



July 2019

GoodNewsNotes

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON OFFICE FOR PARISH LIFE

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Mass of Remembrance
Thursday, July 11 at 7:00PM
Cathedral of Saint Peter

Closing Mass of St. Ann's Novena
Friday, July 26 at 7:00PM
St. Ann's Basilica, Scranton

Invitation to Catechist Camp

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.

Saturday, August 3 (8:30am-3:30pm)
Resurrection Parish, Muncy

Tuesday, August 6 (1:00-7:30pm)
St. Eulalia Parish, Elmhurst

Monday, August 5 (1:00-7:30pm)
St. John Parish, East Stroudsburg

Thursday, August 8 (1:00-7:30pm)
Holy Name of Jesus, Hazleton

Friday, August 9 (1:00-7:30pm)
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Swoyersville

Who could attend Catechist Camp...

- A person who loves God and desires a deeper knowledge of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- A person who has a childlike spirit and understands the wisdom of teaching children by example, and using words, when necessary
- A person who ponders the Gospel and finds the joy sharing life stories that echo the Good News of Jesus
- A person who participates in the Eucharist and is humbly aware of living the Works of Mercy
- A person who is a practicing Catholic and feels an inner nudge to learn more about our faith
- A person who is a parent, grandparent, godparent, single person, college student and is not necessarily a person who has studied theology and Scripture, or an experienced teacher

FORMAT:

Welcome Prayer followed by the general session:

"To Every Creature: Preaching the Good News to All"

Father Brian J. T. Clarke

Breakout Session—Five Stations

"Practical Steps to Living Our Mission According to the Church"

Jacki Douglas

(Continued on page 2)



(Continued from page 1)

Camp-inspired Dinner (lunch on August 3)

BREAKOUT STATIONS:

"Becoming a Family for Others"
 "Don't Be a Voluntourist: Creating Mission Trips with a Purpose"
 "Gente Puente(People Bridge)"
 "Ordinary Holiness on the Journey of Extraordinary Mission"
 "Let's Talk Politics: Forming Faithful Citizens"

Catherine Butel (Red)
 Shannon Kowalski (White)
 Luis Rivera (Green)
 Kitty Scanlan(Yellow)
 Katy Windels(Blue)

CLOSING:

Living your Gift!

Jennifer Hayes Housel

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. For more information, contact Jacki Douglas: (570) 207-2213 or jdouglas@dioceseofscranton.org.



Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry Accepting Applications for Fall 2019

The Office for Parish Life encourages parish leaders to consider application for the Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry for Fall 2019!



The Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry is a ministry formation program designed to equip and advance the servant leadership capacities of individuals serving their parish in areas such as:

- Parish Pastoral Councils,
- Directors of Religious Education and Catechists,
- Liturgical Coordinators,
- Parish Staff,
- Volunteer Ministry teams,
- and others!

Through independent online study with the University of Dayton's Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF), as well as regional skills workshops and opportunities for prayer and reflection, Diocesan Certificate candidates enrich their knowledge, while also learning practical tools for effective parish ministry in their faith communities.

The Office for Parish Life looks forward to welcoming new candidates into the Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry program!

Prospective candidates are encouraged to contact Kitty

Scanlan, Coordinator for Lay Ministry Formation, at 570-207-2213, or by email at Kitty-Scanlan@dioceseofscranton.org for application information, materials, and application submissions.

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.

"I CALL us to be servant leaders who WORSHIP our God
and celebrate the Sacraments in union with the universal Church."

WORSHIP



Fall Bishop's Youth Awards

Bishop's Youth Awards – please stay tuned for new information coming soon! In response to Bishop Bambera's Spring Confirmation schedule, **we will begin hosting the Bishop's Youth Award Masses annually in the Fall (beginning this year!), in each of the four Pastoral Regions.** Dates and preparation process will come by email to all nominators by the end of July.

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.

Looking to Have a Workshop for Your Liturgical Ministers?

Are your cantors or choir members in need of training on the basics of the ministry? Could your lectors or Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion use a "refresher" course or a day of reflection? Board Members of the Scranton Chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians are here to help and are willing to travel to provide a workshop or session for your parish ministers. Please contact David Baloga at 570-207-2213 or at David-Baloga@dioceseofscranton.org for more information.

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

LTP Virtual Workshops

Liturgy Training Publications is offering several different series of online workshops for cantors, lectors, extraordinary ministers of Communion, liturgists, teachers and catechists throughout the year. These virtual workshops are different than other webinars in that they invite participants to engage with the presenter and one another in providing feedback, reflections on the topic at hand, and discuss best practices and strategies for enhancing engagement in their ministries. Here are just some of the upcoming virtual workshops:

- **3 Part Series for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**—Sept 24, Oct. 8, & Oct. 22 at 7:30PM
- **3 Part Series for Cantors**—Oct. 15, Oct. 29, & Nov. 12 at 7:30PM
- **Introduction to the RCIA (in Spanish)**—Oct. 8 at 4:00PM and Oct. 10 at 9:00PM

The cost for each session is \$10- \$15, or \$40 for the 3 part series. For more information, to register for any of these sessions, or to see what other sessions are available throughout the year, please visit www.ltp.org/virtualworkshops.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
SPEAKER
PRAISE & WORSHIP MUSIC
RECONCILIATION
SOCIAL

Monday, July 29, 2019—6:00 to 8:00p.m.

**Divine Mercy Parish
312 Davis Street, Scranton**

For more information, call 570-780-2996
or visit www.vocations.dioceseofscranton.org.

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 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/ or contact Jennifer Housel, Director for Community and Family Development, 570-207-2213 x 1104, jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org.

Scranton Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Retreat/Day of Reflection

The Scranton Diocesan Council of Catholic Women will conduct a Retreat/Day of Reflection on Wednesday, August 7, 2019 at The Villa of Our Lady Retreat House, 245 Meadowside Road, Mount Pocono, PA.

Monsignor Vincent Grimalia, Coordinator for Ecumenism and Interfaith Relations, will conduct the retreat. The theme of the day-long event is "Works of Mercy". The day includes Mass, confession, private time, and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

The retreat will begin at 8:30 a.m. and will end by 3 p.m. A continental breakfast and luncheon will be served. The cost is \$35. All Catholic women are invited to attend. The reservation deadline is July 30th. Please send your reservation with payment to Helen Oravec, 814 Theresa Street, Peckville, PA 18452. Make check payable: Scranton DCCW. Contact Helen Oravec at 570-489-5231 or Judy Poltanis at 570-470-1536 if additional information is required.



Natural Family Planning Awareness Week—July 21-27

Watch for the July editions of *The Catholic Light* and *Our Faith*...Our Diocese for additional features celebrating NFP Awareness Week.

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 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)

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.



Certificate in Ministry Studies

The Office for Parish Life is partnering with Center for Ministry Development to provide specialized



CENTER for
MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT

tracks in ministry formation. 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. The program includes four online courses and eight in-person courses. These in-person courses are offered in our Diocese over a two year period, at minimal cost to the participants because of funds provided through the Diocesan Annual Appeal.

The Certificate program leads to a **Certificate in Youth Ministry Studies** OR **Certificate in Lifelong Faith Formation**. Parishes benefit especially by enrolling coordinators of both ministry areas in the program together.

Program Schedule for 2019-2020 is as follows:

- **September 4, 2019**—Online *Orientation Meeting* with all applicants (offered in the afternoon and evening)
- **September 28, 2019** —In-person course #1 - Diocesan Pastoral Center
 - o *Principles of Youth Ministry* OR
 - o *Principles and Vision for Lifelong Catechesis*
- **October 13- November 9, 2019** —First online course: *Visioning for Catholic Youth Ministry/Catholic Faith Formation*
- **February 2020**—Second online course: *Leading Ministry*
- **March 14, 2020**—In-person course #2—*Practice of Ministry* (location TBD by participants)
- **June 24 & 25, 2020**—In-person courses #3 *Foundations for Ministry Leadership* and #4 *Skills for Christian Leadership*

Persons interested in more information and/or to enroll in the Certificate in Ministry Studies should contact: Kitty Scanlan 570-207-2213 kitty-scanlan@dioceseofscranton.org



Social Justice Trust Fund Grants

The Social Justice Trust Fund Grant Application has officially closed for the season. We will be reviewing applications for the grants this month and will contact parishes in late July. Thank you to all the parishes who applied for funding this year, and a special thanks to all those who work with service and social justice in their communities! We are so grateful for all the work that you do to put the Gospel into action.

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.



**YOUNG
ADULT
CAMPING
TRIP**

at Rickett's Glen State Park

August 23rd - 25th 2019

Open to those 18 & over.	\$10 per person for 1 night	Call Shannon or Katy for more info (570)207-2213
	\$15 per person for both nights	

"Baptized and Sent: The Church of Christ on Mission in the World"

"Baptized and Sent: The Church of Christ on Mission in the World" is the theme chosen by Pope Francis for the Extraordinary Mission Month. Awakening the awareness of the *missio ad gentes*, and reinvigorating the sense of responsibility for proclaiming the Gospel with new enthusiasm, are themes that combine the pastoral concern of Pope Benedict XV in his Apostolic Letter *Maximum Illud*, published 100 years ago, with the missionary vitality expressed by Pope Francis in his recent Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*: "Missionary action is the paradigm of every work of the Church." (EG 15)
There are four dimensions, specified by the Pope, to live more intensely the journey of preparation for the Extraordinary Missionary Month October 2019:

1. A personal encounter with Jesus Christ alive in His Church through the Eucharist, the Word of God, personal and communal prayer;
2. Testimony: missionary saints, martyrs and confessors of the faith, as an expression of the Church scattered throughout the world;
3. Missionary formation: biblical, catechetical, spiritual and theological;
4. Missionary charity.

The Office for Parish Life, in collaboration with the Office of the Pontifical Missions will be providing experiences and resources leading up to this special observance, and throughout the coming year, to help parishes and families to foster mission awareness and participation. Watch for this theme in:

- Catechist Camp 2019 (see page 1 of News Notes)
- OPL Calendar for 2019-2020
- October Extraordinary Mission Month events through Pontifical Missions
- Monthly suggestions for implementing this theme through 2020

OPL TEAM MEMBERS

Diocesan Secretary for Parish Life: **Catherine Jantsch Butel**
Director for WORD and Lifelong Faith Formation: **Jacki Douglas**
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**
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