

NOVEMBER 2016



OFFICE FOR PARISH LIFE

GOOD NEWS NOTES

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Lay Ministry Skills Workshop

“In My Father’s House There are Many Mansions”

**Saturday, November 12, 2016
at Gate of Heaven Parish, Dallas
from 9:00AM-4:00PM**

Ecumenism and the Interfaith Dialogue: Fr. Alex Roche, parochial vicar at St. Ignatius Parish, Kingston, will explain Vatican II’s call to dialogue with our fellow Christians and those of other faiths, what has happened since the Council to continue this dialogue, and how the dialogue plays out in parish life.

Cultural Diversity and Parish Unity: Alejandra Marroquin, Diocesan Coordinator for V Encuentro, will unpack best practices for parishes with culturally diverse populations to encourage integration and unity within the Church.

**The cost of registration for this workshop is \$30,
payable to The Diocese of Scranton.
Register online at :www.dioceseofscranton.org**

**Closing Celebration of
the Extraordinary
Jubilee of Mercy
November 20, 2016
at 10:00AM
Cathedral of St. Peter**



Extraordinary Minister of Communion Training

**Saturday, November 12
from 9:00AM to 2:30PM**

at St. Michael Parish,
106 N. Washington St., Canton

Please call
St. Michael's Parish Office
at 570-673-5253 to register.



Musicians' Mass

On **Monday, November 21, 2016 at 7:00PM**, Bishop Bambera will recognize the music ministers of the diocese for the ministry which they embrace. This will take place at the Memorial of St. Cecilia Musicians' Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton. After the Communion Rite, Bishop Bambera will recognize and bless all musicians who are present through a special ceremony and blessing. After Mass, a light reception, provided by the Scranton Chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM) will be held in the Diocesan Pastoral Center across from the Cathedral. All cantors, choir members, instrumentalists and anyone else who enjoys singing at Mass is encouraged to attend. The Mass will be the first event of the NPM season. Please join us!

Living Your Strengths Evening Retreat

Tuesday, Dec. 6, 5:30-9:00PM
Diocesan Pastoral Center,
330 Wyoming Ave, Scranton



The Advent/Christmas season is a time for giving gifts as a sign of love. Have you ever thought of yourself as a gift? God has never made another person like you. Statistics bear this out! Unwrap the science and the spirituality of *Living Your Strengths* this Advent. You will see how God has laid out your path in the talents you have been given and how everyone around you likewise has a different (and complementary) set of strengths. Celebrate St. Nicholas Day by celebrating the unique and wonderful gifts God has given you!

Presenter: Bernadette Rudolph,
Director for Family and Community Development

Cost: \$10 for dinner. Also you need to get a code from the book, *StrengthsFinder 2.0* by Tom Rath. You can purchase a hard copy from Amazon—making sure it is new so you get an unused code—or an e-book directly from Gallup.

Please take the *StrengthsFinder2.0* survey and bring the results with you Dec 6.

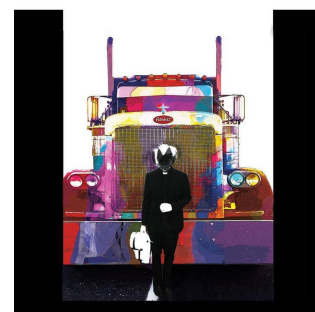
Contact Jennifer at 570-207-2213 or
oplgeneral@dioceseofscranton.org to register.

LIVING YOUR STRENGTHS
Discover Your God-Given Talents

Free Concert by Fr. Kevin McDonald Sunday, October 30th 3:00 pm

St. Maximilian Kolbe Church
5112 Pocono Crest Rd., Pocono Pines, PA

Fr. Kevin McDonald is going to be performing a free concert opportunity at St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish on Sunday, October 30th at 3:00 pm. Fr. Kevin is a Catholic priest and professional musician who holds a doctorate degree in musical composition. He uses his uplifting music to spread the message of Christ into the world, each song holds a moral and liturgical significance which is shared with the audience; making the concert a very rich experience for the listener both musically and reflectively. Fr. Kevin writes in genres ranging from gospel, to classical, country, reggae, jazz, and more! Please join us for this exciting event; all are welcome! A small donation will be collected at the close of the concert to assist in travel expenses. *God Bless you!*



Contact Fr. Kevin at:
www.frkevinsanjose.com
priestcomposer@gmail.com

[Click here to visit the new Service and Social Concerns page of the Diocesan website!](#)

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, Liturgical Ministers, 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. These meetings will be held at the following locations:

- **Mon., November 7th** at Holy Child Parish, Mansfield at 6:30PM
- **Wed., November 9th** at St. Monica Parish, West Wyoming at 6:30PM
- **Thurs., November 10^h** at St. John the Evangelist Parish, Susquehanna at 6:30PM

Coming to Know the Writings of Pope Francis: A Four-Part Colloquium

Msgr. David Bohr and Msgr. Vincent Grimalia will offer the third and fourth parts of the colloquium series in which priests, deacons and parish leaders can sit down together and talk about the writings of Pope Francis and about their application to parish ministry today. The colloquium sessions will be offered twice with afternoon and evening sessions at the Diocesan Pastoral Center for your convenience.

3. *The Joy of Love (Amoris laetitia)* — Apostolic Exhortation

Wednesday, November 9, 7:00-9:00PM

Tuesday, November 15, 2:00-4:00PM

4. **Traditional Moral Teachings Frequently Misunderstood in Amoris laetitia**

Tuesday, December 6, 2:00-4:00PM

Wednesday, December 14, 7:00-9:00PM

There is NO FEE to participate in these sessions. Please contact Jane Ludka at 570-591-5006 or Jane-Ludka@dioceseofscranton.org.

Creatively Reaching out to Persons with Disabilities

Of course, we have parishioners with disabilities and of course we want to include them! What do they need? How can we help? The Office for Parish Life will host evenings of networking and information-sharing around the diocese in February, so DREs, pastors and anyone interested can share what is possible and support one another in ministering to those with disabilities. Rev. Dick Hockman, CSC, will also speak about the spiritual needs/abilities of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Fr. Dick has a professional background and long history in special education and assists the Diocese of Scranton in parish-based special religious education programs. See the December *OPL NewsNotes* for more details!



Able to Include



Little Free Library

Fall into a Good Book ...

with the [Little Free Library](#), OPL's collection of good books for the average parishioner, on Catholic spirituality, Scripture, the saints, Eucharist, ecclesiology and more -- all in the spirit of Vatican II! This can be a bridge between good materials and parishioners. You can access the site through Pinterest or by emailing [Bernadette Rudolph](#) for a PDF listing. Titles are recommended for various uses:

- The Eucharistic adoration chapel library
- Adult catechesis
- Individual enrichment
- Small group study
- "Thank you" gifts for volunteers
- The parish library

Thanksgiving Interfaith Service

Monday, November 21
at 12:10PM at the
Cathedral of Saint Peter,
Scranton

Happy Thanksgiving



#leaveamark16

A Gathering of the Young Church
Sunday, November 6, 2016 at 5:00PM

Celebration of the Eucharist in the Cathedral of Saint Peter
A reception will follow in the Diocesan Pastoral Center

The Diocesan Vocation Office is sponsoring this gathering for high school juniors and seniors, college students and young adults through age thirty-five.

November 6 kicks off National Vocation Awareness Week. In the Diocese of Scranton, this week will focus on everyone's baptismal call to holiness and mission and intentional discipleship. The young church in the Diocese is urged 'to leave a mark' in response to Pope Francis' challenge at World Youth Day this summer in Krakow, Poland.

For more information, please call 570-207-1452 or visit facebook.com/scrantonvoc.

TEAM MEMBERS

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

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

Coordinator for Youth, Campus and Young Adult Ministry:

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: **Msr. Vincent Grimalia**

Coordinator for V Encuentro: **Alejandra Marroquin**

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

Coordinator for Pastoral Council Development: **Ann Marie Cawley**

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