



June 2019

# GoodNewsNotes

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON OFFICE FOR PARISH LIFE

## This Issue

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Save the Date—<br>Catechist Camp 2019                | p. 2 |
| Virtual Learning<br>Community for<br>Faith Formation | p. 2 |
| Confirmation<br>Preparation                          | p. 3 |
| NPM National<br>Convention in Raleigh                | p. 3 |
| Extraordinary Minister of<br>Communion Training      | p. 3 |
| Parish Grief Support<br>Ministries                   | p. 4 |
| Down Syndrome<br>Protection Act                      | p. 4 |
| Light the Fire Rally                                 | p. 5 |
| Parish Social Justice<br>Trust Fund Grants           | p. 5 |
| I.S.L.I.   | p. 5 |

*Have new leadership with your parish RCIA team?  
Don't have an active RCIA process in your parish and don't know where to begin?  
Been doing RCIA for years but want to learn more?*

*introducing*

# RCIA 101

**Saturday, June 29, 2019**

**9:00AM—3:00PM**

**Diocesan Pastoral Center  
330 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton**

The goal of this offering for priests, deacons, parish life coordinators, RCIA coordinators, RCIA team members is to provide a overall sense of what the Church asks of parishes in responding to seekers and preparing them for Initiation. This course day would be ideal for anyone new to the RCIA as well as seasoned veterans who are looking to deepen their understanding of the process. The cost of \$20 per person includes materials and lunch.

### **Priest Jubilarians Mass**

Thursday, June 20  
at 12:10PM  
Cathedral of Saint Peter

### **Wedding Anniversary Mass**

Sunday, June 30 at 2:30PM  
Cathedral of Saint Peter



*Register online at [www.dioceseofscranton.org](http://www.dioceseofscranton.org)  
under Parish Life, Christian Initiation & Sacraments,  
or by calling the Office for Parish Life  
at 570-207-2213.*



# WORD

"I CALL us to be servant leaders who are people of the WORD, preaching, teaching, evangelizing and cherishing the Gospel message throughout our entire lives."



## Save the Date—Catechist Camp 2019

The Office for Parish Life is planning a one-day Catechist Camp for everyone involved in catechetical ministry or family-oriented faith formation. The one-day camp will be presented in five parishes of our Diocese between August 3 – 9, 2019. The dates and locations so far are as follows:

### **Saturday, August 3**

8:30 am – 3:30 pm

Resurrection Parish, Muncy

### **Monday, August 5**

1:00 pm – 7:30 pm

St. John Parish, East Stroudsburg

### **Tuesday, August 6**

1:00 pm – 7:30 pm

St. Eulalia Parish, Elmhurst

### **Thursday, August 8**

1:00 pm – 7:30 pm

TBA

### **Friday, August 9**

1:00 pm – 7:30 pm

TBA

If you are a parent, a parish or school religion teacher/catechist, a youth minister or a volunteer in any parish or school ministry involving children, youth and families, this day is designed for you. Please join us at the location that is most convenient for you. Cost for the day is \$20. Registration will be open soon! For more information, contact Mary Anne Malone: (570) 207-2213 or [mary-anne-malone@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:mary-anne-malone@dioceseofscranton.org)

## Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation



Looking to learn more about your faith, or gain enrichment for your parish ministry? Members of the faithful across the Diocese of Scranton are invited to consider taking a course through the University of Dayton's Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation! Cycle 5 runs July 21, 2019 through August 24, 2019. Registration is open until July 17. [Click here](#) to view the course offerings in English and Spanish or visit <https://vlcff.udayton.edu/> and click 'calendar.'

## 29th National Cursillo Encounter

All are welcome to join the celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the first Cursillo in Mallorca. The encounter is being held on July 18-21, 2019 at the University of Scranton in Scranton. There will be daily Eucharist, fellowship, friendship, food and fiesta. The U.S. Cursillo continues to delve further into the legacy of its Founder and the Foundational Charism of Cursillo. Two Cursillistas from Mallorca will be the guest speakers. It is expected to be a fully packed event with special guests from Mallorca, hundreds of Cursillistas, both clergy and laypersons, from United States' Cursillo, and multiple language groups of English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Filipino, Portuguese, Korean and Chinese. Register today at [www.natl-cursillo.org](http://www.natl-cursillo.org).

## World Refugee Day

You are invited to a World Refugee Day Celebration on Saturday, June 22, 2019 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm at Nay Aug Park (Mulberry St. Entrance).

World Refugee Day honors the strength, resilience and courage of millions of refugees throughout the world. Everyone is welcome to come to this free event to share in the rich cultural heritage of the refugee communities in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

- ◆ Free family event
- ◆ Cultural music and dance
- ◆ Games and crafts for children
- ◆ Chances to win gift baskets
- ◆ Light refreshments

Sponsored by Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton, in cooperation with United Neighborhood Centers, The University of Scranton, Head Start, Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit and The Hexagon Project.

For more information, call Catholic Social Services Immigration Services at (570) 207-2283.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION  
SPEAKER  
PRAISE & WORSHIP MUSIC  
RECONCILIATION  
SOCIAL

**Monday, June 17, 2019—6:30 to 8:30p.m.**

**Christ the King Parish**  
411 Church Street, Archbald

For more information, call 570-780-2996  
or visit [www.vocations.dioceseofscranton.org](http://www.vocations.dioceseofscranton.org).



## Confirmation Preparation

As parishes make final preparations for the conferral of the Sacrament of Confirmation by pastors and sacramental ministers on Pentecost (June 9, 2019), pastors and parish life coordinators are reminded of the following:

- **Order of Confirmation**—the bilingual ritual book was made available to pastors and parish life coordinators at the recent priest convocation. If your parish is still in need of a copy, please contact the Office for Parish Life. [Click here](#) for **suggestions and notes** for the celebration of Confirmation by pastors and sacramental ministers.
- **A Message from Bishop Bambera** —[a message](#) from Bishop Bambera to the Confirmation candidates has been sent to pastors and parish life coordinators. In order to further establish the Bishop's role as the ordinary minister of Confirmation, **this message is to be read by the pastor/sacramental minister as part of the homily for the Confirmation.**
- **Other Forms and Documents** regarding Confirmation can be found on the [diocesan website](#) under Parish Life, Christian Initiation & Sacraments. These include:
  - ◆ **Presentation of Candidates by DREs or Confirmation Coordinators**
  - ◆ **Sample Universal Prayer**
  - ◆ **Diocesan Report—must be returned to the Office for Parish Life following Confirmation with pastor or sacramental minister**

Pastors and Parish Life Coordinators are reminded that since Bishop Bambera has granted the faculty to pastors and sacramental ministers to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation in their own parishes, there is **no longer a need for pastors or sacramental ministers to request the faculty to confirm a baptized Catholic adult.** For this reason, the Adult Confirmation on Pentecost Sunday at the Cathedral in Scranton has been discontinued.

**If you have any questions concerning Confirmation, please contact David Baloga at 570-207-2213, 1158 or at [david-baloga@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:david-baloga@dioceseofscranton.org).**



## Extraordinary Minister of Communion Training Sessions

Need to invite more faith-filled parishioners to serve as Extraordinary Ministers of Communion in your parish? The Office for Parish Life will offer two all-day training sessions for new Extraordinary Ministers of Communion at the following locations:

- **Saturday, July 20, 2019 from 9:00AM to 2:30PM at St. John Bosco Parish, Conyngham**
- **Saturday, August 24, 2019 from 9:00AM to 2:30PM at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, Scranton.**

There is no fee and lunch will be provided.

To register for the Saturday, July 20th session in Conyngham, please contact St. John Bosco Parish at 570-788-1997.

To register for the Saturday, August 24th session in Scranton, please fill out the [EMHC Training Registration Form](#) or call the Office for Parish Life at 570-207-2213.

## NPM Annual Convention

The National Association of Pastoral Musicians will host its forty-second annual national convention on July 16-19, 2019 in Raleigh, North Carolina. The theme for this year's convention is "Healing, Reconciliation and Anointing: A Journey through James 5—That You May Be Healed."

The NPM National Convention features keynote presentations and concerts from renowned speakers and liturgical musicians, and offers clinics, exhibits, vendors and workshops for choir members, cantors, organists, keyboardists and other parish musicians and liturgical coordinators. Plenum presenters include Fr. J. Michael Joncas, Marie Monville, Sr. Judith Kubicki, and John Flaherty.

To see all that the NPM National Convention has to offer, please visit the [NPM Convention website](#).



## Come to the well

Catholic Women's Conference

Saturday, June 22, 2019

University of Scranton Byron Complex

Tickets are \$40.00 per person

For details and registration, visit [www.cwcnepa.com](http://www.cwcnepa.com)

# COMMUNITY

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

## Natural Family Planning, 2019 and Beyond

The Diocese of Scranton has begun a new collaboration with Couple to Couple League International (CCL) in order to better promote the use of Natural Family Planning (NFP) in our Diocese. This organization is doing great work in



bringing the teaching and practice of NFP forward through the use of modern technology. Our Diocese is blessed to have a number of individuals and couples trained to teach NFP in person. Through CCL, couples are also able to access flexible learning options online.

To learn more please visit the website for Couple to Couple League at [www.ccli.org](http://www.ccli.org) for a wealth of NFP related information and training options. For additional information about Natural Family Planning, or to access our Diocesan NFP Training Providers, please visit our diocesan website at [www.dioceseofscranton.org/parish-life/community/marriage/natural-family-planning/](http://www.dioceseofscranton.org/parish-life/community/marriage/natural-family-planning/) or contact Jennifer Housel, Director for Community and Family Development, 570-207-2213 x 1104, [jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org).



## Quo Vadis Days

June 23-26, 2019

at Misericordia University, Dallas

Quo Vadis Days 2019 is a camp for young Catholic men in high School (9-12<sup>th</sup> grade) to:

- ◆ Deepen their faith
- ◆ Learn more about all vocations
- ◆ Better discern God's call in their lives

The camp will feature dynamic talks, prayer, games, sports, activities, music and more. Participants will have the opportunity to meet priests and seminarians of the Diocese of Scranton. Transportation options are available. For more information and/or to register, visit [vocations.dioceseofscranton.org](http://vocations.dioceseofscranton.org), or call 570-207-1452.



## Natural Family Planning Awareness Week—July 21-27

Please consider how your parish would like to mark this upcoming event in our church. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has many free resources available, including homily notes, bulletin inserts, social media files, etc. Please go to [www.usccb.org/nfp/awareness-week/index.cfm](http://www.usccb.org/nfp/awareness-week/index.cfm) to access these resources.

Our diocesan website also contains helpful information about Natural Family Planning, please go to <https://www.dioceseofscranton.org/parish-life/community/marriage/natural-family-planning/> to learn more. Contact Jennifer Housel, Director for Community and Family Development, with questions. (570-207-2213 x 1104, [jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org))

## Grief Support Ministries

Parish Grief Support Ministries are an invaluable resource and a blessing in the lives of those grieving. To find a grief support ministry near you, as well as other grief support resources, please visit our diocesan website at <https://www.dioceseofscranton.org/parish-life/community/grief-support/>.

If you would like us to include information about a grief support ministry at your parish on our website, or if you would like to inquire about beginning a grief support ministry at your parish, please contact Jennifer Housel, Director for Community and Family Development, 570-207-2213 x 1104, [jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org).





## Down Syndrome Protection Act

HB 321 has passed through the Pennsylvania House and has moved to the Senate. This bill would prevent any abortion based solely on a Down Syndrome diagnosis. As a Church, we oppose abortion under all circumstances. We are especially dedicated to protecting the lives of the most vulnerable.

The Diocese of Scranton urges you to contact your state senator to show your support for HB 321 – The Down Syndrome Protection Act. For more information on this bill or to find the contact information for your PA state legislators, please visit the Pennsylvania General Assembly website. You may also contact the Office for Parish Life for more information on advocacy opportunities.

## Light the Fire Summer Youth Rally

The 13th annual Light the Fire Summer Youth Rally will be held **Wednesday, June 26, 2019** at Misericordia University in Dallas, PA. The rally will gather together some 400 high school students and their chaperones from parishes across the Diocese of Scranton. The rally is an opportunity for students to gather outside of their parish walls and celebrate their Catholic faith.

There will be terrific speakers that will inspire young people and help them realize among other things that they are loved and valued. There will also be an opportunity for reconciliation and Adoration. An awesome closing Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Bambera and priests from throughout the Diocese of Scranton.

Registration is now open. Please go to the Light the Fire website at <https://light-the-fire.org/> for a registration packet, information on all of our speakers, the schedule for the day and photos and videos from previous years.

For more information, please contact Shannon Kowalski at 570-207-2213 or at [shannon-kowalski@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:shannon-kowalski@dioceseofscranton.org).

## Religious Freedom Week 2019

Catholics across the United States are encouraged to pray and act in support of religious liberty at home and abroad during Religious Freedom Week 2019: Strength in Hope, which runs from June 22 to 29. During the Religious Freedom Week, Catholics are encouraged to pray and act each day for religious freedom.

Resources for Religious Freedom Week including bulletin inserts, talking points, a Pray-Reflect-Act series, and social media downloads with the prayer intention of each day, and other religious liberty resources can be found at [www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek](http://www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek) and [www.usccb.org/freedom](http://www.usccb.org/freedom).

## Parish Social Justice Trust Fund Grants

The Social Justice Trust Fund Grant Application for 2019-2020 are available under the Parish Life/Service section on the [diocesan website](#). Whether or not your parish has applied for a grant in the past, please consider applying this year. Grants may benefit any program based on service or social justice activities. In the past, parishes have used the Social Justice Trust Fund to benefit food pantries, run educational programs, and serve marginalized communities. **Please note that all applications are due by June 14, 2019.**



We especially encourage you to apply for a grant (up to \$5,000) if you have members of your parish who are interested in advocacy, social justice/environmental education, or ministries to persons with disabilities. We have recognized these needs in our communities and hope that parishes will prioritize some of these causes in their applications.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Katy Windels at 570-207-2213 or at [kwindels@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:kwindels@dioceseofscranton.org) for more information.

A poster for the International Student Leadership Institute (ISLI). The text is centered on a light blue background with a decorative border. At the top, it says "Diocese of Scranton Presents:". Below that is "ISLI" in large, bold, yellow letters. Underneath is "INTERNATIONAL STUDENT LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE" in smaller, bold, yellow letters. A horizontal line separates this from "A PEER-FACILITATED LEADERSHIP RETREAT FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS" in small, bold, yellow letters. Below that is "JULY 8-11" in large, bold, yellow letters, followed by "at Misericordia University" in bold, yellow letters. At the bottom left, there are two social media icons: Instagram with the handle "@SCRANTON\_YM" and Facebook with the handle "@ISLIDOS". At the bottom right, it says "For More Info: Applications are available online at Dioceseofscranton.org" and "CALL (570)207-2213 X1155".

Diocese of Scranton  
Presents:

# ISLI

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT  
LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

---

A PEER-FACILITATED LEADERSHIP RETREAT  
FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

## JULY 8-11

at Misericordia University

@SCRANTON\_YM  
 @ISLIDOS

**For More Info:**  
Applications are  
available online at  
[Dioceseofscranton.org](http://Dioceseofscranton.org)  
CALL (570)207-2213 X1155

# Diocesan Partnership with the Center for Ministry Development

The Certificate in Ministry Studies® is a ministry education program for adults in ministry with youth, families and adults, in both parish and school settings. It equips leaders with the knowledge, skills, practical tools, and techniques needed for creative and comprehensive faith formation and/or youth ministry.

Participants in the Certificate Program must be at least 18 years of age, have graduated from high school, and meet Diocesan safe environment requirements.

This program will promote dynamic leadership for Lifelong Faith Formation and Youth Ministry in parishes and schools. The potential audience for the program includes: coordinators of youth ministry, directors of religious education, parish catechists, family faith formation team members, youth ministry volunteer leaders, junior high leaders, high school campus ministers, teachers, clergy, university students and seminarians. Individual weekends are also helpful for leaders who specialize in particular ministries. For example, the Justice and Service course can serve leaders involved in social justice ministries.

The primary aim of the program is to promote personal, spiritual, and ministerial growth. Courses in the first year cover faith formation and youth ministry principles and practices, as well as leadership theory, processes, and skills. The second year focuses on fostering faith growth through evangelization and catechesis, prayer and worship, justice and service, and pastoral care.

The Certificate in Ministry Studies® includes four online course and eight in-person courses. These in-person courses are offered in our Diocese in a weekend format over two years.

The Certificate program is utilized in a number of ways:

- ♦ as an integrated formation program leading to a **Certificate in Youth Ministry Studies** OR a **Certificate in Lifelong Faith Formation**;
- ♦ as an enrichment or continuing education program for veteran leaders;
- ♦ as a workshop series which can be taken on a course-by-course basis by professional or volunteer leaders.

The Office for Parish Life is preparing to offer this program locally, beginning Fall 2019. If you are interested in learning more about this Certificate in Youth Ministry Studies through the sponsorship of the Diocese of Scranton, contact Kitty Scanlan, Coordinator for Ministry Formation, 570-207-2213 or [kitty-scanlan@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:kitty-scanlan@dioceseofscranton.org).



CENTER *for*  
MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT

## OPL TEAM MEMBERS

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

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

Coordinator for Youth/Young Adult Ministry: **Shannon Kowalski**

Director for WORSHIP: **David Baloga**

Coordinator for SERVICE and Social Justice: **Katy Windels**

Coordinator for Pilgrimages: **Fr. Andrew Hvozdovic**

Director for COMMUNITY and Family Development: **Jen Housel**

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

Consultant for Community Connections: **Dominick Costantino**

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

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

Coordinator for Parish Cultural Integration: **Luis Rivera, OFS**

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

Receptionist: **Jennifer Andres** Data Manager/Registrar: **Nancy Valtos**

Administrative Assistant: **Diane Franklin** Office Manager: **Marge Kosmahl**



Office for Parish Life  
330 Wyoming Ave.  
Scranton, PA 18503  
phone: 570-207-2213  
fax: 570-207-2204

[oplgeneral@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:oplgeneral@dioceseofscranton.org)

[www.dioceseofscranton.org](http://www.dioceseofscranton.org)



SUBSCRIBE