



GoodNewsNotes

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON OFFICE FOR PARISH LIFE

Director of Religious Education Network Meetings



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There are less than two weeks before the first DRE Network Meeting. These will be held in four locations, and every parish should be represented. All DREs are invited! If the DRE is not available another parish catechetical leader should attend. Please choose one of these dates/locations and plan to join other parish DREs for an evening of prayer, fellowship, formation and information. 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, January 17
6:30-8:30p.m.
 St. Ann Basilica
 Shrine Dining Room
 1250 St. Ann Street
 Scranton, 18504

Thursday, January 25
6:30-8:30p.m.
 St. Joseph the Worker Parish
 Fleming Center
 720 West Fourth Street
 Williamsport, 17701

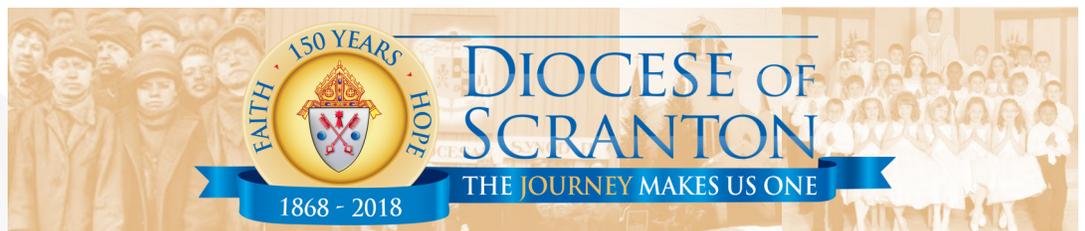
Tuesday, January 23
6:30-8:30p.m.
 Holy Family Parish
 828 Main Street
 Sugar Notch, 18706

Wednesday, January 31
6:00-8:00p.m.
 Holy Rosary Parish
 240 S. Poplar Street
 Hazleton, 18201

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

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children
 Monday, January 22, 2018

Ecumenical Celebration of the Word of God
 Thursday, January 25, 2018
 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."

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 with the theme "Create in Me, a Clean Heart, O God." Fr. Looney is the College Chaplain and Director of Campus Ministry at King's College in Wilkes-Barre. He will offer the retreat in three parts with time for reflection and personal prayer.

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.



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 featuring the following topics: *What is Lent? Reflection Series*; *Who Is My Neighbor? A Video for Children*; *Stations of the Cross Reflection Series* and more!



Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry Program, 2018

The Office for Parish Life encourages parish leaders to consider **application for the Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry for January 2018!**

The *Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry* is a ministry formation program designed to equip and advance the servant leadership capacities of individuals serving their parish in areas such as:

- Pastoral Council,
- Director of Religious Education and Catechist,
- Liturgical Coordinator,
- Parish Staff,
- Volunteer Ministry teams,
- and others!

Through independent online study with the University of Dayton's Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF), as well as regional skills workshops and opportunities for prayer and reflection, *Diocesan Certificate* candidates enrich their knowledge base, while also learning practical tools for effective parish ministry in their faith communities.

The Office for Parish Life anticipates welcoming new candidates into the *Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry* program in the New Year.

Prospective candidates are encouraged to contact Kitty Scanlan, Coordinator for Lay Ministry Formation, at 570-207-2213, or by email at Kitty-Scanlan@dioceseofscranton.org for application information, materials, and application submissions. Deadline to apply is Monday, January 15, 2018



Cantor & Accompanist Workshop Day

Cantors and accompanists: does your ministry help the assembly and YOU to pray? Many of us love to sing, but what skills are needed to transform us from mere singers into the musical leaders of the as-



sembly's song? The Scranton Chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM) will hold a workshop for cantors and accompanists on **Saturday, January 13, 2018 from 9:00AM to 2:00PM at McCormick Campus Ministry Center at King's College, Wilkes-Barre.** This day session entitled, "Yours Is a Share...That Draws us Together into One" will cover the techniques, preparation, and skills necessary to be an effective cantor. Cantoring requires good vocal technique coupled with posture, presence, awareness and teamwork with your accompanist. There is no fee, but a free-will offering will be taken up to help offset the cost of lunch. To register, please contact David Baloga, Scranton NPM Program Director at 570-207-2213, ext.1158 or visit ScrantonNPM.com. Please join us, bring music, and be prepared to sing! Deadline to register is Wednesday, January 10, 2018.

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, January 27 from 9:00AM to 2:30PM at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 330 Wyoming Ave., Scranton.

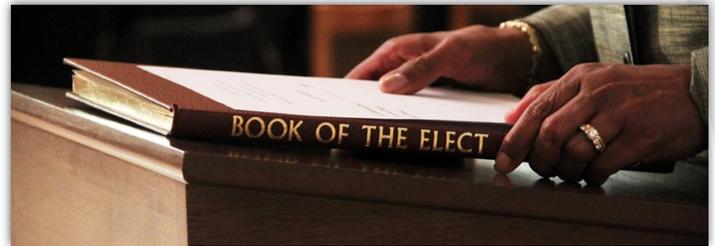
Candidates for the training should have the approval of his or her pastor/parish life coordinator. There is no fee for the training and lunch will be provided. To register, please fill out the [EMHC Training Registration Form](#) or call the Office for Parish Life at 570-207-2213 and be sure to include your mailing address, phone number and the name of your parish.

Anticipating the *Misal Romano*

The final text of the *Misal Romano, Tercera Edición* was received from the Holy See in August 2017 and the mandatory implementation date has been set for the First Sunday of Advent, December 2, 2018. A first-use date has also been set for Pentecost Sunday, May 20, 2018. There will be three publishers of the ritual edition: Catholic Book Publishing Co., Liturgical Press, and Magnificat. For resources to help your Hispanic/Latino community receive the new Misal Roman, visit the [FDLC website](#).

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). 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.



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.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will be observed from Wednesday, January 18 through Wednesday, January 25. A sample ecumenical celebration of the Word of God is available through the [Graymoor Ecumenical and Interreligious Institute website](#) at www.geii.org.

ISLI
FEBRUARY 16-18
FOR GRADES 9-12
CAMP LADDORE - WAYMART, PA
CALL (570) 207-2213 FOR INFO
OR REGISTRATION





COMMUNITY

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

PreCana Updates

The Office for Parish Life Team has a new Coordinator for Marriage and Family Life: Jen Housel. Jen will begin her ministry with us on January 16th. Please be assured that all previously scheduled PreCana Retreat days will remain as scheduled, and that the program itself will remain the same as it has been in recent years. We consistently receive positive feedback from Pastors and from engaged couples. With this in mind, the full PreCana Retreat program, facilitated by Bernadette Rudolph and John Regula has been professionally prepared in a video format for use within the PreCana daylong program, by parish-based sponsor couples, and by Pastors or Pastoral leaders preparing engaged couples. Jen Housel also has ten years of experience facilitating, with her husband, a parish based PreCana program utilizing an earlier edition of the current materials, so she is well positioned to continue and further enhance all that we are able to provide for the needs of the engaged, newly married, and ongoing enrichment of married couples.

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.

Youth Mental Health First Aid Training

The Office for Parish Life is hosting a Youth Mental Health First Aid Training facilitated by the Northeast Region Area Health Education Center on Saturday, February 24, 2018 at the Diocesan Pastoral Center.

Youth Mental Health First Aid is an 8-hour certification course that introduces participants to the unique risk factors and warning signs of mental health problems in adolescents, builds an understanding of the importance of early intervention, and teaches how to help an adolescent in crisis or experiencing a mental health or substance use challenge. Youth Mental Health First Aid is listed in SAMHSA's National Registry of Evidenced Based Programs and Practices and is approved as one of the curriculums that meet the professional development requirement of Act 71. Professionals and educators may be eligible for CEU's.

To register, e-mail clynd@ecneahec.org or call 610-379-2001. Course fee: \$10 (make check payable to: The Diocese of Scranton) Fee includes all course materials and lunch!

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

January 26, 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.

January 5-6
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 - Thomhurst

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

"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



150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Scranton

- 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.

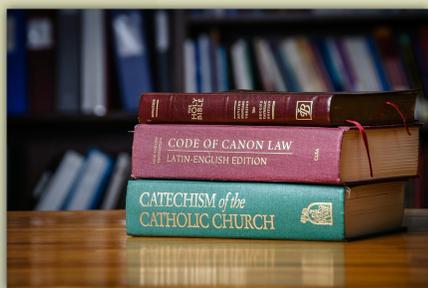
- Thanks to the parishes who have been notifying us of your Anniversary related events we can post these on the 150th Anniversary Facebook page. **We are also collecting photos and visual effects** from your various Anniversary activities for an exhibit to conclude the year.



- Orders are still being taken for the **150th Anniversary Banner** (pictured left) to be displayed in the Spring at all Diocesan and Parish institutions. The deadline for the pre-order price of \$125 each is January 10th. After this time, to order individually, the cost will be much greater. The pre-ordered banners will be available by Ash Wednesday – information about their delivery or distribution sites will be sent at that time. To place your pre-order, call Jennifer at 570-207-2213.

- The **150th Anniversary Parish Participation Kits** were mailed and emailed to all parishes and are also available on the [150th Anniversary page](#) of the diocesan website. 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.

- 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. You may also download the calendar reflection pages from the OPL page on the diocesan website. Some parishes are inserting these into their parish bulletins across the year. The calendar **provides a spiritual pilgrimage to twelve sites of historical significance throughout the Diocese.** This pilgrimage is will soon be available as **an app for your mobile devices** entitled, "A Pilgrimage Of Historic Locations of the Diocese of Scranton" with guidance for how to make the literal pilgrimage by actually visiting some or all of the sites.



2018 Ministry Skills Workshop Series

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

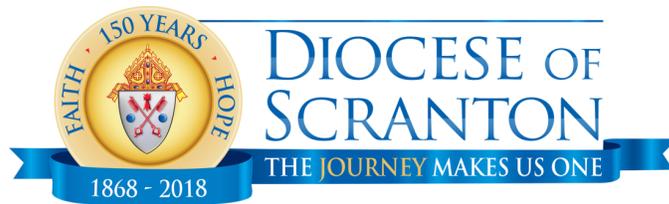
presented by Fr. Jeff Tudgay and Catherine Butel

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

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.

For more information contact Kitty Scanlan at 570-207-2213, x 1157, or kitty-scanlan@dioceseofscranton.org. To register, visit the Office for Parish Life page at www.dioceseofscranton.org.



Anniversary Year Prayer

Holy Spirit, at work in our lives
and in the lives of our ancestors,
You created the Church at Pentecost
and made it a sacrament of Jesus for the world.

We thank you for creating
the Diocese of Scranton 150 years ago
and rooting it in faith, hope and love.
We marvel at the journey you have traveled
with our bishops, laity, religious, priests and deacons.

Continue to strengthen us as one family.
Give us the clarity to focus on the things that last:
-faith in you and the Gospel,
-hope in the Resurrection
-and the love of our God.

Amen.

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**
 Events Coordinator, Diocesan Pastoral Center: **Sue Burke**
 Receptionist: **Jennifer Andres** Data Manager/Registrar: **Nancy Valtos**
 Administrative Assistant: **Diane Franklin** Office Manager: **Marge Kosmahl**



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