



GoodNewsNotes

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON OFFICE FOR PARISH LIFE

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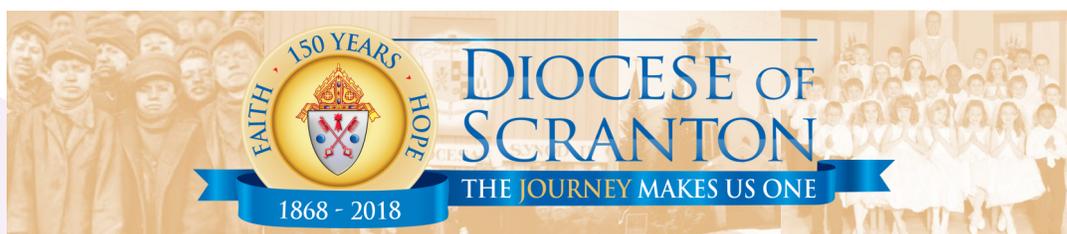
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Asking God's Blessings on All of Our Parishes during the Paschal Triduum

from the staff at OPL



The Chrism Mass
Tuesday, March 27
at 4:00PM
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."

Echoes of Faith Information Night

Mary Anne Malone will offer an **introduction to the Echoes of Faith program on Wednesday, April 11 from 6:30 to 8:00p.m. at the Diocesan Pastoral Center in Scranton** for anyone who is interested in online Adult Faith Formation. It is especially valuable for parish catechists who want to earn a Certificate as a Master Catechist.

You will learn how easy it is to get started in Echoes of Faith. You will be able to preview the modules that are offered, and learn how to navigate through the program.

Created by the National Conference for Catechetical Leadership (NCCL) and published by RCL Benziger, Echoes of Faith is an online education program offering basic adult formation in the Catholic Faith. With fourteen modules divided into three categories, the Echoes of Faith Learning Center can be used for parish Adult Faith Formation and for Basic Catechist Certification. It is also one way to complete the pre-requisites for the Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry.

Contact Mary Anne Malone: Mary-Anne-Malone@dioceseofscranton.org or 570-207-2213, ext. 1100, to register for the Echoes of Faith Information Night.



Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation

Looking to learn more about your faith, or gain enrichment for your parish ministry during the Easter season? Members of the faithful across the Diocese of Scranton are invited to consider taking a course through the University of Dayton's Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation! The next learning session runs from April 8, 2018- May 12, 2018 (Registration is open March 7 through April 4). A variety of courses are available in English and Spanish at <https://vlcff.udayton.edu/>."



Virtual Learning Community
For Faith Formation

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.

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

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

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 resource is also available in Spanish on the FDLC 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, April 7 from 9:00AM to 2:30PM at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 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 complete the [Extraordinary Minister of Communion registration form](#).

LTP Virtual Workshops for Lectors

Liturgy Training Publications offers several different series of online workshops for cantors, lectors, extraordinary ministers of Communion, liturgists, teachers and catechists throughout the year. These virtual workshops are different than other webinars in that they invite participants to engage with the presenter and one another in providing feedback, reflections on the topic at hand, and discuss best practices and strategies for enhancing engagement in their ministries. Workshops in April and May will be offered to help lectors enhance their ministry:

■ **Techniques for Effective Proclaiming: Public Speaking Skills to Bring God's Word to Life**—Tuesday, April 17 at 7:30PM or 9:30PM

■ **The Word of the Lord at Mass: Understanding the Lectionary for Lectors**—Tuesday, May 1 at 7:30PM or 9:30PM

■ **Literary Genres in the Lectionary: Proclaiming the Different Forms of Scripture**—Tuesday, May 15 at 7:30PM or 9:30PM

The cost for each session is \$10, or you can participate in all three lector sessions for \$25. For more information or to register for any of these sessions or to see what other sessions are available throughout the year, please visit www.ltp.org/virtualworkshops.

NPM National Convention Bus Trip

The Scranton Chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians will be sponsoring a bus trip to the NPM National Convention in Baltimore, Maryland running July 9-13. The NPM National Convention features keynote presentations and concerts from renowned speakers and liturgical musicians, and offers clinics, exhibits, vendors and workshops for choir members, cantors, organists, keyboardists and other parish musicians and liturgical coordinators. To see all that the NPM National Convention has to offer, please visit the [NPM Convention website](#).

The bus will leave on Sunday, July 8 at 3:00PM from the Scranton area and stop in the Wilkes-Barre area for additional passengers before heading to Baltimore. The bus will leave the NPM Convention on Friday, July 13 around 1:00PM and return to our area around 5:00PM. Cost for the bus is \$85 per person, and does not include convention registration or hotel costs. Deadline for bus reservations is Thursday, May 31, 2018 and seating is limited.

To make your reservation, [click here](#) or visit the Scranton NPM website at ScrantonNPM.com, or contact David Baloga, Scranton NPM Program Director, at 570-207-2213, ext. 1158.

41ST ANNUAL CONVENTION



**PRAISE
GROW
SERVE**

BUILDING ON OUR HERITAGE

Baltimore, MD • July 9-13, 2018

Looking to Have a Workshop for Your Liturgical Ministers?

Are your cantors or choir members in need of training on the basics of the ministry? Could your lectors or extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion use a "refresher" course or a day of reflection? Board Members of the Scranton Chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians are here to help and are willing to travel to provide a workshop or session for your parish ministers. Please contact David Baloga at 570-207-2213 or at David.Baloga@dioceseofscranton.org for more information.



COMMUNITY

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

Wedding Anniversary Celebration

On June 10, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera will celebrate the Wedding Anniversary Mass at 2:30 p.m. in the Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, for couples celebrating their 25th or 50th year of marriage in 2018. This is an occasion to recognize the role married couples play in the Church's mission to bring God's faithful love into the world. Couples will have the opportunity to renew their marriage vows. A reception will follow in the Diocesan Pastoral Center, where anniversary couples will be able to have their picture taken with the Bishop. Eligible couples should give their names and an April mailing address to their parish office. Parish lists are due to the Office for Parish Life by March 19.

Married Couples Retreat

Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Brodheadsville, PA will be holding a Married Couples Retreat Weekend on March 24 & 25, 2018 at the Villa of Our Lady Retreat Center 245 Meadowside Rd. Mt. Pocono, PA.

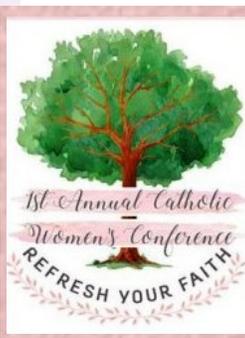
Check in is Saturday, March 24 at 9:00AM and check out is after Palm Sunday Mass at the Villa. The guest speaker is Chris Padgett, who is a speaker, musician, and author who has traveled the country for more than a decade spreading the message of Jesus' love and forgiveness.



The cost is \$222 per couple, and a \$50 deposit is due with registration. The retreat includes meals and lodging for one night. For more information or to register, please contact the Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish Office at 610-681-6137 or churchoffice@qopchurch.org by March 14.

Allentown Marriage Conference

Registration is now open for the Diocese of Allentown Marriage Conference on Saturday April 14, 2018. The conference will be held at St. Ignatius Loyola Parish in Sinking Spring. Sign up soon for the discount! Child Care is available. Visit the website www.togetherinholiness.org or call 610-289-8900 ext 2028 for more information.



Mark your calendars now!

First Annual Catholic Women's Conference

Saturday, June 23, 2018
8:00AM - 4:00PM
University of Scranton

[Click here for more information](#)

Up and Over Youth Retreat

Up and over is a weekend retreat for 6th, 7th and 8th grade students taking place on June 1-3, 2018 at Camp Orchard Hill, Dallas that focuses on team building exercises, problem solving skills and small group processing in order to help students discover their strengths and inherent goodness. The skills learned during this retreat will help students get "up and over" their challenges. Contact Shannon Kowalski at the Office for Parish Life (570-207-2213) for more information.



Catholic Men's Conference

Saturday, May 5 King's College, Wilkes-Barre

[Click here for more information or to register](#)



**XLT (Exalt!) will be held
Friday, March 23, from 7-9 p.m.
at Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish,
99 E. Tioga Street, Tunkhannock.**

The event, sponsored by the Diocesan Offices for Parish Life and Vocations, will consist of Eucharistic Adoration, praise & worship music by Countless Wonders, a talk by Jack Rubano, director of religious formation at Holy Redeemer High School, reconciliation, and a social. Father Paul Fontanella, assistant pastor of Saint Rose of Lima and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parishes, Carbondale will preside and preach. All are welcome to attend.

For more information, please contact Dominick Costantino at 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



150th Diocesan Anniversary Documentary

The **WVIA Premier of the Documentary on the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Scranton** will first air on Thursday, March 22 at 8:00PM on WVIA. This program was produced specifically for the Anniversary Year. Please share this ad and information in your bulletin, on your website, and through social media.

Let us know if your parish is **creating a gathered experience** this Spring to enjoy the documentary and to tell the local story. [Click here](#) for an outline of a "historicizing" exercise which your parishioners may enjoy together.

Re-broadcast Dates on WVIA:

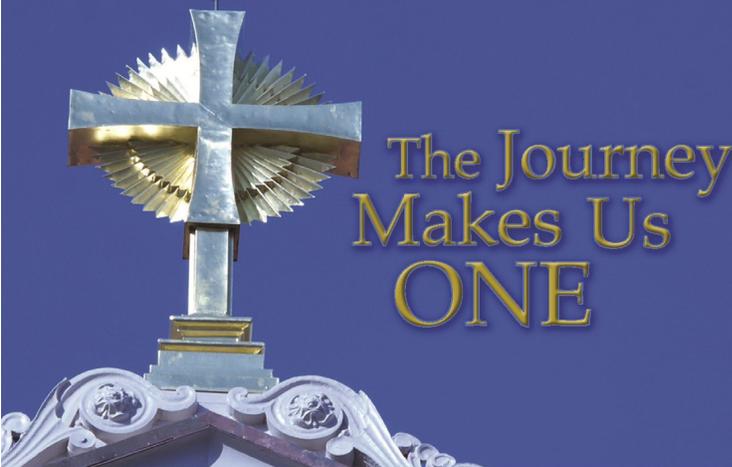
Friday, March 23, 2:00pm
Saturday, March 24, 6:00pm
Sunday, April 1, 3:00pm

Re-broadcast Dates on CTV:

Tuesday, April 3, 8:00pm
Wednesday, April 4, 10:00am
Monday, April 9, 9:00am
Thursday, April 12, 2:00pm
Friday, April 13, 8:00pm

The documentary will also be available for viewing on the Diocesan website (www.dioceseofscranton.org) after March 22.

Celebrating 150 Years of the Diocese of Scranton



World Premiere Documentary
Thursday, March 22 at 8pm

wvia tv

Underwritten in part by 

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

In the morning, workshop participants will take part in a session on "Listening with the Heart" with Sr. Jane O'Donnell, RSM. "Listening with the Heart" is a personal enrichment program which helps ministers to have better communication skills. It focuses on face to face interaction with family, friends, coworkers, and all we meet. It encourages us to be truly present to others and to listen with our eyes, our ears and our hearts. This type of listening helps us to meet people exactly where they are and it helps to create an environment of trust. Intentional listening encompasses our listening to ourselves, others, and God.

In the afternoon, Dr. John Lemoncelli will provide introduction to mediation of relationships and boundaries within ministry, and offer resources and methods for addressing a variety of interpersonal encounters.

Sister Jane O'Donnell, RSM has been giving presentations on listening for twenty years. She has a degree in counseling and presently ministers with people who are in life transition. She has also given presentations on spirituality and aging, grief and self care.

Dr. John Lemoncelli has served as a private and community counselor for over thirty years. He is professor emeritus of Marywood University, and other colleges and universities in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

**For more information contact Kitty Scanlan at 570-207-2213,
or kitty-scanlan@dioceseofscranton.org**

To register, please visit the OPL webpage at www.dioceseofscranton.org and click on the "Skills" icon.



150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Scranton



■ A liturgical resource to assist parishes in commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Scranton all year long is available on the diocesan website. This resource includes hymn suggestions, an introduction to the liturgy, homily topic points, intercessions for the Universal Prayer. This resource also 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 this momentous occasion.

■ 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 hymn, “There Is One Body and One Spirit” commissioned specifically for the 150th Anniversary is now available for parishes to sing throughout the year and beyond. [Click here](#) to download the assembly edition and choral arrangement, as well as the solo voice/guitar arrangement and instrumental parts from the diocesan website.

■ **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

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**
Events Coordinator, Diocesan Pastoral Center: **Sue Burke**
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