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DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

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Chrism Mass Brings Church Together



Catholic Light Photos: Mike Milesky



SCRANTON -- During this Blessed Holy Week, priests serving throughout the Diocese of Scranton gathered at the Cathedral of Saint Peter on Tuesday, April 16, for the Solemn Pontifical Chrism Mass.

The tradition is an ancient one.

Bishop Joseph Bambera served as principal celebrant and homilist. Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus John M. Dougherty concelebrated the Mass along with all priests from the Diocese.

The Holy Oils used during the conferral of sacraments throughout the Church year were blessed. They include the Sacred Chrism, the Oil of the Sick, and the Oil of Catechumens, which are used in the celebration of Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders, the Anointing of the Sick, and the Rites of the Catechumenate.

Bishop Bambera welcomed the hundreds in attendance at the Cathedral of Saint Peter.

"Thank you for your presence and thank you for all that you do – each in your own way – to support the Church's mission – most especially in your service of the poor and those who struggle to find God in their lives," Bishop Bambera said.

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The Catholic Light

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OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE
DIOCESE OF SCRANTON



DIOCESE OF SCRANTON MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Catholic community of the Diocese of Scranton, are called through Baptism to imitate the servant leadership of Jesus Christ. In union with Our Holy Father, the Pope, we proclaim the Gospel faithfully, celebrate the sacraments joyfully, and boldly promote life, justice and peace in northeastern and north central Pennsylvania.

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French leaders pledge Notre Dame Cathedral will again grace Paris skyline

PARIS (CNS) -- Church leaders joined government officials in saying they expect that Notre Dame Cathedral's grandeur will be restored as firefighters extinguished the last flames of a fast-moving blaze that seriously damaged much of the iconic structure.

"We are living through an extreme moment. This is Holy Week and it isn't an accident," Paris Archbishop Michel Aupetit said outside of the 850-year-old historic structure late April 15 as firefighters continued to attack the flames.

"Having marked the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ, we are now experiencing our own passion, but we know that after it will come the resurrection. We believe in this and we will proclaim it by rebuilding this cathedral," Archbishop Aupetit said.

French President Emmanuel Macron praised the "extreme courage and great professionalism" of first responders who helped save the facade and towers of the Gothic landmark. A national reconstruction fund was established on Tuesday.

Speaking in front of the charred cathedral, Macron said he understood the feelings of French Catholics in face of the disaster and pledged the whole population would "stand with them" in restoring it.

"Notre Dame de Paris is our history, our literature, our imagination, the place where we have experienced our great moments, the epicenter of our life," said Macron, who was accompanied by the archbishop, French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe, and Paris



Flames and smoke billow from the Notre Dame Cathedral after a fire broke out in Paris on April 15, 2019. As of press time, officials said the cause was still not clear but could be linked to renovation work.

(CNS Photos/Benoit Tessier & Charles Platiau, Reuters)

Mayor Anne Hidalgo.

"We built this cathedral over centuries, raising it up and improving it, and I now state solemnly that we will, all of us together, reconstruct it. This is undoubtedly part of the French destiny," Macron said.

Up to 500 firefighters battled for 15 hours to save the cathedral after flames erupted in the structure's attic. The blaze quickly consumed two-thirds of the 13th-century oak roof and brought down the cathedral's 300-foot spire. Authorities said much of the cathedral's wooden interior was destroyed and its masonry was seriously scorched.

Rescue teams formed a human chain to remove many of the cathedral's priceless artworks and sacred objects, including the



crown of thorns relic from Jesus' crucifixion and a gold tunic of St. Louis, according to a report in *The La Croix* daily newspaper.

Meanwhile, offers of support in rebuilding the cathedral, a UNESCO World Heritage site, came from church leaders and governments around the world, including Donald Tusk, European Council president, who said April 16 that he hoped the European Union's 28 member-states would all help share the costs.

French newspapers said the Pinault family, whose consortium owns the Gucci and Saint-Laurent fashion brands, had pledged 100 million euros (\$113 million), while the LVMH group, which includes Moët Hennessy-Louis Vitton, had promised 200 million euros (\$226 million).

Chrism Mass brings together priests from the Diocese of Scranton

Continued from page 1

During the Mass, priests and deacons, along with lay representatives from Diocesan parishes acknowledged the Bishop's role as the unifying symbol for Church governance and pastoral guidance.

During the special liturgy, all priests also recommitted themselves to their office by renewing the promises they made on the day of their ordination to the priesthood.

In his homily, Bishop Bambera re-emphasized the words of Jesus in the Gospel passage from Saint Luke – words that speak to the mission of Jesus' life and ministry – and challenge every baptized soul who seeks to embrace the call to discipleship – and every priest, who reflects upon the Lord's call to service in the Church.

"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord."

Bishop Bambera acknowledged this year's Chrism Mass is unlike any in the past, as the Church confronts the consequences of the clergy sex abuse crisis.

"The number of survivors of this catastrophe – both locally and worldwide – is staggering. As a Church and a people, we owe them support – we owe them care – we owe them love – and we owe them gratitude for their steadfast efforts to make their voices heard and to tell their stories, so that finally – at least in this body of believers that so boldly proclaims its belief in the sanctity of human life – every life will be safe, secure and respected," Bishop Bambera said.

The Bishop said the past year has brought out a range of emotions, from anger and disillusionment to confusion and despair.

"Look at what this crisis has done to countless numbers of good and faithful priests – throughout the world and in this very Cathedral today. So many of you are weighed down by actions that you did not commit and for which you grieve and suffer in your own way. You struggle to move forward and some of you may even question why you should remain in ministry," Bishop Bambera said.

The Bishop implored his brother priests to keep the faith.

"Sometimes we can be so overwhelmed by the brokenness of our lives and our

world that we underestimate God's power to transform us. Never forget for an instant that God's love can turn everything upside down. Jesus' cross and resurrection are more than proof of this fact," Bishop Bambera said.

Before all of the priests renewed their priestly promises, the Bishop asked them a somewhat unusual question. He asked them "Why do they remain a priest and why do they stay?"

He explained the answer could be many reasons: because of the calling they received or because of the people they are able to help. The Bishop pointed out as baptized followers of Jesus, they are disciples called to mission and ministry to a broken world, with a message to proclaim and lives to live in service of the Gospel.

"To doubt the dynamic presence and power of God at this moment in our Church's history – to doubt that God's call is still extended to searching, struggling souls like ourselves – is, sadly, to yield to evil and to give that reality a power that it neither warrants nor deserves," Bishop Bambera emphasized.

The Bishop ended his homily by urging everyone to go forth and boldly proclaim the Gospel of Life.

Dear friends,

A few weeks ago, I had the opportunity to represent the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops at the National Workshop for Christian Unity. For all of the many encouraging messages that were shared during the meeting, for me, its most memorable moments came during prayer times, which were led by members of the Taizé community in France.

These words, written by Brother Roger of Taizé, speak profoundly of the miracle of Easter that we celebrate during these sacred days. “Ever since he rose from the dead, Christ’s presence has been made tangible through a communion of love which is the Church...Credibility can be reborn when that communion which is the Church becomes transparent by striving with its whole soul to love and to forgive, when, even with a minimum of resources, it becomes welcoming, close to human suffering. Never distant, never on the defensive, freed from all forms of severity, it can let the humble trusting of faith shine right into our human hearts.”

For many of us, this moment in the life of the Church has proven to be one of the most challenging in its history and has indeed tested its credibility in the eyes of many. Despite the powerful words of faith that we read in the scriptures and proclaim whenever we gather for the celebration of the Eucharist, at times our experience of the life of the Church can consume us with disappointments and grief, fear, pain and even anger. Indeed, sometimes we can become so overwhelmed by the brokenness of our world and even the members of our Church that we underestimate God’s power to transform our lives.

Yet in such moments, from the earliest days of the Christian community to the present, the sublime gift of God’s love, manifested in the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus, turns the logic of our world upside down. And the Church, the body of believers in and through which the risen Christ is present in our world through the power of the resurrection, continues to be our greatest hope – not because of our righteousness but because of the richness of God’s mercy.

“Why do you seek the living one among the dead? He is not here, but he has been raised.” These words from Saint Luke’s gospel were proclaimed during this year’s great Vigil of Easter. They are the first words that invite the confused and grieving followers of Jesus to confront the reality of Jesus’ resurrection and the miracle of Easter. They are also words that have endured for two millennia and that have provided hope and consolation to all who have turned to the Church – the blessed People of God – to encounter God’s mercy and to find a way forward in the midst of a broken, suffering world.

One of the greatest signs of the Church’s credibility is the presence of those who have responded to the Lord’s call and opened their hearts to the life-giving waters of Baptism and a renewed sense of determination to walk in the footsteps of Jesus. On Holy Saturday night, 174 catechumens and candidates from throughout the Diocese of Scranton were baptized into the life, death and resurrection of Jesus and presented themselves for full communion in the Catholic Church. These catechumens and candidates – our relatives, neighbors and friends – joined with tens of thousands of catechumens and candidates from around the world to publically profess their faith in Jesus Christ and to assume their place in his body, the Church. Their very presence in our midst affirms the reality of the living God continually working in and through his daughters and sons, who proclaim his word, experience his life in the sacraments and live his gospel in humble service.

Sisters and brothers, we are blessed beyond measure by the merciful presence of God that abounds in our world. Thank you for your dedicated service to the Gospel and for all that you do to build up the local Church of Scranton and to serve one another in the spirit of the Risen Christ. Your faithful and selfless ways, your prayers of support for the innocent who have suffered, and your service of one another are visible signs to our world that Christ’s presence has indeed been made tangible through the communion of love, which is our Church.

This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad!

Faithfully yours in the Risen Christ,

+ *Joseph C. Bambera*

Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L.
Bishop of Scranton



Queridos amigos,

Hace unas semanas tuve la oportunidad de representar a la Conferencia de obispos católicos de Estados Unidos en el taller nacional de Unidad Cristiana. Para todos los muchos mensajes alentadores que se compartieron durante la reunión, para mí, los momentos más memorables vinieron durante tiempos del rezo, que fueron conducidas por miembros de la comunidad de Taizé en Francia.

Estas palabras, escritas por el hermano Roger de Taizé, hablan profundamente del milagro de la Pascua que celebramos en estos días sagrados. “Desde que se levantó de entre los muertos, la presencia de Cristo se ha hecho tangible a través de una comunión de amor que es la iglesia...Credibilidad puede renacer cuando esa comunión que es la iglesia se convierte en transparente esforzándose con toda su alma para amar y para perdonar, cuando, incluso con un mínimo de recursos, llega a ser acogedor, cercano al sufrimiento humano. Nunca lejano, nunca a la defensiva, liberado de todas las formas de gravedad, puede dejar la humilde confianza de fe brille en nuestros corazones humanos.”

Para muchos de nosotros, este momento en la vida de la iglesia ha demostrado para ser uno de los más difíciles de su historia y de hecho ha probado su credibilidad ante los ojos de muchos. A pesar de las poderosas palabras de fe que leemos en las escrituras y anunciar cada vez que nos reunimos para la celebración de la Eucaristía, a veces nuestra experiencia de la vida de la iglesia puede consumirnos con decepciones y dolor, miedo, dolor e incluso ira. De hecho, a veces nos podemos ser tan abrumados por el quebrantamiento de nuestro mundo e incluso los miembros de nuestra iglesia que subestimamos el poder de Dios para transformar nuestras vidas.

Sin embargo en esos momentos, desde los primeros tiempos de la comunidad cristiana hasta el presente, el don sublime del amor de Dios, que se manifiesta en el sufrimiento, muerte y resurrección de Jesús, vira la lógica de nuestro mundo al revés. Y la Iglesia, el cuerpo de creyentes en y a través de que Cristo resucitado está presente en nuestro mundo a través del poder de la resurrección, sigue siendo nuestra mayor esperanza, no por nuestra virtud de justicia, sino por la riqueza de la misericordia de Dios.

“¿Por qué buscáis al que vive entre los muertos? Él no está aquí, ha sido levantado”. Estas palabras del Evangelio de San Lucas se han proclamado durante la gran vigilia de la Pascua de este año. Son las primeras palabras que invitan a los seguidores confusos y doliente de Jesús para hacer frente a la realidad de la resurrección de Jesús y el milagro de la Pascua. También son palabras que han perdurado durante dos milenios y que han aportado esperanza y consuelo a todos los que han mirado a la Iglesia el pueblo bendito de Dios para encontrar la misericordia de Dios y encontrar una manera de avanzar en medio de una, mundo de sufrimiento.

Uno de los mayores signos de credibilidad de la iglesia es la presencia de aquellos que han respondido a la llamada del Señor y abrieron sus corazones a la vida las aguas del bautismo y un renovado sentido de determinación de caminar tras las huellas de Jesús. El sábado Santo por la noche, 174 catecúmenos y los candidatos a lo largo de la diócesis de Scranton fueron bautizados en la vida, muerte y resurrección de Jesús y se presentaron para la plena comunión en la Católica Iglesia. Estos catecúmenos y candidatos nuestros familiares, vecinos y amigos se unieron a decenas de miles de los catecúmenos y candidatos de todo el mundo a profesar públicamente su fe en Cristo Jesús y asumir su lugar en su cuerpo, la iglesia. Su presencia entre nosotros afirma la realidad de la vida continuamente trabajando en y a través de sus hijas e hijos, que proclaman la palabra de Dios, experimentar su vida en los sacramentos y vivir su evangelio en el servicio humilde.

Hermanos y hermanas, somos bendecidos sin medida por la presencia misericordiosa de Dios que abunda en nuestro mundo. Gracias por sus servicio al Evangelio y por todo lo que hacen para edificar la Iglesia local de Scranton y servir unos a otros en el espíritu de Cristo resucitado. Sus maneras fieles y desinteresados, sus oraciones de apoyo a los inocentes que han sufrido y su servicio de uno a otro son visibles a nuestro mundo que la presencia de Cristo ha sido hecha tangible a través de la comunión de amor, que es nuestra iglesia.

Este es el día que el Señor ha hecho, sea nuestra alegría y nuestro gozo!

Fielmente suyo en Cristo resucitado,

+ *Joseph C. Bambera*

SER Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L.
Obispo de Scranton



Bishop Bambera leads Palm Sunday Services at Cathedral of Saint Peter



Above: The Palm Sunday Mass began in the Cathedral Prayer Garden with a blessing of palms and a Gospel reading, followed by a procession into the Cathedral.

Below: Palms play a symbolic role on Palm Sunday since they were first used to commemorate the triumphant entry of Jesus Christ into the city of Jerusalem. (Photos: Mike Milesky)



SCRANTON -- The solemn observances of Holy Week, which recall the passion and death of Jesus Christ, began on Palm Sunday, April 14.

Bishop Joseph Bambera celebrated a Pontifical Liturgy at the Cathedral of Saint Peter.

In his homily, Bishop Bambera reflected on Pope Francis’ Palm Sunday homily from 2018, saying his words are still quite prophetic today.

“Each of us brings many different feelings and experiences to this moment that marks the beginning of Holy Week – feelings and experiences that flow from our lives and that are validated by the scriptures that we’ve heard this afternoon – from Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem – through his passion – to his death on the cross,” Bishop Bambera said.

The Bishop continued, “Where, then, do we see ourselves most clearly in today’s scriptures? For as different as our lives may be, one from another, if we’ve listened carefully enough we will find ourselves somewhere in the stories of faith that begin on Palm Sunday and that end on the cross of Calvary.”

Bishop Bambera acknowledged at the beginning of Holy Week many people come seeking God’s mercy, strength and peace. He says the good news of the

Gospel message is that they won’t be disappointed.

“Ironically, our way forward, brothers and sisters, is found in the very crosses that we seek to avoid in life. These crosses, by their nature, prompt us to do the one and only thing that has the power to save us. They compel us to trust in God – because they are beyond our ability to fix, resolve or rationalize away. And when we are humble enough to trust – as Jesus did in the Garden of Gethsemane – when we have nowhere else to turn – it is then that Jesus is given room in our lives to carry us to a place of life and peace,” Bishop Bambera said.

The Bishop concluded:

“Make no mistake – our experience of Holy Week will not take away the harsh realities of life that we face each day. But our authentic embrace of the example of Jesus – even in the midst of the crosses that we carry – does have the power to open our lives the mystery of God’s saving grace. Only by placing our lives in the hands of God and by trusting in Jesus’ powerful example of selfless love will any of us truly be able to face each day – and even death itself – with hope and peace.”

To read Bishop Bambera’s entire Palm Sunday homily, visit www.dioceseofscranton.org.

Holy Week Services at the Cathedral of Saint Peter

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 18

The three most sacred days of the Church’s liturgical year, known as the Sacred Paschal Triduum, begin with the evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper.

Holy Thursday marks the day when Christ instituted the Holy Eucharist and the priestly Order and gave us the commandment concerning fraternal charity.

At the Cathedral, Morning Prayer will be at 8:00 a.m.

The Pontifical Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper will begin at 5:30 p.m. with Bishop Bambera serving as principal celebrant.

There will be a rite of the Washing of Feet on his apostles at the Last Supper.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 19

On Good Friday, and the following day, by a most ancient tradition, the Church does not celebrate the sacraments at all, except for Penance and Anointing of the Sick.

At the Cathedral, Morning Prayer for Good Friday will be at 8:00 a.m.

The Commemoration of the Passion and Death of the Lord celebrated by Bishop Bambera will begin at 12:10 p.m. The solemn liturgy consists of three parts: the Liturgy of the Word, the Adoration of the Cross and Holy Communion. The Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 5:00 p.m.

Good Friday is a day of fast and abstinence.

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 20

Morning Prayer will be at 8:00 a.m. at the Cathedral, followed by a retreat for those preparing to be baptized and received into full communion with the Catholic Church.

Bishop Bambera will be the principal celebrant & homilist at the Easter Vigil Mass, beginning at 8:00 p.m.

On the Holy Night of Easter, 174 people who have participated in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) will become fully initiated Catholics. This will take place during Easter Vigil Masses celebrated throughout the Diocese. They will join tens of thousands of others who will become members of the Church that night.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 21

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord is the most joyous day in the Church year. This joy overflows into the 50 days of the Easter season, which concludes on Pentecost Sunday.

On Easter Day, Bishop Bambera will celebrate a Pontifical Mass at 10:00 a.m. at the Cathedral. Additional Masses during the day will be at 6:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

Since Christ accomplished his work of human redemption and of the perfect glorification of God through his Paschal Mystery, the Sacred Paschal Triduum shines forth as the high point of the entire Church liturgical year.

CTV Airing Holy Week Services

Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton (CTV) will provide live coverage of the following Holy Week services at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton, celebrated by Bishop Joseph C. Bambera:

- Mass of the Lord’s Supper** on Holy Thursday, April 18, at 5:30 p.m.
- Good Friday** commemorating the Lord’s Passion on April 19, at 12:10 p.m.
- Easter Vigil Mass** on Holy Saturday, April 20, at 8 p.m.

CTV will also carry EWTN’s coverage of the following Holy Week services:

- LITURGY OF THE LORD’S PASSION FROM WASHINGTON**, Friday, April 19, live at 2:30 p.m. from the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.
- CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S PASSION FROM ROME** with Pope Francis at Vatican City, Saturday, April 20, live at 12 midnight.

THE WAY OF THE CROSS FROM ROME

Pope Francis presides over The Stations of the Cross, from the Coliseum in Rome, on Friday, April 19, live at 6:30 p.m.; encore on Saturday, April 20, at 5:30 a.m.

EASTER VIGIL MASS FROM ROME with Pope Francis, Saturday, April 20, live at 2:30 p.m.; encore on Easter Sunday, April 21, at 12 midnight.

SOLEMN MASS OF EASTER FROM ROME with Pope Francis, Sunday, April 21, live at 4 a.m.; encore at 7 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY MASS FROM WASHINGTON on April 21, live at 12 noon from the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

‘URBI ET ORBI’ -- EASTER MESSAGE AND BLESSING

From Saint Peter’s Square in Vatican City, Pope Francis gives the traditional Easter message and blessing, *Urbi et Orbi* (to the city of Rome and to the World), on Sunday, April 21, live at 6 a.m.; encore at 6 p.m.

Mass on April 28 to Celebrate World Day for Consecrated Life

Women and Men Religious Jubilarians will be honored

The Diocese of Scranton celebration of the 2019 World Day for Consecrated Life will be commemorated with a Pontifical liturgy the week after Easter on Divine Mercy Sunday.

The annual Mass and

Jubilee Celebration for Women and Men Religious will be offered on Sunday, April 28, at 12:15 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera will serve as principal celebrant for the Mass, during which

Religious priests, brothers and sisters who are celebrating jubilee anniversaries of ordination or profession of vows will be honored.

All women and men Religious and members of those various forms of Consecrated

Life who offer service to the Church as members of secular institutes have been invited to this special event.

This year, 57 women and men Religious jubilarians serving in the Diocese will be honored.

All are welcome to participate in this celebration.

CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese will broadcast the Mass live.

The women and men Religious jubilarians for 2019 are listed below:

WOMEN RELIGIOUS

- 80 Years**
- Sister Miriam Butz, R.S.M.
- 75 Years**
- Sister Mary Timothy Galbraith, R.S.M.
- Sister M. Melissa Hester, I.H.M.
- 70 Years**
- Sister Theodosia Alishofski, O.S.B.M.
- Sister Mary Barbara Campbell, I.H.M.
- Sister Marise Fabie, R.S.M.
- Sister Ellen Kelly, R.S.M.
- Sister Catherine Anne Mullaly, I.H.M.
- Sister Patricia Ann Mundy, R.S.M.
- Sister Mary Newett, I.H.M.
- Sister Ann Marie O'Brien, I.H.M.
- Sister M. Elaine Peters, R.S.M.
- Sister M. Electa Schmidt, I.H.M.
- Sister M. Isabel Schratwieser, I.H.M.
- Sister Fran Stein, R.S.M.

- 65 Years**
- Sister Jeanne Albrittain, I.H.M.
- Sister M. deMontfort Babb, I.H.M.
- Sister Joan Bastress, I.H.M.
- Sister M. Alphonsa Concilio, I.H.M.
- Sister Beverly Hmel, I.H.M.
- Sister M. Annellen Kelly, I.H.M.
- Sister M. Anselm McShea, I.H.M.
- 60 Years**
- Sister Eileen Clinton, I.H.M.
- Sister Mary Dawson, I.H.M.
- Sister Mary Mercy Gilbert, I.H.M.
- Sister Carole A. Griffin, I.H.M.
- Sister Ruth Hollen, R.S.M.
- Sister Sarah Holmes, I.H.M.
- Sister Rosellen Li, R.S.M.
- Sister Robert Marie Lockman, R.S.M.
- Sister Joanne Madden, I.H.M.
- Sister Maureen Francis McCabe, R.S.M.
- Sister Ann McLaughlin, I.H.M.
- Sister Barbara Nogiewich, I.H.M.

- Sister Esther Ann O'Konski, R.S.M.
- Sister Roberta Peters, I.H.M.
- Sister Romaine Marie Shannon, R.S.M.
- Sister Mary Sheehan, I.H.M.
- Sister Mary Helen Slavinkas, I.H.M.
- Sister Joan Marie Thompson, I.H.M.
- Sister Virginia Waters, I.H.M.
- 50 Years**
- Sister Therese Mary Dougherty, I.H.M.
- Sister Jane Gaughan, I.H.M.

- Sister Kathleen K. Kelly, I.H.M.
- Sister Eleace King, I.H.M.
- Sister Christine Koellhoffer, I.H.M.
- Sister Catherine Luxner, I.H.M.
- Sister Mary Beth Makuch, SS.C.M.
- Sister Bernadette Thomas, I.H.M.
- Sister Maureen Willis, I.H.M.
- Sister Kathleen, I.s.p.
- 25 Years**
- Sister M. Francine Fasolka, I.H.M.

- Sister Patricia Fedeles, I.H.M.
- MEN RELIGIOUS**
- 75 Years**
- Father Bernard McIlhenny, S.J.
- 70 Years**
- Father John Begley, S.J.
- 50 Years**
- Father Herbert Keller, S.J.
- 25 Years**
- Father Daniel Sweeney, S.J.

VOCATIONS GOLF TOURNAMENT SET FOR JULY 8



Committee members planning the 10th Annual Vocations Golf Classic to be held Monday, July 8, at Blue Ridge Trail Golf Club, Mountain Top, include, seated from left, Karen Clifford, Monsignor David Bohr, Secretary for Clergy Formation; Marilouise Agnone Ruane, Director of Stewardship, golf co-chair; Father Donald Williams, Director of Vocations and Seminarians, chair; and Attorney Joseph O'Brien. Standing are Christopher DiMattio, Paul Woelkers, Father Joseph Evanko, William Genello, Father Jeffrey Walsh, Episcopal Vicar for Clergy; Thomas Considine, Dominic Rinaldi, Michael Brown, Father David Cappelloni, and Jim Bebla, Secretary for Development. Bishop Joseph C. Bambera is honorary chair.

Also serving on the committee are Deacon Frank Hine, Michele Long, Scott Lynett, Monsignor Donald McAndrews, Thomas Medico, Frank Orlando, Kathy Oven, John Smith and Mark Mark Soprano. All donations are welcome. Proceeds help foster vocations to the Diocesan priesthood and directly support seminarians. Donations and sponsorships are welcome in any amount and may be made in memory of friends and family.

Bishop Bambera signs letter urging U.S. leaders to uphold religious liberty

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera of the Diocese of Scranton has joined more than 140 religious individuals calling on U.S. leaders to uphold the principles of religious freedom.

The group of varying backgrounds sent a letter on April 4, to President Donald Trump, Vice President Pence, and congressional leadership from both political parties, outlining eight principles.

In the coming days, the letter asks the recipients to recognize that “individuals of all faiths and none have equal dignity, worth and rights to religious freedom.”

Following the March 15 attack on two mosques in New Zealand that killed fifty Muslims, another principle outlined in the letter emphasizes that “an attack on one religion should be treated as an attack on every faith.”

Bishop Bambera is currently the chairman of the Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs Committee of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Two other committee chairmen, Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, and Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services, also signed the letter. They respectively chair the committees for Religious Liberty and International Justice and Peace.

The letter ends by asking recipients to devote specific remarks to the principles of religious liberty in the days ahead, saying “we vow to work with you to ensure that individuals and communities are able to practice their faith without fear.”

The full letter with all of the signatories can be found at www.dioceseofscranton.org.

SCAM ALERT

The Diocese of Scranton is warning its parishioners to be on alert, and not fall victim, to a new scam that has popped up.


On Wednesday, April 10, 2019, two employees from the Diocese of Scranton received text messages on their cell phones from someone claiming to be one of our priests and asking that the recipients buy gift cards for him. Since stories about the scam appeared in secular media, the Diocese has learned that some parishioners throughout the Diocese have also received similar messages.

At this point, the Diocese has not received word that anyone has fallen victim to this scam, which is similar to a situation publicized in media reports in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

The Diocese of Scranton reminds everyone if you are ever concerned about a message that you receive, whether by text message or email, verify it before you take any action. In the instances reported this month, the person impersonating a priest asked each recipient to purchase \$500 in gift cards for his niece as a birthday present because he was checking on a friend in the hospital.

Additional reminders for the public to not fall victims to a scam include:

- **Don’t click on any links or open attachments in unsolicited texts or emails**
- **Be extremely cautious when dealing with anyone you’ve only met by social media or text message if you don’t know who they are**
- **Don’t be pressured to act immediately**



DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

TOUCHED BY ADDICTION?

Join us in prayer for all those who have been affected by a struggle with addiction.

MAY 4, 2019 | 11 AM
ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH
316 PARRISH STREET | WILKES-BARRE

Mass with Reception to Follow

Contact Katy Windels at (570) 207-2213 ext. 1101 for more information or if you would like to participate in the liturgy.

Diocese to hold Mass for those Touched by Addiction

Drug and alcohol addictions have long impacted people in our Diocese. The opioid epidemic has hit NEPA especially hard. Undoubtedly, people in our Diocese have been touched by a struggle with addiction, either personally or through someone close to them.

On Saturday, May 4, at 11:00 a.m., the Diocese will host a Mass in support of anyone struggling with addiction as well as for family members or friends.

All people are welcome. We hope that this Mass will draw attention to an important issue in our community and show people there is help available.

CLERGY APPOINTMENTS

His Excellency, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, announces the following appointments, effective as indicated.

ASSISTANT PASTOR

Reverend Chummar Chirayath, O.S.J., to Assistant Pastor, Annunciation Parish, Hazleton, effective April 8, 2019.



BISHOP BAMBERA’S SCHEDULE

April 18 - Mass of the Lord’s Supper
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 5:30 p.m.

April 19 - Commemoration of the Lord’s Passion
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 12:10 p.m.

April 20 - Easter Vigil
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 8:00 p.m.

April 21 - Easter Sunday Mass
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 10:00 a.m.

April 25 - Blessing and Dedication Ceremony for Catholic Social Services Project, Hazleton, 1:30 p.m.

April 27 - Fifth Annual Men’s Conference
Holy Redeemer High School, Wilkes-Barre

April 28 - Consecrated Life Mass
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 12:15 p.m.

April 29 - May 2 - Priests Convocation

May 4 - SCI Dallas Mass, Dallas, 10:00 a.m.

May 5 - Mass and Dedication, Saint Eulalia Parish, Roaring Brook Township, 11:30 a.m.

May 5 - World Day of Prayer for Vocations
Saint Rose of Lima Church, Carbondale, 5:00 p.m.

May 6 & 7 - Bishops of Pennsylvania Meeting

May 7 & 9 - Bishop Youth Awards Masses
Cathedral of Saint Peter, 7:00 p.m.

May 11 - Misericordia University Commencement
Dallas, 2:00 p.m.

May 12 - Mother’s Day Adoption Mass
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 10:00 a.m.

Catholic Men Called to Conference on April 27

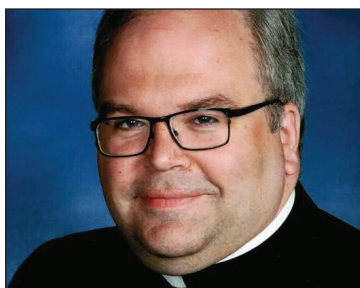
Preparations are being finalized for the Fifth Annual “Be A Man” Catholic Men’s Conference of the Diocese of Scranton, to be held on the Saturday after Easter, April 27, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the event’s new venue, Holy Redeemer High School, 159 South Pennsylvania Ave., Wilkes-Barre.

“What is Truth?” — this year’s conference theme — will be addressed by providing the ultimate answer: God is the measure of all things, and his truth is revealed in his son, Jesus Christ.

The 2019 edition of the popular gathering of Catholic men from the Diocese and beyond features a dynamic lineup of inspirational speakers:

- Father Philip Bochanski, a priest of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, who serves as executive director of Courage International, provides training for FOCCUS staff, and is a spiritual director for missionaries and seminarians.

- Dr. Ray Guarendi, a Catholic father of ten adopted children, clinical psychologist, author, professional speaker and world-known Catholic media host. His radio show, “The Dr. Is In,” airs on more than 400 stations and Sirius



Father Philip Bochanski

XM channel 130. “Living Right with Dr. Ray” is televised on the EWTN Global Catholic Network and is broadcast in 140 countries.

- Doug Barry, husband and father of five children, who founded RADIX, a Catholic apostolate that helps strengthen and encourage the “soldier of Christ” to be aware of, prepared for and engage in the spiritual fight over body, mind and soul. Former co-host of EWTN’s “Life on the Rock,” he currently hosts the network’s new program “BATTLE READY.”

The Men’s Conference will offer Eucharistic Adoration, celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and prayerful devotion, including the Rosary. Religious media exhibitors will be on site with a full array of Catholic books, publications and CDs, as



Dr. Ray Guarendi



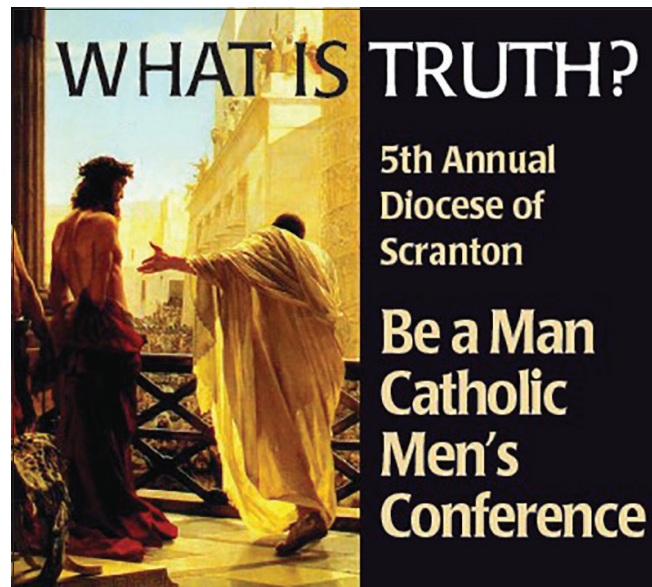
Doug Barry

well as ministry opportunities.

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera will celebrate the closing Mass at 1:45 p.m.

All men, including sons, grandsons, family and friends of all ages, are welcome to attend. Conference cost is \$40; students, \$15. Priests and Deacons are admitted free of charge.

Registration information is available at: www.BeAManConference, or through the Office



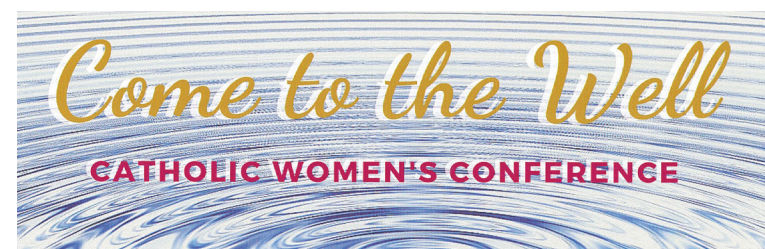
Tentative Schedule

7:00 am	Registration / Coffee
8:00 am	Opening Ceremonies
8:30 am	Fr. Philip G. Bochanski
9:30 am	Dr. Ray Guarendi
10:30 am	Lunch / Confessions / Exhibitors
11:30 am	Eucharistic Adoration / Benediction
12:40 pm	Doug Barry
1:45 pm	Mass – Celebrant: Most Reverend Joseph Bambera, Bishop of Scranton
3:00 pm	Dismissal

for Parish Life at the Diocese of Scranton (570-207-2213).

Further information may be

obtained by contacting Michael Kilmer at (570-746-0100) or michaelkilmer71@gmail.com.



Teresa Tomeo Keynote Speaker for 2019 Catholic Women’s Conference



she says. “As we have learned repeatedly, if you want to make the Lord laugh, go ahead and make all of those plans.”

Tomeo adds, “Never in a million years did I ever think I would walk away from the secular media, and being a Deacon was not at all on my husband’s radar screen. But again, God is God and we are not. We’re both so glad we finally listened.”

When asked what she does each day to stay close to God while maintaining a hectic schedule, Tomeo says, “Every day I wake up and offer the day over to God.” Tomeo acknowl-

edges that she and her husband are “keenly aware of how easy it is to get off track but that they strive for balance and have learned to say ‘no.’”

A topic that is frequently brought up during her speaking engagements is one regarding the role of women in the Church. Tomeo cites the support of Pope Francis in recognizing that women need to understand who they are, made in the image and likeness of God, equal to men but wonderfully different.

She shares the words of Saint Catherine of Siena — “Be who you were meant to be and you will set the world ablaze” — to further emphasize this point. “We have to get back to the basics of knowing and loving our Creator instead of

constantly trying to figure it out on our own.”

In addition to Tomeo, featured speakers include mixed media artist Jill Metz and Sister Mercy Marie, a member of the Sisters of Life religious order. 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 event will be held at the Byron Center at the University of Scranton. 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. Sponsorship opportunities are also available.

by Mary Rable Special to *The Catholic Light*

Bestselling author, syndicated Catholic talk show host and motivational speaker Teresa Tomeo will headline the upcoming second annual Catholic Women’s Conference, themed “Come to the Well,” to be held on Saturday, June 22, at the University of Scranton.

In her book, *Beyond Sunday: Becoming a 24/7 Catholic*, Tomeo discusses living the Catholic faith beyond Sunday Mass and why it is so important: “Deep down, isn’t that what we all want? Even if our faith life is pretty good, why

settle for that when we could have a faith life that is great?”

After losing her high-profile job as a news broadcaster in Detroit, Tomeo and her husband, Dominick Pastore, a successful electrical engineer and Scranton native, began studying the Bible together and renewing their faith. Her husband eventually became a Deacon in the Catholic Church.

Tomeo eventually found another broadcasting position but quickly discovered that her heart was being pulled in a different direction. “Never put God in a box. He wants to use all of us in ways that we would never expect. And never, ever think you have it figured out,”

Helping Mom and Baby

Catholic Social Services workers advocating pro-life agenda...one basket at a time

SCRANTON -- At a time when many people are thinking about Easter baskets, two case managers who work for Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton are thinking about baby baskets.

Melissa Siracusa and Maritza Ibanez, who work in the Scranton office of Catholic Social Services, are looking to spread the word about the agency's Pregnancy and Maternal Health Program.

"A lot of people don't know about it," Siracusa said when describing the program.

The Pregnancy and Maternal Health Program delivers supportive pregnancy counseling to expectant parents, as well as parents of children under the age of one. Counselors provide educational, emotional and material support to both individuals and families. Services are available in both English and Spanish.

In February, staff members in Scranton started thinking of different ways to get the word out to the public.



Catholic Social Services employees Maritza Ibanez (left) and Melissa Siracusa pose with one of the new baby baskets they have made.

"We just started brainstorming and we figured, hey, let us get some clothes, some small donations, we'll put some baskets together that will create the incentive to bring mom in!" Siracusa said.

Ibanez has been the one to create the first few baskets.

"We can use any baby items, blankets, bathing products,

thermometers, diapers, wipes," Ibanez said.

As they talk to people visiting their offices on Fig Street in South Scranton, Siracusa says they think a lot of expectant parents can benefit from the services they provide.

"We see a lot of people through our rental assistance program so if we see mom is pregnant or see that

she has children or expresses that, then we can offer our services," Siracusa said.

As they created their first baby baskets to distribute, Siracusa and Ibanez got assistance from the Catholic Social Services location in Carbondale which had some extra clothing and blankets to provide.

A group of women in the community from the Simpson-area knit blankets for the Carbondale location that were given to help launch the new Scranton effort.

"They dropped them off and they don't know who gets them but now at least it's going towards a special program," Siracusa said.

As they look to help shine a light on the program, Siracusa and Ibanez, who are both mothers themselves, are looking forward to helping expectant parents in this small way.

"It's a great resource. It's nice to see that we offer it and we can also offer information that is pro-life!" Siracusa said.

The women have created a baby item wish list, if you would like to help out in their efforts.

Items they are looking for include:

- Baby Bottles
- Diapers
- Wipes
- New or gently used clothing (0-18 months)
- Blankets
- Bath time items
- Baby care items

If you would like to help out, you can call the Scranton office of Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton at (570) 207-2283 or visit 516 Fig Street. Donations will also be accepted in all offices of Catholic Social Services.

Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton also offers its Pregnancy and Maternal Health Program at several of its locations, including Carbondale, Wilkes-Barre, Hazleton as well as Shepherd's Maternity House in Monroe County.

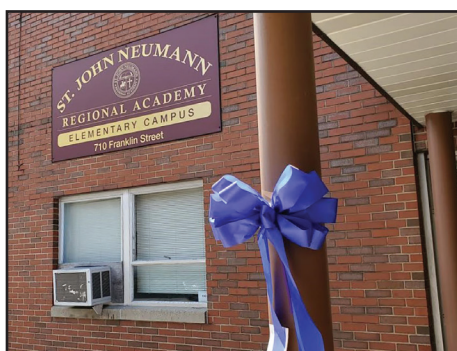
If you are seeking services, there is also a Crisis Pregnancy Hotline available at 1-800-982-4310 to connect you with the appropriate office near you.



Turning Awareness into Action April is Child Abuse Awareness Month



Mary Ann LaPorta, Executive Director of the Children's Advocacy Center of Northeastern Pennsylvania, spoke with Diocesan school principals and administrators on Tuesday, April 9. In order to help raise awareness to April being Child Abuse Awareness Month, LaPorta brought blue ribbons and pinwheels which have now been put on display at various school buildings across the 11-county Diocese.



Protecting God's Children

Our Love For Our Children is Infinite, So Should Our Diligence Be

HAWLEY -- If there was ever a question about whether the policies and procedures put in place to safeguard children are working, you only need to ask Frances Peters, secretary at the Parish of Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace in Hawley.

"We have two volunteers that I know of that have both stepped up because of the mandated reporting and the predators are in jail and the children are now thriving," Peters said.

Besides helping to protect children on church property, Peters says the training that parish volunteers receive has clearly extended to all aspects of the community.

"We are all morally mandated to be reporters," Peters said.

When Father Richard

W. Beck became pastor of the Wayne County church community nearly 15 years ago, he recognized protecting children was a priority.

"We first started training with the teachers, which should be the most obvious place and worked our way through," Father Beck said.

At this time, every adult who wants to volunteer in the parish must undergo mandatory background checks and training. That includes people you might not normally expect, like ushers and Eucharistic ministers.

"We all need to learn that protecting people requires greater effort than just showing up and saying I'm a good volunteer," Father Beck said.

The Parish of Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace currently has about

105 volunteers. Most are in full compliance with their background checks but there are still a handful going through the process.

The Hawley church is one of the Diocese's 118 parishes that have mandatory requirements for any employees or volunteers who are expected to interact with children.

The requirements include:

- Pennsylvania State Police Criminal History Check

- Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Certification
- FBI Federal Check with Fingerprinting

- Child Abuse Recognition and Mandated Reporting Training

- Diocese of Scranton Code of Pastoral Conduct
- Protecting God's Children for Adults (VIRTUS) Program.



Rev. Richard W. Beck, Pastor of The Parish of Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace in Hawley, talks about ongoing child protection efforts with parish secretary and compliance officer Frances Peters. (Photos/ Eric Deabill)

The VIRTUS program, created by the National Catholic Risk Retention Group, Inc., identifies best practices to help prevent wrongdoing within religious organizations. The VIRTUS program helps participants understand the problem of child sexual abuse, recognize the warning signs of abuse and shows them the appropriate way to respond to suspicious behavior.

At the Parish of Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace, the VIRTUS program has especially made a difference.

"Everybody needs to study and learn and re-learn and review," Father Beck said.

Father Beck says the VIRTUS program helps volunteers understand they should never put themselves in a situation that could even be considered suspicious.

"Right now, the Catholic Church has two big black eyes on it and that's another reason we have to turn this around. We're going to have to go way beyond to get them (the community) to understand that," Father Beck said.

As compliance officer

for her church, Frances Peters says she has even been put in potentially awkward situations.

"I was substituting for kindergarten one time, for a kindergarten class here, and a little boy came out of the bathroom and asked me to help him with his belt because he couldn't open up his belt. What an innocent thing for a little child to ask. Not for me. I had to have another adult come over and take care of it with two of us because that was a bad position to be in," Peters said.

The Hawley church makes all of its volunteers go through background checks and training, regardless of whether they have direct contact with children, because each person could be viewed as a role model to a child.

Take for instance a parish council member, who is designated in the parish by wearing a special pin.

"These parish council members are wearing the pins to be noticed so if parishioners want to talk about something or have an idea, they know to go to the parish council. Adults are going to see it and

children are going to see the same thing so whether it be an usher, parish council member, every single one of us is volunteering under the name Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace and with that we all have to be aware," Peters said.

When the mandatory training and background requirements were first put into effect, parish leaders admit there was resistance. Some people thought the training and background checks were unnecessary. Times have now changed and the community is beginning to see how big of a problem child abuse has become.

"Just reading the newspaper, there are three, four, five, six times each week in Wayne, Pike and Lackawanna Counties that people are getting in trouble," Father Beck said.

Now, most people in the Wayne County church community understand what is expected.

"It has been fabulous. People now come into volunteer and they've already started doing their background checks. They're ready to take the classes they need to take!" Peters said.



The Parish of Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace is located at 314 Chestnut Avenue in Hawley.

Diocese of Scranton VOCATIONS Golf Classic | 2019



Summer Gathering of Diocesan Seminarians with Bishop Bambera August 2018



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Mountain Top**
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Reception & Awards Dinner Following

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 - **MAIL** the Form Below with Your Check

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CITY, STATE, ZIP

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☐ Archangel \$2,500 & ☐ Angel \$1,250 - Include 4 Golfers ☐ Golfer \$250

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Diocese of Scranton Development Office, 300 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, PA 18503-1279

Meet the Deacons

**Deacon Ed
Shoener**

**Saint Peter
Cathedral Parish,
Scranton**

**Year of
Ordination: 2004**



WHAT IS YOUR ROLE AS DEACON IN YOUR PARISH/WHAT KIND OF SERVICE MINISTRY ARE YOU INVOLVED IN?

Mental Health Ministry, Grief Support Group, Saint Vincent dePaul Fund and service to the poor, RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults), Marriage Preparation, Small Group Sharing groups, Prison Ministry, Spiritual Direction, funerals and baptisms.

WHAT IS MOST FULFILLING ABOUT SERVING IN OUR DIOCESE AS A PERMANENT DEACON?

Building community and providing spiritual support to people who feel left behind or misunderstood by the Church, especially in building a ministry to support people living with a mental illness.

WHAT IS THE MOST CHALLENGING THING ABOUT SERVING AS A PERMANENT DEACON?

Balancing work, ministry, and family commitments.

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO A MAN WHO FEELS CALLED TO THE PERMANENT DIACONATE AND IS CONSIDERING TAKING THE NEXT STEP?

Pray and be humble. Ordination is not necessary to serve in the Church. Thoroughly examine why you believe ordination is necessary for you and consult with a spiritual director.



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

Friday, April 26 6:30-8:30 PM
**Annunciation Parish, 122 S. Wyoming Avenue,
Hazleton**

For information, call (570) 780-2996
vocations.dioceseofscranton.org

Diocese of Scranton

CATHOLIC

SCHOOL SYSTEM

FAITH • ACADEMICS • SERVICE

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.



In preparation for Holy Week and the Easter season, the eighth-grade class at **Holy Rosary School in Duryea** performs the Living Stations, where students journey with Christ along the road to Calvary toward His death and resurrection.



Paul and Alex Neyhart, seventh-grade students at **Holy Family Academy in Hazleton**, enjoy the school's Mother/Son Bowling event with their mom Joyce, as well as sister Tabathia and her son Theo — a future HFA Eagle.



Taylor Josefowicz, a senior at **Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre**, was recently selected for the PA All-State Chorus Competition, which was held in Pittsburgh. She is the only HRHS student to be selected for this honor three times.



Heather Bailey, Olivia Zehel, Grace Okrepkie, Gianna Sacchetti, Giulia Maiolatesi and Caroline Kranick, National Honor Society Officers at **Holy Cross High School in Dunmore**, put the finishing touches on Easter Baskets that will be given at the HCHS Student Council's Easter Egg Hunt.



The Forensics Team from **Saint Clare/Saint Paul School in Scranton** celebrate their successes at Holy Cross High School after participating in the regional competition. In the JV division, Liam O'Malley and James Stallman placed first. Christopher Ramos and Rebecca Lenahan placed fourth. In the Varsity division, Liza Giannone and Cecelia Kennedy placed fourth. Most recently, the Forensics Team competed in the Diocesan Forensic Finals held at Holy Redeemer High School where Liam and James received Honorable Mention.



The first-grade students at **All Saints Academy in Scranton** are practicing their coding skills with BeeBots while working on their weekly spelling words. BeeBots are programmable floor robots that allow students to enter commands that move it forward or backward or to turn it right or left.



Students at **Epiphany School in Sayre** have a new place to enjoy reading — the floor of their school library. These first-graders are sitting comfortably on the new story time alphabet rug that was recently added to the book and computer center.



Senior Liam Naughton and Junior Justin Peeney, students at **Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School in East Stroudsburg**, perform with the ensemble in “The Mystery of Edwin Drood,” a musical based on Charles Dickens’ final, unfinished novel.



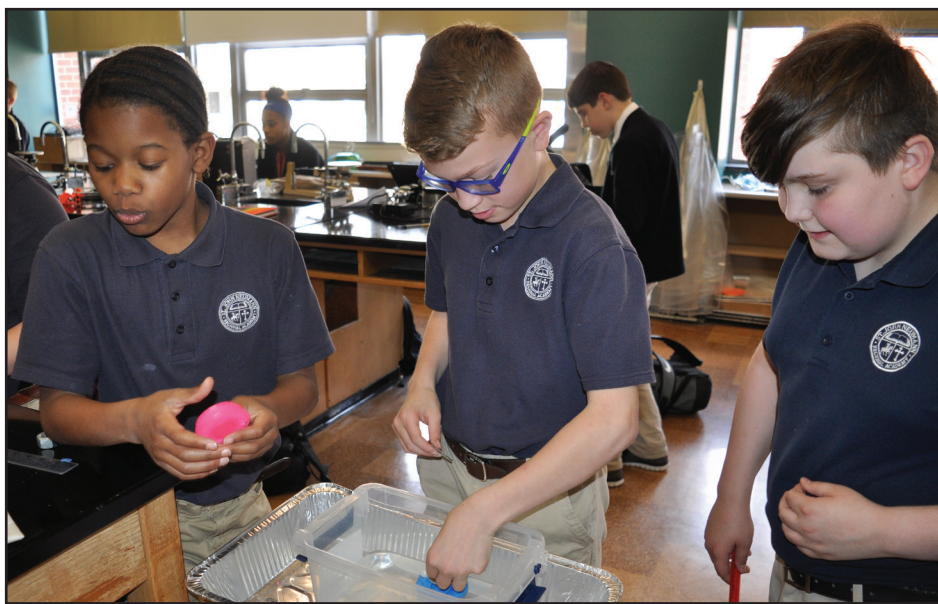
Fifth-grade students at **Notre Dame Elementary School in East Stroudsburg** were amazed when they discovered they could make their own thermometers in their Physical Science class.

Student Council Officers and classroom representatives from **Saint Mary of Mount Carmel in Dunmore** prepare to deliver their collection of donated Easter Baskets for Friends of the Poor.





In recognition of April's Child Abuse Awareness Month, the Pre-K3 class at **Saint Nicholas/Saint Mary School in Wilkes-Barre** prepare to plant a pinwheel garden on the school's front lawn to show the school's support for the prevention of child abuse.



Sixth-grade students at **Saint John Neumann Jr./Sr. High School in Williamsport** work in the school's STREAM lab, testing the buoyancy of the boats they created with their 3D printer, as they steadily add weight to them.



Brynn Roberts, a second-grade student at **Wyoming Area Catholic School in Exeter**, receives safety tips from PSP Trooper Tom Kelly from Troop P, Wyoming Barracks, during the school's Health Fair. In addition to the State Police, students and teachers also received information from Fortis Institute, Caremark, Exeter Fire Department, dentists, yoga instructors and a martial arts instructor.



The STREAM curriculum at **La Salle Academy in Jessup** prepares students to be critical thinkers and the next generation of innovators. Liza Froncek adjusts her microscope as she and the other students learn the proper techniques for viewing protists (single-celled organisms).



Students at **Saint Jude School in Mountain Top** are working to make sure all children have the happiest of birthdays. Students have been collecting a variety of party items which will be given to those who might not be able to afford the necessities when their special day arrives.



Second-grade students at **Saint John Neumann Elementary School in Williamsport** lead their classmates and teachers in the Stations of the Cross.



HEART OF A SAINT

Relic of Saint Jean Vianney makes stop in Scranton

SCRANTON -- Distance didn't matter when it came to seeing a major relic on display at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

On Saturday, April 13, Gina Medvedz of Orefield and Sara Miller of Fogelsville, who both live in the Diocese of Allentown, drove more than an hour together to see the incorrupt heart of Saint Jean Vianney.

"I'm a big fan of Saint Jean Vianney and I also think it's the perfect time for his heart to be coming through the United States because I think that our priests need to connect themselves to that and all of us can really," Medvedz said.

Just one day before Palm Sunday, the pair said the timing of the relic's visit to Scranton was important.

"Holy Week is such an amazing experience and to start my Holy Week with Saint Jean Vianney is such a blessing," Miller said.

At a time when the Catholic Church has been confronted with a child sex abuse crisis, Miller says the relic's trip across the

United States can serve as inspiration. Saint Jean Vianney is the patron of parish priests.

"We need holy priests but we need all of us to step up and be holy and make the Church a holy place again," Medvedz said.

John Vianney was born in a small village in France in 1786. His family lived through the dark years of the French Revolution when faith was attacked and Bishops and priests were martyred.

During his homily at the 12:10 p.m. Daily Mass in the presence of the relic, Monsignor David Bohr explained more about Vianney's background.

"He lived outside of the great cities in the country (of France) and his parents would often welcome priests who were escaping the persecution so they could better serve their people. John Vianney did not receive First Communion until he was 13. He had to wait for a priest to come by and the story is told that the day of his First Communion they had to block out the

windows of his house since the priest was celebrating Mass so that others would not see the candle lights," Monsignor Bohr said.

Father Vianney was assigned to a small farming community of Ars, whose parish only consisted of a little more than 200 people.

"He didn't even know how to get there. It was a parish of only 230 souls. He had to ask directions along the way but once he got there he stayed for 43 years as its pastor," Monsignor Bohr said.

Known for his holiness and bringing God's mercy to all people, Father Vianney helped a great transformation take place.

"In the summer months, he spent 12 to 16 hours a day in the confessional," Monsignor Bohr said.

People came from all across France and Europe and beyond to see Father Vianney. He undertook a life of penance and prayer to draw people away from sin.

Jean Vianney died on August 4, 1859, at the age of 73. On October 3, 1873, Pope Pius IX proclaimed him

Venerable, and on January 8, 1905, Pope Pius X beatified him. Saint Jean Vianney was canonized by Pope Pius XI on May 31, 1925. In 1929, the Holy Father declared him patron of parish priests. His feast day is August 4.

Since the heart is a symbol of love, having Saint Jean Vianney's incorrupt heart on tour is considered a sign of great holiness.

The term "incorrupt" refers to a human body that has avoided the normal process of decomposition after death. It is a sign, but not a proof, of the person's holiness.

"His heart is the sign of Jesus' heart overflowing with love and mercy for us," Monsignor Bohr said. "All ministry of the Church is the ministry of reconciliation, of bringing God's compassion, mercy, love for sinners, making it tangible. Saint Jean Vianney did that in a very special way."

The national relic pilgrimage is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

"Through the great generosity of the Knights of Columbus, this relic

of Saint Jean Vianney is traveling around our country, prompting us to venerate that relic, prompting us to a deeper reflection on what it means for each of us, priests and peoples, to walk in the footsteps of Jesus, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera said. The Bishop was the principal celebrant for the Daily Mass at 12:10 p.m.

The relic tour was made possible by the Shrine of Ars, France, where the saint's incorrupt body, including the heart, is normally on display. The shrine attracts more than 500,000 visitors each year.

Before stopping in Scranton, the relic pilgrimage has already visited 29 states in the United States. The Knights estimate that 125,000 people have already viewed the relic in this country.

James Finn of East Stroudsburg recently began praying to Saint Jean Vianney even before knowing his incorrupt heart would make a stop in northeastern Pennsylvania.

"My mother came to me and showed me the front

page of *The Catholic Light* and she didn't know that I'm praying to him and she just showed it to me and was like, 'you know his incorrupt heart is going to be at the Cathedral!' It was nine days out that she told me and so I started a Novena right on the spot. I designed these Holy Cards and I've just been handing them out," Finn said.

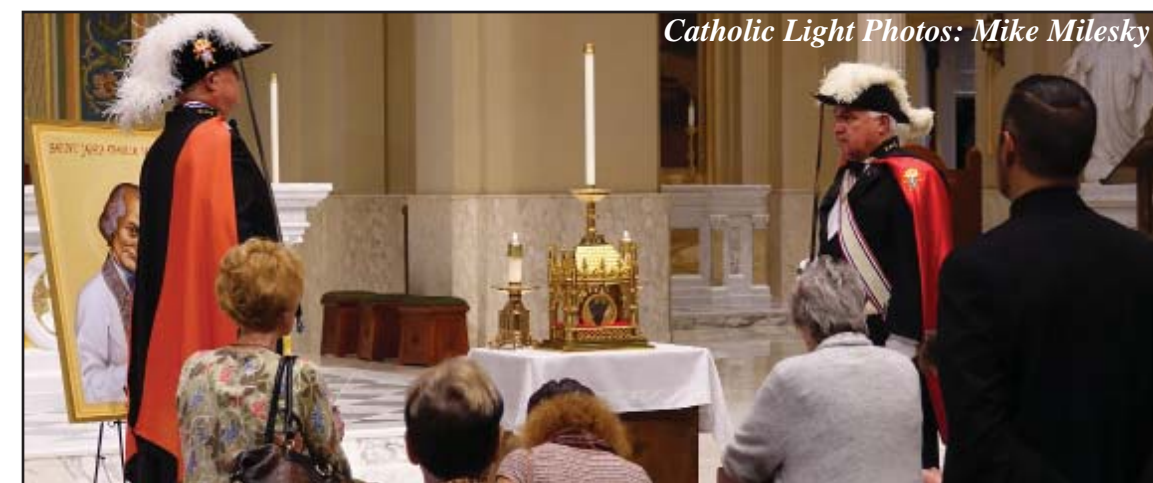
Finn was happy to see a lot of young families turn out.

"That's a good sign. That's good to see," Finn said. "He was an incredible miracle worker and the fact that they can't explain why his heart is incorrupt, that's a really big deal to have this relic visit our diocese so I knew I had to make a special pilgrimage to be here and obviously a lot of people feel the same way!"

The nationwide pilgrimage of the incorrupt heart of Saint Jean Vianney will continue through the end of May. In between public events, the relic will be traveling to seminaries, religious houses and other locations for private veneration.



Catholic Light Photos: Mike Milesky



One God, One Human Family



By Monsignor Vincent
J. Grimalia

Diocesan Coordinator
for Ecumenical
and Interfaith Relations

A poem by Emma Lazarus that is inscribed on the Statue of Liberty states: “Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses, yearning to breathe free, The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!”

Generations of people thought this to be true, but upon arrival found things to be different. Prejudice and discrimination greeted them.

Throughout history people have suffered from fear, hatred and violence. In 1915, there was the Armenian Genocide. Also during the 20th century, the Nazi party executed the Jewish Holocaust, and in the Soviet Union and other places there was religious persecution. Various forms of prejudice and discrimination have marred our national history, and even has been found in northeastern and north central Pennsylvania. Still today, White Supremacy promotes hatred and violence in our country and contradicts our national hope and the Gospel.

We must all be careful that our new neighbors — the Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, Baha’i and others — do not become victims of hatred and violence.

The recent murder of Jews worshipping in the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh in October, and the murder of praying Muslims in two mosques in New Zealand recently, should put us on alert to prevent and protect us from fear of others based on race, language, culture and religion.

When any fear of others, whether throughout the world or nearer to our own home occurs, we should be concerned. Prayer should lead us to examine our attitudes, help us to identify any prejudices and fears, and move us to act in ways to prevent and to protect those who are different than us.

The Catholic Church teaches its members and invites all people of good will to meditate and act on these words: “The Church reproves, as foreign to the mind of Christ, any discrimination against men or harassment of them because of their race, color, condition of life, or religion.”

The Second Vatican Council in the document *Nostra Aetate* (“Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions”) reminds us of our roots in the faith of Abraham and the Jewish faith in these words:

“...As the sacred synod searches into the mystery of the Church, it remembers the bond that spiritually ties the people of the New Covenant to Abraham’s stock.

“The Church of Christ acknowledges that in God’s plan of salvation the beginnings of its faith and election are to be found in the patriarchs, Moses and the prophets. It professes that all Christ’s faithful, who as people of faith are daughters and sons of Abraham (see Gal 3:7), are included in the same patriarch’s call and that the salvation of the Church is mystically prefigured in the exodus of God’s chosen people from the land of bondage. On this account the church cannot forget that it received the revelation of the Old Testament by way of that people with whom God in his inexpressible mercy established the ancient covenant. Nor can it forget that it draws nourishment from that good olive tree onto which the wild olive branches of the Gentiles have been grafted (see Rom 11:17-24). The church believes that Christ who is our peace has through his cross reconciled Jews and Gentiles and made them one in himself (see Eph 2:14,16).

“Furthermore, in her rejection of every persecution against any man, the Church, mindful of the patrimony she

Meet the Holy Bowlers!



Staff members from the Diocese of Scranton participated in the annual Big Brothers Big Sisters of The Bridge’s annual Bowl For Kids’ Sake event on Saturday, April 13. The event was held at Chacko’s Family Bowling Center in Wilkes-Barre. Big Brothers Big Sisters of The Bridge is a program of Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton.

shares with the Jews and moved not by political reasons but by the Gospel’s spiritual love, decries hatred, persecutions, displays of anti-Semitism, directed against Jews at any time and by any one.”

Nostra Aetate also teaches “...that through dialogue and collaboration with the followers of other religions, carried out with prudence and love and in witness to the Christian faith and life, they recognize, preserve and promote the good things, spiritual and moral, as well as the socio-cultural values found among these men.”

Cardinal Walter Kasper has noted: “Christian ecumenism is concerned with the unity of the Church in service to the unity and peace of the world.”

Even as we can always learn more about our own faith, to be a welcoming community, we need to learn more about the faith of our neighbors.

The Commission of the Holy See for Religious Relations with the Jews is located in the Pontifical Council for Christian

Unity and contains material to help us understand our relationship with our Jewish brothers and sisters. The internet can easily access this material for individual and group reading. Some examples are:

“The Gifts and the Calling of God are Irrevocable (Rom 11:29) — A Reflection on Theological Questions Pertaining to Catholic-Jewish Relations on the Occasion of the 50th Anniversary of *Nostra Aetate*” (no.4) [10 December 2015]

“We Remember: A Reflection on the Shoah” [1998]

“Notes on the correct way to present Jews and Judaism in preaching and catechesis in the Roman Catholic Church” [1985]

“Guidelines and Suggestions for Implementing the Conciliar Declaration *Nostra Aetate*” (n. 4) [1974]

Recently, Pope Francis encouraged priests and Rabbis to work together: “It would be wonderful, for example, if in the same city rabbis and parish priests could work, together with their respective communities, in service to those in need and by promoting paths of peace and dialogue with all.”

In our area, there are examples of priests and rabbis working together to overcome any and all expressions of discrimination by the example of their friendship and cooperation. The dialogue and cooperation of Jews and Christians is a gift that we can share as we work for peace and justice as members of one human family, made in the image and likeness of God.



Plains Parish Hosting Divine Mercy Devotion April 28

PLAINS — Saints Peter & Paul Parish in Plains will host the celebration of the Feast of Divine Mercy on the Second Sunday of Easter, April 28, at Saints Peter & Paul Church, 13 Hudson Road, Plains.

Host pastor Father John Lambert announces Passionist Father Lee Havey will serve as principal celebrant and homilist for this year’s devotion.

The Divine Mercy Sunday observance will begin at 12:30 p.m. with the Sacrament of Reconciliation and recitation of the Holy Rosary.

Veneration and blessing of the Divine Mercy image and celebration of the Sunday Mass will follow at 2 p.m.



At 3 p.m., the “Hour of Mercy” opens with exposition of the Bless-

Saint Faustina Drama May 4 in Nanticoke

NANTICOKE — Saint Faustina Kowalska Parish will host a Saint Luke Productions Company performance on the life of the parish patroness, whose divine revelations instructing the faithful on the infinite mercy of Jesus through his Sacred Heart led to

ed Sacrament and recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy in song. Benediction and blessing with the first-class relic of Saint Faustina will conclude the day’s service.

All faithful are welcome to attend the Divine Mercy Sunday devotion and liturgy.

For more information, contact Cathy Mack, feast day coordinator, at (570-654-6063).

her being universally recognized as the “Saint of Divine Mercy.”

“Faustina: Messenger of Divine Mercy,” a live stage production based on the diary of Saint Faustina Kowalska, will be presented by the parish on Saturday, May 4, at 7:30 p.m. at the Cultural Centre of Saint Faustina, 38 West Church St., Nanticoke.

Actress Jennifer Pagano stars in the moving, one-woman performance, which follows the powerful faith story of Saint Faustina, the 20th-century Polish religious sister and mystic who overcame her personal doubts to ultimately fulfill the will of God.

Admission fee for the performance is \$10 in advance; \$15 at the door. For advance tickets, call the parish office (570-735-4833).

Divine Mercy Sunday Services

HAZLETON

Annunciation Parish in Hazleton will host feast day devotions for Divine Mercy Sunday on April 28, from 2:30 to 5 p.m. at Saint Gabriel Church, 122 South Wyoming St., Hazleton.

The Feast of Divine Mercy celebration begins with sacramental confessions being offered, followed by blessing of the Divine Mercy image and singing of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 3 p.m.

The Eucharistic liturgy for Divine Mercy Sunday will be celebrated at 5:30 p.m. The devotion will also include veneration of the image, Divine Mercy prayers, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, recitation of the Rosary, and music ministry throughout.

SCRANTON

Host pastor Father Sam Ferretti and Deacon Carmine Mendicino, coordinator for the feast day, announce Divine Mercy Sunday will be celebrated on April 28 at Saint Lucy Church, 949 Scranton St., West Scranton.

The Divine Mercy service opens at 12:30 p.m. with recitation of the Rosary and the opportunity for faithful to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Mass for Divine Mercy Sunday will be celebrated at 2 p.m. Recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy begins at 3 p.m., followed by solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, blessing with the relic of Saint Faustina, and anointing service.

A social with refreshments will conclude the Divine Mercy celebration.

FOREST CITY

Ascension Parish at Saint Joseph Church, 741 Delaware St., Forest City, will host a celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday on April 28.

Father Brian J.T. Clarke, host pastor, announces the feast day’s devotion begins with sacramental confessions from 1 to 2:15 p.m., during which time (1:45 to 2 p.m.), a talk on Divine Mercy will be given.

Procession with the Image of Divine Mercy will precede Mass for Divine Mercy Sunday at 2:10 p.m. The liturgy will be celebrated at 2:15 p.m., followed by exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Chaplet of Divine Mercy and benediction will be offered starting at 3 p.m. Veneration of the first-class relic of Saint Faustina concludes the service at 3:30 p.m.

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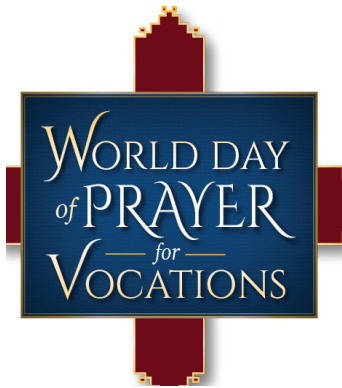
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MAY SCHEDULE

CTV LOCAL ORIGATION IS BOXED IN BOLD BORDER, OTHER PROGRAMMING IS FROM EWTN

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
12:00 AM	SPECIALS	SUNDAY MASS (Encore)	DAILY MASS (Encore)				FR. SPITZER'S UNIVERSE
1:00 AM	AT HOME WITH JIM & JOY	(1:10AM) LITANY OF THE SACRED HEART	THE JOURNEY HOME (Encore)	MOTHER ANGELICA LIVE CLASSICS	EWTN LIVE (Encore)	THE WORLD OVER (Encore)	AT HOME WITH JIM AND JOY
1:30 AM	ICONS SPOTLIGHT	EWTN GALLERY	CATHOLICISM	CONSUMING THE WORD	SAINTS VS SCOUNDRELS	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOG	G.K. CHESTERTON
2:00 AM	CATHOLIC VIEW FOR WOMEN						EWTN GALLERY
2:30 AM	CATHOLIC ANSWERS LIVE						
3:00 AM	EWTN ON LOCATION	AT HOME WITH JIM AND JOY	CATHOLICISM	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	LIFE ON THE ROCK	BATTLE READY	CONSECRATION TO JESUS THROUGH MARY
3:30AM		DEFENDING LIFE		CONSUMING THE WORD	SAINTS VS SCOUNDRELS	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOG	YOU'RE AMAZING
4:00 AM	EWTN LIVE (Encore)	HOLY HOUR FOR HEALING AND JUSTICE	HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH	FUNDAMENTALS OF CATHOLICISM	BOB AND PENNY LORD PRESENT	WEB OF FAITH 2.0	SAVORING OUR FAITH
4:30 AM			BEAUTY COMING ALIVE	PAPAL AUDIENCE(5:40AM)	FORGOTTEN HERITAGE	LIFE IS WORTH LIVING	EXTRAORDINARY FAITH
5:00 AM	FR. RUTLER: CHRIST IN THE CITY	EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL		EWTN SPECIALS	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY	CATHOLIC BEGINNINGS
5:30 AM	GRANDPARENTS	A FORCE FOR GOOD	APOSTOLATE FOR FAMILY CONSECRATION	ANGELUS FROM NAZARETH(5:40AM)			CATHOLICS COME HOME
6:00 AM	ANGELUS WITH POPE FRANCIS	EWTN ORIGINAL PRODUCTIONS					
6:30 AM	WHERE GOD WEEPS	G.K. CHESTERTON	CHURCH AND THE POOR	MATTHEW'S TESTIMONY TO	ICONS SPOTLIGHT	THE CHOICES WE FACE	SAINTS vs. SCOUNDRELS
7:00 AM	THE CHAPLET OF ST. MICHAEL					STATIONS OF THE CROSS	CHAPLET OF ST. MICHAEL
7:30 AM	ROSARY FROM LOURDES	HOLY LAND ROSARY					THE HOLY ROSARY FROM LOURDES
7:50 AM		LITANY OF LORETO	LITANY OF THE HOLY NAME	LITANY OF ST. JOSEPH	LITANY OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD	PAPAL AUDIENCE	
8:00 AM	SUNDAY MASS (Live)	DAILY MASS (Live)					
9:00 AM	(9:10AM) LITANY OF THE SACRED HEART	SUNDAY BEST WITH FR. GROESCHEL	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY	SCRIPTURE AND TRADITION (ENCORE)	EWTN LIVE (Encore)	THE WORLD OVER (Encore)	HERMIE & FRIENDS
9:30 AM	EWTN BOOKMARK	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOGUE					STORIES FROM THE BIBLE
10:00 AM	PRO LIFE WEEKLY	MOTHER ANGELICA LIVE CLASSICS	LIVE WITH PASSION	CTV SPECIAL PRESENTATION	FOCUS	WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN	LENTEN REFLECTION
10:30 AM	AT HOME WITH JIM AND JOY		FAMILY THEATER	FOCUS	FOCUS	AT HOME WITH JIM AND JOY	
11:00 AM	FUNDAMENTALS OF CATHOLICISM	WOMEN OF GRACE					BOB & PENNY LORD PRESENT
11:30 AM	HOLY ROSARY FROM LOURDES	THE CHOICES WE FACE	WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN	MUSIC AND THE SPOKEN WORD	MASTERPIECE DONUT SHOP	STATIONS OF THE CROSS	HOLY ROSARY FROM LOURDES
12:00 PM	SUNDAY MASS (Encore)	THE DAILY MASS FROM ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL, LIVE AT 12:10 p.m.					EWTN DAILY MASS (Encore)
12:30P		"DIOCESAN DATEBOOK" airs before and after Mass.					
1:00 PM	(1:10PM) LITANY OF THE SACRED HEART	AT HOME WITH JIM & JOY	PRO LIFE WEEKLY	AT HOME WITH JIM & JOY	FAMILY MATTERS	AT HOME WITH JIM & JOY	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOGUE
1:30 PM	IN CONCERT	SAINTS FOR TODAY	FORGOTTEN HERITAGE	SPECIALS	SAINTS ALIVE	SAINTS: A CLOSER LOOK	EWTN BOOKMARK
2:00 PM		CALLED TO COMMUNION	SCRIPTURE AND TRADITION	FR. SPITZER'S UNIVERSE	THE JOURNEY HOME	SPECIALS	EWTN ON LOCATION
2:30 PM							
3:00 PM	THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY IN SONG						
3:20 PM	REFLECTIONS	ROME'S HIDDEN CHURCHES	REFLECTIONS	ROME'S HIDDEN CHURCHES	REFLECTIONS	ROME'S HIDDEN CHURCHES	REFLECTIONS
3:30 PM	THE HOLY ROSARY IN STAINED GLASS	THE DAILY MASS FROM ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL, (Encore)					ROSARY FOR LIFE
4:00 PM	GRAB YOUR CATECHISM	THE HOLY ROSARY DIOCESAN DATEBOOK					
4:30 PM	LENTEN REFLECTION	IMAGE OF GOD	WE ARE CATHOLIC	CHILDRENS SPECIALS	CAT CHAT	BUGTIME ADVENTURES	CALLED TO COMMUNION
5:00 PM	THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL	EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHOICES WE FACE	CONVERSATIONS FROM THE WORLD OVER SHOW	BOB & PENNY LORD PRESENT	A FORCE FOR GOOD	CATHOLIC ANSWERS LIVE
5:30 PM	PASSIONIST SUNDAY MASS	SPECIALS					CONSUMING THE WORD
6:00 PM	HOLY HOUR FOR HEALING AND JUSTICE	EWTN NEWS NIGHTLY (Live)					FUNDAMENTALS OF CATHOLICISM
6:30 PM	THE JOURNEY HOME	CATHOLICS COME HOME	REAL LIFE	CHURCH UNIVERSAL	TBA		CHURCH AND POOR
7:00 PM		THE DAILY MASS FROM ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL, (Encore)					
7:30PM	THE JOURNEY HOME	THE HOLY ROSARY		POPE'S AUDIENCE	THE HOLY ROSARY		
8:00 PM		DIOCESAN DATEBOOK					
8:30 PM	SUNDAY BEST WITH FR. GROESCHEL	THE JOURNEY HOME (Live)	CTV SPECIAL PRESENTATION	EWTN LIVE	THE WORLD OVER (Live)	SPECIALS	
8:30 PM	CATHOLICS COME HOME	EWTN NIGHTLY NEWS (Encore)		EWTN NIGHTLY NEWS (Encore)			
9:00 PM	LIFE ON THE ROCK			WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN		THE CHOICES WE FACE	FOCUS
9:30 PM	HOLY ROSARY W MOTHER ANGELICA	THE WORLD OVER LIVE (ENCORE)	SCRIPTURE AND TRADITION (ENCORE)	FR. SPITZER'S UNIVERSE	PRO-LIFE WEEKLY	LIFE ON THE ROCK	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY
10:00PM	EWTN SPECIALS	BATTLE READY	THE CARPENTER'S SHOP	CROSSING THE GOAL	DEFENDING LIFE	ICONS SPOTLIGHT	WEB OF FAITH 2.0
10:30PM					CATHOLIC BEGINNINGS	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	
11:00PM	CATHOLIC VIEW FOR WOMEN	WOMEN OF GRACE					LENT: A SEASON OF GRACE

Diocese to Celebrate World Day of Prayer for Vocations in May



“There can be no greater joy than to risk one’s life for the Lord! Do not be deaf to the Lord’s call. If he calls you to follow this path, which paralyzes us before the great heights to which the Lord points us,” said Pope Francis on the upcoming occasion of the 56th Anniversary of World Day of Prayer for Vocations, to be celebrated this year on Sunday, May 12.

“Always remember that to those who leave their nets and boat behind, and follow him, the Lord promises the joy of a new life that can fill our hearts and enliven our journey.”

He continued, “On World Day of Prayer for Vocations, let us join in prayer and ask the Lord to help us discover his plan of love for our lives, and to grant us the courage to walk in the path that, from the beginning, he has chosen for us.”

The Diocese of Scranton celebration will held on the Third Sunday of Easter, May 5, at 5

p.m. at Saint Rose of Lima Parish, Carbondale, with Bishop Joseph C. Bambera as celebrant and homilist.

“This is our fourth year moving the celebration throughout the Diocese,” said Father Donald Williams, Diocesan Director of Vocations and Seminarians. “Our hope is we will reach even more people and continue to create a culture of vocations throughout the Diocese of Scranton. All are welcome to participate.”

The Diocese and vocation directors of religious communities will display materials at a light reception following the liturgy.

In addition to the Diocesan celebration, parishes are encouraged to have vocation-based homilies, vocation-themed youth ministry nights, lessons in religious education programs, recitation of the Rosary for Vocations, and holy hours.

For more information, contact the Vocation Office at (570) 207-1452 or email: vocations@dioceseofscranton.org.

Saint Padre Pio Prayer Group to Gather on Divine Mercy Sunday

HONESDALE — Saint Padre Pio Prayer Group will gather to celebrate the Feast of the Divine Mercy on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 28, at Saint Mary Magdalen Church, 414 Church St.

The annual devotion on the Second Sunday of Easter will begin at 2 p.m. with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Father William Langan, host pastor and group spiritual director, will lead the faithful in prayers offered for all priests, followed by recitation of the Rosary.

A reading from sacred Scripture will be followed by a spiritual reflection by Father Langan.

The Book of Special Intentions invoking the intercession of Saint Padre Pio will be presented, and prayers and petitions for other special intentions will be offered.

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be administered to those who are seriously ill or about to undergo surgery.

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be chanted at 3 p.m., followed by an individual blessing with the relic of Saint Faustina Kowalska — the saint of Divine Mercy.

All faithful are welcome to participate.

Spiritual Offerings Around the Diocese

Weekly "Flame of Love"

Prayer Group Meeting — APRIL 22, hosted by St. Barbara Parish at St. Anthony of Padua Church, Memorial St., Exeter; prayer group meets every Monday at 11:15 a.m. Mass is celebrated at 12:10 p.m. following recitation of the "Flame of Love" Rosary. All faithful are welcome.

Annual 13-Week Novena to St. Anthony of Padua — APRIL 23-JUNE 13, hosted by Our Lady of Hope Parish, 40 Park Ave., Wilkes-Barre; St. Anthony Novena devotion offered on 13 consecutive Tuesday evenings, beginning each week at 5:30 p.m. in the parish church. Novena theme: "Venerable Solanus Casey, OFM, Cap.: Spiritual Counselor & Wonder Worker." All faithful are welcome to attend; for more information, call (570-824-7832).

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 Sabatini's Bottleshop, located on Wyoming Avenue in Exeter. 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).

Wednesday Eucharistic Adoration — APRIL 24, 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. For more information, contact the OSJ seminary at (570-654-7542).

Weekly Bible Study — APRIL 24, 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. All faithful are welcome; refreshments will be provided.

Wednesday Eucharistic Adoration — APRIL 24, 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 — APRIL 24, hosted by St. Lawrence Parish in Great Bend; Hour of Mercy devotion held every Wednesday at 3 p.m. in St. Lawrence Church. All faithful are welcome.

Weekly Bible Study — APRIL 26, hosted by St. Lawrence Parish in Great Bend; held on Fridays at 7 p.m. in the Trinity Center, adjacent to St. Lawrence Church. All are welcome.

*Continued on
Page 20*



HEAVEN & EARTH



Featured Book:
Easter Bunny's Amazing Day

Storytime with Katie Veety

**Saturday, 4/20
10:30AM**

Imagine Altus radio host, Katie Veety, will read about how the Easter Bunny meets Jesus! Children welcome accompanied by an adult.

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DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

APRIL 28, 2019

ITINERARY FOR THE CELEBRATION IS AS FOLLOWS:

- 12:30 PM • Sacrament of Reconciliation and Holy Rosary
- 2:00 PM • Blessing of the Image of Divine Mercy followed by Holy Mass
- 3:00 PM • Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament • The Divine Mercy Chaplet in Song
• Benediction and Blessing with the First Class Relics of St. Faustina.

(REMINDER TO BEGIN 9 DAY DIVINE MERCY NOVENA STARTS ON GOOD FRIDAY)

Jesus stated in fourteen revelations to St. Faustina that the Sunday after Easter is to be the **Feast of Mercy**. St. John Paul II announced on April 30, 2000 at St. Faustina's canonization, "It is important that we accept the whole message that comes from the word of God on the Second Sunday of Easter, which from now on throughout the Church will be called, **Divine Mercy Sunday**."

Contact Cathy Mack at 570-654-6063 for more information!

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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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- Trusts Guardianships • Asset Protection Planning
- Medicaid Application Assistance

Estate Planning

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Spiritual Offerings Around the Diocese

Weekly Queen of Our Hearts Rosary Prayer Service — **APRIL 27**, hosted every Saturday morning at Good Shepherd Church in Drums; group gathers weekly beginning at 3 p.m. Devotion 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.

Spiritual Support Group: Scranton Mental Health Ministry — **APRIL 27 & MAY 11**, 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 (Cathedral), (570-344-7231); Deacon Jan Mroz (Mary, Mother of God), (570-342-4881); or Deacon Pat McDonald (Immaculate Conception), (570-961-5211).

Gathering of the Secular Discalced Carmelites — **APRIL 28**, 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.

Pilgrimage to Mother Seton Basilica & Lourdes Grotto in Maryland — **MAY 1**, one-day bus pilgrimage to religious sites in Emmitsburg, Md.; round-trip excursion departs from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Swoyersville. Cost: \$45 per person, includes coach transportation and bag lunch. For more details and reservations, contact Chris Calore at (570-824-5621).

Padre Pio Prayer Ministry — **MAY 1**, hosted by St. Faustina Kowalska Parish in Nanticoke; begins with celebration of Mass at 6 p.m. at the parish worship site of Holy Trinity Church, 520 South Hanover St., Nanticoke, followed by exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, intercessory prayers to St. Padre Pio, recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and benediction. All faithful are welcome.

Bereavement Support Gatherings — **MAY 1 & 19**, hosted by Our Lady of the Snows Parish in Clarks Summit; support group meetings 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.

Scranton Mental Health Ministry: Spiritual Support Group for Family & Friends — **MAY 2**, 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

*Continued on
Page 21*

FOCCUS Pre-Marriage Facilitator Training, Refresher Slated for May 11

The Office for Parish Life of the Diocese of Scranton will offer a FOCCUS Pre-Marriage Inventory Facilitator Training and refresher option on Saturday, May 11. The training will be held at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, Scranton, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. A light lunch will be included.

The FOCCUS Pre-Marriage Inventory is a comprehensive, user-friendly tool for use by lay individuals, couples or professionals who are helping couples prepare for marriage, and who become trained as FOCCUS Facilitators. The FOCCUS Inventory is designed to help engaged couples appreciate their unique relationship, learn more about themselves, and discuss topics important to their lifelong marriage.

The full training fee is \$100 for an individual or \$150 for a couple.

For those who have already completed the five-hour training, have a FOCCUS Facilitator Manual and a Certification number, and wish to refresh their knowledge about FOCCUS Facilitating, the refresher option fee will be \$50 per person.

Spanish-language translation will be provided during the training session.

Any parishioner, parish staff member of Sponsor Couples interested in this training or refresher, please contact Jennifer Housel, Director for Community and Family Development, (570) 207-2213 x 1104, or jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org.

Spiritual Offerings Around the Diocese

Continued from Page 20

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 (Cathedral), (570-344-7231); Deacon Jan Mroz (Mary, Mother of God), (570-342-4881); or Deacon Pat McDonald (Immaculate Conception), (570-961-5211).

First Friday Pro-Life Prayer Vigil — **MAY 3**, monthly pro-life gathering to offer prayerful witness at the new Planned Parenthood location in Wilkes-Barre at 101 North Main St.; recitation of the Rosary begins at 9 a.m. for the special intentions of an end to abortion and closure of the Planned Parenthood facility. All faithful are welcome.

First Friday Marian Devotion & Healing Mass — **MAY 3**, hosted by St. Lucy Parish at St. Lucy Church, 949 Scranton

St., West Scranton; begins at 6:30 p.m. with recitation of the Rosary and devotional prayers led by Adele Garofalo. Healing Mass celebrated at 7 p.m., including prayers for healing and anointing blessing. Music ministry provided by Ernie Pappa. All faithful are welcome.

Taize Service — **MAY 5**, hosted by St. Joseph the Worker Parish, 702 West Fourth St., Williamsport; begins at 8 p.m. Taize is a meditative style of communal prayer, with sung repetitive refrains to create a gentle rhythm; all are welcome for a peaceful evening service of prayer, light and music. For more information, call (570-323-9456).

Sunday Our Lady of Guadalupe Rosary Devotion — **MAY 5**, hosted by St. Lucy Church, 949 Scranton St., West Scranton; devotion held every Sunday evening from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the church or at the outdoor grotto (weather permitting) through the first week of Decem-

ber. Includes recitation of the 15 decades of the Rosary (Joyful, Sorrowful & Glorious Mysteries) and additional prayers offered for the special intentions of world peace, an increase in vocations to the priesthood/religious life, and an end to abortion.

Evening of Prayer with the Sisters of IHM — **MAY 8**, 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 faithful are welcome to participate.

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).

Ladies of Charity Enrollment Day

WILKES-BARRE — The Ladies of Charity of the Diocese of Scranton will host their Annual Day of Enrollment on Saturday, April 27, at Saint Robert Bellarmine Parish in Wilkes-Barre.

Mass will be celebrated in the parish's Saint Aloysius Church, 143 W. Division St., at 11 a.m. by Monsignor Joseph P. Kelly, who serves as spiritual moderator for the Ladies of Charity. Doors open at 10 a.m. and the Rosary will be recited prior to the liturgy at 10:30 a.m.

Following the liturgy, a luncheon reception will be held in the cafeteria next door to the church. During the day, a collection basket for pro-life donations will be available.

Cost for the luncheon is \$15. Advance reservations are required; deadline is April 18. New members are always welcome.

Checks made payable to "Ladies of Charity" may be forwarded to Barb Thoma, 665 Nuangola Road, Mountain Top, PA 18707. For more information, contact Barb Thoma at (570-474-5531).

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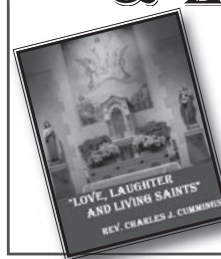
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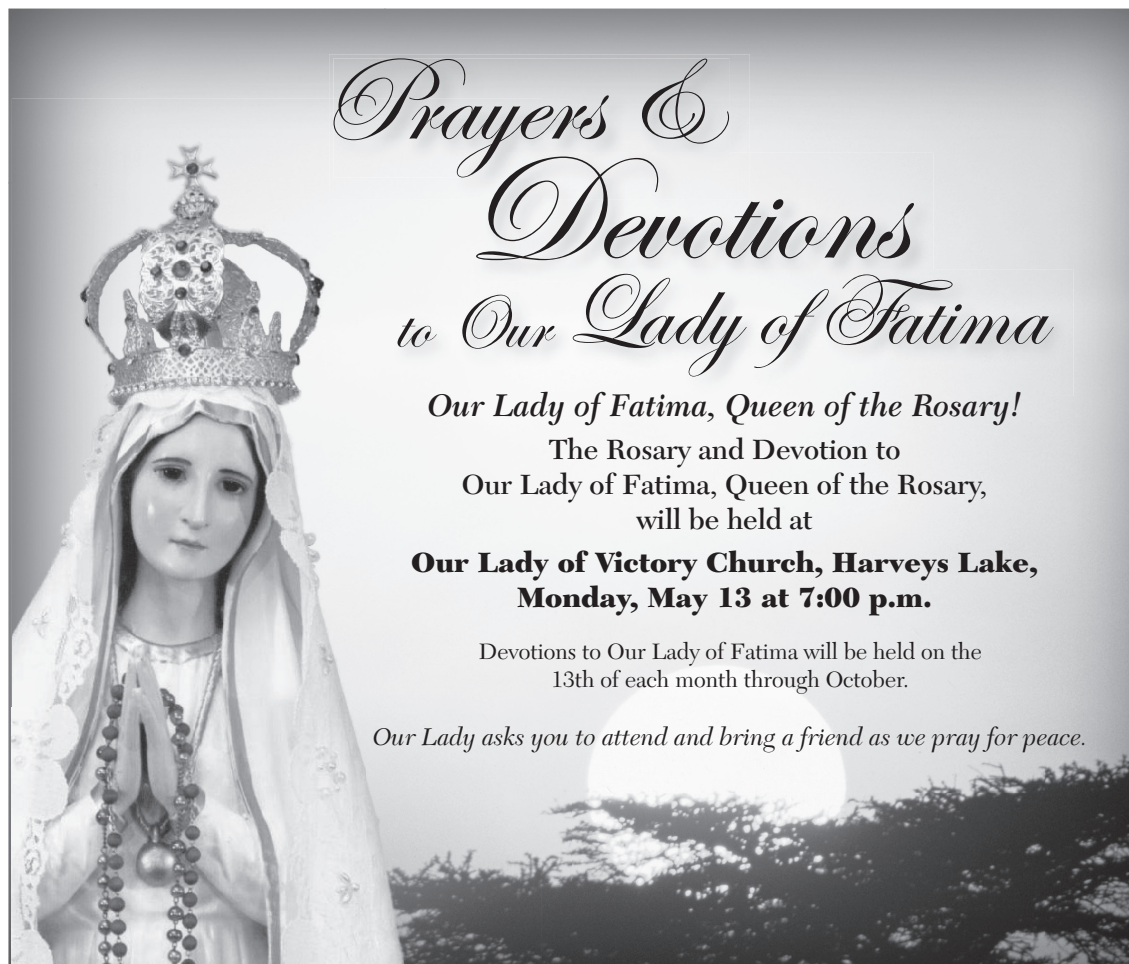
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Mission Message

Go Forth

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



Holy Thursday. What a celebration. So much to take in.

Maundy Thursday — as it is commonly called because of the *mandatum*, that is to say, the command of Jesus to serve — is among the most treasured days in the liturgical year for the Church. The Mass of Holy Thursday includes two ritual components which are unique: The Foot Washing and the Transfer of the Blessed Sacrament.

I remember from a very early age as an altar boy being moved by these actions, so much so that I believe I became more deeply aware of God's calling me to the priesthood during these sacred moments.

After the homily of Mass for Holy Thursday, the priest washes the feet of several — usually twelve — parishioners in a ritual which mirrors the act of Jesus washing the feet of his disciples before He would undergo His passion and death. At the cele-

bration of the Mass of the Lord's Supper, the priest reenacts this gesture of Jesus to stir the hearts of the faithful to see and connect with the humility of our Lord. We see His great love in emptying Himself out for those He loved, not those disciples in the upper room alone, but for you and me as well.

The hymns which accompany the ritual act vary from parish to parish but each are meant to convey the great love of Jesus in humbling Himself for our sake. One such composition speaks of how Jesus "stooped to wash the feet of His disciples."

This is a powerful image for me, the stooping evokes such surrender and love. We might often say someone "stooped so low" to describe an act by which someone shamed himself by a vicious act. In the case of Jesus "stooping" low — and by extension the priest on Holy Thursday — we see one who stoops down in the face of our lowliness and brokenness to wash us.

I often think of the need we all have at times when we need to get a better look at something that we stoop down to see more clearly and closely. That's what Jesus does for us, always stooping down to be closer to us and for us to see him more clearly and closely.

As with so much of our Lord's gestures, He calls us to act likewise: "If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another's feet. I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do" (Jn. 13:15).

Yes, Jesus calls us to do as He has done. Now, that does not mean literally washing each other's feet. However, I believe Jesus calls us to stoop low, to get face-to-face with people's suffering and encounter them in their need. It means doing the unexpected as Jesus did. We are sent forth by God each Mass to be humble servants, to bow down before His glory and to bend low to help carry the burdens of the poor and needy.

Prayer Requests for Priests

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

April 18, Father Phillip Sladicka; April 19, Father Casimir Stanis; April 20, Father Stephen Stavoy; April 21, Father Scott Sterowski; April 22, Saint Peter Priestly Fraternity Father Michael Stinson; April 23, Jesuit Father Daniel Sweeney; April 24, Saint Joseph Oblate Father Raymond Tabon; April 25, Father John Terry; April 26, Holy Cross Father Fidel Ticonia; April 27, Bishop Emeritus James C. Timlin; April 28, Father Peter Tomczak; April

29, Father Daniel Toomey; April 30, Father James Tracy; May 1, Pope Francis; May 2, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI; May 3, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera; May 4, Father Peter Tran; May 5, Monsignor David Tressler; May 6, Father Jeffrey Tudgay; May 7, Father John Turi; May 8, Father Anthony Urban; May 9, Monsignor Neil Van Loon; May 10, Father Brian Van Fossen; May 11, Father Joseph Verespy; May 12, Father John Victoria; May 13, Father Alfred Vito; May 14, Father James Walsh; May 15, Father Jeffrey Walsh, V.E.

Catholic Happenings Around the Diocese

Weekly Bingo — APRIL 22, 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).

Annual "Tastings & Tapas" Event — APRIL 26, hosted by St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Moscow; held from 7 to 10 p.m. in the parish's Kelly Hall at St. Catherine Church, 220 Church St., Moscow. Evening offering of music, tastings of a variety of fine food and wine, craft & domestic beers, and a live auction hosted by auctioneer Pat Verrastro; featuring a wide variety of luxury gift items and attractions. Live music provided by Chris DiMattio and Kenny McGraw. Must be at least 21 years of age to attend. Admission cost: \$30 per person. Limited number of reserved tables for eight are available. For more information and to purchase tickets, call (570-842-4561).

University of Scranton Performance Music Series: In Recital — APRIL 26, featuring Kako Miura on violin; begins at 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.

Pro-Life Town Hall Tour Stop in Hazleton

HAZLETON — The annual Pro-Life Town Hall Tour is coming to the greater Hazleton area. The general public is invited to this event which will take place on Thursday, May 2, at The Look-out House, 1373 State Route 93, Drums, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

This Pro-Life Town Hall meeting is one in a series being held all across Pennsylvania and will feature Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation Executive Director Michael Ciccocioppo and Education

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 all weekend Masses in the church vestibule. For more information, call the parish office at (570-788-1997).

University of Scranton Performance Music Series: In Concert — APRIL 27, featuring the University of Scranton String Orchestra with guest soloist Kako Miura on violin; 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.

Easter Brunch — APRIL 28, sponsored by the Parish Life Council of St. Andre Bessette Parish in Wilkes-Barre; served from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Father Zolcinski Hall, 668 North Main St., Wilkes-Barre. Menu includes eggs, bacon, kielbasa, apple fritters and home fries. Cost: \$5 per person. Advance tickets only; call Mary at (570-823-4988).

Designer Bingo — APRIL 28, sponsored by the combined societies of St. Leo/Holy Rosary Parish in Ashley; held at the Warrior Run Fire Hall, 316 Academy St., Warrior Run. Doors open at 11:30 a.m.; games start at 1 p.m. Event also includes refreshments, bake sale, and raffle drawings. Admission cost: \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door. For more information and tickets, call Bonnie at (570-474-1031).

Annual Penne Pasta Dinner — APRIL 28, sponsored by Sons of Italy Gloria Lodge 815 of Old Forge; held at the Bocce Courts at Arcaro & Genell restaurant, Main St., Old Forge. Dinner cost: \$10 per person, includes penne pasta & meatballs, salad, roll and dessert. Take-out orders only; drive-thru pickup from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Walk-ins welcome. For advance tickets and pre-orders of sauce (\$6/quart) and meatballs (\$6/pint), call (570-498-0178).

Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary Bingo — MAY 1 & 15, sponsored by Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary Parish, Jermyn; games usually held on the first and third Wednesdays of the month in

Continued on Page 27

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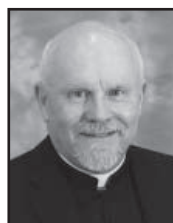
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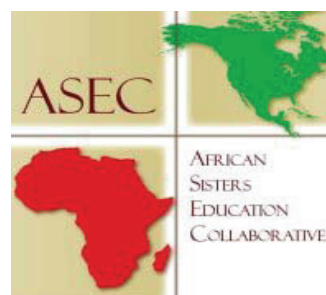
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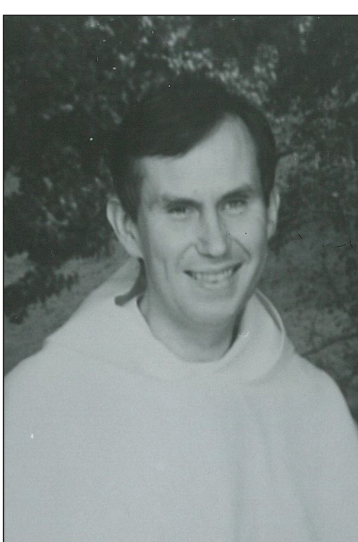
W-B Native Father Seamus Kuebler Dies in Florida; Served Diocese

Augustinian monk Father Seamus Conniff Kuebler, a native son of the Wilkes-Barre area, died April 9 in Florida.

Born Charles Anthony Kuebler in Wilkes-Barre on July 1, 1948, son of the late Edward Alfred and Elizabeth Frances Conniff Kuebler, Father Seamus graduated from Sacred Heart High School in Plains in 1966, after becoming the youngest person — at age 15 — to graduate and receive a guide dog from The Seeing Eye in Morristown, N.J.

He earned his undergraduate degree in theology from King's College, Wilkes-Barre, in 1970 and continued his graduate studies at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., before transferring to the University of Notre Dame, where he entered Moreau Seminary.

Called to religious life before losing his sight at the young age of ten, Father Seamus' spiritual vision far surpassed any physical limitation, and his determination to serve God helped to inspire and guide others.



**Father Seamus Kuebler,
O.S.A. Prim.**

Pope Paul VI granted special permission for the young seminarian to be ordained to the priesthood on Sept. 27, 1975, in Washington, D.C., by Cardinal William Baum, late archbishop of Washington.

Following ordination, Father Seamus served in the Archdiocese of Washington and his home Diocese of Scranton as chaplain at Saint Joseph's Center in the city.


During the early formative years of his priesthood, Father Seamus became well known as an energetic evangelizer and unique purveyor of the Gospel of Jesus. His devotion to justice and mercy is believed to have inspired many young people to become spiritual sons and daughters of the Lord.

In 1988, Father Seamus reaffirmed his calling to God and entered the International Augustinian Novitiate and prepared for the foundation of the Mother of the Good Shepherd Monastery in Worcester, Mass.

He professed first vows as an Augustinian Monk of the Primitive Observance on Oct. 13, 1989, and professed solemn vows on Aug. 17, 1996. The monastery was established to live the Augustinian monastic life as established by the congregation's founder, Saint Augustine of Hippo.

Having most recently led a community of Augustinian monks in DeLand, Fla., Father Seamus is survived by two nieces, two sisters-in-law and extended family; and his faithful guide dog, Fiona, a yellow lab.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Edward James Kuebler.



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OUR 40th YEAR • 570-343-5628**Misericordia Event to Benefit Catholic School Scholarship**

DALLAS — The Student Government Association (SGA) at Misericordia University will host the fifth annual David A. Evans 5K Color Run/Walk and a children's carnival with activities for the whole family as part of SGA Cougar Fest from April 23-28.

The Cougar Carnival will be held on Saturday, April 27, from 12 noon to 4 p.m. on the lawn of the Banks Student Life Center. Open to children in the community, the event will include carnival games with prizes, dunk tanks and inflatables. Food will be available for

purchase from a variety of food trucks. Admission is free.

On Sunday, April 28, the SGA will host the fifth annual David A. Evans 5K Color Run/Walk on campus. Registration for the run begins at 9 a.m. at the Anderson Sports and Health Center. The race starts at 10 a.m. Cost is \$20 for pre-registration, and \$25 the day of the race. Participants can pre-register at <http://misericordia.edu/colorrun19>.

The registration fee includes a T-shirt (while supplies last) and color packet, as participants will

be splashed with colored powder throughout the race.

Proceeds of the race will benefit the David Evans Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund at Holy Redeemer High School, which aids Holy Redeemer graduates who plan to continue their education at Misericordia University.

For additional information on the carnival or the David A. Evans 5K Color Run/Walk, call Darcy Brodmerkel, director of Office of Student Engagement, at (570-674-6466) or email: dbrokmerkel@misericordia.edu.

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 Respecto 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).

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Catholic Happenings Around the Diocese

Continued from Page 23

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.

"Spring Derby Day" Night at the Races — **MAY 4**, sponsored by Holy Family Parish, 828 Main St., Sugar Notch; held in the church hall, with doors opening at 5 p.m. Buffet dinner served at 5:30 p.m.; races start at 6:30 p.m. Buffet, featuring homemade food, dessert and beverages, is included with race horse sponsorship of \$10. For more information or to sponsor a horse, contact the parish rectory at (570-822-8983).

Fourth Annual Mother's Day Champagne Brunch Benefit — **MAY 12**, hosted by Misericordia University in Dallas to benefit the student mothers of the Ruth Matthews Bourger Women with Children Program at the university; held in Sandy and Marlene Insalaco Hall on campus. Doors open at 10:30 a.m.; seating begins at 11 a.m. Fundraiser event also includes a silent auction and "Parade

of Baskets" raffle; pre-sale tickets for the basket raffle held on May 10 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the lobby of Insalaco Hall. Cost: \$50 per adult; \$20 for children (ages 12 to 18); younger children are welcome free of charge. For more details and registration information, call Kim Caffrey at Misericordia (570-674-1877).

Spring "Oldies" Dinner Dance — **MAY 17**, sponsored by St. André Bessette Parish in Wilkes-Barre; held from 6 to 10 p.m. at St. Mary's Byzantine Social Hall, 522 Madison St., Wilkes-Barre. Featuring homemade buffet dinner, including desserts and soft drinks; followed by live "oldies" music for listening and dancing pleasure provided by Millennium. Patrons may provide their own beverages; event also includes basket raffle and other prizes. Cost: \$20 per person (must be at least 21 years of age). Tickets may be obtained at the parish office at 668 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre, weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., or by calling Tina at (570-814-9227).

Cash & Designer Purse Bingo — **MAY 18**, hosted by Gate of Heaven Parish in Dallas; games begin at 12 noon in the

school gymnasium (doors open at 11 a.m.). Admission cost: \$20 for 20 games; specials sold separately. Event also includes theme basket raffle, games of chance, cash and door prize drawings; bake sale, food and refreshments for sale. Tickets available daily at the parish office from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., and at all weekend Masses. For more information, call Carol at (570-675-1394).

Spring Fling — **MAY 18**, sponsored by St. John Bosco Parish, Route 93, Conyngham; held from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the parish center. Fundraiser event includes flea market, tricky tray drawings, and food for purchase.

Ukrainian Church Lists Easter Dinner

Saint Vladimir Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in Scranton will conduct its annual Easter "Sviachene" dinner celebration on Sunday, May 5, beginning at 12:15 p.m. in the Parish Center, located at 428 North Seventh Ave.

Takeouts are available by advance order and are required for pickup between 11:30 a.m. and 12 noon only.

A theme basket and cash raffle will be available, along with a drawing for a festive Ukrainian tablecloth.

Admission: \$15 for adults; \$8 for students. Children ages 5 and under are free of charge. Advance reservations only. For reservations, call (570-503-1514). Deadline is Monday, April 29.

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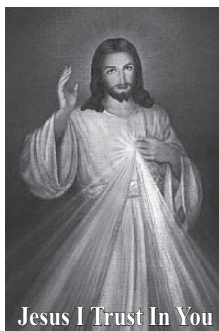
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St. Lucy's Church
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Rev. Sam J. Ferretti, Pastor
Rev. Alvaro de Oliveira Joaquim, O.S.J.
Deacon Carmine Mendicino
Divine Mercy Sunday Coordinator

SCHEDULE

12:30 PM — Rosary and Sacrament of Reconciliation

2:00 PM — Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

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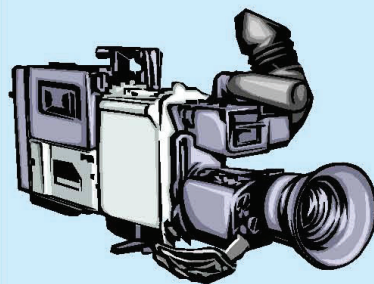
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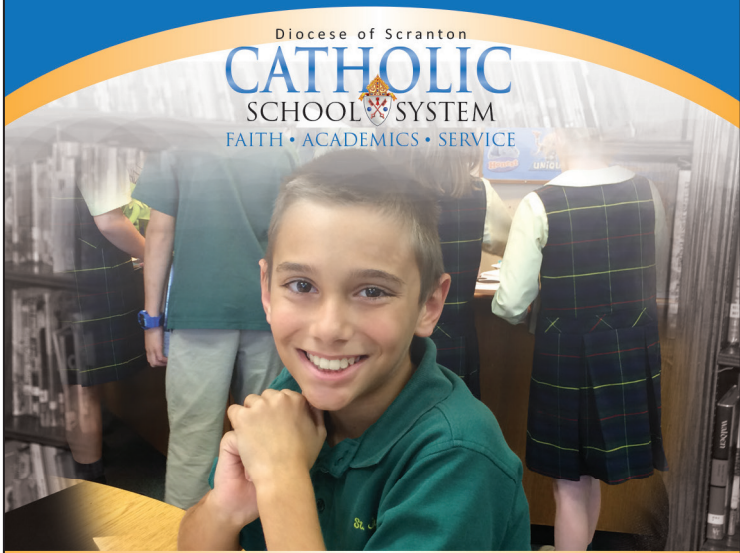


The Diocese of Scranton’s website includes video of certain programs broadcast by CTV: Catholic Television. The programs include the Daily Mass from St. Peter’s Cathedral, the monthly news program “Our Faith, Our Diocese” and other special programs. To watch the videos, go to www.dioceseofscranton.org.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

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