**
Coordinator for Pastoral Council Development: **Ann Marie Cawley**
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