



GoodNewsNotes

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

OFFICE FOR PARISH LIFE

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Scouts Mass

Thursday, June 8 at 7:00PM
at the Cathedral of Saint Peter

Wedding Anniversary Mass

Sunday, June 11 at 2:30PM
at the Cathedral of Saint Peter

Priest Jubilarians Mass

Thursday, June 22 at 7:00PM
at the Cathedral of Saint Peter

Resource Response to *Fulfilling the Vision Priority Targets*

Based on the responses from 90 parishes (so far), rich toolkits are being created for each of priority areas. At this time we are inviting all parishes to consider sending a team to one or more of the following workshops – this will be a “hands-on” interactive workshop allowing your team to begin right away to put the toolkit to good use. The first parishes taking part in this “pilot” round of workshops will also help us to refine and improve the tools for additional workshop opportunities in the future.

Each workshop will be conducted twice this summer – allowing parish teams a choice of date and location. Consider a combination of your most dedicated volunteers and some team members who will be brand new to this area of parish ministry.

■ **ENERGIZING PARISH-WIDE COMMUNICATIONS**

- June 13 6-9pm—Our Lady of Victory Parish, Tannersville
- June 15 6-9pm—Ss. Peter and Paul Parish, Plains

■ **ENGAGEMENT: CALLING FORTH THE GIFTS OF THE COMMUNITY**

- June 14, 6-9pm—Immaculate Conception Parish, Freeland
- June 20, 6-9pm—St. Maria Goretti Parish, Laflin

■ **CREATING A CULTURE OF WELCOME AND HOSPITALITY**

- June 22, 6-9pm—St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, Wilkes-Barre
- June 26, 6-9pm—Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Montoursville

■ **DEVELOPING AN EVANGELIZATION LENS FOR ALL OF PARISH LIFE**

- June 19, 6-9pm—St. John Parish, Susquehanna
- June 27, 6-9pm—St. John Parish, Larksville

■ **DISCERNING AND ORIENTING COUNCIL MEMBERS; INITIAL STAGES OF PASTORAL PLANNING**

- Sept. 6—St. Maximillian Kolbe Parish, Pocono Pines
- Sept. 13—St. Lawrence Parish, Williamsport

■ **BUILDING, RENEWING RCIA TEAM AND PARISH APPROACH**

- Deacon Course open to all parish RCIA Directors and Teams: August 25-26, **and** September 8-9 Diocesan Pastoral Center, Scranton
- Ministry Formation Skills Workshop – September 16, St. Catherine's, Moscow

■ **FORMING PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY AND SERVICE TEAM**

- Sept. 23—Service Convocation (see page 5) for Ministries of Justice, Charity and Peacemaking
- Parish or Cluster of Parishes—Local Workshop by request

To reserve a spot for your parish team for any of these workshops, please complete the form at: [Fulfilling the Vision Workshops](#)



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."

WORD Convocation



The WORD Convocation, also known as the Convocation for Catechists, will be held on Saturday, October 14, 2017 at Diocesan Pastoral Center, in Scranton. The Keynote Speaker will be Joan Weber, Project Coordinator of Families on a Mission and Lifelong Faith Formation for the Center for Ministry Development. The Convocation will include Mass, the Keynote, Lunch and Workshops. Joan's keynote topic is "Whole Family Catechesis." Mark your calendars now!

I.S.L.I.

June 19-22, 2017

King's College, Wilkes-Barre

We still have openings for first-time participants. I.S.L.I. is open to all high school students who want to prepare for leadership roles and to improve their already existing decision-making and problem-solving skills through the teachings of the Catholic faith. To register, go to Register for I.S.L.I. For more information contact Mary Anne Malone at 570-207-2213, ext. 1100 or mary-anne-malone@dioceseofscranton.org.



National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC)

November 15-19, 2017

Be a part of the Diocese of Scranton delegation to the NCYC in Indianapolis, Indiana in November. Parishes are now gathering high school students and adult chaperones for this exciting pilgrimage. Information and planning team contacts can be found on the diocesan website: [NCYC 2017](#).

2017 Catechist Camp

We invite all DREs, catechists, Catholic school teachers and parents to join us for a day of Catechist Camp in August. In last year's Catechist Camp, we introduced the work of Lifelong Faith Associates in "Re-Imagining Faith Formation for the 21st Century." This year's Catechist Camp will provide two different Innovation Labs, designed and facilitated through Lifelong Faith Associates. Choose the Camp topic which is most beneficial for you:



Digitally Enabled Faith Formation Workshop (presented by Jim Merhaut)

Using Digitally Enabled and Digitally Connected Tools, Methods, and Resources in Faith Formation with All Ages

This workshop selects and presents the best approaches for integrating digital strategies into faith formation. Learn how to use digital tools, methods, and resources that are best suited for faith formation with all ages and generations. Discover where you can find great digital tools and curate digital faith formation resources. Each participant will design and implement new or enhanced programming that utilizes digital tools and methods.

Faith Formation for Every Adult in the Congregation Workshop (presented by Sr. Janet Schaeffler)

It's possible today to provide vibrant faith formation for all adults—young adults, midlife adults, mature adults, and older adults in a congregation by building a digital platform, using digital tools and methods, and curating great resources. The abundance of high quality digital media for adults, and the new online and digital tools and technologies makes it possible to develop adult faith formation that engages every adult around their interests, concerns, questions, and spiritual and faith journeys. This workshop explores how to develop an adult faith formation plan for the stages of adulthood and for the diverse spiritual and religious of adults today.

Time Frame: 9:00AM - 5:00PM each day

- **Tuesday, August 8** **Orientation/Basic Certification for New Parish Catechists and New Catholic School Teachers—Diocesan Pastoral Center, Scranton**
- **Wednesday, August 9** **Digitally Enabled Faith Formation Workshop—St. Ann Parish, Williamsport**
- **Thursday, August 10** **Digitally Enabled Faith Formation Workshop—St. Leo Parish, Ashley**
- **Friday, August 11** **Faith Formation for Every Adult Workshop—St. Luke Parish, Stroudsburg**
- **Saturday, August 12** **Faith Formation for Every Adult Workshop—Diocesan Pastoral Center, Scranton**

Please complete the [registration form](#) to participate in any of these workshops.

“CALL us to be servant leaders who WORSHIP our God and celebrate the Sacraments in union with the universal Church.”

WORSHIP

WORSHIP Convocation

The WORSHIP Convocation will be held on Saturday, October 28, 2017 at Marywood University in Scranton. This day-long event will feature keynote speaker, Dr. Elaine Rendler, a nationally recognized musician, teacher, composer, pastoral liturgist, speaker, and author of *In the Midst of the Assembly* and *This Is the Day*, as well as the writer of weekly columns and music suggestions in *Today's Liturgy* for more than 30 years, offering practical wisdom to generations of pastoral musicians. The WORSHIP Convocation will also feature breakout sessions for various liturgical ministries. Please save the date and plan on joining us!



Upcoming National Association of Pastoral Musician (NPM) Events

■ National Convention

The 40th Annual National Convention of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians will take place on July 11-14, 2017 in Cincinnati, Ohio. The theme for this year's convention is "Formed as One: Union of Voices, Unity of Hearts" and offers workshops for everyone involved in music ministry from directors, organists, pianists, choir members, cantors and parish liturgists. For more information, [click here](#) or visit www.NPM.org



Formed as One
UNION OF VOICES
UNITY OF HEARTS

■ Scranton NPM Summer Gathering

If you are unable to attend the National Convention in Cincinnati, please plan on joining us for the NPM Scranton Chapter Summer Gathering on Monday, August 7, 2017 beginning at 6:00PM at Exaltation of the Holy Cross in Hanover Township. We will begin with a informal cookout with hotdogs, hamburgers and beverages provided, but we are asking those attending to bring a covered dish to share. Afterwards, we will listen to the insights and experiences of those from our diocese who attended the NPM National Convention in Cincinnati. To register, please visit the following link or contact Nancy Valtos at 570-207-2213, ext. 1119 by Thursday, August 3rd.

■ Annual Musicians' Mass

Mark your calendars now and invite all members of your parish music ministry to join us on Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 7:00PM at the Cathedral of St. Peter for the annual Musicians' Mass celebrated by Bishop Bambera. This gathering would be a great way to begin a new season of music of ministry in your parish by having choir members, cantors, instrumentalists, organists, pianists, and choir directors renew their commitment and be commissioned for their ministry. Please plan on joining us!



You are invited to A "WORLD REFUGEE DAY" CELEBRATION

Sunday, June 25, 2017, 2:00PM- 4:30PM

Nay Aug Park, Scranton PA (Mulberry Street Entrance)

Sponsored by: Catholic Social Services and the Office for Parish Life

Come experience cultural music, dance, and ethnic dress; art activities from The Hexagon Project and other crafts; The Book Mobile; resources from Community Partners; exhibits from refugee families; "The Ice Cream Lady" food vendor will be present, OR attendees can bring a picnic!



visit www.light-the-fire.org

Featuring Keynote Speaker:
Noelle Garcia

Wednesday, June 28, 2017
Misericordia University—Dallas, PA

Registration opens at 9:00AM

Closing Mass with Bishop Bambera
at 7:00PM



Noelle Garcia

God's Compassionate Face: Grief Support Ministry Seminar

October 21, 2017, 9AM-3:30PM

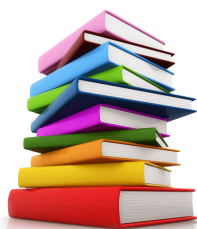
All who minister to the bereaved are invited to this daylong seminar on topics related to grief support ministry. Three sessions will address:

- "Walking with Those Grieving the Loss of a Child" with Brandice Ricciardi, M.S., NCC, LPC, HS-BCP, Faculty Specialist, University of Scranton; members of the local chapter of Compassionate Friends will also add their experiences as parents who have lost children.
- "Walking with Those Grieving Loss through Suicide" with Kathy Wallace, Northeast Suicide Prevention Initiative; Kathy is a retired mental health therapist.
- "Compassion Fatigue" with Theresa Doherty, MSPCC, Chaplain and Bereavement Counselor at Allied Services Hospice

In addition, there will be opportunities for discussion of the presentations, networking and prayer. Lunch is included. Stayed tuned for registration.

Check out Latest Additions to OPL's Little Free Library!

Looking for a good book on Catholic spirituality, Church teaching or ways to understand and live out your faith? Many people are hungry to grow in their understanding of their faith but it can be difficult to find and choose a book. This is a bridge between good materials and parishioners. Look at the latest suggestions on [Pinterest](#) or request a PDF version from Bernadette-rudolph@dioceseofscranton.org.



Corpus Christi and Awareness of Parishioners with Disabilities

As we celebrate the Feast of Corpus Christi on June 18, let us strive to be sure those with disabilities have access to the Eucharist. "It is essential that forms of the liturgy be completely accessible to people with disabilities, since these forms are the essence of the spiritual tie that binds the Christian community together... Realistic provision must be made for persons with disabilities to participate fully in the Eucharist and other liturgical celebrations." (*Pastoral Statement of U.S. Catholic Bishops on People with Disabilities*, 1978, #23)

- Modify sacramental preparation, as needed for learner with disabilities.
- Read the *Pastoral statement on People with Disabilities* ([ncpd.org](#)).
- Include a prayer of the faithful regarding disabilities on the Feast of Corpus Christi.

Latest Ideas for an Evening/Afternoon of Reflection

Bernadette Rudolph, MA, MS, Director for Family and Community Development, is available to present a 2-3 hour retreat for your parish. Recent topics include:

- **Disciples Are Called and Sent. You Are Called and Sent** – Help your community explore how they are both gathered into the Good Shepherd's flock and sent out to build the Kingdom of God. God is inviting us daily into a relationship of love, which naturally overflows into sharing that love with others as intentional disciples.
- **The Paschal Mystery: Living the Resurrection** – While most Catholics believe in the resurrection, they think of it as something that will happen at the end of their

physical life. See how the pattern of dying and rising is part of everyday Christian living and learn to be a person of hope!

- **Living Your Strengths** – Christianity has long taught that each person is gifted by God and has a unique role to play in the Body of Christ. The Clifton StrengthsFinder2.0 supports this with scientific research. Bring the two together for an enlivening, inspiring experience!
- **What If You Saw Yourself As God Does?** – God loves both the person we are and the person we will become. This love is at the heart of the Gospel, and yet many Catholics have never heard it. Let your parishioners be evangelized and changed.
- **Hospitality and Mercy** – Because mercy is an essential attribute of God, it shapes everything about our relationship with God –and in turn, our relationship with others. A simple way to practice mercy is through hospitality. Discover what this means for the individual or the parish community.

Other topics are also possible. These retreats can be extended up to a full day, if you wish. Contact Bernadette to discuss your ideas! (ext. 1104 or Bernadette-Rudolph@dioceseofscranton.org)

EXALTI!

XLT

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

Friday, June 23

Divine Mercy Parish
312 Davis St. Scranton
7:00-9:00pm

For more information,
call 570-780-2996.

"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

Regional SERVICE Gatherings

OPL's Service and Social Concerns held four Regional Gatherings last month in Lords Valley, Muncy, Throop, and Wilkes-Barre.

About 100 folks from about 20 parishes participated in this two-hour workshop which focused on supporting our parishes' Social Concerns efforts and encouraging our worshipping communities to break open our Bishops' 1993 document: "Building Communities of Salt and Light" – found [HERE!](#)

This challenge from our Bishops calls us to consider building up a vibrant Parish Social Ministry that includes not only the works of CHARITY but also the work of JUSTICE and PEACE-MAKING – all with a reminder that we are part of a global Church!

If your parish was not able to attend these gatherings, we'd be glad to bring this workshop to your community (one parish or a few nearby parishes) this Summer!

If your parish was there and would

like to follow up with a focus on a certain aspect of what was presented, ex., the Two Feet of Christian Service: charity AND justice; or Faithful Citizenship and hosting Advocacy Sundays at your parish; or how to incorporate Peacemaking into your parish; and/or how to INTEGRATE Catholic Social Teaching throughout the parish – *Adult Faith Formation, Holy Name Society, Knights of Columbus, Liturgical Ministry, RCIA, Religious Education, Youth Ministry* etc... please contact Richard DeBona and set up a time convenient for your parish community!



SERVICE Convocation

Mark your calendars now and plan on attending our SERVICE Convocation which will be held on Saturday, September 23, 2017. The day will feature Marie Dennis, Co-President of Pax Christi International, who will present on the Catholic Nonviolence Initiative, Pope Francis' World Day of Peace message: "Nonviolence: a style of politics for peace" and "Integrating Gospel Nonviolence into the Life and Mission of the Church."



Rachel's Vineyard

Rachel's Vineyard is hosting a retreat for anyone seeking healing after abortion. The retreat will take place June 23-25 in Shillington, PA (near Reading, PA) at the Mariawald Retreat Center in the diocese of Allentown. For more information, contact Sr. Meg Cole at 610-332-0442 or projectrachel@allentowndiocese.org.

#PartnerwithFrancis

The Diocese of Scranton will **#partnerwithfrancis** over the next few months to gather the voices of the young church (16-35) and those who work with them in preparation for Pope Francis' 2018 Synod on *Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment*. To get involved, participate in a Diocesan listening session and/or complete a survey online at www.partnerwithfrancis.org. For more information and/or to register for a listening session, please contact Dominick Costantino at 570-780-2996. Additional sessions will be scheduled.



Date	Location	Time	High School Group (16-18)	College-Age Group (18-24)	Young Adult Group (25-35)
Thu., June 15	St. Ann Parish , 1220 Northway Rd., Williamsport	6:30-8:30 p.m.	✓	✓	✓
Fri., June 16	St. Matthew Parish , 78 Ridgeway St., East Stroudsburg	6:30-8:30 p.m.	✓	✓	✓
Fri., June 23	Divine Mercy Parish , 312 Davis St., Scranton	Following XLT Approx 8:45 p.m.		✓	✓
Wed., June 28	Light the Fire Youth Rally Misericordia University	Breakout Session	✓		

10 Ways to “expand social ministry and to reflect the whole of Catholic Social Teaching”

1. Invite your Social Concerns groups and/or Parish Councils to study the document [Building Communities of Salt and Light](#) from our US Bishops—a roadmap to build a full and vibrant Parish Social Ministry that encourages across-the-board parish involvement in our Church’s works of charity, justice, and peacemaking.
2. Gather parish groups of all kinds to watch and discuss *In the Footsteps of Jesus* – a two-part DVD exploring the 7 Principles of Catholic Social Teaching and how these are an invitation to walk in the footsteps of Jesus through our Parish Social Ministries. Consider showing this as part of the homily. Order the \$15 DVD [here](#).
3. Consider a 4 week Advent journey or a 6 week Lenten journey: “Following the nonviolent Jesus” which will explore successful nonviolent movements—some involving the Catholic Church—as well as the recently formed [Catholic Nonviolence Initiative](#), and a session on [Pope Francis’ 50th Anniversary World Day of Peace message](#). Contact Richard DeBona for more information.
4. Invite various members/groups of your worshipping community to walk with both feet of Christian Service, charity AND justice, by leading them through these resources: [Two Feet of Service: charity and justice, quotes on charity and justice](#), and a 22-minute [video](#) from Catholic Charities in Minnesota.
5. Start an Environmental Ministry at your parish by partnering with “Catholic Climate Covenant.” Check out their website in order to learn more about celebrating and protecting God’s Creation: www.catholicclimatecovenant.org
6. Connect with **Catholic Relief Services** to better understand the Catholic Social Teaching principle of solidarity. One simple step: serve Fair Trade coffee at your Coffee and Donuts after Masses which can be ordered on the [CRS ethical trade website](#). Additionally, when your parish participates in the CRS Rice Bowls, ask your catechists to introduce the [CRS Educational Guides](#) into their classrooms.
7. Attend a conference or two, such as: [The Catholic Social Ministry Gathering](#) in Washington, DC next February, or the Pennsylvania Interfaith Power and Light conference. Read about 2016 conference [here](#) and plan for Fall 2017.
8. Go to these Catholic websites and sign up to receive ADVOCACY ACTION ALERTS on many and varied issues: [Catholic Relief Services advocacy](#); [Pennsylvania Catholic Conference advocacy](#); [USA Bishops advocacy](#)
9. Prayerfully consider organizing local, national and international **Mission trips** based on the 4 cornerstones of prayer, simple living, community living, and service that includes charity AND justice! Contact the Office for Parish Life for immediate assistance, even for this coming summer.
10. Consider enrolling in our Lay Ministry Formation for Servant Leadership with a focus on Social Concerns. Contact Kitty Scanlan, Coordinator for Lay Ministry Formation in the OPL for more information at 570-207-2213 ext. 1157 or Kitty-Scanlan@dioceseofscranton.org, or an online [Certificate in Social Justice](#) through the University of Dayton Virtual Learning Community.

OPL TEAM MEMBERS

Diocesan Secretary for Parish Life: **Catherine Jantsch Butel**
 Director for WORD and Lifelong Faith Formation: **Mary Anne Malone**
 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: **Richard DeBona**
 Coordinator for Diocesan Missions and
 Director for Pontifical Missions: **Deacon Ed Kelly**
 Coordinator for Mission Education: **Miriam Heverline**
 Coordinator for Pilgrimages: **Fr. Andrew Hvozdovic**
 Director for Family and COMMUNITY Development: **Bernadette Rudolph**
 Coordinator for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations: **Msgr. Vincent Grimalia**
 Coordinator for V Encuentro: **Alejandra Marroquin**
 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**
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