

NOVEMBER 2015

OFFICE FOR PARISH LIFE



World Youth Day: Blessed Are the Merciful

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Two ways for your Parish to participate:

1. Form a parish delegation to join Bishop Bambara for the pilgrimage to Krakow; or
2. Participate in local Region III observance in partnership with the Diocese of Harrisburg



Basic Itinerary for World Meeting, in partnership with Dube Travel:

- Saturday, July 23 Depart JFK
- Sunday, July 24 Arrive Warsaw; city tour, Czestochowa, on to Krakow
- Monday, July 25 Auschwitz, then Wadowice (home of St. John Paul II)
- Tuesday, July 26 City of Krakow, Salt Mines; Opening Mass of WYD
- Wednesday, July 27 – Friday, July 29 World Youth Day Program; Stations of Cross with Pope Francis
- Saturday, July 30 Mass with all US Pilgrims; Vigil
- Sunday, July 31 Closing Mass with Pope Francis
- Monday, August 1 Zakopane Day Trip (Mountain village)
- Tuesday, August 2 Return Trip; additional touring in city of Warsaw
- Wednesday, August 3 Depart Warsaw for JFK

National Vocation Awareness Week

November 1-7, 2015
[Resources](#)

The Diocese of Scranton will be hosting parish delegations with young adults and families (*minors only when accompanied by parent*); the Office for Parish Life will also be gathering a young adult delegation.

For **general information** about the [World Youth Day](#), click here.

For **full pilgrimage pricing and registration package**, call Catherine Butel at 570-207-2213 ext 1148.

Regarding the [Stateside World Youth Day events](#) hosted by Diocese of Harrisburg, contact: Virginia Pereira, Vpereira@hbgdiocese.org or Deb Waters, Dwaters@hbgdiocese.org

Advent Preparation Sessions



The Office for Parish Life will be offering **Advent Preparation Sessions** for all those involved with the preparation of liturgical seasons, especially Music Ministers, Liturgy Committees, Art and Environment Committees or anyone wanting to deepen his or her appreciation of the Advent and Christmas seasons.

These sessions will include faith sharing on the scripture readings for the season, a brief overview of some of the traditional practices of Advent, a discussion of different themes and music selections that parishes are using, and sharing ideas for the liturgical environment.

For more information or to register for this session, please contact the Office for Parish Life at 570-207-2213. We are grateful for the hospitality for these meetings at the following locations:

Tuesday, November 10th at Holy Name of Mary Parish, Montrose at 6:30PM

Thursday, November 12th at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Montoursville at 6:30PM

Monday, November 16th at St. Eulalia Parish, Elmhurst at 6:30PM

Tuesday, November 17th at St. John Parish, East Stroudsburg at 6:30PM

Wednesday, November 18th at Immaculate Heart of Mary, Dushore at 6:30PM

Extraordinary Minister of Communion Training

Divine Mercy Parish, Scranton (Minooka section) will be holding Extraordinary Minister of Communion Training on the following dates:

October 29th, November 5th & November 12th
(Thursdays)

from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm

in the Divine Mercy Parish Hall,
312 Davis Street, Scranton

Please call the Divine Mercy Parish Office
at 570-344-1724 to register.

Please note that it is necessary for candidates
to attend all three sessions.



**COMING SOON! PARISH RESOURCE
PACKET FOR JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY —
WATCH PARISH MAIL**

In response to the violence and pain surrounding our local community and our nation, the IHM Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Committee offers this day to IHM sisters, associates, and the community of NEPA.



A Year after the Shooting at Blooming Grove
**A Community Journeys
from Hurt to Healing**

At the heart of every human journey out of hurt lies the divine gift to forgive and reconcile. This workshop invites participants to open themselves to God's overwhelming desire to heal and our human ache to be healed. The two often meet where human beings and communities confront irreconcilable evil and violence. This presentation will focus on stories, biblical and contemporary, our own and others, as invitations to help us recognize the face of the Living God, shining on us and calling us to share in the great work of love that is forgiveness and reconciliation for the sake of our wounded world.

Presenter: Sister Catherine Nerney, SSJ
*Founder of the Institute of Forgiveness and Reconciliation
Chestnut Hill College*

Saturday, November 14, 2015
Theresa Maxis Conference Center
IHM Center
9:30am-4:00pm

Please RSVP by October 31 to
communications@sistersofihm.org

Ministry Formation Opportunities

Communication Skills Series for Lay Ministry

The candidates for the Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry have been participating in a series of Communication Skills workshops, which are open to all pastors and parish leaders, Council and committee members, Catholic school faculty and staff members, deacons in ongoing formation, and all interested parishioners. The final workshop is described below.

Communication as a Parish Leader November 7, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. St. Barbara Parish, Exeter

Working with Paid Staff, Ministerial Relationships - Father Mike Quinnan, Jackie Douglas and Dori Hurley, Pastor and staff of Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Brodheadsville, will discuss best practices for establishing and nurturing effective staff relationships in a ministerial context.

Working with Volunteers - Gayle Castellani, DRE with Sacred Heart Parish, Peckville will talk about how to nurture and get the best from parish volunteers.

Liability & Risk Management - Kathy Bolinski, Safe Environment Coordinator, Diocese of Scranton, will present policies and guidelines for all parish leaders to ensure a safe environment and reduce risk.

The day includes all three topics described here.

Cost is \$30. To register, call Jennifer in the Office for Parish Life, (570) 207-2213.

Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry

We are currently inviting applications for the Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry, preparing for a January group. This process is an excellent opportunity for you to continue to support, nurture and invite the leaders your parish needs to achieve the mission and ministry goals you have established. The process is carefully designed for leaders in each area of Word, Worship, Service and Community.

Please encourage interested participants from your parish to study the information at the website link shown below, and to begin the Application Process explained there. If your parish would like to host an Information Session to learn more about the process, please call Kitty MacLean at 570-207-2213.

Website: Formation for Servant Leadership – Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry

Applications are accepted year-round, but if any interested persons could at least begin the application process by December 15th, we can assist them in the remaining steps and invite them into a peer formation group with an **Orientation Retreat on January 9, 2016.**

Thank you for taking the lead on helping the Diocese to “mobilize the gifts of all the baptized” as Bishop Bambera has challenged us to do.

TEAM MEMBERS

Diocesan Secretary for Parish Life: **Catherine Jantsch Butel**

Director for WORD and Lifelong Faith Formation: **Mary Anne Malone**

Coordinator for Youth and Young Adult Ministries:

Director for WORSHIP: **David Baloga**

Coordinator for RCIA: **Fr. Bob Simon**

Director for SERVICE and Social Concerns: **David Clarke**

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 Ministry with the Deaf and

Persons with Disabilities:

Coordinator for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations: **Msgr. Vincent Grimalia**

Consultant, Parish Pastoral Council Development: **Ann Marie Cawley**

Coordinator for Lay Ministry Formation: **Kitty MacLean**

Event Coordinator for Diocesan Pastoral Center: **Sue Burke**

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