

The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

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Called By God

*174 people take part in Rite of Election
and Call to Continuing Conversion*



Drawn to the Catholic Church by her boyfriend, Dolly Hanselman of Williamsport made the two hour trip to the Cathedral of Saint Peter on Sunday, March 10, for an important reason.

Hanselman was one of 174 people who made their final declaration of intent to join the Roman Catholic Church in the Diocese of Scranton.

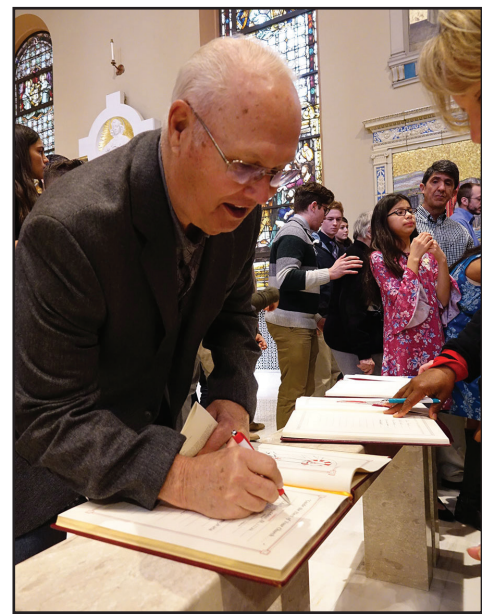
"I felt a sense of overwhelming love and joy and so many other emotions and I honestly almost cried feeling that joy and my heart exploding for the call of God," Hanselman said.

Hundreds of people filled the cathedral, with voices raised in song and prayer as the catechumens and candidates gave a final "We do" and "Thanks be to God."

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera was the celebrant and homilist for the annual Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion, the ritual at which people acknowledge their intentions to receive the sacraments at the coming Easter Vigil.

"I was just in awe of the wonderful views and how many are following this faith and this journey together. It's overpowering," Hanselman said.

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Ash Wednesday Services



A parishioner receives ashes at the Cathedral of Saint Peter on Ash Wednesday, March 6 (Photo/Mike Melisky)

Even though it was not a Holy Day of Obligation, churches across the 11-county Diocese of Scranton were filled with parishioners on Ash Wednesday, March 6.

At the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera was the celebrant for the 12:10 p.m. Mass where he reflected on the tone and tenor of the day.

While the somber colors and imposition of ashes remind us of our human frailty and mortality, Bishop Bambera reminded the crowd that the season of Lent is one

of hope and joy for Christians.

“Rooted in Christ, there is no need for us to fear Lent. Nor is it a season of grief and despair, despite the brokenness of our lives. Yes, the path to Easter demands that we renew our faces and hearts as Christians through repentance, conversion and forgiveness. But it does so, as Pope Francis reminds us, so that we might ‘live fully the abundant grace of the paschal mystery,’” Bishop Bambera said.

The Bishop concluded

his homily saying, “as we set forth on our Lenten journey, may we pray for the courage to confront the reality of our own broken and sinful hearts – to put aside whatever distracts us from our resolve to live authentically our relationship with God – to turn away from self-centeredness and fear – to selflessly serve the poor among us – and so, to open our lives to the love and grace of God, present in our midst – the one and only reason for joy during this sacred season.”



Left: With ashes on their foreheads, parishioners at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton pray during Ash Wednesday services. Bishop Bambera told the crowd that we are redeemed -- saved from our sins -- by the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

Below: A young child smiles during Mass.

(Photos/Mike Milesky)

Three Pillars of Lenten Observance

1. Prayer
2. Fasting
3. Almsgiving



Lenten Spiritual Offerings

Encounter Lent: From the Desert to Resurrection

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. CRS Rice Bowl, now in its 44th year, raises funds for those who need support and services in communities throughout the U.S. and overseas. Participants journey throughout the 40 days of Lent through daily reflections and offering small, suggested sacrificial gifts to fill their Rice Bowls.

Twenty-five percent of all contributions stay in local dioceses to support hunger and poverty prevention programs. The remaining 75% goes to support CRS’ humanitarian programs overseas, providing life-saving assistance and hope to impoverished and vulnerable communities.

Catholic Relief Services offers a variety of resources to assist parishes, groups and individuals to participate. Please visit <https://www.crsricebowl.org>



The Light Is On for You

The Church encourages us to make confession a regular part of our spiritual life, especially during the holy season of Lent, as we reflect on our baptism and repentance. Again this year, parishes are participating in a Lenten initiative called The Light Is On for You. Every Monday evening during the Lenten season, continuing through Monday of the last full week of Lent, April 8, confessions are heard in every parish from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. so that Catholics can come to or return to this incredible source of God’s grace, mercy and healing.



Devotions at the Cathedral of Saint Peter

During Lent, the Cathedral of Saint Peter is offering several ways in which the faithful can deepen their relationship with Jesus and come to know him in a more intimate way.

On Fridays, the Stations of the Cross are prayed following the 12:10 p.m. Mass and Novena to Saint John Neumann. The Stations will air on CTV live on March 15 after the 12:10 p.m. Mass, and on Fridays of Lent at 11:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

During the remaining Sundays of Lent, March 17, 24 and 31; April 7 and 14, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will continue to be held at the conclusion of the 5 p.m. Sunday Mass. Evening Prayer and Benediction begin at 6:30 p.m.

Road to Resurrection

Parishes in the Greater Scranton area are continuing their Road to Resurrection series during the Lenten season, with Father Joseph Sica serving as homilist for each of the weekly offerings hosted at various parishes.

The series is held on consecutive Thursday evenings, beginning each week at 7 p.m.

Remainder of the Road to Resurrection schedule is as follows:

March 14 — Saint Patrick Church, West Scranton; **March 21** — Holy Rosary Church (Mary, Mother of God Parish), North Scranton; **March 28** — Saint Paul Church, Green Ridge section; **April 4** — Immaculate Conception Church, Hill section; **April 11** — Saint Peter’s Cathedral, downtown Scranton.

Diocese of Scranton announces Letter of Intent with Allied Services for Sale of Little Flower Manor Campus and St. Luke's Villa Campus

The Diocese of Scranton announced on Friday, March 8, that it has received a non-binding letter of intent (LOI) for the sale of its long-term healthcare facilities in the city of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

The Diocese has entered into a due diligence agreement with Allied Services Integrated Health System, a locally-based, regional not-for-profit health system with a 60-year tradition of providing quality health care and human services with compassion and empathy.

The sale will include Little Flower Manor, St. Therese Residence and St. Luke's Villa.

Across the campuses, services include 24-hour nursing care and rehabilitation for those recovering from an illness, injury or surgery, personal care assistance and independent living spaces. The Diocesan owned and operated facilities are non-profit, faith-based and mission-driven, and are the providers of choice in their service areas. Approximately 400 employees and volunteers care for the facilities' 322 residents.

For roughly four years, since 2015, Diocesan leadership has been evaluating its long-term care facilities. Given continued shifts in the healthcare industry, the Diocese of Scranton faced a number of challenges including decreased reimbursement rates and heightened regulations.

"Healthcare – and long-term healthcare specifically – is increasingly becoming a sophisticated and complicated industry," said the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton. "The Diocese of Scranton, like many other small, independent operators is not equipped to address evolving needs in this space. Our patients and residents deserve the highest quality of care, and the decision to sell these facilities was made with their best interests in mind."

"This is a great day, for our community, for the Diocese of Scranton, for Allied Services Integrated Health System, and most importantly, for the patients and residents entrusted to us," said William P. Conaboy, Esq., President & CEO of Allied Services Integrated Health System. "We are grateful for Bishop Bambera and to the Diocese leadership for choosing Allied Services to continue their mission. We stand ready to do what is best for our patients, residents and employees and to continue the work of the Diocese of Scranton in providing the very highest quality of care."

The Diocese has been highly selective and considered a number of buyers. Allied Services has committed to utilizing its best efforts to retain current staff, whose dedication has helped maintain strong quality ratings and occupancy rates in recent years. Allied Services has also committed to preserving religious articles and artifacts.

The sale of these facilities will allow the Diocese of Scranton to continue its commitment to serving the people of this region through core services such as food pantries, community outreach and emergency shelter programs. While the Diocese originally chose to explore selling these two facilities because of the evolving healthcare landscape, it has determined that proceeds from this sale may assist with funding the recently announced Independent Survivors Compensation Program.

"Our goal is to find a buyer better equipped to address evolving needs in the healthcare space, so that we can provide financial compensation to survivors of child sexual abuse, and can continue to focus on serving the neediest in our midst through Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton and new and different ways of supporting our elderly population," said Bishop Bambera.

"On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank all of those who worked so diligently to make this happen, while welcoming the 400 employees and volunteers from the Diocese to Allied Services," said Dr. Douglas M. Boyle, DBA, CPA, Board Chair, Allied Services Foundation. "I also wish to reaffirm our enthusiasm and continued commitment to providing the highest level of quality care to all of our patients and residences."

The due diligence process requires 90 days during which Allied Services will review the assets from a financial, operational and compliance standpoint. If Allied Services chooses to move forward with the sale, both parties will enter into an approval process before the sale is final.



Assets included in the sale are:

Little Flower Manor
133-bed skilled nursing facility with 71 private rooms

St. Therese Residence
A 60-unit facility with access to the finest personal care services and amenities, as well as 15 units for patients requiring specialized memory impairment services

St. Luke's Villa
A 50-bed skilled nursing unit, a 48-unit personal care facility and 31 independent living apartments



To watch the full news conference from The Diocese of Scranton and Allied Services Integrated Health System Announcement visit:
www.dioceseofscranton.org

Annual Appeal chairs named for Wayne-Pike Region

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera has invited Deacon Edward T. Kelly and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Kuehner to serve respectively as 2018 Annual Appeal clergy and lay chairs for the Wayne-Pike region. Deacon Kelly is parish life coordinator at Saint Mary Parish, Waymart. The Kuehnerts are parishioners of Saint Thomas More, Lake Ariel.

Deacon Kelly explains that the Appeal campaign unites local Catholics in a common goal while calling them to live out the Gospel. “The Appeal creates an awareness that each parishioner belongs not only to a parish, but also to a diocese....Our Diocese connects to the next Diocese, uniting us all as one Universal Church throughout the world.”

“There are so many benefits to the Appeal,” said Deacon Kelly citing the soup kitchens of Catholic Social Services and the technology of Catholic Media. “What a wonderful thing that our Diocese uses Catholic TV and the website to bring the daily Mass to shut-ins. What a grace that this comes through the generosity of our parishioners.”

He also mentioned Appeal funds for the care and education of clergy. “Those who support the Appeal, support my vocation to the diaconate, and without their saying “yes” I could never become a deacon.

“The Appeal builds up the church, furthers the mission of God and supports works that last for all eternity. The Appeal is critical to carrying out the mission of Christ. Love one another and love our God – that’s the greatest command. The appeal is a living example

of that commandment,” he concluded.

Deacon Kelly grew up as a member of Saint Thomas Aquinas Church, Archbald, now Christ the King Parish, where “we had fantastic priests who inspired me to want to serve the Church.” Deacon Kelly is former director of the Pontifical Missions Society of the Diocese of Scranton during which he made several missionary trips to Africa, Haiti and other third-world counties. He and his wife, Patricia, reside in Archbald.

JoAnne Castrogiovanni Kuehner and Carl Kuehner reside in Lake Ariel and Naples, Fla. JoAnne is a native of Dunmore, a former member of Saint Paul Parish, Scranton, and a graduate of the parish high school. Carl grew up in North Scranton where he was a member of the former Holy Rosary Parish. The couple have four children, 10 grandchildren and two great-granddaughters.

Carl is president of Real Estate Technology Corporation, a real estate and investment firm. His civic work includes serving as past chairman of the board of directors at the University of Scranton, among several other positions.

The couple established the Scranton chapter of the Order of Malta, and for 20 years have served as a knight and dame in this lay Catholic order whose mission is to care for the poor and the sick of the world.



Deacon Edward T. Kelly JoAnne and Carl Kuehner

JoAnne has devoted her “time, treasure and talent to helping the poorest of the poor” for the past 30 years. She recently published *Oh, for the Love of Haiti!* The book shares her personal experiences with “Hope for Haiti,” the organization she founded with her husband to improve the future for Haitian children.

In discussing the Diocesan Annual Appeal, JoAnne had a succinct comment that would lead potential donors to contemplation. “There are only two kinds of people in the world — the givers and the takers. Life is quite simple, we seem to make it difficult.”

Carl shares her perspective. “We’re all members of the Church of Jesus Christ, not the church of priests and bishops. While the clergy are special members, all the laity have an obligation to support essential services funded by the Appeal. The fact that certain priest have gone astray can’t take us away from that continuing Christian duty to assist individuals who have far less than most of us.”

Fidelity Bank makes \$120,000 gift to Diocese of Scranton Scholarship Foundation



Jim Bebla, Diocesan Secretary for Development, accepts a check from Joseph Tomko, Vice President and Commercial Relationship Manager at Fidelity Bank.

Fidelity Bank recently made a gift of \$120,000 to the Diocese of Scranton Scholarship Foundation for tuition assistance for Catholic School families in the Diocese. This donation is part of the Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program.

Fidelity Bank has supported the Diocesan Catholic Schools need-based tuition assistance program through the State’s tax credit program since 2002.

“The Diocese is very grateful to Fidelity Bank for their continued generous support. This commitment makes a difference in the lives of so many families who choose to send their children to one of our Catholic schools,” said Jim Bebla, Diocesan Secretary for Development.

With branch offices located throughout Lackawanna and Luzerne counties, Fidelity Bank offers full service Trust & Investment Departments, a mortgage center and an array of personal and business banking products and services.

God calls all of us...to be his followers

Continued from page 1

Now engaged to her fiancé, Bernard McFadden, Hanselman says this process has brought her closer to God and her partner.

"I think it has strengthened our bond and our relationship, we're stronger and our faith in God is now the center of our relationship and it's really blossomed into something great," Hanselman said.

McFadden still remembers when she first decided to begin the process of joining the Church.

"It was one of the happiest moments of my life. She just made the decision all on her own to go for it," McFadden said.

McFadden proudly smiled as they posed for pictures together.

"I've helped her. She's helped me. I was born into the faith so my parents made sure I was baptized and went through Catholic school but a lot of that stuff you forget over the years so just going along the classes with her, it's been a journey for me as well," McFadden said.

Those who will be received into the Church through Baptism at the Easter Vigil, called catechumens, have been participants in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) for many months.

At the Rite of Election, the Church ratifies their readiness for the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist) and after inscribing their names in the Book of the Elect, the catechumens, now called "the elect," manifest their desire to

receive these sacraments before the Bishop.

During the celebration of the Call to Continuing Conversion, which immediately followed the Rite of Election, those already baptized in the Christian faith in another denomination, and now seeking full communion with the Catholic Church — called candidates — presented themselves to the Bishop, and, after having their readiness for the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist affirmed by their sponsors, were invited by the Bishop to join the Church during Lent in a spirit of repentance and renewed fidelity to their baptismal covenant, so that they will be prepared for the joyous reception of the holy sacraments.

Those adults who were baptized Catholic but never confirmed, who have been preparing for the reception of the sacrament of Confirmation at the Easter Vigil, were invited to participate in the ceremony by standing with the candidates for full Communion.

For some people who took part in the celebration, it was a family affair.

Paul Antonelli, a parishioner at Saint John Parish in East Stroudsburg, took part in the journey last year. This year, his sons, Devin, 15, and Dalton, 13, are going through the process.

"I started off with wanting it for them but he (Dalton) looked at me honestly and said, 'Dad, you can go through it too' and I was like, 'Yeah, I can,' so we started

going at the same time," Paul Antonelli said.

For Devin Antonelli, the spirit of Sunday's service was inspiring. "To see how much God can bring people together to one big family," he said.

It was a similar story for the Grieco family of Gouldsboro.

"I figured my sons were doing it and I owe it to everybody and God. I figured I would do it too and that's why I'm here and my wife wants to get married in the Catholic Church," Dillman Grieco said.

At 56 years old, Dillman Grieco is now joining his sons answering the call of God.

"My wife gives out rosaries and I figured it was time I come get my sacraments," Dillman said.

During his homily, Bishop Bambera reflected on words that his father told him as he contemplated becoming a priest.

The Bishop's father said, "If you believe this is what God is calling you to do, then you have to do it!"

The Bishop said that same call, that same invitation of Jesus, is addressed to all of the people who were in the Cathedral.

"When Jesus initially engaged his disciples, his first word to them, consistently throughout the gospels is 'come.' 'Come — follow me,' 'Come — and I will make you fishers of men' and 'Come — and believe in your heart that 'God so loved the world that he gave his only son, that everyone who believes in him might not perish



Above: Candidates preparing for the sacraments of initiation stand with their sponsors during the Call to Continuing Conversion.

Middle: Hundreds gather in the Cathedral of Saint Peter to pray.

Below: A woman who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil signs the Book of Elect for her parish. (Photos/Mike Mike Melisky)



A man signs the Book of Elect for his parish. (Photo/Mike Melisky)

but might have eternal life."

Bishop Bambera also addressed this unique time in the Church.

"This has been a challenging year for Catholics and, no doubt, for many of you. I would imagine that some of you have wondered about this Church — this community of believers — into which you are welcomed today. You should! It hardly seems to be the type of community that Jesus intended to leave behind after his death and resurrection. Perhaps some individuals have even challenged you in your decision or have gone so far as to ridicule you in your choice. Yet, while at times we may be consumed with the broken, fragile lives that seem to fill our Church, the call to which you respond today is rooted in something far more sacred and holy than you might imagine or believe possible,"

Bishop Bambera said.

Bishop Bambera urged all in attendance to pray for both the candidates and the Elect.

"May each of us, in whatever place along the journey of faith we find ourselves, give thanks to God this day for the gift of Jesus and his saving grace. May you, our candidates for full communion in the Church, open your hearts to the Holy Spirit and to the power of Jesus who will fill your life through the Eucharist. And may you, the Elect in our midst, boldly proclaim your faith in Jesus as you inscribe your names in the Book of the Elect and take your place with all of your sisters and brothers, young and old, rich and poor, saints and sinners, who have been called by God and chosen as his own this day," Bishop Bambera said.

Diocese Scholarship Foundation Receives Large Donation



Bishop Joseph C. Bambera and Jason Morrison, Diocesan Secretary for Catholic Education/COO gratefully accept a donation from Christina Curran from the McDonald's of Greater Scranton for the Diocese of Scranton Scholarship Foundation.

The Diocese of Scranton Scholarship Foundation is pleased to announce it has received a donation of \$11,974.50 from the McDonald's of Greater Scranton that will grant additional tuition assistance to students attending one of the 20 Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Scranton.

Kicking off at the beginning of Catholic Schools Week in late January and ending in mid-February, 15 McDonald's locations donated a portion of every large French fry order to the Foundation.

"We are extremely grateful for the Mueller Family and McDonald's for hosting this French fry campaign," said Jason Morrison, Diocesan Secretary of Catholic Education/Chief Operating Officer. "As the need for financial assistance has grown, this generous gift allows us to fulfill our commitment of making an academically excellent and faith-filled education more affordable and accessible."

Every year, the Diocese of Scranton Scholarship Foundation grants tuition assistance to more than 1,000 families attending the four high schools and 16 elementary schools. Last year, families received more than \$1.2 million in tuition assistance, with most scholarships ranging between \$500 and \$2,500.



Father Joseph F. Sica, Senior Priest at Immaculate Conception Parish in Scranton, held an Ash Wednesday Retreat at the Diocesan Pastoral Center on March 6 (Photo/Dan Gallagher)

Prayer before the Parade



Above: Members of the Gallagher School of Irish Dance serve as part of the Honor Guard for the 58th Annual Saint Patrick's Parade Mass on March 9. (Photos/Mike Milesky)

Below: The Cathedral of Saint Peter was filled with Irish groups for the 10:00 am service.



BISHOP BAMBERA'S SCHEDULE

- March 14** - Lenten Day of Reflection for Priests
Diocesan Pastoral Center, Scranton
- March 15** - Stations of the Cross
Saint Peter's Cathedral, After 12:10 p.m. Mass
- March 16** - Lenten Day of Reflection for Deacons & Wives
Diocesan Pastoral Center, Scranton
- March 16** - Saint Patrick's Feast Day Mass
Saint Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, 12:15 p.m.
- March 19** - Saint Joseph Feast Day Mass
Saint Joseph's Oblate Seminary, Laflin, 11:00 a.m.
- March 19-20** - USCCB Ecumenical & Interfaith Affairs Meeting
Chicago
- March 31-April 2** - Catholic Association of Diocesan Ecumenical & Interreligious Officers Meeting & National Workshop on Christian Unity Meeting
St. Louis, MO

Service, not party affiliation makes a politician Catholic, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- What makes a politician "Catholic" is not party affiliation, but dedication to promoting the common good, particularly through listening to and empowering people who often are overlooked, Pope Francis said.

"I invite you to live your faith with great freedom, never believing that there exists only one form of political commitment for Catholics, a Catholic party," the pope said earlier this month during a meeting with 26 young Latin America leaders attending a course on politics and the social teaching of the church. The course was supported by the Pontifical Commission for Latin America.

Pope Francis told

the young adults that politics in Latin America needs "a new presence of Catholics," meaning not just "new faces in the electoral campaigns, but mainly new methods that are simultaneously critical and constructive."

A Catholic politician, he said, always looks for "the possible good, even if it is modest."

Quoting St. Paul VI, Pope Francis told the young leaders, "In concrete situations, and taking account of solidarity in each person's life, one must recognize a legitimate variety of possible options. The same Christian faith can lead to different commitments."

For that reason, he said, Catholic politicians will join different parties

and will work with people of other faiths in pursuing the common good.



Pope Francis accepts a gift bearing an image of Our Lady of Guadalupe during a meeting with Catholic leaders from Latin America at the Vatican on March 4. (CNS photo/Vatican Media)

and strengthened by regular participation in a faith community.

Without that support, he said, one risks facing "the challenges of power, of strategies, of action" alone.

True democracy can never mean "for

the people, but not with the people," the pope said. To be Catholic is to recognize that one belongs to a community, to listen to the community and to respond to the real needs of people in the community.

In Latin America today, the pope said, there are three groups that need particular attention, and listening to them offers real hope for finding concrete solutions to the region's problems: women, the young and the poor.

Women, he said, are "a pillar in the building of the church and society," young people have "the dissatisfaction and rebelliousness that are necessary to promote true changes and not merely cosmetic ones"

and, through service to and with the poor, he said, "the church shows her fidelity" to Christ.

Pope Francis also quoted at length from a homily delivered by St. Oscar Romero in 1978: "To be a good political activist one need not be a Christian, but Christians involved in political activity have an obligation to profess their faith in Christ and to use methods that are congruent with their faith. If a conflict arises in this area between loyalty to the faith and loyalty to the organization, genuine Christians must choose faith and demonstrate that their struggle for justice is for the justice of God's kingdom and no other."

Vatican announces theme for World Day of Migrants and Refugees



Central American migrants and refugees in Mexico-Calexico react as they wait to enter the United States. (CNS photo/Christian Torres, Reuters)

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- After moving the Vatican celebration of the World Day of Migrants and Refugees from January to September, Pope Francis wants Catholics to understand how concern for migrants and refugees is part of a much broader Christian concern for people in need.

The Vatican celebration of the World Day of Migrants and Refugees 2019 will be celebrated Sept. 29, the Vatican said, and the pope's choice for a theme is: "It is not just about migrants."

"With this theme, Pope

Francis wants to highlight that his frequent appeals for migrants, refugees, displaced and trafficked people should be understood as integral to his deep concern for all the inhabitants of today's 'existential peripheries,'" said a note from the Migrants and Refugees Section of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development.

In other words, the note said, "the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick and the prisoner who knock on our door today are Jesus himself, asking to be encountered and supported."

Researchers to get access to wartime documents in Vatican Secret Archives

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Declaring that the Catholic Church is unafraid of history, Pope Francis announced that documents in the Vatican Secret Archives relating to the wartime pontificate of Pope Pius XII will be open to scholars in 2020.

Researchers, particularly those interested in Catholic-Jewish relations, have pressed the Vatican to open the archives and allow a full study of Pope Pius' actions during the war, including what he did or failed to do for Jews during the Holocaust.

"The church is not afraid of history, on the contrary, she loves it and would like to love it more and better, just as she loves God. Therefore, with the same confidence as my predecessors, I open and entrust to researchers" this wealth of documents, Pope Francis said.

The pope met earlier this month with supervisors, staff members and assistants working at the Vatican Secret Archives during an audience to mark the 80th anniversary



Pope Pius XII, who led the Catholic Church from 1939 to 1958, is pictured in this undated photo at the Vatican. (CNS photo/Vatican Media)

of Pope Pius XII's election March 2, 1939.

Staff at the Vatican Secret Archives, which holds the bulk of the documents related to the wartime pope, have been working for the past 13 years to get the material organized, cataloged and accessible to researchers.

Bishop Sergio Pagano,

prefect of the archives, said the years of work were necessary to pull together and catalog material previously held in a variety of Vatican offices; this includes documents from the Vatican Secretariat of State, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, records from Vatican nunciatures around the world and thousands of

notes regarding Pope Pius' charitable activity in Italy and abroad.

Pope Pius, who guided the universal church during World War II, already has been a subject of intense study and discussion, "even criticized -- one could say with some bias or exaggeration," Pope Francis said.

While a small portion of some material produced during the pontificate of Pope Pius has been made available, all documents in the archives from his election in 1939 to his death in 1958 will be made available to researchers starting March 2, 2020.

Pope Francis said he made the decision in consultation with trusted advisers and was confident that "serious and objective historical research will know how to evaluate in the right light, with suitable criticism, moments of praise of that pope and, without doubt, also moments of serious difficulties, tormented decisions, of human and Christian prudence, which to some could look like reticence."

Four CRS staffers, humanitarian workers aboard Ethiopian jet that crashed

WASHINGTON (CNS) --

Four Catholic Relief Service staff members on their way to a training session in Nairobi, Kenya, were among the passengers aboard an Ethiopian Airlines flight that crashed moments after takeoff in the east African nation.

The accident March 10 claimed the lives of 157 people on board, many of them from humanitarian agencies.

Others on the jetliner included a Georgetown University law school student who was serving as a campus minister and 19 staff members of U.N. agencies. Two Kenyan religious, Mariannahill Father George Kageche Mukua and an unidentified nun, were also among those killed in the crash.

Pope Francis offered prayers for the passengers from 35 countries in a telegram March 11.

"Having learned with sadness of the Ethiopian Airlines plane crash, His Holiness Pope Francis offers prayers for the deceased from various countries and commends their souls to the mercy of almighty God. Pope Francis sends heartfelt condolences to their families, and upon all who mourn this tragic loss he invokes the divine blessings of consolation and strength," said the telegram from Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state.

In a statement March 11, Catholic Relief Services shared the news of the tragedy involving its staffers, all Ethiopian nationals.

The dead include Getnet Alemayehu, Mulusew Alemu, Sintayehu Aymeku and Sara Chalachew. They worked in various administrative positions for CRS.

"Although we are in mourning, we celebrate the lives of these colleagues and the selfless contributions they made to our mission, despite the risks and sacrifices that humanitarian work can often entail," CRS said. "Our thoughts and prayers are with their families and all of those who lost loved one as a result of this tragedy."

Catholic Relief Services is the U.S. bishops' international relief and development agency. In Washington, Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference

of Catholic Bishops, expressed sadness at the "deaths of four of our esteemed colleagues."

In a letter to Maronite Bishop Gregory Mansour, chairman of the board of CRS, the cardinal said he had asked all bishops in the U.S. to pray for the repose of the souls of the four workers.

"May the consolation of the Savior's embrace be now a source of comfort to their loved ones and co-workers on this difficult and painful day," Cardinal DiNardo wrote March 11.

The day of the crash, the Ethiopian Catholic bishops also sent condolences and offered prayers "for those who have lost their lives, that they may rest in peace in heaven."

"We ask our Lord to console the hearts of the families of those who died, all the staff of Ethiopian Airlines and the people of Ethiopia," said the bishops' statement, issued in the country's Amharic language.

"We particularly pray for the staff of Ethiopian Airlines, so that the Holy Spirit may grant them the strength to continue their well-praised services to all the clients of Ethiopian Airlines," the bishops said.

David Beasley, World Food Program executive director, mourned the loss of his agency's seven

staffers in a March 10 statement.

"As we mourn, let us reflect that each of these WFP colleagues were willing to travel and work far from their homes and loved ones to help make the world a better place to live. That was their calling, as it is for the rest of the WFP family," he said.

A list of the dead released by Ethiopian Airlines included 32 Kenyans, 18 Canadians, eight from the United States and others from China, India, Israel, Saudi Arabia and Somalia.

Aviation officials from Ethiopia were investigating the accident, the second in recent months involving the brand-new Boeing 737 Max jet. In October, a Lyon Air flight killed 189 people in Indonesia.

The plane has been the workhorse for airlines worldwide and has been the company's best-selling aircraft. China and Ethiopia grounded all flights involving the modern airliner March 11.

Four investigators from the U.S. National Transportation Security Board were dispatched to Ethiopia to assist in the investigation, an NTSB spokesman said March 10.

Addis Ababa and Nairobi are major hubs among worldwide agencies serving poor and marginalized people, refugees and migrants.

2019 Ministry Formation Skills Workshop Series



"Pray and Proclaim!"

**Saturday, April 6 2019 from
9:00AM-2:30PM**

Nativity of Our Lord Parish

Sacred Heart Hall

529 Stephenson Street, Duryea

Proclaim!: An introduction to basic public speaking techniques, and provide opportunity for participants to try out these methods.

Pray: Participants will cover topics such as: *Why do we pray? How do we pray? What are some ideas and resources for planning prayer with groups, or in the classroom?* The ways in which ministers cultivate spirituality outside of the Mass not only enriches Sunday worship but can bring the reality of God into our everyday lived experience.

For more information contact Kitty Scanlan at 570-207-2213.

To register, visit dioceseofscranton.org

GIVE A CHILD A VOICE



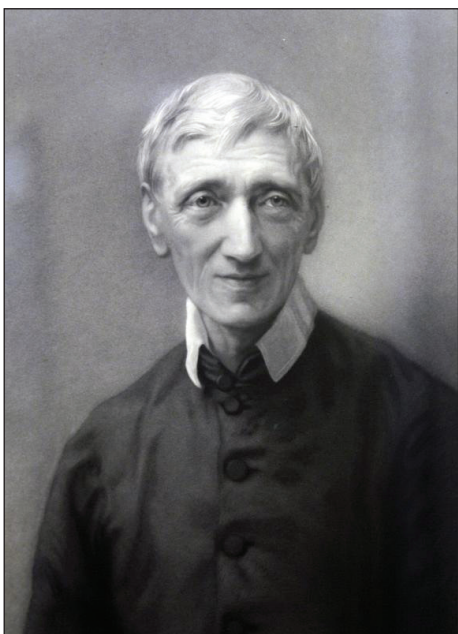
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www.luzernecasa.org or 570-855-2247

Path of Conversion Leads to Canonization for Blessed John Henry Newman



Blessed John Henry Newman is seen in a portrait provided by the Catholic Church in England and Wales. Pope Francis signed a decree Feb. 12 recognizing a miracle attributed to the intercession of Blessed Newman, the English cardinal, clearing the way for his canonization. (CNS photo/courtesy of the Catholic Church of England and Wales)

On Feb. 13, Pope Francis approved the canonization of Blessed John Henry Newman, a 19th-century Catholic convert from Anglicanism, whose theological insights on matters such as the development of doctrine and the role of the laity in the church stand behind many of the teachings of the Second Vatican Council.

Prior to his conversion, Newman was a giant in the Anglican ecclesial

community: a professor at Oxford University and a leader of the “Oxford Movement” — which was a revival movement designed to make Anglicans more aware of their Catholic roots.

Newman's Oxford Movement studies, however, brought him to the conviction that the Roman Catholic Church was the one, true church that Jesus Christ had founded in the first century. So he made the very difficult decision to leave the Anglican ecclesial community (where he was revered and respected), and enter the Catholic Church (where he was held in suspicion by many, because of his anti-Catholic writings as an Anglican). He overcame those suspicions, however, through a life of faithful — and obedient — service as a Catholic priest and theologian.

Especially noteworthy was his devotion to the education and religious formation of young people. Thus, it should come as no surprise that Catholic centers at secular colleges and universities are known as “Newman Centers.”

In recognition of his obedience and faithful service as a priest, Newman received the cardinal's hat from Pope Leo XIII on May 12, 1879. Now, he receives the ultimate honor by being canonized a saint, and may someday be named as the patron of scholars and students. St. John Henry Newman, pray for us!

This editorial appeared in the February 21 issue of the Rhode Island Catholic, newspaper of the Diocese of Providence, Rhode Island. It was provided by Catholic News Service.



*Annunciation
of the Lord —
March 25*

Prayer Requests for Priests

The Daily Prayer Request for Priests schedule for the next three weeks is as follows:

March 14, Father Cyril Rable; March 15, Father Michael Rafferty; March 16, Monsignor Joseph Rauscher; March 17, Father Philip Rayappan; March 18, Jesuit Father James Redington; March 19, Father Gregory Reichlen; March 20, Father Jaime Perez Resprepo; March 21, Father August Ricciardi; March 22, Father Alex Roche;

March 23, Jesuit Father Patrick Rogers; March 24, Father Richard Rojas; March 25, Monsignor Walter Rossi; March 26, Monsignor Dale Rupert; March 27, Father John Ruth; March 28, Passionist Father Paul Ruttle; March 29, Holy Cross Father John Ryan; March 30, Saint Peter Priestly Fraternity Father Gerard Saguto; March 31, Father Christopher Sahd; April 1, Pope Francis; April 2, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI; April 3, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera.



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Diocese of Scranton
DIOCESAN
ANNUAL APPEAL



Volume 119 Number 4 — Thursday, March 14, 2019

Sainthood Cause of Lakota Catechist Moves Forward

At the behest of the U.S. Catholic bishops, the sainthood cause of Nicholas W. Black Elk continues to move forward, further recognizing the 19th-century Lakota catechist who is said to have introduced hundreds of Lakota people to the Catholic faith.

At the fall general assembly of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in 2017, the bishops “approved by voice vote the canonical consultation,” or

support for the cause. The episcopal consultation process is “a step in the Catholic Church’s process toward declaring a person a saint.”

Bishop Robert D. Gruss of Rapid City, South Dakota, spoke to the bishops about Black Elk, born into the Oglala Lakota Tribe in 1863 in Wyoming.

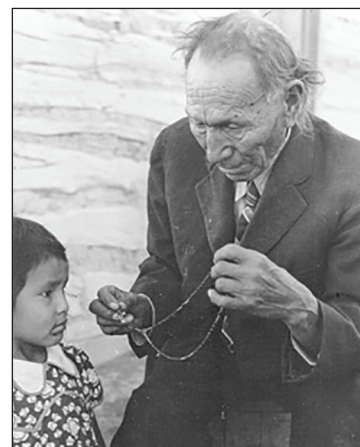
“He is widely known among his people as a holy man and mystic,” Bishop Gruss said. “He was given a vision at a very early age.”

The message of that vision was that “we should all live as one.”

“This vision influenced his life over the rest of the years, especially as a catechist, in many ways forming his identity over the rest of his life,” Bishop Gruss said.

He took the name of Nicholas, after Saint Nicholas, the bishop said, and was baptized on his feast day.

“He became a noted catechist and missionary, working closely with the Jesuits on a number of Indian reservations,” Bishop Gruss said. “He continued cele-



Nicholas Black Elk is pictured in an undated historical photo teaching a girl how to pray the Rosary.

brating Lakota rituals (and also) fully embracing Catholic life, grounded in the sacramental life of the church.”

Black Elk was a witness to the Battle of Little Bighorn in 1876 in Montana Territory and the great massacre of his people at Wounded Knee in South Dakota in 1890, during which he was injured when a bullet grazed his thigh.

The celebrated Lakota catechist was also one of the signers of the petition for the sainthood cause for Kateri Tekakwitha, who was canonized in Rome on Oct. 21, 2012.



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Second Annual Catholic Women’s Conference June 22

The Second Annual Catholic Women’s Conference will be held Saturday, June 22, beginning at 8:45 a.m. at the University of Scranton, Byron Complex. The conference theme is “Come to the Well.”

The conference, intended to inspire women at all levels of faith, will include several noted speakers, uplifting music, the Sacrament of Penance, Eucharistic Adoration and a

Mass with Bishop Joseph C. Bambera.

Participants can also enjoy a continental breakfast, lunch and shopping at the Catholic Vendor Marketplace.

The keynote speakers are Teresa Tomeo, best-selling author, syndicated Catholic talk show host and media journalist; Jill Metz, a renowned artist whose use of mixed media has helped foster her love and de-

votion to the saints; and Sister Mercy Marie, a member of the Sisters of Life religious order, who will lead the day’s Eucharistic Adoration.

Megan Murphy, a local speaker, teacher and evangelist, will serve as master of ceremonies.

The conference will also feature the Christian music group, “His Own,” from Nashville, Tenn.

The cost is \$40 for an early-bird ticket, and \$50 after June 9. Student tickets are \$20. Women religious can attend at no charge.

For registration, visit CWCNEPA.com.

Rosa Mystic Bus Trip Planned for May 4

Faithful of the Diocese of Scranton are planning a pilgrimage/bus trip to the Rosa Mystica House of Prayer in Edmeston, N.Y., on Saturday, May 4.

Guest speaker for the day, Sondra Abrahams, will talk about her personal witness of faith.

The daylong pilgrimage will also include Rosary, Mass, confessions, other devotions and activities.

Bus will depart at 8 a.m. and return at 5 p.m. Cost for the trip is \$50, including shrine fee, lunch, driver’s gratuity and snack.

For more information, contact Georgianna Cherinchak (570-591-6740). Paid reservations are required by April 13.

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Diocese of Scranton
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The Diocese of Scranton is committed to educating our students in an environment that is academically excellent and facilitates the development of moral judgment and Christian decision-making. We are proud to share the following successes of our students in the classroom and in their service to others. Each day, our schools are fulfilling their mission of preparing today's youth and young adults to become tomorrow's faith-filled leaders.



Students from **All Saints Academy in Scranton** began their Lenten Journey with the celebration of Mass and the distribution of ashes from Father Richard Fox, pastor of Saint Patrick Church.



Raphael Micca (third from right), music teacher at **Good Shepherd Academy in Kingston**, along with his fellow Diocese of Scranton World Youth Day participants David Pirolli, Shannon Kowalski, Abbe Truschel, Dominick Costantino and Father Jerry Shantillo of Saint Matthew Church, East Stroudsburg, recently shared their stories of faith and renewal at WYD Panama with the students and faculty at Good Shepherd.



The Mock Trial team from **Holy Cross High School in Dunmore** recently outscored the team from Scranton Preparatory School, claiming the 2019 Mock Trial District Championship for the second year in a row.



Members of the Student Leadership team at **Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre** spent a day of service at the Saint Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen in Wilkes-Barre.



Father Bill Corcoran, pastor of Saint Boniface & Saint Lawrence Churches, distributes ashes to the students at **Saint John Neumann Elementary School in Williamsport**.



Seventeen students from **Our Lady of Peace School in Clarks Green** earned First Awards in the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science competition held at Wilkes University and will go on to compete in the state finals at Penn State University in May.



Students at **Saint Nicholas/Saint Mary School in Wilkes-Barre** began their Lenten journey with the reception of ashes on their foreheads by Father Joseph Verespy, pastor of Saint Nicholas Church.



Altar servers Johnny Pezzuti, Brady Wickenheiser, and Naiandra Lorenzo, students at **Monsignor McHugh School in Cresco**, prepare to walk down the aisle with Father Gregory Loughney and Deacon José Mendoza of Most Holy Trinity Parish to celebrate Ash Wednesday Mass.



The 4th grade class at **La Salle Academy in Jessup** hosted the school's Ash Wednesday Mass; Father Don Williams, Diocese of Scranton Director of Vocations and Seminarians, posed with the students following the liturgy.



It was Read Across America Week at **Holy Family Academy in Hazleton**! Mr. Jamie Scatton, HFA parent and school technology expert, reads the Dr. Seuss classic "One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish" to the Pre-Kindergarten students.



Matthew Rossettie, a fourth grade student at **Epiphany School in Sayre**, receives ashes from Father Andrew Hvozdovic, pastor of Epiphany Church.



Students from **Saint John Neumann High School in Williamsport** prepare to serve Ash Wednesday Mass with Father Bill Corcoran presiding, and Mr. Shawn Moore, Saint John Neumann DRF, assisting.



Students at **Holy Rosary School in Duryea** prepare to participate in a prayer service in which an Alleluia banner is symbolically put away during the Lenten season. The “Bury the Alleluia” ceremony is a school tradition as students and faculty enter the season of fasting and praying.



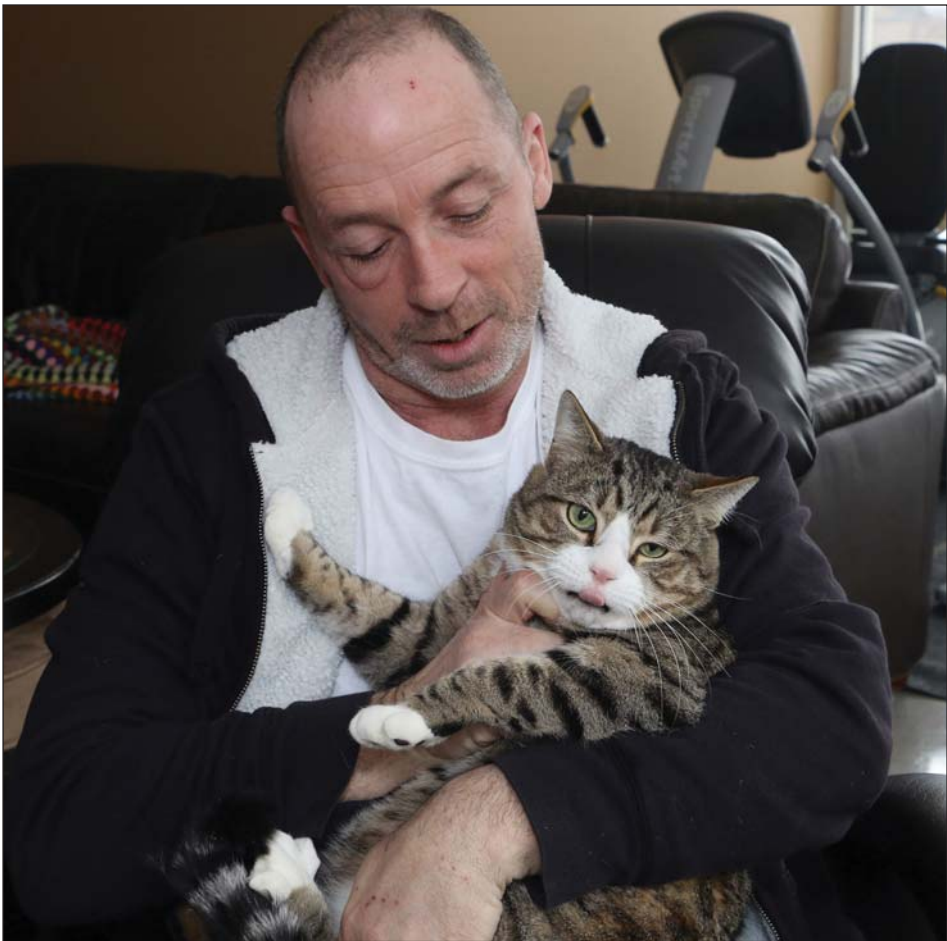
Brandon Cegelka, a 6th grade student at **Wyoming Area Catholic School in Exeter**, presents the gifts to Father Peter Tomczak of Saint Monica Parish, West Wyoming, who celebrated the school’s Ash Wednesday Mass.



Students from **Saint Jude School in Mountain Top** wait patiently to receive a cross of ashes on their foreheads from Father Joseph Evanko of Saint Jude Church on Ash Wednesday.



Khessee, a female boxer mix, is now living with veteran John Morris at Saint Francis Commons in Scranton. (Photo/Dan Gallagher)



Jim, a veteran living at Saint Francis Commons in Scranton, poses with his cat Toby. (Photo/Dan Gallagher)

Pet Therapy

Curative Companions Program Helping Veterans

Buddy, the wiener terrier, truly lives up to his name.

As he rested comfortably in the arms of his owner, Rick Machovoe, inside the second-floor common area of Saint Francis Commons, his tail didn't stop wagging.

"He took a real liking to me right off the bat," Machovoe said.

For six months now, Machovoe has been living at Saint Francis Commons, an affordable transitional housing facility for homeless veterans operated by Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton.

Buddy just started living with Machovoe about a month ago.

"He's a blessing in my life. He makes me happy. He's just a real blessing. He's got real personality. He makes my day," Machovoe said.

Buddy is one of six animals now living at the facility as part of the Curative Companions program. The program, an expansion of the originally titled Pets for Vets, allows veterans staying at the facility to have an animal if they agree to specific terms.

Buddy stays and sleeps in Machovoe's room but can be taken out into common areas if he is on a leash.

"It lifts my spirits, I guess you'd have to say, because he's always making me smile; he's always making me laugh. I guess having something to take care of sort of helps me too, emotionally and mentally. I've got PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder) issues and things like that, but he's like having a brother. He definitely makes my day," Machovoe said.

Ryan Pollock is the program supervisor at Saint Francis Commons.

"We've noticed a direct, immediate difference in the overall demeanor of the veterans with the support animals," Pollock said.

The animals officially can be recognized as service or emotional support animals, which requires verification from a physician and grants extra privileges outside the facility, or they can simply be companion animals, designed to help veterans progress in their treatment plan toward successful independent living. Buddy is classified as an emotional support animal, or ESA.

"I'm what you'd call an introvert, not really social, but since Buddy's been here, I guess it's caused me to get more social because he goes out in the dayroom with the other dogs or whatever plus then the other dog owners, we have something in common," Machovoe said.

The path that John Morris took to get his dog, Khessee, a seven-and-a-half-year-old female boxer mix, happened only by chance.

After winning a rib-eating contest at Texas Roadhouse in Dickson City, Morris donated his prize money to the Griffin Pond Animal Shelter. When the shelter brought a rescue dog to meet him as a thank you, Morris knew he wanted to get a support animal.

The trouble was others already had applied to own many of the dogs Morris met on his visit, so he asked the Griffin Pond staffers if they had any that did not have applications.

"They brought me this one and said nobody wants her," Morris said.

Two days after Christmas, Khessee arrived at Saint Francis Commons to live with the Desert Shield veteran.

"I love her to death...She's just been a blessing to me," Morris said.

Morris was in the Navy for four years, from 1988 to 1991. He has been at Saint Francis Commons just a little under a year.

"Words can't explain it. She's helped me out so much. She's calmed me down. She's given me a little bit of sense of responsibility to be able to care for somebody. Dogs are dogs. They love people," Morris said.

The Curative Companions program has been able to help more veterans in recent months because it was awarded a \$10,000 grant from the Robert H. Spitz Foundation.

The money from that grant helps in two ways.

Half of the money went to create pet pantries stocked with supplies, including canned and bagged food, pet treats, kennel carriers and bathing supplies. Two pet pantries exist right now: one at Saint Francis Commons and one at Saint Anthony's Haven, Scranton's only permanent overnight homeless shelter. Veterans at Saint Francis and homeless clients at Saint Anthony's can access the pet supplies or make requests for their animals' specific needs.

The second half of the money created a pet care fund. A member of the Saint Francis Commons finance staff manages that money and ensures veteran pet owners are able to obtain veterinary services, including shots and medications, for their animals. The first partnership was created with Dr. Paws of Scranton, which has agreed to see all of the program's animals regularly and offer treatments at the best price possible.

"It has gone exceptional at this point," Pollock said of the Curative Companions program, which Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton would next like to expand to serve veterans, the homeless and domestic violence victims in Luzerne County.

The Curative Companions program doesn't just connect veterans with dogs. Cats are also welcome in

the program, and one of six program pets at Saint Francis Commons is indeed a cat.

"I went to Griffin Pond. I usually get an older cat anyway because no one wants (them), they all want kittens," a Saint Francis Commons veteran named Jim said of his nearly 20-pound cat, Toby.

"He definitely calms me down. I have high anxiety. There's someone else besides me I have to take care of so that's been kind of a growing experience," Jim said as Toby scampered around a small enclosed dayroom where veterans gather to watch television and relax.

Jim decided to get a cat because he works part time and thought having a dog could be more challenging.

"I talk to a lot more people with him," Jim admitted.

Any veteran who wants to get a support animal must fill out paperwork and provide two emergency contacts who are willing to take the animal if they ever become hospitalized.

All animals must stay on a leash when they are not in the veterans' room.

When Saint Francis Commons opened in 2014, the goal of the facility was to help veterans who had fallen on hard times. The modern facility with single rooms but common areas is a way to help them get back on their feet. Veterans can stay at the facility for up to two years.

Managers say the introduction of the pets has led to more communal bonding among residents.

"Anytime a new animal is brought in here, everybody, even some of the vets that, if you were to ask them, they would say they're not an animal person, I can see the effect that the support animal has on just about every veteran," Pollock said.



Buddy, the wiener terrier, poses with his owner Rick Machovoe inside the second-floor of Saint Francis Commons. (Photo/Dan Gallagher)



Toby the cat poses for a picture in the TV room of the Saint Francis Commons housing complex in Scranton. (Photo/Dan Gallagher)

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St. Ann's Monday Novena Lenten Retreat

Directed by
BROTHER ANDRE MATHIEU, C.P.

Novena Retreat Theme:

DO NOT BE AFRAID!

Monday, March 11
Matthew 14:22-32 • Courage, it is I, do not be afraid! In the midst of life's storms, Jesus is with us.

Monday, March 18
John 14:21-27 • Transformation. The Holy Spirit gives us the gifts we need to live life.

Monday, March 25
1 John 4:7-21 • We are not alone. A God named Love walks with us on life's journey.

Monday, April 1
Matthew 7:7-11 & Romans 8:26-27
• Thirsting for God in prayer, we develop a relationship with God.

Monday, April 8
Luke 19:1-10 • Forgiveness. There is nothing that God will not forgive.

Monday, April 15 {Holy Week}
Luke 9:23-26 • Discipleship with Jesus. The cross is an integral part of life, but Jesus is with us.

Monday, April 22 (Easter Monday)
Matthew 28:1-10 • New Life. We are the people of the Promise.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

'Year of Saint Joseph' to Begin

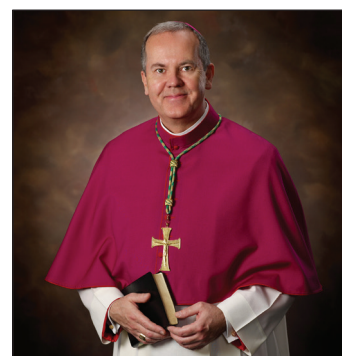
Bishop to Preside at Oblates' Feast of Saint Joseph Celebration March 19

PITTSTON — Bishop Joseph C. Bambera will serve as principal celebrant and homilist for the feast day celebration of Saint Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary and patron of the Universal Church, on Tuesday, March 19, at Saint Joseph's Oblate Seminary in Laffin.

The Mass commemorating the feast will culminate the annual Solemn Novena to Saint Joseph currently being hosted by the Oblates of Saint Joseph religious congregation based in Pittston.

The Oblates' nine-day Novena honoring their patron saint, which began March 10, continues through Monday, March 18.

During the Novena offered at the Oblates of Saint Joseph Seminary Chapel, located on Route 315, Laffin, Masses are celebrated daily at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., followed by Novena prayers and individual blessing with the first-class relic of Saint Joseph Marello, founder of the OSJ religious order.



Bishop Bambera

Each Novena liturgy is preceded by an opportunity for Confessions and recitation of the Holy Rosary.

Bishop Bambera will preside at the Saint Joseph feast day Mass on March 19 at 11 a.m. Concelebrants for the liturgy will include

Oblate priests and invited clergy of the Diocese.

At the conclusion of the Mass, special Saint Joseph medals will be blessed and distributed to the faithful in attendance.

A second Mass celebrating the feast of Saint Joseph will be offered later in the day at the seminary chapel at 7 p.m. All are welcome to participate in the Saint Joseph Novena and feast day celebrations.

This year's feast day celebration will open a special "Year of Saint Joseph" to be observed by the Oblates of Saint Joseph through March 19, 2020.

For more information, contact the OSJ seminary office at (570-654-7542).

'Road to Resurrection' to Begin in Kingston Deanery March 20

The Kingston Deanery in the Diocese of Scranton is hosting a Road to Resurrection series during the celebration of the season of Lent, centering on the theme: "The Miracles of Jesus."

The weekly series will be held on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m., beginning on March 20 and continuing through April 10.

The four Lenten spiritual offerings will include celebration of Mass and guest homilist at the host parishes throughout the Deanery, followed by a fellowship social.

A special collection will also be taken at each Mass for a particular charitable cause.

Road to Resurrection series schedule, with host worship sites, is as follows:

March 20 — Saint Therese (Parish) Church, 64 Davis St., Shavertown; guest homilist: Father Andrew Kurovsky, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Peckville.

March 27 — Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish at Holy Trinity Church, 116 Hughes St., Swoyersville; guest homilist: Father Ryan Glenn, associate pastor of Saint John Neumann Parish in Scranton.

April 3 — Holy Family (Parish) Church, 574 Bennett St., Luzerne; guest homilist: Holy Cross Father Daniel Issing, associate professor of theology at King's College.

April 10 — Saint Faustina Parish at Holy Trinity Church, 520 South Hanover St., Nanticoke; guest homilist: Father Brian Van Fossen, pastor of Saint Joseph the Worker Parish in Williamsport.

All faithful are welcome to participate. For more information, contact Father Joseph Pisaneschi, Dean of Kingston, at (570-287-6624).

Bio Sketch

Andre Mathieu made his profession of vows as a Passionist on March 4, 1962. He has served in various leadership and ministry capacities in the Province of St. Paul of the Cross. Brother Andre has an M.A. in Pastoral Theology and an M.S. in Gerontology (the study of Aging) as well as a certification in Death Studies. He has been in residence at St. Ann's since May, 2012.

Pittston Church to Host Moving 'Born for This' Passion Experience



PITSTON — Saint John the Evangelist Parish will join Lift Your Spirits Performing Arts (LYSPA) to present "Born for This," a dramatic production recounting the final hours of Jesus' Passion and death, on Sunday, March 31, at 6 p.m. at Saint John Church, 35 William St., Pittston.

Described as a uniquely moving Passion presentation transporting audience members along the road to Calvary, the production, based on the Gospel of Saint Mark, is written by CJM Music of England.

The experience incorporates powerful music, moments of reflection, and a

special format in presenting the journey of Christ's Passion in a most memorable way for all ages.

Based in Ashland, Lift Your Spirit Performing Arts Group is a non-profit organization and currently the only ensemble performing the production in the United States.

Tickets are required for the event. Cost is \$5 per person and may be purchased by calling (570-654-0053); youth under the age of 16 will be admitted free of charge when accompanied by an adult.

Youth groups are most welcome and encouraged to attend.

For more information, contact Dan Thomas, director of LYSPA, at (570-590-2368).

Shields is accompanist.

For more information, call (570-575-1040) or visit: www.catholicchoralsociety.org.

Catholic Choral Lenten Concerts Set

Continuing its 69-year tradition of inspiring prayer and meditation through sacred music, the Catholic Choral Society will present two concerts during the season of Lent.

The first Lenten concert will be offered on Sunday, March 24, at 3 p.m., hosted at Saint Patrick Parish Church, 1403 Jackson St., West Scranton, with guest performers The Chapel Singers, under the direction of Sheila O'Brien.

The parish is served by Father Richard Fox, pastor, and Father John Ruth, senior priest..

The First Congregational Church of Harford, UCC, 5016 Creek Road, and Pastor Will Hagenbuch will host the Choral Society's second concert during Lent on Sunday, March 31, at 3 p.m.

Accompanying the Catholic choir as guest performers for the musical program will be The Mountainview Chimettes, directed by Molly Love-Birosak

Both concerts are open to the public free of charge; a free-will offering will be accepted.

Ann Manganiello serves as music director for the Catholic Choral Society; Jean



**SATURDAY,
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Conference
9:00 am – 5:00 pm

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first 50 paid registrants ***

CCR FORMATION DAY VIDEO MINI-CONFERENCE

Deepening Our Spirituality of Pentecost

I hope that the spirituality of Pentecost will spread in the Church as a renewed incentive to prayer, holiness, communion and proclamation.
(St John Paul II, 29-May-2004)



Our video mini-conference will be built around presentations by a variety of speakers given at the 2018 National Catholic Charismatic Conference in Dallas, Texas. We'll view videos of these presentations, and have ample time for discussion and appropriation.

***You are invited to join us as we continue to build a culture of
Pentecost to support the New Evangelization.***

You must mail your payment to be received at the CCR Office by March 18th to reserve your place !! Make checks payable to "CCR". Include the information for all the people you are registering. Call 570-344-2214 with questions (reservations cannot be accepted by phone).

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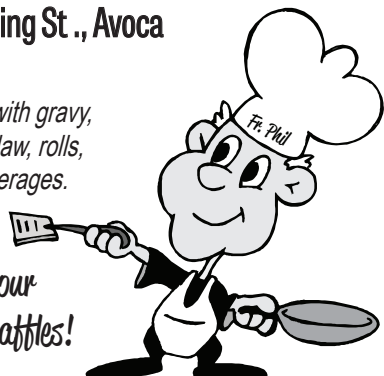
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Ticket Information

\$12 for adults, \$8 for children under 12

Tickets are available at the door or by calling 570-457-3412.

Spiritual Offerings Around the Diocese

“40 Days for Life” Pro-Life Rosary Gathering — MARCH 14-APRIL 12, offered for the special intentions of ending abortion and closure of the new Planned Parenthood location in Wilkes-Barre; Rosary is prayed each weekday, Monday thru Friday, at 10 a.m. in front of the offices of Planned Parenthood, 101 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre. Pro-life campaign draws attention to the evil of abortion through prayer & fasting, constant vigil, and community outreach. For more information, visit: www.40daysforlife.com.

Weekly Bible Study — MARCH 15, hosted by St. Lawrence Parish in Great Bend; held every Friday at 7 p.m. in the Trinity Center, adjacent to St. Lawrence Church. All are welcome.

Weekly Queen of Our Hearts Rosary Prayer Service — MARCH 16, hosted every Saturday morning at Good Shepherd Church in Drums; group gathers weekly beginning at 3 p.m. De-

votion includes recitation of the Chaplet of the Infant of Prague, the Holy Rosary, and Chaplet of the Divine Mercy. Prayer petitions may be submitted at the church. All faithful are welcome.

Meeting of Lay Carmelites — MARCH 16, hosted by Our Lady of the Mountains Lay Carmelite Chapter; meetings held on the third Saturday of each month at Little Flower Manor, 200 S. Meade St., Wilkes-Barre. For more information, contact Rose Bordi at (570-209-4552).

Slovak Stations of the Cross & Lenten Hymn Sing — MARCH 17, sponsored by the Slovak Heritage Society of NEPA; hosted by Our Lady of Fatima Parish at St. Mary's Church of the Immaculate Conception, 134 South Washington St., Wilkes-Barre. Service begins at 2 p.m. with congregational singing of Lenten hymns; followed by Stations of the Cross, led by Society chaplain Father John Albosta. Booklets with English translations

will be available for full participation; refreshments will follow the service. For more information, call Anna Hudock (570-822-1926).

Gathering of the Secular Discalced Carmelites — MARCH 17, canonically established community of the Diocese of Scranton; gatherings are usually held on the third Sunday of every month at Holy Annunciation Monastery in Sugarloaf, Luzerne County. All are welcome, especially those who feel called to a deeper consecration in life and wish to experience Carmelite spirituality and community. Call Ann Marie Fierro (570-454-4493), Nicole Tranguch (570-751-4729), or Marie Schimmelbusch (570-822-6561) for more information.

Bereavement Support Gatherings — MARCH 17 & APRIL 3, hosted by Our Lady of the Snows Parish in Clarks Summit; support group meetings

Continued on Page 20

Men's Conference Team Meets at New Conference Site



The Planning Committee for the Diocese of Scranton Annual Men's Conference met recently at Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre, which will serve as the venue for this year's conference on Saturday, April 27. The 2019 event features a powerful lineup of speakers: Father Philip G. Bochanski, Dr. Ray Guarendi and Doug Barry. Father Bochanski will help us examine the conference theme of “What Is Truth.” Today, with most Catholic men (and women) very concerned about the direction of our society and how we as people interact personally, spiritually and in business, Father Bochanski's presentation is sure to be frank and inspiring. As executive director of Courage International and spiritual director for missionaries and seminarians, he teaches, “Although secular cultural and moral norms seem to be shifting more rapidly than ever before, the truth of the faith does not change.” All men are welcome. Registration is available via the conference website, found at www.BeAManconference.com. Information will also be posted on the Diocesan website. For more information or to volunteer, call 570-798-2107. Members of the organizing committee pictured are, clockwise from bottom left, Chris Calore, Paul Walters, Jim Biondo, Tony DePaola, Glenn Yanik, Mike Troy, Dr. Lou Guarnieri, John Leskosky, Ralph Marino, Dr. Chris Carr, Bill Leandri, Dennis Shovlan and Michael Kilmer.

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April 'Global Tastes' Event to Aid CSS Refugee Program



Global Tastes of Scranton will take place on Sunday, April 7, at the Scranton Cultural Center. The “pop-up restaurant” experience beginning at 5 p.m. will feature the cuisine and culture of Bhutan & Nepal. Along with the Cultural Center, sponsoring partners for the event include the University of Scranton Office of Community and Government Relations, Lackawanna County Department of Arts & Culture, Momo King, Terra Preta Prime Restaurant, Namaste Grocery & Nepali Kitchen, The Greenhouse Project and Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton. Tickets are \$35. For ticket information, visit www.scranton.edu/globaltastes or call (570) 941-4419. Deadline to purchase tickets is April 1. Shown, from left: Hema Pokrel; Sonya Sarner, Catholic Social Services; Chris Calvey, Lackawanna County Department of Arts & Culture; Julie Schumacher Cohen, University of Scranton; Erin Speicher, Scranton Cultural Center; and Jessica Durkin, University of Scranton. Proceeds from the event will benefit refugee support activities of Catholic Social Services.

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Who makes house calls?

As of October 2015, I will now meet clients either at their home, or at a location they choose and no longer require clients to meet at my office. I have decided that I would change the way I meet with people so it will be as easy and as convenient as possible for the client.

Based on my practice, which consists of estate planning and administration along with elder law, I find that clients are more comfortable discussing such matters in familiar surroundings. While I know this may seem unconventional to some, I believe I will be able to serve clients much better in this fashion.

If anyone is uncomfortable with home visits, I have a few locations where I can meet in an office setting. I look forward to meeting with my existing clients and especially meeting new clients that are looking for any assistance in estate or elder law matters.



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- Asset Protection Planning
- Medicaid Application Assistance

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Probate :

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Inheritance Tax :

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- Powers of Attorney • Living Wills • Wills
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- Medicaid Application Assistance

Estate Planning

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Spiritual Offerings Around the Diocese

Continued from Page 18

held on the first Wednesday of the month, at 10 a.m., and the third Sunday of the month, at 2 p.m., in the Gathering Room (lower level) of Our Lady of the Snows Church, 301 South State St., Clarks Summit. All are welcome; no registration is required.

Lenten Rosary Devotion — **MARCH 18**, hosted by the Oblates of St. Joseph and the Diocesan Sacred Heart Enthronement Guild; evening of Marian devotion begins at 6 p.m. in the chapel of St. Joseph's Oblate Seminary, Route 315, Laflin (Pittston). Lenten prayer service includes recitation of the Rosary, sung Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Fatima prayers, Lenten hymns, and Litany of the Precious Blood. Music provided by Ernie Pappa; all faithful welcome.

Wednesday Eucharistic Adoration — **MARCH 20**, hosted at St. Joseph's Oblate Seminary, Route 315, Laflin; Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held every Wednesday evening from 6 to 7 p.m. in the seminary chapel. Includes recitation of the Rosary and opportunity for confessions. Mass celebrated at 7 p.m., followed by Novena prayers to St. Joseph and St. Joseph Marelllo, founder of the Oblates of St. Joseph religious congregation.

Weekly Bible Study — **MARCH 20**, hosted by Prince of Peace Parish in Old Forge; weekly sessions offered on Wednesdays from 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. in the downstairs meeting room at St. Lawrence Church, Main St., Old Forge. Guest facilitator: JoAnn Wilbur.

Wednesday Eucharistic Adoration — **MARCH 20**, hosted by Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Tunkhannock; exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament offered every Wednesday from 2 to 5 p.m. in Nativity BVM Church, 99 East Tioga St., Tunkhannock. All faithful are welcome. For more information, call (570-881-9916).

Weekly Divine Mercy Devotion — **MARCH 20**, hosted by St. Lawrence Parish in Great Bend; Hour of Mercy devotion held every Wednesday at 3 p.m. in St. Lawrence Church.

America Needs Fatima Prayer Rally: St. Joseph Rosary for God's Marriage — **MARCH 23**, devotional gathering held in conjunction with 3,000 Rosary

rallies throughout the United States during the day in support of traditional marriage; hosted at 12 noon at the Fatima Grotto on North St. in Wilkes-Barre (near King's College). All faithful are invited to join in prayerful recitation of the Rosary for America. Parking will be available in the King's parking lot, accessed from Jackson St., beginning at 11 a.m.

Spiritual Support Group: Scranton Mental Health Ministry — **MARCH 23**, hosted by the Cathedral of St. Peter in Scranton; providing a safe, supportive space for individuals who are experiencing mental illness. Group meets at 10 a.m. on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month in the Bishops Hall at the Cathedral Rectory, 315 Wyoming Ave. Meetings will be approximately 90 minutes; refreshments provided. Participating Scranton parishes include St. Peter's; Mary, Mother of God; and Immaculate Conception. For more information, contact Deacon Ed Shoener at the Cathedral, (570-344-7231).

Women's Lenten Retreat — **MARCH 30**, hosted by the Women's Society of SS. Peter & Paul Parish in Plains; held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the parish center. Retreat theme: "The Last Seven Words of Jesus." Guest moderators: Deacon Bill Behm, parish life coordinator at St. Andrew Parish, Wilkes-Barre, and his wife Jean. Cost: \$25 per person, includes continental breakfast and lunch. Open to all women. For registration, call Irene Martin at (570-825-4464) prior to March 23.

Continued on Page 21

Wilkes-Barre Church Hosting Taizé Service

WILKES-BARRE — Saint Nicholas Parish will host a "Taizé Prayer Around the Cross" service on Sunday, March 24, at 4 p.m. in the upper church of Saint Nicholas, 226 South Washington St., Wilkes-Barre.

Taizé is a meditative style of communal prayer, with sung repetitive refrains to create a gentle rhythm.

Voices united in song offer a way of reflection focusing on the Passion of Christ, including

an opportunity for veneration of the cross.

Music ministry for the prayer service will be provided by Rob Yenkowski, director of music at King's College, Wilkes-Barre, and the King's Cantores Christi Regis performance choir.

Faithful are invited to participate free of charge; a free-will offering be accepted.

For more information, call the rectory office at (570-823-7736).

Spiritual Offerings Around the Diocese

Healing Mass Celebration — **MARCH 31**, sponsored by the Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary Enthronement Guild; Healing Mass celebrated at 3 p.m. in the chapel of St. Joseph's Oblate Seminary, Route 315, Laffin. Includes anointing and prayers for healing; celebrant: St. Joseph Oblate Father Joseph Sibilano, seminary director. Music ministry provided by the Sacred Heart Singers, directed by Ernie Pappa, with musical prelude at 2:30 p.m. All faithful welcome.

Scranton Mental Health Ministry: Spiritual Support Group for Family & Friends — **APRIL 4**, hosted by the Cathedral of St. Peter in Scranton; providing a safe, supportive space for parents, family members and friends of individuals who are experiencing mental illness. Group meets at 6 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month in the Bishops Hall at the Cathedral Rectory, 315 Wyoming Ave. Meetings will be approximately 90 minutes; refreshments provided. Participating Scranton parishes include St. Peter's; Mary, Mother of God; and Immaculate Conception. For more information, contact Deacon Ed Shoener at the Cathedral, (570-344-7231).

Ministry Formation Skills Workshop Series: "Pray & Proclaim!" — **APRIL 6**, sponsored by the Diocese of Scranton Office for Parish Life; first series program offered from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Nativity of Our Lord Parish, Sacred Heart Hall, 529 Stephenson St., Duryea. Guest presenters: Dr. Maria Poggi Johnson, professor of theology and religious studies at the University of Scranton; and Kitty Scanlan, Diocesan coordinator for Lay Ministry Formation. For more information, call Kitty Scanlan (570-207-2213); to register, visit: dioceseofscranton.org.

Evening of Prayer with the Sisters of IHM — **APRIL 10**, sponsored by the Congregation of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary; monthly prayer service held on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel at the IHM Center, 2300 Adams Ave., Scranton (top of University Ave., beyond Marywood University). All are welcome. For more information, call (570-346-5404).

Friday Lenten Devotion: Mary's Way of the Cross — **APRIL 12**, hosted at Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church,

619 Dundaff St., Dickson City; begins at 7 p.m. Sorrowful meditation on the Lord's Passion is presented as a contemplative Stations of the Cross devotion from the perspective of the Blessed Mother, reflecting upon the 14 Stations of her son Jesus' journey to Calvary.

Theology on Tap: Stewardship of the Earth — **APRIL 24**, hosted by the Office for Parish Life of the Diocese of Scranton; event begins at 7 p.m. at a location to be determined. Guest presenter, Immaculate Heart of Mary Sister Donna Korba, director of the Office of Justice and Peace and the Integrity of Creation (JPIC), will speak on the topic of care for the Earth. All young adults, ages 21 to 40, are welcome. For more information, contact Katy Windels or Shannon Kowalski in the Parish Life Office (570-207-2213).

Weekly Bereavement Support Group Sessions — **MAY 22-JUNE 12**, series of weekly meetings, addressing topics dealing with the grief process in order for participants to find healing; Bereavement Support Group meets on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 330 Wyoming Ave., Scranton (across from St. Peter's Cathedral). Anyone interested in attending is asked to contact the Cathedral Parish office at (570-344-7231).

2019 Diocese of Harrisburg Men's Conference "Men Called to be Saints" April 6, 2019

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Dr. John Bergsma

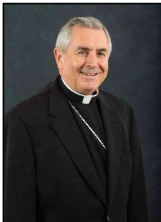


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Mission Message

Go Forth

By Father Brian J.T. Clarke
Diocesan Director,
Pontifical Mission Societies



I have great admiration for individuals who go door to door sharing the story of their faith in Jesus Christ. We know these men and women well. Dedicated adherents to the tenets of their religious tradition, Jehovah's Witnesses and Mormons are two groups that demonstrate to me the unflinching desire to preach in the name of Christ. Unfortunately, these two groups are often the punchline of jokes and often are verbally abused for their unique "hitting the pavement" style of evangelization.

Far from being fodder for laughter and cynics, I see these individuals as strong and resolute in their faith. I envy their devotion and their courage. Surely, they have had more doors slammed in their faces than warm welcomes into the parlors of the homes which they visit; yet, they are undaunted and hit the road lovingly and with great resolve.

Long ago, I chose to title this series of reflections "Go Forth" with the very intention of reminding myself and you of the Gospel imperative to preach the Gospel.

Central to the Christian faith we profess is to be missionary disciples of Jesus Christ. Our Church itself is a missionary Church, which means we are to be men and women of mission — people of faith who go out into the world and spread the Good News. We may not be called to the particular charism of preaching door to door but, no matter how we look at our faith, we are to preach the Gospel in what we say and do each day.

Believe me, I have the same apprehensions that many of you do. Let's face it, to be a faithful disciple of Jesus — and to proclaim that publicly — comes at a cost and it's not always easy. Few of us could carry on day after day with proverbial doors being slammed in our faces or co-workers, friends or strangers walking away from us or expressing dis-ease in light of us talking about our Christian faith.

We so naturally and willingly tell stories of our weekend on Monday mornings to co-workers or fellow students expecting to hear about their time off too. Stories of parties, weddings, sporting events, family gatherings or funny anecdotes about our children are told around break tables and water coolers every day. Why not offer a nugget or two about something from your pastor's homily or some insight that a fellow churchgoer had in a conversation at bible study?

Too often, we complicate the act of evangelization. Perhaps our vision of preaching the Gospel is that of a person paging through the Bible and reading verse after verse or going from neighborhood to neighborhood knocking on doors and passing out pamphlets. That's certainly not a bad start.

The fact remains is that there are a myriad of ways that we can confidently and effectively share the message of the Gospel. These ways are as unique and diverse as you are and I am. The only thing that is common and unavoidable is the call itself. No disciple of Jesus is exempt from the imperative of living out the Gospel and giving it to others.

I have heard it said that evangelization is simply one starving person telling another starving person where to find bread. We all hunger and thirst — not just physically. For many of us, the greatest longing and hunger we experience is that of God.

So, whose door will you be knocking on to show them where to find bread? The time is now for each of us to have that fire begin to blaze within us to preach the Gospel and to set the world ablaze with the love of God. Get out there. Go forth!

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Apostleship of Prayer

Papal Intention for March 2019

Recognition of the Right of Christian Communities —

That Christian communities, especially those who are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.

Catholic Happenings Around the Diocese

Lenten Friday Food Sale — **MARCH 15**, sponsored by Nativity of Our Lord Parish in Duryea; hosted from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Sacred Heart of Jesus Hall, 529 Stephenson St., Duryea. Featured food items include homemade red clam chowder and seafood bisque, homemade pierogi (prepared or frozen), halushki, pizza, and a bake sale. Both eat-in and take-out service provided. For more information, call the rectory office (570-457-3502).

Lenten Take-Out Soup Sale — **MARCH 15 & 29**, sponsored by St. Peter's Cathedral; held from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 330 Wyoming Ave., Scranton. Pick-up of Manhattan clam chowder and butternut squash bisque on March 15; New England clam chowder and cream of broccoli soup on March 29. Cost: \$8 per quart. Advance orders encouraged; contact the Cathedral at www.stpeterscathedral.org or call (570-344-7231).

Weekly Lenten Pierogi Sale — **MARCH 15-APRIL 12**, sponsored by St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Moscow; weekly pick-up

of advanced orders of homemade frozen pierogi every Thursday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the church hall. Cost: \$7.50 per order (baker's dozen). To order, call Jan (570-499-6193); Mary Ann (570-842-4960); Betty Ann (570-842-6195); or the rectory office (570-842-4561).

St. Patrick's Day Extravaganza — **MARCH 16**, hosted by St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Williamsport; held from 6:30 to 11:30 p.m. in the Fleming Center, 720 West Fourth St. Cost: \$15 per person (in advance) or \$20 (at door). Includes all-you-can-eat Irish buffet, beverages, and musical entertainment/dancing. For more information & reservations, call (570-323-9456).

Lenten Weekend Food Sale — **MARCH 16-APRIL 14**, sponsored by SS. Peter & Paul Parish, 1309 W. Locust St., West Scranton; pierogi and clam chowder sold throughout Lent before and after all weekend Masses (Saturday, 4 p.m. & Sunday, 11 a.m.). Cost: pierogi, \$7 per dozen; clam chowder, \$7 per quart. To place orders, call the rectory office at (570-343-7015).

Weekly Bingo — **MARCH 18**, hosted by Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Dickson City; bingo games held every Monday evening, with doors opening at 4:30 p.m. Early bird games begin at 6:40 p.m.; regular games start at 7 p.m. Admission fee includes 20 games; progressive jackpot each week. Homemade food sold before the bingo; homemade pizza available during the games and for take-out. Return coupon for new players; door prizes awarded each week. Van shuttle service provided free of charge from Carbondale and Scranton. For more information, call (570-489-2091).

Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary Bingo — **MARCH 20 & APRIL 3**, sponsored by Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary Parish, Jermyn; games held on the first and third Wednesdays of the month in the parish center, 624 Madison Ave., Jermyn. Doors open at 5 p.m.; early-bird games start 6 p.m. (regular games, 6:30). Event includes homemade foods and desserts; specialty games, refreshments, door prizes and progressive jackpot. Free admission; for more information, call (570-876-1061).

Lenten Family Dinner & Movie Night — **MARCH 22**, sponsored by St. Peter's Cathedral; held in the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 330 Wyoming Ave., Scranton. Evening begin with fellowship and light meal at 5:30 p.m., followed by movie screening and refreshments at 7 p.m. Featured movie presentation: "Clare and Francis." Offering: \$10 per person. For reservations, visit: www.stpeterscathedral.org; for more information, call the Cathedral office at (570-344-7231).

Lenten Friday Fish Fry — **MARCH 22**, sponsored by the Holy Cross Men's Club of Exaltation of the Holy Cross Parish, 420 Main Road, Buttonwood, Hanover Twp.; eat-in or take-out

Continued on Page 25

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BOWL For Kids' Sake

Big Brothers Big Sisters of The Bridge will host its annual Bowl For Kids' Sake events on two dates this year.

The bowl-a-thon fundraisers will take place on Saturday, March 30, at Skylan's Bowling Center in East Stroudsburg; Bowl Arena in Hazleton; and Fritz's Lanes and Pro Shop in Lehighton.

On Saturday, April 13, the event will be held at Chacko's Family Bowling Center in Wilkes-Barre; P-Nut Bowl in Bloomsburg; and Faxon Lanes in Williamsport.

Bowl For Kids' Sake serves as the biggest annual fundraiser for the Big Brothers Big Sisters mentoring program.

To register a team, visit www.bbbsnepa.org/bfks2019. To sponsor a lane, call (570) 824-8756, ex.3308.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of The Bridge is a program of Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton.

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 • ELLIS ISLAND & LIBERTY ISLAND — May 4 — Ferry fees
 • CONNECTICUT CASINOS 3-DAY — May 5–7 — Foxwoods & Mohegan Sun
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 • ITHACA WINE & WATERFALLS — May 18 — Wine-tasting, lake cruise
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Catholic Happenings Around the Diocese

Continued from Page 23

service offered from 3 to 7 p.m. in the church hall. Dinner cost: \$9, includes fish, macaroni & cheese, cole slaw, stewed tomatoes and applesauce; children's macaroni & cheese portion: \$2. For more information/tickets, call (610-844-2382).

Penny Auction — MARCH 24, sponsored by the Reginas of King's College, Wilkes-Barre; held from 2 to 4 p.m. on the third floor of the Sheehy Farmer Campus Center (doors open at 1:30 p.m.). Admission fee: \$2. All proceeds benefit scholarship fund for area King's students. For more information, call Maureen Finnerty (570-288-8706).

Spring Chicken Dinner — MARCH 24, sponsored by Queen of the Apostles Parish in Avoca; serving from 12 noon to 4 p.m. in the parish hall, 742 Spring St., Avoca. Event will also feature cash and theme basket raffles. Dinner includes half chicken, mashed potatoes/gravy, vegetable, cole slaw, dinner rolls, homemade dessert and beverages; take-out orders available 11 a.m. to noon. Dinner cost: adults, \$12; children (age 12 & under), \$8. Advance tickets may be purchased by contacting the parish office (570-457-3412). Tickets will also be available at the door.

72nd Annual Italian Spaghetti Dinner — MARCH 27, hosted by St. Luke Church, 120 Kendall Ave., Jersey Shore; all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper served for lunch, 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., and dinner, 4 to 7 p.m. Take-out orders available all day. Includes homemade meatballs, tossed salad, Italian bread, dessert and beverage. Cost: adults, \$9 (in advance) or \$9.50 (at door); children (ages 6 to 12), \$3.50. For advance tickets, call (570-398-0352 or 570-745-3301) or contact the parish office.

Lenten Friday Food Sale — MARCH 29, sponsored by Nativity of Our Lord Parish in Duryea; hosted from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Sacred Heart of Jesus Hall, 529 Stephenson St., Duryea. Featured food items include potato pancakes, homemade frozen pierogi, pizza (baked or unbaked), and a bake sale. For more information, call the rectory office (570-457-3502).

Veterans' Pasta Dinner Benefit — MARCH 31, presented by AmeriHealth Caritas; all proceeds benefit the St. Francis Commons in Scranton and their service to homeless veterans. Dinner hosted from 12 noon to 3 p.m. at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Center, 241 William St., Pittston; also includes music by Flatland Ruckus, wine sale by

Mucciolo Family Wines, raffle prizes and cash drawing. Tickets cost \$12 each and are available at Mucciolo Wines, 1228 S. Main St., Old Forge (570-766-7071); and Vintage Vogue, 12 S. Main St., Pittston (570-299-2113).

Rummage Sale — APRIL 1 & 2, sponsored by the Confraternity of Christian Mothers of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, 116 Hughes St., Swoyersville; held in the parish's school gymnasium. Sale hours: Monday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Tuesday (\$2 bag day), 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Includes sale of baked goods, refreshments and homemade food items.

Misericordia Open House — APRIL 6, open house event sponsored by Misericordia University in Dallas (Back Mountain section of Luzerne County); for high school students and their parents. Program begins with registration

Continued on Page 27

ST. LUCY'S CHURCH

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42nd ANNUAL Spaghetti Dinner



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Celebration of the Year of St. Joseph March 19, 2019 thru March 19, 2020

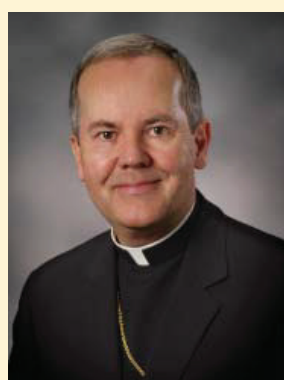
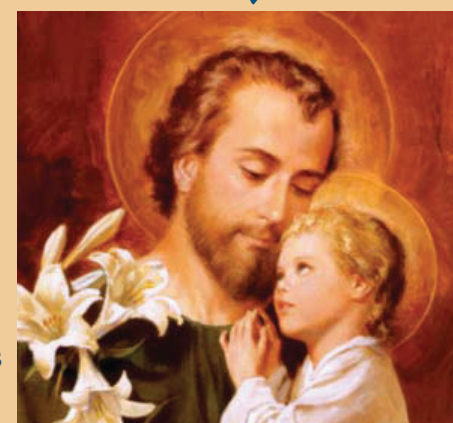
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Notice Regarding Reporting Sexual Abuse of a Minor

It is the policy of the Diocese of Scranton to report any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to law enforcement. If you are a victim of sexual abuse committed by a priest, deacon, religious or lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton, you are encouraged to immediately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, including child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law enforcement.

It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. To this end, the Diocese is equally committed to adhering to the norms of the *Code of Canon Law* and to upholding the tenets of the USCCB *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, which includes supporting victims of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being. As such, information regarding an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor should also be reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator, Mary Beth Pacuska at (570-862-7551) or to Diocesan officials, including the Vicar General, Monsignor Thomas M. Muldowney, V.G., at (570-207-2269).

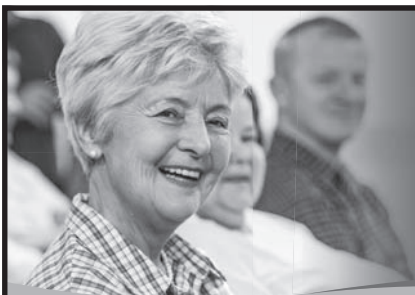
Aviso al Respetto de Reportar el Abuso Sexual de Un Menor de Edad

Es la norma de la Diócesis de Scranton reportar cualquier alegación de abuso sexual de un menor de edad a las autoridades. Si usted es una víctima de abuso sexual cometido por un sacerdote, diácono, religioso o empleado laico, o voluntario de la Diócesis de Scranton, usted está obligado a reportar el asunto inmediatamente a las autoridades de la ley.

Si algún sacerdote, diácono, religioso, empleado laico o voluntario de la Diócesis de Scranton tiene sospecha de que un menor de edad ha sido sujeto a cualquier forma de abuso, incluyendo abuso sexual de menor de edad, el asunto será reportado a las autoridades de la ley.

Es la norma de la Diócesis defender todas las regulaciones civiles y del estado. Al fin de que la Diócesis esté comprometida igualmente a defender las normas del Código de Derecho Canónico y defender los principios de la Carta Para la Protección de Niños y Jóvenes (Conferencia de los Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos), lo cual incluye apoyar a las víctimas de abuso sexual en pos del bienestar emocional y espiritual.

Por eso, información respecto a una alegación del asunto sexual de un menor de edad, debe ser reportada a la Coordinadora Diocesana de Asistencia para Las Víctimas, Mary Beth Pacuska, a (570-862-7551) o a los oficiales diocesanos incluyendo El Vicario General, Monseñor Thomas M. Muldowney, a (570-207-2269).



Thursday, March 21
6:00-7:30 p.m.

Skilled Nursing and Rehab Center. Call ahead to reserve your seat.

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Continued from Page 25

at 9 a.m. in the Anderson Sports and Health Center, followed by "Meet the Coaches" session from 9 to 10 a.m. Open house held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; includes campus tours, faculty session and lunch, and meeting with representatives of student services, athletics and financial aid. For more information and registration, contact the Misericordia Admissions Office at (570-675-4449 or 1-866-262-6363) or by email: admiss@misericordia.edu.

University of Scranton Performance Music Series: In Concert—**APRIL 6**, featuring the University of Scranton Jazz Band with special guests The Alumni Blues Doctors; 7:30 p.m. in the University's Houlihan-McLean Center on campus, corner of Mulberry St. & Jefferson Ave. Performance is open to the public free of charge.

Variety Prize Bingo—**APRIL 7**, sponsored by the Social Concerns Committee at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, 116 Hughes St., Swoyersville; held in the parish's school gymnasium. Doors open

at 12 noon; bingo games begin at 1 p.m. Event also includes basket raffle and other games; lunch menu, refreshments and bake sale will be available. Admission cost: \$10, includes 20 games with grand prize cash coverall. Seating is limited.

Annual Ham Bingo—**APRIL 7**, sponsored by the parishioners of St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church in Old Forge; begins at 1 p.m. in the church hall, 320 Vine St. Event features theme baskets, door prizes and various bingo specials; also includes a bake sale. Variety of food items and refreshments will be available for purchase beginning at 11 a.m. Admission cost: \$3.

Polish Food Festival—**APRIL 27**, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Our Lady of Fatima Council 8613; hosted in the gym/auditorium of St. John Bosco Parish in Conyngham. Featured food items include pierogi, haluski, kielbasa, apple sauce, desserts and refreshments. Advance ticket sales available at weekend Masses, beginning March 23-24 in the church vestibule. For more information, call the parish office at (570-788-1997).

New Location for CSS Carbondale Office

The Catholic Light calendar lists events that are sponsored by the Diocese of Scranton, its parishes, schools and institutions, and other Catholic organizations in the Diocese. All submissions are subject to review before publication. To submit an item for consideration, send email to Kevin-McDonnell@dioceseofscranton.org, fax to 570-207-2271, or call 570-207-2229 for more information.

CSS Substance Abuse Workshop

Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton will host a free, six-week informational workshop on substance abuse from March 19 through April 23.

The goal of the workshop is to help family members learn more about substance abuse in order to better support, assist and understand family members battling a substance abuse problem.

Topics will include: "Use vs. Abuse," "What is Addiction?" "Co-Dependency and Enabling," "How Families Can Help Themselves" and "How Families Can Help Others Seek Help."

The workshops will be offered on Tuesdays from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Catholic Social Services, 33 E. Northampton St. Wilkes-Barre. Dates include: March 19, March 26, April 2, April 9, April 16 and April 23.

Seating is limited. To register, call (570) 829-3489, ext. 3323, or e-mail smjones@csswb.org.

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Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton continues to serve the Carbondale area from its new location at 34 River Street, Carbondale. The facility offers a free food pantry that is open Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Carbondale CSS apostolate also includes a free clothing and baby pantry, which operates Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. It is currently in need of donations of baby diapers, wipes and formula. Pictured, from left, are Michelle Santanna, Carbondale office supervisor; Kathy Eltz, office receptionist; volunteers Jenene Walter and Steve Kania; Eileen Roman, secretary; and Richard Ward, volunteer. For more information about the Carbondale office of Catholic Social Services, call (570) 282-0460.

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6 Year Term

3.35%

\$5000 Minimum
Tax Deferred
Surrender Charge (Yr1-6%, Yr2-5%, Yr3-4%,
Yr4-3%, Yr5-2%, Yr6-1%)
Form Nos. AA-09, ASQ-1

Park 2 Annuity
2 Year Term

2.35%

\$1000 Minimum
Tax Deferred
Surrender Charges (Yr1-6%, Yr2-5%)
10% Free Withdrawal per Year
Form Nos. AA-09, ASQ-1, 12012010



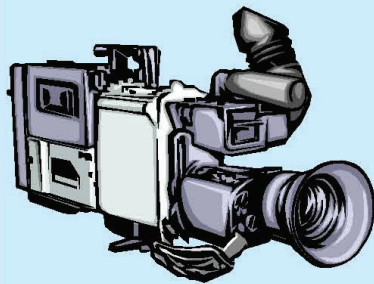
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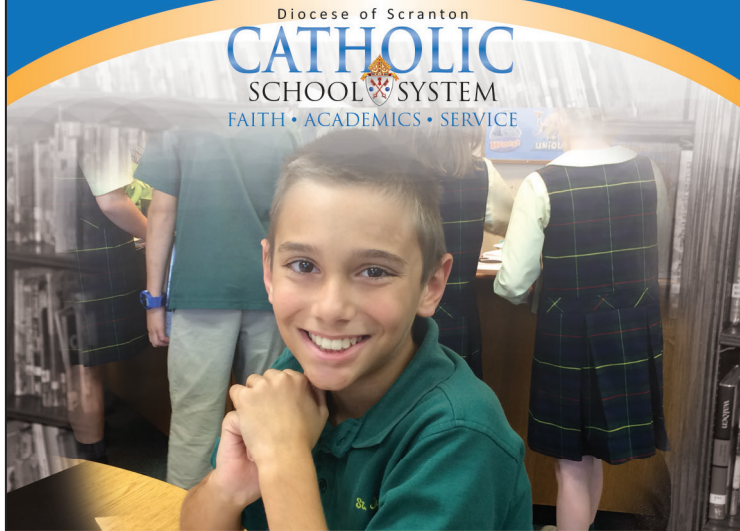
The Diocese of Scranton's website includes video of certain programs broadcast by CTV: Catholic Television. The programs include the Daily Mass from St. Peter's Cathedral, the monthly news program "Our Faith, Our Diocese" and other special programs. To watch the videos, go to www.dioceseofscranton.org. Click on "News & Events" tab and then click on Catholic Television.

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so that our Diocesan Ministries may continue
to fully serve all who come to us in need.*



Diocese of Scranton
2018 DIOCESAN
ANNUAL APPEAL
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...promote human dignity by meeting life's most basic needs for more than 300,000 people annually.
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