

The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

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Full STREAM Ahead!



Diocese of Scranton Catholic School System invests \$1 million in STREAM initiative

SCRANTON – While many parents and students have already heard of STEM education, the Diocese of Scranton Catholic School System is now taking its initiative even further.

In an ongoing effort to best prepare students for the 21st century and beyond, the Diocese of Scranton has been developing a new vision for Catholic education.

One of the key components of this new vision will be the integration of the STREAM (Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) model of learning into the curriculum of all schools in the Diocese of Scranton Catholic School System beginning this academic year.

In order to equip educators with the tools necessary to be successful, the Diocese of Scranton has announced an investment of \$1 million to incorporate STREAM into the curriculum of all 20 Catholic Schools by May 2022.

“STREAM is forward thinking, student-centered and cross-curricular,” Jason Morrison, Diocesan Secretary of Catholic Education/Chief Executive Officer, said. “It goes beyond traditional STEM programs. By including the Arts and Religion, we are adding creativity, communication and social responsibility rooted in our Catholic identity.”

Several resources have already been purchased for the initial implementation phase of the new STREAM initiative. BeeBots and Spheros robotics have been purchased to provide students an opportunity to practice computer coding and each school has already received PadCaster technology which will allow students to use an iPad to engage in video production, journalism and public speaking.

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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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Excitement builds as STREAM initiative gets off the ground

Continued from page 1

“National research has shown that the top areas of focus for K-12 schools are encouraging individual and critical thinking, preparing children to successfully enter the job market as well as preparing students for college,” Kristen Donohue, Superintendent of Catholic Schools, said. “STREAM will accomplish this goal for our students and more. Through a hands-on, project based approach students will also develop the critical skills of working collaboratively and effective communication.”

Over the course of the summer, many Diocesan teachers have already received professional development and training in STREAM-related concepts.

“As we officially launch our STREAM initiative, I am confident that this effort will fulfill our promise of excellence and allow each of our students to achieve his/her God-given potential,” Bishop Joseph C. Bambera said.

At All Saints Academy in West Scranton, administrators and staff have already started to embrace the STREAM initiative. Students as young as pre-kindergarten are now using BeeBots, small devices that resemble a bumble bee, which help teach computer coding techniques. Older students have STREAM periods several times a week.

“As we’re getting further and deeper into it, it’s more the idea that we don’t want to stick with the specific periods, we want to let them do it in their classrooms and make it

Victoria Harvey and Larry Fuller, first grade students at All Saints Academy in Scranton, work on building a Lego volcano during a STREAM lesson on Friday, September 20, 2019. Before beginning construction, the students first sketched out their designs before the building process began.



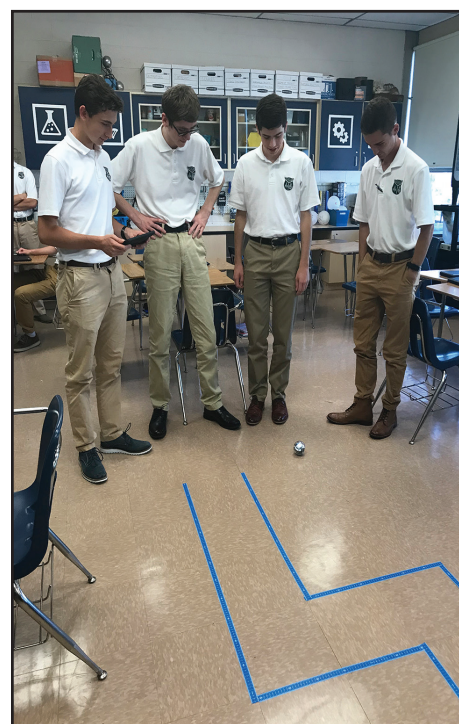
part of the curriculum,” All Saints Academy Principal Brittany Krupski said.

On a recent visit to the school, first grade students were using Legos to build volcanoes in several different groups. As part of STREAM, before they started, the youngsters’ sketched designs like an engineer would, learned about how God created all things including volcanoes and formulated plans for their eruption using vinegar and baking soda.

“It truly gives them the tools they need to succeed. We’re trying to teach them about the 4 C’s, collaboration, creativity, critical thinking and communication, and these tools that were given to us allow us to head in that direction. They aid our teachers in making the lessons more interesting and more interactive,” Krupski said.



Teacher Kimberly Mecir from Holy Cross High School explains how the new Spheros technology is connected to iPads during one of her recent classes.



Students from Holy Cross High School in Dunmore are introduced to the new Spheros technology. The Spheros robotics are part of the new \$1 million investment in STREAM learning for the Diocese. (Photos/Eric Deabill)

Saint John Paul II Award Recipients for 25 or more years of dedicated service to Catholic Education in the Diocese of Scranton



Front Row, left to right: Marinell Harding, Saint Clare/Saint Paul School; Dianne Ruch, Good Shepherd Academy; Mary Finkernagel, Holy Redeemer High School; Sister Dorothy Kibler, IHM, Notre Dame Elementary School; Christy Litchfield, Saint John Neumann Regional Academy; Ann Mullen, Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School; Maryanne DeMark, LaSalle Academy; John Litchfield, Saint John Neumann Regional Academy.

Back Row, left to right: Monsignor Thomas M. Muldowney, V.G.; Kristen Donohue, Superintendent of Schools; Bishop Joseph C. Bambera; Jason Morrison, Diocesan Secretary of Catholic Education/Chief Executive Officer; Kathleen Gilmartin, Assistant Superintendent.

Absent from photo: Rebecca Basse, Saint Agnes School, Towanda.

Diocesan Teachers' Institute allows educators to share ideas

WILKES-BARRE – As a product of Catholic education herself, Shaina Dougherty is excited about the possibilities that STREAM education offers her students.

“STREAM is very critical to the ever-changing society in which we’re living,” Dougherty said during the Diocesan Teachers’ Institute which was held at Holy Redeemer High School on Monday, September 23.

As a sixth, seventh and eighth grade math teacher at LaSalle Academy in Jessup, Dougherty says STREAM-focused learning will help prepare students for jobs that have not even been created yet.

Dougherty is one of several educators that helped facilitate interactive break-out sessions for fellow teachers at the day-long Institute. During her presentation to colleagues, Dougherty showed off Spheros robots which can help students learn computer coding and other skills.

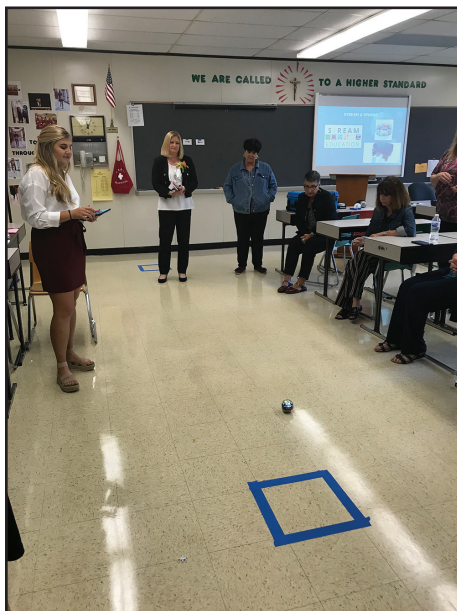
“This is something I’m very passionate about and something that I truly enjoy learning,” Dougherty added.

In a nearby classroom, All Saints Academy kindergarten teacher Molly Sullivan was also teaching her peers.

“As an educator, you want to share your knowledge with other teachers, you want to learn from other teachers and everybody has great ideas,” Sullivan said.

Sullivan explained how STREAM concepts can easily be added to the existing lesson plans that many teachers already have.

“The youngest kids actually sometimes know more about electronics than we do, so we can learn from them as well! Some of those children have been using iPads since they’ve been able to move their fingers so this is very second nature to them,” Sullivan explained.



Shaina Dougherty, a math teacher from LaSalle Academy in Jessup, teachers her fellow educators about the new Spheros robotics during the Diocesan Teachers’ Institute on Monday, September 23, 2019.

Shortly before the break-out sessions began, teachers from all 20 Catholic schools across the Diocese learned of the investment of \$1 million to incorporate STREAM into the curriculum of all schools by May 2022.

“As a parent of three boys that are in the Diocese, it’s great to see that they’re behind us and that they’re investing in our children, they’re investing in our schools and in education in general. I know a lot of people who have brought their children to the Catholic Schools from public systems because they can see where we’re going, they can see the path that we’re on!” Sullivan said.



Educators practice and learn from each other with the new Padcaster technology during the Diocesan Teachers’ Institute.

“As we are graciously accepting that \$1 million, it’s going to be so helpful for getting us the necessary tools and supplies that we’re going to need in order to take this transformative approach to education and this is really the first step in doing that!” Dougherty added.

The Keynote Speaker for the Diocesan Teachers’ Institute was Susan M. Ferguson, M.A., Director of the University of Dayton Center for Catholic Education. In her presentation, Ferguson focused on the significance of the STREAM initiative as it impacts the learning abilities of students and how it empowers teachers to incorporate Catholic identity into every aspect of the curriculum.

“Parents today are savvy customers. They want to ensure that their students are going to be college-ready and career-ready so as Catholic educators it’s important for us to listen to parents,” Ferguson said.

Citing national research, Ferguson said parents want schools to prepare students for college and the global job market but also teach them to think critically and individually.

“If we want to know what the star of a movie is, you go to your phone and you Google it, so information is readily at hand but how do we think about that information? How do we think critically?” Ferguson asked. “We need to be helping our students evaluate the information that comes to them, helping them to understand how to analyze it, how to create, how to synthesize with it in order to solve real world problems of which there are many.”

The Diocesan Teachers’ Institute began with Mass celebrated by Bishop Joseph Bambera at Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church.

During his homily, Bishop Bambera urged educators to take care of the gift of faith.

“Nurture it, protect it and understand that for the gift of faith to flourish, we need to act upon it, we need to give our faith a life, a voice and a heart!” Bishop Bambera said.

The Bishop highlighted the contributions that the Catholic School System has made on the Diocese of Scranton. While acknowledging all the efforts of the past, Bishop Bambera said as the Diocese moves forward this is a time of growth.

“Today, I’m excited to say that the vision that has always sustained our Catholic Schools these past 151 years continues to evolve and take particular shape and form as we navigate the exciting and challenging waters of the 21st century with its explosion of knowledge and opportunity,” Bishop Bambera said.

Following the homily, all Catholic educators recited the Prayer of Commitment in which they asked God to strengthen their commitment to the ideals of Catholic education, using their talents and gifts to enrich the lives of their students, colleagues and extended school community.

Children helping children: Students raise awareness for pediatric cancer

CLARKS GREEN – If you see a pink ribbon, most people generally know it is meant to support breast cancer awareness but students at Our Lady of Peace School want you to know what a gold ribbon is for.

Gold is the color that signifies Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, which is recognized every September.

In an effort to spread awareness, students formed a large gold ribbon outside their school on Friday, September 27, 2019.

“I thought it would be nice to get all of our schools involved somehow in recognizing all of the children that are affected by cancer and their families,” Elizabeth Devine, Diocesan Elementary School Guidance Counselor said.

While largely symbolic, the large gold ribbon was the culmination of a month-long series of activities inside the Lackawanna County Catholic School.

“We were recognizing this cause for the entire month of September,” Ann D’Arienzo, Our Lady of Peace School Principal, said. “Each homeroom also had a 16.9-ounce water bottle and



Wearing gold shirts to raise awareness for pediatric cancer, students from Our Lady of Peace School in Clarks Green form a large ribbon outside of their school on Friday, September 27, 2019.

they were filling it with dimes. If they filled it, each bottle is \$100. We had a couple homerooms that did a couple different bottles!”

All of the money collected is being sent to the Jesse Rees Foundation which will use the donated funds to send “Joy Jars” to kids battling cancer.

“Truly, this is children helping other children and I don’t think there is anything more beautiful than that!” D’Arienzo said.

“I’ve heard stories of little kids going and raiding their home piggy bank which is what we’re all about, trying to get them to see community,” Devine added.

Throughout the month of September, students also wrote positive messages for those bravely battling cancer on gold and white hearts which were displayed on a wall inside the school.

One of the messages said: “God is with you. Be Strong.”

Another said, “You have been assigned this mountain to show others it could be moved.”

“Our motto here is Excellence with Character and we model the Master Teacher and we reflect that to our students so they see what it is to serve other people,” D’Arienzo said.

Statistics from the Children’s Cancer Research Fund indicate that every year, more than 15,000 kids and young adults are diagnosed with cancer – approximately 43 per day. Cancer is the leading disease-related cause of death in children.

For Elizabeth Devine, this project was personal. Her 12-year-old nephew is waging a cancer battle.

“It’s very personal. We’re watching my nephew go through it and thank God he’s doing well but you see the impact on not just the child but on the family,” Devine said.

In addition to the Our Lady of Peace School students, Diocesan school students from Saint Mary of Mount Carmel School in Dunmore and All Saints Academy in Scranton also dressed in gold on Friday, September 27, to join in the effort.

Diocese adds two names to list of credibly accused individuals

Following the release of the Pennsylvania Grand Jury Report in 2018, Bishop Joseph Bambera pledged to be open and transparent in the way that the Diocese of Scranton handles occurrences of child sexual abuse.

As a result, the Diocese announces two names have been added to its list of clergy that have a credible claim of sexual abuse against a minor.

In August 2018, the Diocese published on its website a list of all clergy, staff and volunteers who had been credibly accused of child sexual abuse. Eleven additional names were added to the online list in January 2019. Since then, additional survivors have come forward. After a review was completed in consultation with the Diocesan Independent Review Board, the two new names are listed below. We will continue to alert you periodically in the case that additional individuals are added to list.

The Diocese of Scranton urges individuals who have been sexually abused by a priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese to report abuse directly to law enforcement. If you are aware of additional allegations of wrongdoing or any information that should be included on this list, please contact our Victim Assistance Coordinator Mary Beth Pacuska at (570) 862-7551. If you have suffered abuse by clergy or anyone working on behalf of the Diocese, you are encouraged to contact Mary Beth Pacuska.

These names have been added to the original list of credibly accused individuals:

DIOCESAN CLERGY

Oldfield, Albert E.

MEMBERS OF RELIGIOUS ORDERS

Gormley, James J. (S.J.)

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).

Aviso al Respeto 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).

Bullying isn't just something that impacts children



By Kathleen Bolinski, LSW
Safe Environment Coordinator

The month of October is designated as Bullying Prevention month. When we think of the term bullying, the image that typically comes to mind is one or more youth intimidating another young person. While that continues to be a sad but common occurrence in today's society, I would like to point out that adults are often victimized by bullies as well. Have you ever witnessed a co-worker being humiliated in a public way by their supervisor? Or perhaps you have seen a fellow employee target a co-worker?

The American Psychological Association defines bullying as "a form of aggressive behavior in which someone intentionally and repeatedly causes another person injury or discomfort. Bullying can take the form of physical contact, words or more subtle actions." The goal of the bully's behavior is to demonstrate power over the victim.

One of the ways that people can be disrespected is through a boundary violation. The term "vulnerable adult" has often been used to categorize individuals that are manipulated due to their diminished capacity. Recently, the term has been redefined by Pope Francis. The new Canon and Vatican City law includes those who are "in an infirm state, of physical or mental deficiency, or deprivation of personal freedom, that in fact, even occasionally, limits their capacity to intend or to want or in any way to resist the offense." This broad definition can include those who are violated due to a power differential in the relationship between a bully and victim. This position of authority often renders the victim seemingly helpless to resist.

What can adults do to address bullying behavior? It is important to establish clear and consistent boundaries and to communicate where the lines are drawn. How successful you may be in this attempt depends on the history of the relationship between you and the offender. When the unacceptable behavior has been ongoing, it will be more difficult to engage in a conversation with the bully. If the dialogue has not produced the desired results, can you avoid contact with the individual? If not, you should inform someone in charge. Be sure to document instances of bullying behavior. When the action moves from verbal harassment to physical threats, it is time to seek outside assistance, perhaps even law enforcement or legal action. We cannot control others so we must protect ourselves.

Whether the bullying is directed towards young people or adults, the consequences are harmful to both your emotional well-being and physical health. Stacey Colino advises in her article, *The Long Reach of Bullying*, that you should not allow the actions of the bully to consume your thoughts. "Engage in positive self-talk to try to bolster your spirits and self-confidence," Ms. Colino writes. She stresses that the support of trusted friends and co-workers is critical to your success in removing the toxic situation from your daily life.

Being in a Safe Environment is important for all of us.



Rite of Admission to Candidacy for Holy Orders and Institution of Acolyte



Front Row, left to right: John Jorda, Eugene Blockus, Joseph Marcellus, Joseph Sudano, Monsignor David Bohr, Bishop Joseph Bambera, Deacon Walter Janoski, Gerard Pernot, Joseph Chmiola, Jr., Angel Luis Rivera and Peter Lemoncelli.

Back Row, left to right: William Flowers, Martin Castaldi, Sr., Nicholas Rocco, Matthew Eisley, Stephen Wallo, Frank Zeranski, Steven Miller, John Bubb, John Bankus and Thomas Kostic.

“The call to discipleship, to holiness and mission, is both a blessing and an incredible challenge,” Bishop Joseph C. Bambera said as he delivered the homily for the newest class of acolytes and candidates for the Permanent Diaconate in the Diocese of Scranton on September 28, 2019.

Ten men took the first ritual step toward becoming deacons during the celebration of the Rite of Admission to Candidacy at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

The aspirants include John F. Bankus, John F. Bubb, Martin J. Castaldi, Matthew R. Eisley, William D. Flowers, Thomas A. Kostic, Steven J. Miller, Nicholas M. Rocco, Stephen J. Wallo and Frank H. Zeranski.

During his homily, Bishop Bambera addressed all ten men by name, saying, “You are being given the opportunity to deepen your resolve to follow the Lord Jesus and to serve the People of God. Just as the first disciples, you have been chosen for this role. The Church has understood this to mean that no one enters into ordained service who has not been called, chosen and sent. The ordained ministry is not like a career which one self-selects, but a divine vocation and grace to which one strives to be faithful.”

At the same Mass eight men were also instituted in the ministry of acolyte. As acolytes, their responsibilities will include assisting priests and deacons in the Mass, especially by arranging the altar before consecration, purifying sacred vessels and serving as extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion.

Those instituted include Eugene N. Blockus, Joseph J. Chmiola, John C. Jorda, Peter J. Lemoncelli, Joseph Marcellus, Gerard P. Pernot, Angel Luis Rivera and Joseph Sudano.

In addressing the members of the newest class of acolytes, Bishop Bambera said, “You are being called in a special way by the Church today to see with eyes of faith, the life, power and presence of Jesus in the gift of the Eucharist – the source and summit of the Church’s very existence – that which builds up the Christian community and makes it grow...Because you are called to this ministry, you should strive to live more fully by the Lord’s sacrifice and to be molded more perfectly in its likeness.”



Bishop Joseph C. Bambera prays to the Lord for those chosen by Him to serve in the ministry of acolyte. The bishop asked the Lord to fill the men with His blessing and strengthen them for faithful service in His Church.
(Photos/Mike Melisky)

Meet the Deacons



**Deacon
James Atherton**

**Saint Jude Parish,
Mountain Top**

**Ordination
Year: 2004**

DESCRIBE YOUR ROLE AS A DEACON IN THE PARISH WHERE YOU ARE ASSIGNED. WHAT KIND OF SERVICE MINISTRY ARE YOU INVOLVED IN?

- + Baptism preparation
- + Assist with wake services
- + Hospital visitation
- + Preaching & assisting the pastor as needed

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

Bringing glory to God by attempting to be a loving presence in our society and helping people in their time of need.

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

Working full-time in a secular job and being a husband and father requires planning and balance. As a Deacon, I strive to the best of my ability through the Holy Spirit to represent the Church and Christ in my secular job by being a loving and compassionate person. When you are ordained a Deacon you not only serve in that capacity on church time but are called to go out into the world bringing honor and glory to God and his Church in every capacity of your life.

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

Spend time in prayer and seek spiritual direction from your pastor or someone in the Diaconate.

Prayer Requests for Priests

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

October 10, Father Thomas Maloney; October 11, Father Joseph Manarchuck; October 12, Franciscan Father Pio Mandato; October 13, Father Michael Marchetti; October 14, Monsignor Francis Marini; October 15, Jesuit Father Leonard Martin; October 16, Bishop Emeritus Joseph F. Martino; October 17, Holy Cross Father Brendan McAleer; October 18, Monsignor Donald McAndrews; October 19, Passionist Father Thomas McCann; October 20, Father Michael McCormick;

October 21, Father Glenn McCreary, V.E.; October 22, Father Patrick McDowell; October 23, Father James McGahagan; October 24, Father Gerard McGlone; October 25, Monsignor Stephen McGough; October 26, Father John McHale; October 27, Father Connell McHugh; October 28, Jesuit Father Bernard McIlhenny; October 29, Father Leo McKernan; October 30, Jesuit Father Ronald McKinney; October 31, Father Patrick McLaughlin; November 1, Pope Francis; November 2, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI; November 3, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera; November 4, Father Peter Menghini.

"It's been an eye-opener for them"

With support from Diocesan Annual Appeal, Church helps those in need

By Eric Deabill
Editor-in-Chief

HAZLETON – Parishioners from the Church of Saint John Bosco in Conyngham are no strangers to helping their neighbors in need.

On the third Wednesday of every month, volunteers from the parish can be found at the Hazleton Salvation Army site on West Broad Street, serving a full course meal to those less fortunate.

"We all think we get more out of it than those we serve. It's a very humbling thing for us and it's very fulfilling," volunteer coordinator Arlene Stagg said.

More than 30 people regularly volunteer to help with preparing and serving the meal. While some are asked to serve



Rev. Richard J. Polmouter, Pastor, Saint John Bosco Church, greets guests at the monthly meal sponsored by his parish.

the meal each month, others participate by baking cookies or supplying other needed items.

"They are an amazing group. We're very blessed to have Arlene and all of the other volunteers that work with her," Rev. Richard J. Polmouter, Pastor, Saint John Bosco, said.

The ongoing social justice service efforts of Saint John Bosco Church are supported by generous contributions to the Diocesan Annual Appeal. The Church has received a social justice grant to help its efforts.

"We use that mainly for the purchase of the meats that we supply. Other items are usually supplied by the volunteers but the main cost is the meat and when we don't get a donation, the money pays for that," Stagg said.

Serving others is something that is very important to members of the Church. Stagg says they have formed a bond with many of the guests who come to enjoy a meal at the Salvation Army.

"There are quite a few that are regulars. Just looking at them you know that they're in



Amelia Minzola, left, and Kayla Martisofski, right, help prepare a meal to be served at the Hazleton Salvation Army over the summer.

need," Stagg said. "They're very friendly and very grateful."

During the summer months, members of the Church's youth group typically assist with serving meals.

"It's been an eye-opener for them. Sometimes living in the community, they don't know some of the needs so they might be a little insulated from it and they have found it to be an eye-opening experience and many of them have asked to come back and to serve," Rev. Polmouter said.

Parishioners' service efforts go beyond the Salvation Army site in Hazleton. The Church also participates in the Valley Food Pantry and helps to prepare between 10,000 and 12,000 meals as part of the Rise Against Hunger initiative which focuses on world hunger.

Each month as parishioners come together to serve their hot, nutritious meal, they're also thankful for the support they get from the Diocesan Annual Appeal for their efforts.

"We thank the donors to the Annual Appeal that allow us to continue this work that we feel the Lord is leading us in," Stagg said.

"We're grateful for all of their assistance," Rev. Polmouter added.

Social justice grants, like the one that supports the Saint John Bosco monthly meal program, are open to parishes across the Diocese to support outreach ministries for their local communities. More information is available at www.dioceseofscranton.org.



Debbie Minzola and her daughter help prepare watermelon and broccoli for the monthly meal they serve to people in need.

2019 Annual Appeal Gifts Support

Catholic Education

Catholic Social Services

Parish Life

Catholic Communications

Social Justice Grants

Faith Formation Grants

Clergy Support

**Make a donation at
www.AnnualAppeal.org**

Regional Chairs named for Bradford, Sullivan and Susquehanna Counties



Father Philip Rayappan, Pastor, Holy Name of Mary Parish, Montrose, far left, and Joan and John Schoonover of Sayre, accept Bishop Joseph Bambera's invitation to serve as regional chairs for the Annual Appeal.

John and Joan Schoonover, Sayre, are serving the Diocese as regional lay chairs for the 2019 Annual Appeal, representing Bradford, Sullivan and Susquehanna counties while Father Philip Rayappan, Pastor of Holy Name of Mary, Montrose, is serving as clergy chair for the region.

Mr. and Mrs. Schoonover are parishioners of Epiphany Parish and members of the Pastoral Council, the Stewardship Implementation Team and the choir. John is also catechist in the RCIA program. The couple have three children and four grandsons.

Commenting on the Appeal, Joan said, "When we are truly grateful for all God's blessings, then we know that we must share them with others. God gives us gifts of time, treasure and talent and we, in turn, use them to serve others in His name."

"Giving to the Appeal is a great statement about where we should be and what we should be doing," John said. "Please continue your support of your parishes and the Appeal and please encourage your friends and fellow parishioners to do the same!"

Father Rayappan added, "Individuals who depend on the Diocesan ministries and services need our monetary support. We have a responsibility for this work to continue... We have to shine as Christ's light. We have to share our blessings through the Appeal and do our share, my share, because we love our Church!"

Diocese of Scranton
2019 DIOCESAN
ANNUAL APPEAL

SERVING
IN *faith*
WITH HOPE
AND GRATITUDE



The faithful of Saint Maximilian Kolbe Parish in Pocono Pines gathered on September 14 to celebrate 10 years of the founding of the parish with a special anniversary Mass and dinner.

On September 13, 2009, Our Lady of the Lake Parish in Pocono Pines and Christ the King Parish in Blakeslee merged to form Saint Maximilian Kolbe Parish and held its opening Mass.

In honor of the anniversary, the Most Reverend Joseph Pepe, Bishop Emeritus of Las Vegas and parishioner at Saint Maximilian Kolbe Parish, presided at the anniversary Mass.

Reverend Sean Carpenter, pastor of Saint Maximilian Kolbe Parish, and Reverend Thomas Maloney, founding pastor of Our Lady of the Lake Parish, concelebrated.

Following the Mass, parishioners gathered in the parish hall to share a meal featuring recipes from the parish cookbook that was first published when the parish was newly formed.



Bishop Joseph C. Bambera was the principal celebrant and homilist for a special Mass on September 29 to celebrate 10 years since the founding of Divine Mercy Parish in Scranton.

During his homily, the bishop congratulated the faithful for the way they have come together to form a strong community of faith.

“In this wonderful parish, you celebrate life and call one another to a profound respect for this sublime gift of God, you work to instill appreciation for the teachings of our faith in young and old alike and you worship and pray with great energy and devotion. You also feed families and clothe the poor and reach out in welcome to those who seek a way forward in hope for themselves and their families,” Bishop Bambera said.

“More than you might ever imagine or admit, you have been and continue to be the voice, the hands and the heart of Jesus – faithful disciples – in so many ways,” the bishop added.

Hundreds attend “Touched by Addiction” Mass



Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Peckville hosted a Mass for those “Touched by Addiction,” on September 27. More than 200 people gathered to pray for all those in recovery, their family members and friends as well as those still active in their addiction. The Mass also remembered all those who have died because of the disease of addiction.

Rev. Andrew Kurovsky, pastor and recovering addict, served as presider and homilist. In his homily, he encouraged those gathered and especially those who love persons with addiction to never lose hope. Realizing that it is a “disease and not a disgrace,” families who gathered supported one another in prayer and encouraged one another by their presence and participation in the Eucharist.

“No one can find true peace and recovery on their own,” Rev. Kurovsky told the crowd. “For those of us who are Christian, we can never find it without Jesus Christ.”

The presence of the members of the Wright Center Behavioral Science Department heightened the need for all aspects of the community to work together to help stem the epidemic of addiction.

A reception followed which provided the gathering a time to interact in a less formal setting. The parish hopes to make this Mass a yearly event.

Cathedral of Saint Peter celebrates 135 Years



With hearts full of gratitude to Almighty God, the Cathedral of Saint Peter celebrated the 135th Anniversary of its dedication on September 28.

The occasion was celebrated as a Solemnity within the Cathedral and as a Feast in all parishes in the Diocese of Scranton. As Monsignor Dale Rupert, pastor, explained in a letter to his parishioners, “It is done so to reflect the importance of the Cathedral in the life of our local Church. It is here that Bishop Bambera has his chair, or cathedra, and it is here that we celebrate great moments in our community of faith.”

Consecrated the Cathedral of Saint Peter by Scranton’s first bishop, the Right Reverend William O’Hara on September 28, 1884, the Cathedral had been Saint Vincent de Paul Church for seventeen years. The change in name calls to mind Christ’s words to Saint Peter: “Upon this rock, I will build my church. (Mt 16:18)”

“Let us give glory to God today as we thank him for the gift of our beloved Cathedral and remember generations past who sacrificed their time, talent and treasure to build this Church. Our Cathedral -- made from stone, glass, marble, and wood -- is a symbol of God’s living Church,” Monsignor Rupert added.

WORD Convocation



(Convocation for Catechists)

Saturday, October 19 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Diocesan Pastoral Center

330 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton

The Office for Parish Life invites DREs, catechists, RCIA teams, Youth Ministers, those on parish WORD Commissions, Catholic School teachers and anyone engaged in Ministry of the Word to share in the WORD Convocation.



The Keynote Speaker will be Sister Janet Schaeffler offering a presentation entitled, "Committed Catechists, Faithful Followers: Prayerful, Passionate, Peace-filled."

Janet Schaeffler, OP, is an Adrian Dominican Sister who has spent many years in parish and archdiocesan catechetical ministry. Sister Janet currently accompanies others on their faith-journey through days of reflection/retreats, parish missions, workshops, catechist formation opportunities and many other activities.



The convocation will also feature Dr. Joseph White. Dr. White is a child and family psychologist and national catechetical consultant for Our Sunday Visitor Publishing and Curriculum. He has worked as a parish catechetical leader and spent seven years as Director of Family Counseling and Family Life in the Diocese of Austin. A frequent guest on Catholic TV and radio, Dr. White is the author of 10 books and numerous articles on catechesis and ministry.

Convocation 2019 Workshops

- *Catechizing Parents through their Children's Sacraments*
- *A Future Full of Hope: Keeping Kids Catholic*
- *How to NOT be Boring: Getting Children's Attention and Keeping It*
- *Confirmation: How to identify the PURPOSE of making a decision point about your chosen curriculum*
- *How to plan your confirmation retreat*
- *Ongoing formation: Why it is so important*
- *Parents and Catechesis: Forming a strong partnership*
- *Arming yourself with the Word of God*
- *Connecting Catechesis: Our Ministry Together*
- *DRE vs. Youth Minister: Working Together*

To register for the WORD Convocation visit:

www.dioceseofscranton.org

or call Jacki Douglas at (570) 207-2213, x1100

CLERGY APPOINTMENTS

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

Reverend Richard Rojas, priest of The Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter, from Chaplain, Mercy Center, Dallas, to ministry within the Ordinariate of The Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter, effective September 22, 2019.

Reverend Alfred J. Vito, from Leave of Absence, to Chaplain, Mercy Center, Dallas, effective September 23, 2019.

Reverend Richard G. Ghezzi, from Chaplain, St. Luke's Villa, Wilkes-Barre and Little Flower Manor/St. Therese Residence, Wilkes-Barre, to Sacramental Minister, Allied Services Meade Street Senior Community, Wilkes-Barre and Allied Services Center City Senior Community, Wilkes-Barre, effective October 1, 2019.

Reverend Arun Lakra, from Heralds of the Good News Mother Theresa Province, India, to Assistant Pastor, Immaculate Conception Parish, Freeland and Good Shepherd Parish, Drums, effective October 10, 2019.

Reverend Rawel Toppo, from Heralds of the Good News Mother Theresa Province, India, to Assistant Pastor, Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Brodheadsville, effective October 10, 2019.



Bishop Bambera celebrated Mass at Marian Catholic High School, Tamaqua, on September 18, 2019. In this photo, he is joined by all of the students who call the Diocese of Scranton their home.



BISHOP BAMBERA'S SCHEDULE

October 9-10 - USCCB Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs Meeting
Chicago

October 11 - Red Mass
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 12:10 p.m.

October 12 - 100th Anniversary Mass
Epiphany Church, Sayre, 4:00 p.m.

October 13 - Respect Life Sunday Mass
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 10:00 a.m.

October 16 - All Saints Academy School Visit
Scranton, 10:00 a.m.

October 27 - Mission Sunday Mass
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 12:15 p.m.

October 29 - Saint John Neumann Regional Academy Junior/Senior High School Mass, Williamsport, 10:00 a.m.

October 29 - Saint John Neumann Regional Academy Lower Campus School Visit, Williamsport, 12:30 p.m.

Diocese to join in 'America Needs Fatima' cross-country Rosary rallies on Saturday

Several groups of faithful throughout the Diocese of Scranton will participate in this year's "America Needs Fatima" Rosary Crusade that will spread across the United States this coming Saturday, Oct. 12.

Diocesan devotees have once again responded to the national effort of prayers for America, world peace and the sanctity of all human life, especially the unborn.

Held annually to celebrate October as Respect Life Month and the Month of the Holy Rosary, the "America Needs Fatima" campaign is based on the power of public prayers for reparation as outlined by the Blessed Mother's apparitions to the shepherd children at Fatima in Portugal in 1917.

The public Rosary rallies in the Scranton Diocese will coincide with an estimated 20,000 to be staged simultaneously on Saturday at 12 noon. A list of the local prayer gatherings are as follows:

In Wayne County

A public Rosary Rally will be held at Bingham Park in Hawley on Saturday from noon to 1 p.m., sponsored by the Hawley parish of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace. For more information, contact Catherine Hansen (570) 352-6921.

Parishioners representing the four worship sites encompassed by Saint John

the Evangelist Parish in Honesdale will join their pastor, Father William Langan, in a Rosary Rally on Saturday from noon to 2 p.m. in the borough's Central Park at Church & Ninth streets.

The gathering will begin with celebration of Mass at 11 a.m. in Saint Mary Magdalen Church, Church St., Honesdale, followed by a procession to the park. The Honesdale Catholic faithful will join with the children in the Faith Formation and youth group programs, as well as Knights

of Columbus, in leading the decades of the Rosary. All are invited and should provide their own chairs.

In case of inclement weather, the rally will be held in Saint Mary Magdalen Church.

In Luzerne County

Knights of Columbus Council 5940 will lead a public recitation of the Rosary on Saturday at 12 noon at the Healey Memorial Playground in Avoca, located at 398 Foote

Ave. For more information, contact Joseph Musto (570) 905-0872.

The public Rosary Rally beginning at 12 noon in Wilkes-Barre will gather faithful at the outdoor Our Lady of Fatima Grotto, located at West North Street in the city.

The parking lot of the Weis Store in Mountain Top will be site for the public Rosary Rally starting at noon. For more information, call Marie (570) 574-0849, or Carmen (570) 262-7373.

Indoor Rally on Sunday

A special indoor Rosary Rally commemorating the 102nd anniversary of the Miracle of Fatima associated with the final Marian apparition in 1917 will be hosted at Saint Mary of Czestochowa Church in Eynon on Sunday, Oct. 13.

Sponsored by the Legion of Mary in the Diocese, the rally begins at 6 p.m. in Saint Mary Church, 417 Main St., and includes recitation of the Rosary, Fatima prayers, and hymns led by Ernie Pappa, facilitator.

All faithful are invited to offer penitential prayers for America, for peace in the world, and for healing within families and communities.

Group Plans Outdoor Rosary Rallies

A group of Diocesan faithful dedicated to an increase in devotion to the Blessed Mother will host consecutive public Rosary rallies on Saturday, Oct. 12, in Lackawanna and Luzerne counties.

Commemorating the 102nd anniversary of the final Marian apparition at Fatima, Portugal, on Oct. 13, 1917, the outdoor Rosary devotions will coincide with the 20,000 rallies being sponsored that day throughout the country by "America Needs Fatima" for greater spiritual conversion and reparation for sins.

The Rosary Crusade in Scranton begins at 12 noon with a public prayer rally at Lackawanna County's Courthouse Square on North Washington Ave., with prayers

and Rosary recitation led by Josie Roman.

Three hours later, at 3 p.m., an outdoor Rosary rally will be hosted at the Fatima shrine of the grounds of Saint Joseph's Oblate Seminary, Route 315, Laflin (Pittston). Saint Joseph Oblate Father Joseph Sibilano, director of the seminary, will lead the devotion and public recitation of Rosary prayers.

Local musician and vocalist Ernie Pappa will provide the music ministry at both events. All faithful are welcome to participate.

For more information, contact Josie Roman at (570) 342-5614 or the Oblates of Saint Joseph Seminary at (570) 654-7542.

'Life Chains' Link Faithful Across Diocese

This past Sunday, October 6, the National Life Chain united pro-life faithful across the Diocese of Scranton — and the United States — in standing up in peaceful, prayerful witness for the sanctity of all human life.

The annual public display, when pro-life Americans take to the streets to make their presence felt regarding the evils of abortion, celebrates October as Respect Life Month, with special regard to Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima.

In the upper photo, the Bradford County Pennsylvanians for Human Life form part of the Life Chain that stretched across the Diocese's Northern Tier and into New York state.

Scenes to the right represent Life Chain Sunday, which culminated a Pro-Life Novena hosted by Saint Joseph the Worker Parish in Williamsport.

At far right, Father Brian Van Fossen is pictured with leaders from the PA Pro-Life Federation's local chapter, PHL Susquehanna Valley.



Diocesan Day of Service leaves behind tremendous impact

By Eric Deabill
Editor-in-Chief

From Williamsport to Wilkes-Barre, Scranton to East Stroudsburg, volunteers spread out across the Diocese of Scranton to give back to their community last month for the 2019 Diocesan Day of Service.

The event, held on Saturday, September 21, featured several different service projects in each region.

A total of 185 students from parishes, Catholic high schools and local colleges took part in the effort.

“It was really fun getting into the community and seeing Scranton,” Lauren McGuire, a University of Scranton freshman said.

A native of Pearl River, NY, McGuire found out about the Diocesan Day of Service through her college and even though she has only lived in the Electric City for a month, she didn’t hesitate to participate.

“I like meeting new people, helping to clean the environment and just helping others,” McGuire said.

While volunteering, McGuire met other like-minded people including Matthew Cunningham, 26, a parishioner at Saint John Neumann Parish in Scranton. The pair was among the volunteers who



Volunteers from Holy Cross High School and surrounding parishes work to spruce up the grounds of the I.H.M. Center near Marywood University.

visited and volunteered at Saint Joseph’s Center, an organization that helps individuals with special abilities.

“We went to Saint Joseph’s Center and worked with the adults with special needs. We had this fun game where we threw up a parachute and they all went under it at least once,” Cunningham said.

This is the second year that Cunningham took part in the Diocesan Day of Service.

“There’s not many opportunities like this where a large group of people all come together to serve. When an opportunity like this arises, I’m going to take it because it’s really nice to do this kind of stuff!”

Cunningham said. “It’s so easy to just stay at home and pray and keep it to yourself but it’s great to take these opportunities to go out and love your neighbor like we’re called to do.”

A few miles away at the I.H.M. Center near Marywood University, a different group of volunteers was busy raking, weeding and clearing away brush.

“This is the first time I’ve been involved and I think it’s a great thing to do, helping out with the environment, helping the Sisters, I think it’s a really good thing,” Holy Cross High School junior Robert Kane of Scranton said.

Before the Diocesan Day of Service, Kane said he only visited the I.H.M. Center once for a retreat.

“It always makes me feel good to make an impact because you’re affecting other people, you’re helping others,” Kane added. “I think that it’s an important thing for any Catholic because we’re a Catholic school and I think it’s an important thing for any Catholic or Christian to do.”

Fellow high school junior Caroline Shaffern worked along Kane.



Volunteers from Wilkes University served together raking, weeding and painting at the Wyoming Valley Catholic Youth Center in Wilkes-Barre.



The Confirmation Class from Blessed Virgin Mary Queen of Peace Parish in Hawley helps clear out the tomato crop to prepare for winter at the Dorothy Day Catholic Worker Farm.

“It was fun and genuinely getting to do some service with young people is just really fun and it shows that there are good people left in our crazy world,” Shaffern said.

Shaffern said she feels like the day was truly a success.

“Sometimes you think, ‘I’m just one person. It doesn’t really affect anybody else’ but it genuinely does!” Shaffern said.

Besides the volunteer efforts in Scranton, in Luzerne County, volunteers helped with painting projects and yard work at the Wyoming Valley Catholic Youth Center, in addition to working at Ruth’s Place and other select sites.

In East Stroudsburg, more than 50 volunteers worked on projects at sites including Habitat for Humanity, Notre Dame High School and the Garden of Giving.

In Williamsport, volunteers assisted with projects at sites including Family Promise, Expectations and the Williamsport Cemetery.

This was the third year for the Diocesan Day of Service. The event in each region began with a Mass and ended with a prayer and reflection on the experience.



Jaleel Lowe and Jessica Sudano pause for a picture while volunteering at Ruth’s Place in Wilkes-Barre.



Volunteers from Saint Joseph the Worker Parish, Immaculate Conception/Saint Luke Church and Church of the Resurrection come together to help paint a shed at the Lycoming County SPCA.



Volunteers from Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School in East Stroudsburg worked hard at the Garden of Giving.

Hundreds honored with Bishop's Youth Awards

A total of 799 young adults from across the Diocese of Scranton are being honored this fall for their commitment to their faith and service to their parishes and schools.

The 2019 Bishop's Youth Awards have been handed out to 8th grade and 12th grade students at four Masses in which Bishop Joseph C. Bambera has served as principal celebrant.

The award ceremonies began on Monday, September 23, at Saint Nicholas Parish in Wilkes-Barre where 337 nominees were honored.

The Masses continued on Monday, September 30, at Our Lady of Victory Parish in Tannersville where 117 students received awards and the following evening, Tuesday, October 1, at Saint Paul Parish in Scranton, where there were 289 nominees.

The final 56 nominees were recognized at a Mass held on Monday, October 7, at Saint Boniface Parish in Williamsport.

The first Bishop's Youth Awards were handed out in 1996.

"It's very important to me because I get to see the Bishop," Evan Stabinski, 14, of Scranton said.

"I serve at the Cathedral every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. and with my Boy Scout troop I occasionally do food drives and pasta dinners and I also help with the church dinners," Stabinski said.

Evan's twin brother Alexander also received an award and recognizes its importance.



Hundreds of students and their families filled Saint Paul Parish in Scranton on October 1, 2019 for the third of four regional Bishop's Youth Award Masses. (Photo/Mike Melisky)

"It's an honor because of the fact they think I'm doing well serving God and serving my community," Alexander Stabinski said.

The twins, who both attend All Saints Academy, find their faith in every aspect of their life, whether it's in Church, home or their school.

"All Saints is like a family. Everybody is very close," Alexander Stabinski said. "Faith is a big part of the education."

Another eighth grade award recipient is Marcus Binner of Tunkhannock.

"I altar serve, sing in the choir and I was also in *The Way* with my brother," Marcus Binner said.

As he saw all of the young people gathering at Saint Paul Church in Scranton to receive their awards, Binner was awestruck.

"It's actually incredible how many people are here. It's really cool. It's really inspiring," Binner added.

Marcus Binner's older brother, Paul, a 12th grade student, was also honored with a Bishop's Youth Award.

"I think it's a pretty cool award because it shows how all these high-schoolers have been involved and they put a lot into their faith," Paul Binner said.

Ethan Lehutsky, 18, a 12th grade student from Wayne County was also recognized with an award.

"I feel honored," Lehutsky said. "I'm an Eagle Scout. I completed my Eagle project which was cleaning up the Glen Dyberry Cemetery after a tornado a couple years back hit Honesdale."

After spending five weekends cleaning brush and fallen tree limbs, Lehutsky and other volunteers were able to help restore the cemetery.

"It definitely gives you a good feeling and it feels nice helping people take care of things," Lehutsky said.

Serving the community is also something that Megan Winslow, 18, a parishioner of Saint Eulalia Parish knows about.

As a lector, choir member and volunteer at her annual parish picnic and monthly church breakfast, Winslow feels her faith is important.

"It helps me through a lot of things in my life. I always have something to rely on and believe in when nothing else is there," Winslow said.

Winslow previously attended the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) which brings together tens-of-thousands of young adults from across the nation.

"It was amazing. It was probably one of the best experiences of my life. About 25,000 people were there," Winslow said.

At a time when some people worry that young adults aren't involved in their church, Winslow says events like NCYC and the Bishop's Youth Awards show otherwise.

"It shows how many people in the local community come together for religion!" Winslow said.



An eighth grade student receives her Bishop's Youth Award during Mass at Saint Paul Parish in Scranton on Tuesday, October 1, 2019.



A student receives his Bishop's Youth Award during Mass at Our Lady of Victory Parish in Tannersville on Monday, September 30, 2019.



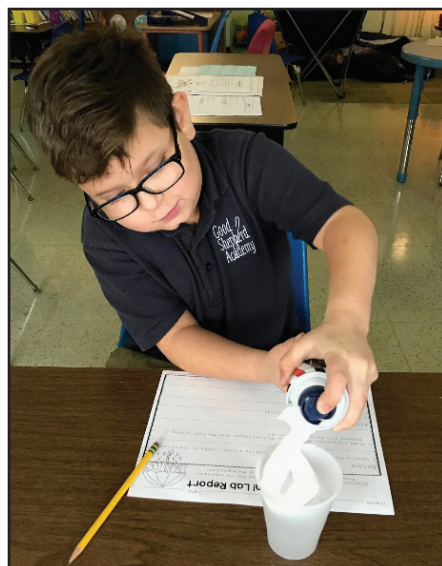
Bishop Joseph C. Bambera addresses more than 300 award recipients at Saint Nicholas Parish in Wilkes-Barre on Monday, September 23, 2019.



Bishop Bambera accepts the offertory gifts from the Pulizzi family during the Bishop's Youth Awards Mass held at Saint Boniface Church in Williamsport on Monday, October 7, 2019.

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.



**Good Shepherd Academy
in Kingston**



**Students at Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre celebrate
“Spirit Week” with a dress-down throughout the decades.**



**All Saints Academy
in Scranton**



Holy Rosary School in Duryea



La Salle Academy in Jessup



Monsignor McHugh School in Cresco



Student Council Inductees at Saint Clare/Saint Paul School in Scranton



Students at Saint John Neumann Elementary School in Williamsport celebrate Grandparents Day.



Doug Walsh, a junior at Holy Cross High School in Dunmore, accepts the "Pay it Forward" scholarship from Mr. Carmen Alu at the school's Academic Awards Breakfast with the congratulations of HCHS Principal, Mr. Benjamin Tolerico.



Holy Family Academy in Hazleton



Saint Mary of Mount Carmel School in Dunmore



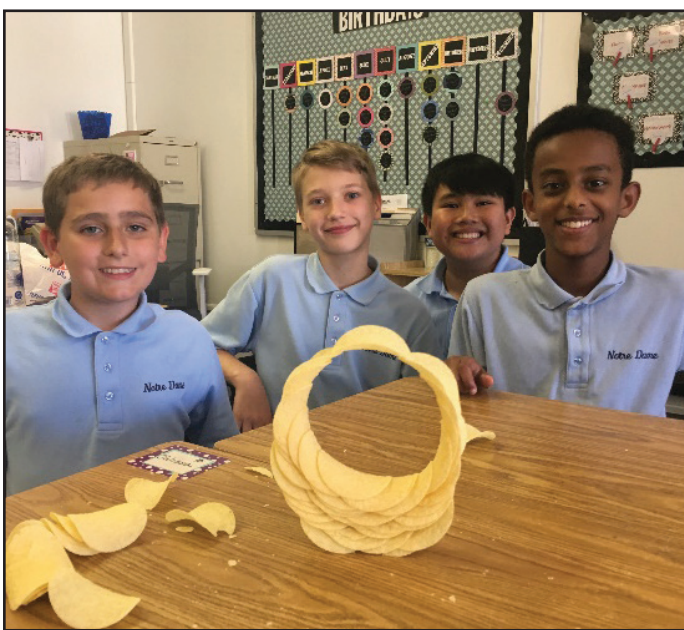
Saint John Neumann Jr./Sr. High School in Williamsport



Saint Jude School in Mountain Top



Epiphany School in Sayre



Notre Dame Elementary School in East Stroudsburg



Wyoming Area Catholic School in Exeter

New director sees Saint Francis Kitchen as reflection of the Gospel

Rob Williams, a Dunmore native, fulfills a call to service

By ALAN K. STOUT
Special to *The Catholic Light*

SCRANTON -- Even though he's only been on the job for a little more than a month, Rob Williams is already having an impact on staff, volunteers and guests at the Saint Francis of Assisi Kitchen.

"My goal is that every single person understands that this operation is not just good people doing good things, but that this is of God. This is God's love that is being expressed through this ministry!" Williams said. "Everybody that comes in as a guest, everybody that works here, and everyone that volunteers here needs to know that we are here as an instrument of God's love and to animate the gospel message of God's love."

On August 26, 2019, Williams assumed the position of Director of Saint Francis of Assisi Kitchen, Food and Clothing Pantry in Scranton. He succeeds Monsignor Joseph Kelly, who retired as Diocesan Secretary for Catholic Human Services and Executive Director of Catholic Social Services in January 2016 but agreed to remain on at the kitchen on a voluntary basis.

"I just want to continue the good work that has been done," Williams said.

Each day, prior to the serving of lunch at the kitchen, Williams leads grace and a prayer of thanks before the entire gathering of people. He then picks a different table each day and joins guests for a meal. He is actively encouraging other priests, sisters, lay ministry professionals, board members and volunteers to do the same.

"I think that influencing a culture happens by design and not by chance," Williams said. "We have a long and strong history here and it beautifully demonstrates Catholicism. In Catholic social teaching, we talk about the dignity of every human person and we talk about preferential option for the poor and the vulnerable. This place is the animation or incarnation of these concepts. The way that people are treated here at the kitchen and the food pantry and the clothing store...you see it personified. The staff, the volunteers, the board members, the past directors created a culture in which people are treated with dignity and respect. I watch volunteers and staff say, 'Are you having a good day, sir?' or 'Would you like some more, sir?' and I think, 'That's what we should be about.' It's a privilege for me to be a part of this extraordinary organization, to witness that, and to help create that atmosphere."

Williams' approach has been noticed by the Saint Francis of Assisi staff.

"He treats the people that come in to eat like people," Steve Dobbs, the primary cook



Left: Rob Williams, second from the left, routinely joins guests for lunch at the Saint Francis of Assisi Kitchen in Scranton. As the new director of the facility, volunteers say the 53 year old picks a different table to sit at every day.

at Saint Francis, said. "He sits down and has lunch with them and talks with them. He greets them when they come in, and he even goes outside while they're waiting to come in and introduces himself to everybody. He's good to these people."

Linda Mangino, an administrative assistant at the kitchen, agrees.

"I really like Rob," Mangino said. "He's going to do great here. He's very enthusiastic, he's been talking with the clients and he's been getting to know everyone that comes in. He's spending time with the volunteers and staff and getting to know them."

The Saint Francis of Assisi Kitchen serves more than 100,000 hot meals every year to those in need. It is open 365 days a year. Lunch is served seven days a week and dinner is served three nights a week.

As Director of Saint Francis of Assisi Kitchen, Williams will oversee the supplies of food, the incoming donations, the staff and the volunteers. He will also be involved in community relations, fundraising events and working with the kitchen's governing board and advisory board.

In addition to also overseeing the food pantry and clothing store, Williams will supervise the kitchen's satellite program which delivers meals each week to Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish in Archbald, Saint Patrick Church in Olyphant and Saint Rose Church in Carbondale.

Williams says he is up for the task.

"I got a strong sense that there was a real emphasis on vision and mission here, and I'm a vision and mission-oriented person," Williams said, reflecting on the interview process that brought him to Saint Francis of Assisi. "Those early conversations were very exciting for me, because the more we talked, and the more I prayed and I discerned God's will for me, the more it felt like a match."

Williams comes from a family extremely devoted to its faith.



Williams' brother, Father Donald Williams, is a priest serving within the Diocese of Scranton, and his sister, Sister Kieran Williams, the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, also serves within the Diocese. Williams says that while growing up some of his parents' closest friends were members of the clergy and that a strong Catholic upbringing has helped shape his entire life. Of his parents' 11 children, five have served in church ministry professionally.

"Because of where we've landed, people think that my parents were at every event that the parish hosted, but raising 11 children, they didn't really have time," Williams said with a chuckle. "It was much more about what we call 'the domestic Church.' They created a culture in our home that was deeply steeped in Catholic teaching and Catholic morals. Everything about us, in the way that we were raised, is deeply Catholic. Our life of prayer, our discernment of God's will, our love for each other and the way we treat each other and other people is all influenced by the teachings of the church. People say that one of the best ways to grow in your Catholic faith, or your religious practice in life, is to be marinated in the faith, and we were really marinated in the faith."

Below: As part of his new responsibilities, Rob Williams, left, oversees all of the staff and volunteers from the Saint Francis of Assisi Kitchen. If you'd like to learn more about volunteer opportunities at the Kitchen, call (570) 342-5556. You can also follow the Kitchen on Facebook.

Prior to taking on his new position, Williams, 53, served as Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry in the Diocese of Harrisburg for the last 20 years. In that role, he recruited, trained and supervised staff and coordinated large events involving as many as 1,000 young people.

A native of Dunmore, Williams also previously served as the Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry at Our Lady of the Snows Parish in Clarks Summit and also worked part-time for the Abington Ecumenical Ministerium.

A graduate of Bishop Hannan High School and Bloomsburg University, Williams was involved with Catholic campus ministry at the local, state and national level and was a team member of the National Catholic Student Coalition during his time in college.

Williams and his wife, Sendy, have four children: Liam, 13, Isabella, 10, Kieran, 8, and Francesca, 5.

Saint Francis of Assisi Kitchen is located at 500 Penn Avenue in Scranton. Lunch is served every day from 11:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Dinner is served Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.



**THE CHURCH OF CHRIST
ON MISSION IN THE WORLD
EXTRAORDINARY MISSIONARY MONTH
OCTOBER 2019**

**Extraordinary Missionary Month
Mass Schedule**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2019 • 6 p.m.

Mass at Christ the King Parish
Archbald

Host Pastor: Fr. Brian J.T. Clarke

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2019 • 6 p.m.

Mass at Resurrection Parish
Muncy

Host Pastor: Fr. Glenn McCreary

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2019 • 6 p.m.

Mass at Our Lady of Victory Parish
Tannersville

Host Pastor: Fr. Richard Czachor

WAYS TO PREPARE AND CELEBRATE

- + A personal encounter with Jesus Christ alive in His Church: Eucharist, Word of God, personal and communal prayer.
- + Witness of Missionary Saints from around the world.
- + Formation for *missio ad gentes* – human, spiritual, biblical, theological and catechetical.
- + Missionary charity.

2019 Ministry Formation Skills Workshop Series

***Service and Justice:
An Extraordinary Mission***

**Saturday, October 26, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Saint Jude Parish, Mountain Top**

Parish ministers from across the Diocese are invited to attend a day centered around aspects of service as part of the “extraordinary mission” of our discipleship!

Jennifer Housel and Katy Windels from the Office for Parish Life will guide participants through practical ways for growing in service to others.

Explore the unique significance and multiple benefits of families serving together. Many ideas for family service projects will be provided.

In addition, Katy Windels will address service “at home,” in our local communities and the larger global impact of our ministry to others.

For more information, contact Kitty Scanlan (570) 207-2213

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**Go
Forth**

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



Just a few days ago, I was privileged to concelebrate the Mass which commemorated the 135th anniversary of the Cathedral of Saint Peter, the mother church of our Diocese. At that same Mass, Bishop Bambera celebrated the Rite of Admission to Candidacy for Holy Orders and the Rite of Acolyte with men who are preparing for ministry as permanent deacons.

During his homily, Bishop Bambera reminded these men, their families, and all present that there exists a clear link between these two rituals and the anniversary of our cathedral’s dedication. Each cathedral church not only binds the people of the local church as one, but also connects its faithful people deeply

and uniquely to the universal Church, to every cathedral and to brothers and sisters throughout the world. The cathedral is a visible sign of connection to the universal Church.

Acknowledging our interconnectedness and embracing that bond is at the center of who we are as Christians, baptized into the life of God. Pope Francis consistently maintains this posture in his actions and in his words to the faithful throughout the world.

As such, he has declared October 2019 as Extraordinary Missionary Month. In a recent message, the Pope spoke of the mission of the baptized in the life of the world: “This mission is part of our identity as Christians; it makes us responsible for enabling all men and women to realize their vocation to be adoptive children of the Father, to recognize their personal dignity and to appreciate the intrinsic worth of every human life...”

To live out and preach the Gospel is to appreciate that we are all connected throughout the world by a common desire for peace, justice, unity, and the common good. “Baptized and Sent,” the motto of Extraordinary

Missionary Month, reminds us that we are the body of Christ called into service and into action. To be baptized into the life and death of Jesus demands of us a pouring out of ourselves to those in need, most especially the poor and the vulnerable.

In our local Church, we will celebrate World Mission Sunday on October 27 — the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time. The Responsorial Psalm for that Sunday is taken from Psalm 34 with our prayerful response being, “The Lord hears the cry of the poor.”

The poor throughout the world are, indeed, crying out to God and to each of us as their brothers and sisters. God hears the cry of those in need in many ways. One of the ways He chooses to hear that cry is through each of us, through you and me.

From one cathedral to another, and one country to another, we are all called to be one. Baptized and sent, we go forth inspired by how we are deeply connected to one another by the one, true faith. May that inspire us to be one with the poor, the vulnerable and all those in need of the love and mercy of God.

Apostleship of Prayer

Papal Intention for October 2019

***A Missionary “Spring” in the Church —
That the breath of the Holy Spirit engender
a new missionary “spring” in the Church.***



The Society for the Propagation of the Faith
La Sociedad para la Propagación de la Fe



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Pray and Give Generously on **OCTOBER 27, 2019** **World Mission Sunday**



A Pontifical Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton at 12:15 p.m. on Sunday, October 27, 2019. Bishop Joseph C. Bambera will be the principal celebrant, Father Brian J.T. Clarke, Diocesan Director of the Pontifical Mission Societies, will concelebrate. The homilist will be Father John Sivalon, MM, PhD, Director of International Learning Programs at The University of Scranton. CTV: Catholic Television will broadcast the Mass.

Diocese of Scranton

Bishop Bambera's Letter for World Mission Sunday

My Dear Friends in Christ,

I am pleased to greet you, as I do each year at this time, as we prepare for the celebration of World Mission Sunday. I am even more pleased to do so as Pope Francis has named October 2019 as an Extraordinary Missionary Month. We have been blessed with this time of prayer, reflection and study on the missionary role and activity of the Church and to pray that each of us will be renewed in our call to be missionary disciples. This extraordinary time affords us the opportunity to appreciate with ever-keener sight the diversity and beauty of our Church throughout the world.



The Holy Father has given us a unique reference point to be in awe of this diversity with the creation of 13 new cardinals for the Church. As with his predecessors, Pope Francis has seen that the diversity of the College of Cardinals acknowledges more fully the Church's universality and its rich culture differences. Since his first consistory in 2014, the Holy Father has lived out his own challenge to reach out to the peripheries by creating cardinals in most instances from countries and areas that have not yet been bestowed such an honor.

The diversity of the College of Cardinals speaks boldly and beautifully of the cultural and national tapestry of our Church and the missionary activity entrusted to our care. Pope Francis spoke about this reality at his recent announcement of the names and diverse nations represented by the new cardinals: "their origins express the missionary vocation of the Church, which continues to proclaim the merciful love of God to all people on earth." Long before these priests and bishops were given such an honor, they embraced so willingly the theme of this Extraordinary Missionary Month, "Baptized and Sent." Each of them sought to embrace boldly the promises of their baptism and ordination and to go where God sent them.

The honor given to these men of faith and of service, however, is not theirs alone. It honors diverse men and women of faith all over the world, their rich cultures, and the deep and abiding faith they share. It is an acknowledgement that in God's wisdom and providence He has created a diverse world, one so powerfully envisioned by John in Revelation 7 of the "great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue." Indeed, this is who we are, a people of every nation, of every language and race.

May this Extraordinary Missionary Month find us ever more grateful for this gift and ever more vigilant to continue to "go into the whole world and preach the Gospel to all creation" (Mk 16:15).

Faithfully yours in Christ,

† *Joseph C. Bambera*

The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L.



Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for World Mission Sunday 2019

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

Four spiritual dimensions from the message of Pope Francis for the celebration of World Mission Sunday in Extraordinary Missionary Month 2019.



Personal Encounter with Jesus Christ Alive in the Church

"Celebrating this (Extraordinary Missionary) month will help us first to rediscover the missionary dimension of our faith in Jesus Christ, a faith graciously bestowed on us in baptism...Through our communion with God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we, together with so many of our other brothers and sisters, are born to new life...This missionary mandate touches us personally: I am a mission, always: you are a mission, always; every baptized man and woman is a mission...Each of us is a mission to the world, for each of us is the fruit of God's love...From eternity (God) has destined each of His children to share in His divine and eternal life (cf. Eph 1:3-6)."



2019



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OCTOBER 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					G.K. CHESTERTON						
2:00 AM	CATHOLIC VIEW FOR WOMEN		EWTN NEWS NIGHTLY (Encore)										
2:30 AM	CATHOLIC ANSWERS LIVE		EWTN GALLERY	EWTN GALLERY	EWTN GALLERY	EWTN GALLERY	EWTN GALLERY						
3:00 AM	EWTN ON LOCATION	AT HOME WITH JIM AND JOY	SPECIALS	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	LIFE ON THE ROCK	BATTLE READY	REMEMBERING JESUS						
3:30AM		DEFENDING LIFE		PAPAL AUDIENCE	SAINTS SCOUNDRELS	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOG	YOU'RE AMAZING						
4:00 AM	EWTN LIVE (Encore)	HOLY HOUR FOR HEALING AND JUSTICE			HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH	BOB AND PENNY LORD PRESENT	WEB OF FAITH 2.0	SAVORING OUR FAITH					
4:30 AM			THE CHURCH:GOD'S PLAN	(4:40) ANGELUS FROM NAZARETH	A FORCE FOR GOOD	LIFE IS WORTH LIVING	EXTRAORDINARY FAITH						
5:00 AM	MATTHEW'S TESTIMONY TO JESUS	EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL	THE 4TH CUP	EWTN SPECIALS	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY	CATHOLIC BEGINNINGS						
5:30 AM	DECISION POINT	THE BIBLE AND THE SACRAMENTS	APOSTOLATE FOR FAMILY CONSECRATION	FUNDAMRNTALS OF CATHOLICISM			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	FR. RUTLER: CHRIST IN THE CITY	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)	THE FRIAR						
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	SALT & LIGHT TV SPECIALS	WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN	MY CATHOLIC FAMILY						
10:30 AM	AT HOME WITH JIM AND JOY		SALT & LIGHT TV- THE CHURCH ALIVE			FOCUS	AT HOME WITH JIM AND JOY						
11:00 AM	FUNDAMENTALS OF CATHOLICISM	WOMEN OF GRACE											
11:30 AM	HOLY ROSARY FROM LOURDES	THE CHOICES WE FACE	WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN	MUSIC AND THE SPOKEN WORD	THE ROAMIN' CATHOLIC	LIVE WITH PASSION	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)						
12:30PM		"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	PRAY FOR YOUR SONS &	AT HOME WITH JIM & JOY	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOGUE						
1:30 PM	IN CONCERT	CRASH COURSE IN THE SAINTS	ST. FRANCIS: MIRROR OF CHRIST	SPECIALS	A EUCHARISTIC JOURNEY WITH FRANCISCAN	SPEAKING OF SAINTS	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												
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					CALLED TO COMMUNION						
4:30 PM	LIFE IS WORTH LIVING	MASTERPIECE DONUT SHOP	WE ARE CATHOLIC	MY TIME WITH JESUS	CAT CHAT	BUGTIME ADVENTURES							
5:00 PM	THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL	EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHOICES WE FACE	DECISION POINT	BOB & PENNY LORD PRESENT	THE BIBLE AND THE SACRAMENTS	CATHOLIC ANSWERS LIVE						
5:30 PM	PASSIONIST SUNDAY MASS	SPECIALS					THE 4TH CUP						
6:00 PM	HOLY HOUR FOR HEALING AND JUSTICE	EWTN NEWS NIGHTLY (Live)					FUNDAMENTALS OF CATHOLICISM						
6:30 PM		CATHOLICS COME HOME	REAL LIFE CATHOLICS	CHURCH UNIVERSAL	VATICANO	SAVORING OUR FAITH	CHURCH AND POOR						
7:00 PM	THE JOURNEY HOME	THE DAILY MASS FROM ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL, (Encore)					DAILY MASS						
7:30PM		THE HOLY ROSARY											
8:00 PM		DIOCESAN DATEBOOK											
8:00 PM	SUNDAY BEST WITH FR. GROESCHEL	THE JOURNEY HOME (Live)	CTV SPECIAL PRESENTATION	EWTN LIVE	THE WORLD OVER (Live)	SPECIALS	EWTN CINEMA						
8:30 PM	CATHOLICS COME HOME												
9:00 PM	LIFE ON THE ROCK	EWTN NIGHTLY NEWS (Encore)		EWTN NIGHTLY NEWS (Encore)									
9:30 PM	HOLY ROSARY W MOTHER ANGELICA	WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN	THE CHOICES WE FACE	FOCUS	LIVE WITH PASSION	SALT & LIGHT TV SISTERHOOD	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY						
10:00PM	EWTN SPECIALS	THE WORLD OVER LIVE (ENCORE)	SCRIPTURE AND TRADITION (ENCORE)	FR. SPITZER'S UNIVERSE	PRO-LIFE WEEKLY	LIFE ON THE ROCK							
10:30PM					DEFENDING LIFE	ICONS SPOTLIGHT							
11:00PM	CATHOLIC BEGINNINGS	BATTLE READY	THE CARPENTER'S SHOP	CROSSING THE GOAL	LONG RIDE HOME	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	WEB OF FAITH 2.0						
11:30PM	CATHOLIC VIEW FOR WOMEN	WOMEN OF GRACE					REMEMBERING JESUS						

PROGRAM TITLES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. WWW.DIOCESEOFSCRANTON.ORG

Pittston Parish Hosting 62nd Saint Jude Novena

PITTSTON — Our Lady of the Eucharist Parish will host its 62nd Annual Novena to Saint Jude, patron saint of hopeless cases and things despaired of, at Saint Mary, Help of Christians Church, 535 N. Main St., Pittston, beginning Saturday, Oct. 19, and concluding on the Feast of Saint Jude, Monday, Oct. 28.

Mass, Novena prayers and veneration of the relic of Saint Jude will be held Monday through Friday at noon and 7 p.m. Saturday devotions are offered at noon and 4 p.m.; Sundays at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Recitation of the Rosary and Confessions precede all Novena devotions, except on Sunday.

Scheduled Novena homilists are as follows:

Saturday, Oct. 19, 12 noon and 4 p.m., Father Jeffrey Walsh, V.E., Episcopal Vicar for Clergy and Sacramental Minister for Our Lady of the Eucharist Parish; Sunday,

Oct. 20, 11 a.m., Father Jeffrey Walsh, and 5 p.m., Monsignor John Jordan.

Monday, Oct. 21, 12 noon and 7 p.m., Franciscan Father Pio Mandato; Tuesday, Oct. 22, 12 noon and 7 p.m., Father Seth Wasnock.

Wednesday, Oct. 23, 12 noon and 7 p.m., Father Louis Grippe; Thursday, Oct. 24, 12 noon and 7 p.m., Father Joseph Verespy; Friday, Oct. 25, 12 noon and 7 p.m., Father Thomas Maloney, pastor emeritus.

Saturday, Oct. 26, 12 noon, Father James Alco, and 4 p.m., Father Jeffrey Walsh; Sunday, Oct. 27, 11 a.m. and 5 p.m., Father Jeffrey Walsh.

On the Feast of Saint Jude, Monday, Oct. 28, Father Walsh will celebrate the Novena's closing Masses at 12 noon and 7 p.m.

For more information, call the parish office at (570) 654-0263.

November Telethon to Benefit Big Brothers/Big Sisters in Monroe County

Big Brothers Big Sisters of The Bridge serving Monroe County will hold its annual telethon on Sunday, November 10.

The event will be broadcast from the campus of East Stroudsburg University and air on Blue Ridge Communications Channel 13 from 12 noon to 8 p.m. There will be live entertainment throughout the day.

For sponsorship opportunities, call (570) 421-2877. For performing opportunities, call (570) 856-0032 or e-mail: bbbs@gapsystems.com.

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

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First synod talks look at climate, priests, inculturation, Vatican says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Climate change, water resources, inculturation and indigenous practices were among the topics discussed during the first afternoon session of the Synod of Bishops for the Amazon.

A few presentations also focused on the question of ordaining married “viri probati,” or men of proven virtue, as one possible way to help Catholics access the sacraments in very remote locations.

During the general sessions of the Oct. 6-27 synod, bishops have a maximum of four minutes to talk about one topic treated by the synod’s working document. The Vatican press office published a general summary of the different topics discussed during the closed-door session Oct. 7.

A few speeches touched on the role of “viri probati,” the press office summary said, adding that offering more frequent access to the sacraments where there was a lack of priests was a legitimate need. However, the summary said, such a provision could not be part of changing the essential nature of the priesthood and celibacy.

A different suggestion was to have vocational programs for young indigenous men in order to

promote evangelization in remote areas so that there would not be “first-class Catholics” who have easy access to the Eucharist and “second-class Catholics” who go without the sacrament, sometimes even for two years at a time.

Another topic was the need to avoid the forms of “colonialism” that had characterized early missionary efforts, it said.

Cultural identities in the Amazon should be preserved since every culture makes its contribution to the “catholicity” of the church, which is built on respect and complementarity, the summary said.

Synod fathers recalled St. John Paul II’s teachings that Christ is able to reach and “animate” the heart of every culture; some described the church as being like a complex ecosystem with “wonderful spiritual biodiversity” expressed in so many different communities, cultures, forms of religious life and ministries.

Other presentations focused on indigenous practices, which, when they are not tied to superstitious beliefs, are looked upon with “benevolence” so long as they may become in tune with “the true liturgical spirit,” the Vatican summary said.

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Who makes house calls?

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

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

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



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Pet Blessing at Saint Francis Commons

SCRANTON – Right before they received a blessing, Otis, 2, and Sir Lancelot, 8, sniffed each other and wagged their tails like old friends.

The two dogs were the guests of honor at a pet blessing held on October 4, at Saint Francis Commons, an affordable, transitional housing facility for homeless veterans, which is operated by Catholic Social Services.

October 4 is the Feast Day of Saint Francis of Assisi. Saint Francis is remembered for his generosity to the poor and for his love of animals and nature. He is the patron saint of animals and the environment.

“We’re grateful that we have an opportunity to celebrate the gift of all creation in honor of Saint Francis of Assisi,” Father Jeffrey J. Walsh, V.E., said. Father Walsh led the blessing ceremony.

Thanks to generous funding from the Robert H. Spitz Foundation, which is administered by the Scranton Area Community Foundation, and the PNC Foundation, homeless veterans staying at Saint Francis Commons can have a support animal through the Curative Companions Program.

“He’s not my pet. He’s my lifeline and I need him,” veteran Toyya Durham said.

Durham is Sir Lancelot’s owner. Before arriving at Saint Francis Commons, she was living out of her car.

“I made a promise to him when I got him that I would never let him go,” Durham said. “He’s my baby but I think we help save each other.”

Robert Wolfe, Otis’ owner, feels the same way.

“He means everything to me. If I didn’t have him I would be lost,” Wolfe said. “I come

home and he senses everything. If I’m in a good mood or a bad mood, or if I’m drifting off into a bad place, he knows it and he comes and lets me know that everything is okay.”

This is the first year that the Curative Companions Program has allowed veterans at Saint Francis Commons to have pets. It is already making a difference.

“We’ve had four veterans with their animals transition from homelessness to permanent housing and this funding played a big part in that!” Ryan Pollock, Saint Francis Commons Program Supervisor, said.



Father Jeffrey J. Walsh, V.E., and his rescue dog Sam, lead a pet blessing at the Saint Francis Commons as dogs Otis and Sir Lancelot look on.

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I certify that the statements made by me are correct and complete.

Eric M. Deabill, Editor-in-Chief



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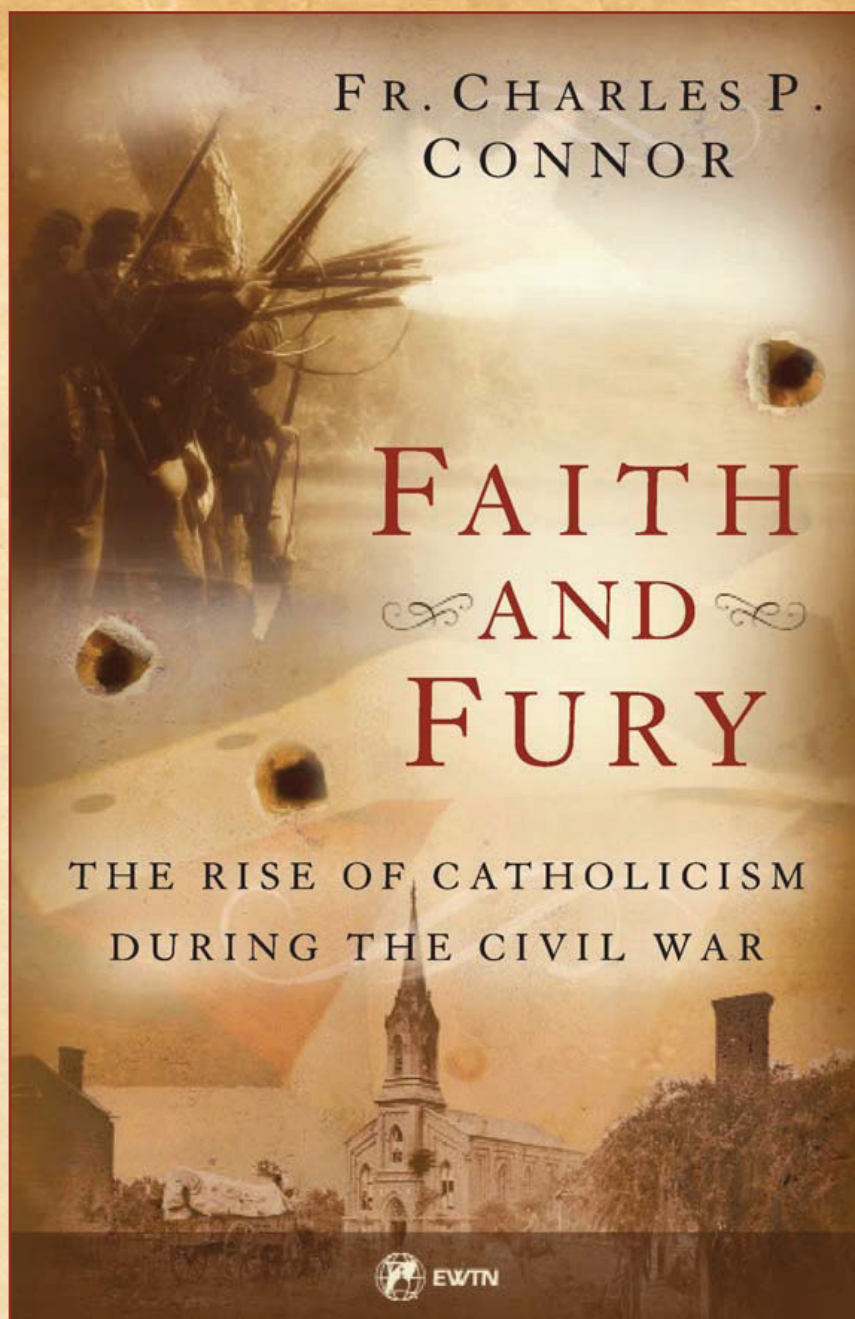
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**FUTURE BREAKFAST'S ARE
3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH.**





Rev. Charles P. Connor, S.T.L., Ph.D.
Mount St. Mary's Seminary
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*....It has been argued that when the nation's Bishops met in Baltimore for the Third Plenary Council in 1884 to produce the **Baltimore Catechism** and create what became the magnificent parochial school system, they were merely building on the work of their predecessors in maintaining unity in the face of the considerable challenge of the years described aptly by Archbishop John Hughes as the "melancholy strife." Father Connor's **Faith and Fury: The Rise of Catholicism During the Civil War** has decidedly underscored that work I highly recommend this book for students of the period, Civil War buffs, and all desirous of knowing more about the tremendous contributions of the Catholic Church in these years.*

— From the Foreword
Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan, D.D., Ph.D.
Archbishop of New York

Father Charles Connor's work studies the significant period of nearly five decades surrounding the American Civil War ... his work will prove an invaluable resource to those studying the contributions of the Church in the United States and its influence on our country at the most difficult time in our nation's history.

Most Rev. William E. Lori, D.D., S.T.D.
Archbishop of Baltimore

Truly a remarkable work – a carefully researched and engaging study of nearly fifty years of the Catholic Church's growth, development, and contributions in the nineteenth century. I highly recommend this marvelous book. A monumental gift to the Church!

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

Father Connor has once again proven that he is a master of Church History in the United States He adeptly navigates a difficult period in American history and shows how the Church continued to grow and respond to her mission of proclaiming the Gospel. From the challenges of anti-Catholic bigotry and the contributions of great prelate figures such as Archbishops Hughes and Kenrick, to the role of the fighting 69th, and the Second Plenary Council of Baltimore, this book gives a robust picture of the Catholic Church of the mid-nineteenth century.

Rev. Msgr. Andrew R. Baker, S.T.D.
Rector, Mt. Saint Mary's Seminary
Emmitsburg, Maryland

Father Connor's exceptional work brings to life the significant role the Catholic Church played during a particularly divisive period in our nation's history ... It makes me proud to read of the impact that (our) graduates such as Archbishop Hughes, a.k.a. Dagger John, had on the development of our Church and other social systems in America.

Timothy E. Trainor, Ph.D.
U.S. Army Brigadier General (Ret.)
President, Mt. Saint Mary's University
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40th Annual Candlelight Rosary Novena Conclusion — OCT. 10-13, hosted at St. Lucy Church in West Scranton; Novena begins each evening at 7 p.m. with recitation of the Rosary by candlelight. Nightly devotions also include crowning of the

Blessed Mother statue, Novena prayers for the suffering souls in purgatory, and closing Solemn Benediction. All faithful are welcome to participate.

“40 Days for Life” Pro-Life Rosary Gathering — OCT. 10-NOV. 1, offered for the special intentions of ending abortion and closure of the new Planned Parenthood location in Wilkes-Barre; Rosary is prayed each weekday, Monday thru Friday, at 10 a.m. in front of the offices of Planned Parenthood, 101 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre. Pro-life campaign draws attention to the evil of abortion through prayer & fasting, constant vigil, and community outreach. For more information, visit: www.40daysforlife.com.

Friday Pro-Life Rosary Vigil — OCT. 11, sponsored by the Catholics Defending Life Prayer & Awareness Team; group gathers every Friday from 1 to 1:30 p.m. at Lackawanna County Courthouse Square (corner of Linden St. & North Washington Ave.) in downtown Scranton. Recitation of the Rosary offered, along with pro-life meditations, Divine Mercy Chaplet and other prayer devotions for the respect and dignity of all human life from conception to natural death. Pro-life signs are welcome.

Weekly Bible Study — OCT. 11, 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.

Spiritual Support Group: Scranton Mental Health Ministry — OCT. 12 & 26, 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.

Monthly Meeting of the Lay Fraternity of St. Dominic — OCT. 13, hosted by St. Thomas Aquinas Chapter 413; afternoon gathering held on the second Sunday of every month at St. John the Evangelist Church, Honesdale. All professed members, those in the process of formation or anyone interested in deepening their faith by following the Dominican spirituality and its four “pillars” (prayer, study, community and apostolate) are welcome. For more information, call Lay Dominican MaryAnn Cavanaugh, formation director, at (570) 228-8624 or catholichomeschoolmom@hotmail.com.

Weekly “Flame of Love” Prayer Group Meeting — OCT. 14, 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.

Grief Support Ministry: “Be Not Afraid, I Go Before You” — OCT. 14, sponsored by Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Lake Silkworth (Hunlock Creek); final weekly session, led by the parish grief support ministers, held on Monday from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Guardian Angel Room at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Lake Silkworth. All suffering the loss of a loved one are welcome. For more information, call Marianna Oplinger at (570) 956-6983.

Bereavement Support Group Sessions — OCT. 14-18, hosted by St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Milford; group will meet each evening from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the parish hall, 101 St. Vincent Drive (Route 739), Milford. Bereavement support sessions address topics dealing with the grief process to aid in healing. All are welcome; no registration required. Men’s group will meet simultaneously. For more information, call the parish office (570) 686-4545.

Weekly Eucharistic Adoration — OCT. 16, hosted by All Saints Parish in Plymouth; Eucharistic exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament held every

Continued on Page 25

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“Rachel’s Vineyard” Post-Abortion Healing Retreat — Nov. 1-3. Confidential weekend retreat facilitates spiritual and emotional healing for men and women struggling with the impact and pain of abortion. Exercises based on Scripture are designed to help participants experience God’s mercy and compassion, and to reconcile with their Church, themselves and their child. The retreat concludes with a memorial service and Catholic Mass of Entrustment. Participation is strictly confidential; financial assistance available. For more information, including registration, contact Denise Mengak at (570) 822-7118, ext. 333, or drowinski@csswb.org; or Susan Walters at suezq22@verizon.net.

Run Against Hunger Set for November 9



The eighth annual “Run Against Hunger” to benefit the Saint Francis of Assisi Kitchen, Scranton, will take place on Saturday, November 9. The 5k/10k run and two-mile walk will take place at the Olive Street trailhead of the LHVA River Trail in Scranton (near the Ice Box Sports Complex). Cost to pre-register is \$25 for the 5k run or 2-mile walk, and \$30 for the 10k run. Registration for all events the day of run/walk is \$35. Free for children under the age of 10. Race day registration will take place from 7:30 to 8:45 a.m. The event is presented by Highmark and United Concordia Dental. The Scranton Running Company and AllOne Charities are hosting the weekend’s events. Shown, from left: Bridget Haggerty, advisory board, Saint Francis of Assisi Kitchen; Matthew Byrne, race director and co-founder, Scranton Running Company; Rob Williams, director, Saint Francis of Assisi Kitchen; and John Cosgrove, executive director, AllOne Charities. To pre-register for the event, visit www.runsignup.com/runagainsthunger

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Spiritual Offerings Around the Diocese

Continued from Page 22

Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the daily chapel of the parish worship site of Nativity of the BVM Church, 66 Willow St., Plymouth.

Wednesday Eucharistic Adoration — **OCT. 16**, 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 Mareello, founder of the Oblates of St. Joseph religious congregation. For more information, contact the OSJ seminary at (570) 654-7542.

Weekly Bible Study — **OCT. 16**, 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 — **OCT. 16**, 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 — **OCT. 16**, hosted by Most Holy Trinity Parish in Susquehanna; Hour of Mercy devotion held every Wednesday at 3 p.m. at St. Lawrence Church, 380 Franklin St., Great Bend. All faithful are welcome.

"Season of Hope" Bereavement Support Group — **OCT. 16-NOV. 20**, sponsored by Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace Parish in Hawley; six consecutive weekly gatherings

on Wednesday mornings in the parish hall at BVM Queen of Peace, 314 Chestnut Ave., following the 9 a.m. Mass in the church. Christ-centered group provides bereavement support by journeying through the grief process with prayer, Scripture, faith-sharing and fellowship. For more information, call Rosemarie Mazzotta (570) 390-4196 or the rectory office (570) 226-3183.

Fall Preached Retreat: "Praying the Passion" — **OCT. 18-20**, hosted by St. Gabriel's Retreat Center in Clarks Summit; open to both men and women. Retreat begins on Friday evening at 7 p.m. (no meal served) and concludes following the noon

meal on Sunday. Retreat director: Passionist Father Curtis Kiddy. Cost: \$140 per person. For more information and reservations, call (570) 586-4957 or email: kporter@epix.net. Deposit is required.

Meeting of Lay Carmelites — **OCT. 19**, hosted by Our Lady of the Mountains Lay Carmelite Chapter; meetings held on the third Saturday of each month, from 9 to 11 a.m., at St. Joseph's Oblate Seminary, 1880 Route 315, Laflin (Pittston). For more information, contact Rose at (570) 507-2373 or Chris at (570) 239-8094.

*Continued on
Page 27*

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Forty Hours Devotion in Wilkes-Barre

Saint Nicholas Parish in Wilkes-Barre announces the celebration of its annual days of Eucharistic Adoration — Forty Hours Devotion — will be hosted later this month at Saint Nicholas Church, 226 South Washington St., Wilkes-Barre.

The Eucharistic days of devotion will begin on Sunday, Oct. 20, with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament following the 12 noon Mass in Spanish. Adoration will continue until 4 p.m., concluding with evening prayer and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

The Forty Hours Devotion will continue on Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 21 & 22, with exposition and adoration of the Eucharist following the 8 a.m. Mass until the offering of evening prayer and benediction at 7 p.m.

Serving as homilist for the daily devotions will be Passionist Father Paul Ruttle. Following the evening prayers on Tuesday, a reception will be held in the parish's Community Room.

All faithful are welcome to attend the devotions. For more information, call the Saint Nicholas Parish office at (570) 823-7736.



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**SCRANTON MENTAL
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The Scranton Mental Health Ministry at the Cathedral of Saint Peter is presenting this four part series on mental illness in order to reduce the stigma of these illnesses through education and factual information about mental health conditions. The series reinforces the core Christian belief that everyone has dignity and value and should be fully welcomed into the Church and the community.

**DO YOU WANT TO LEARN ABOUT MENTAL
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**You are Invited to Attend a Four Part Series on
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MONDAY OCTOBER 7

The Impact of Mental Illness on Individuals and Families

A discussion on what it is like to live with a mental illness and how it can impact a family. The discussion will be led by a person living with a mental illness and a family member. How the person's faith helped them will be part of the discussion. The discussion will be led by Deacon Jan Mroz from Mary Mother of God Parish and Owen and Char Dougherty from the Board of Directors of the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

MONDAY OCTOBER 14

Spirituality and Mental Illness

Faith and spirituality brings peace and healing to people living with a mental illness. We can find spiritual support through communion with the Saints and with each other while living with a mental illness. The discussion will be led by Deacon Ed Shoener from the Cathedral of Saint Peter Parish.

MONDAY OCTOBER 21

Spend an Evening with a Mental Health Professional

An introduction to the types of mental illnesses, medication, treatments and other issues will be presented. The discussion will be led by Leighton Y. Huey, MD, a psychiatrist and Associate Dean for Behavioral Health Integration and Community Care Transformation from the Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine.

MONDAY OCTOBER 28

Mental Health Resources in the Community

What are the agencies, service providers and other sources of help in the Community? The discussion will focus on how to access mental health services and find the help you need. Marie Onukiavage, Executive Director of the National Alliance on Mental Illness will lead the discussion.

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Reading Mass to Close 125th Anniversary Year of Bernardine Sisters

Bishop Alfred A. Schlert of Allentown will celebrate a Pontifical Mass on Saturday, Oct. 19, at 12 noon at the Motherhouse of the Bernardine Franciscan Sisters in Reading to close the 125th Jubilee Anniversary Year celebration of the congregation in America.

The liturgy culminates a year-long commemoration marking the arrival of Mother Veronica Grzedowska, the order's foundress, and her companions in the United States, following an arduous journey from their native Poland.

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Spiritual Offerings Around the Diocese

23rd Anniversary Celebration of the Wyoming Valley Knights of Columbus "Tomb of Unborn" — **OCT. 20**, prayerful commemoration begins at 2 p.m. at the Knights' Tomb of the Unborn, located at the top of Mount Olivet Cemetery in Carverton; Rosary prayers will be recited. All Knights of Columbus of the Wyoming Valley and area faithful are invited to attend. For more information, contact Patrick Umbra at (570) 822-3597.

Meeting of the St. Joseph Secular Franciscan Fraternity — **OCT. 20**, hosted at St. Joseph's Oblate Seminary, Route 315, Laflin. Liturgy of the Hours recited at 2 p.m. in the seminary chapel. Fraternity meets regularly on the third Sunday of every month; all professed members of the Secular Franciscans and interested men and women are welcome. Anyone interested in attending may contact Jim Gaffney at (570) 575-1703.

Gathering of the Secular Discalced Carmelites — **OCT. 20**, 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.

Monday Evening Marian Devotion — **OCT. 21**, hosted by the Oblates of St. Joseph; evening of Marian devotion begins at 6 p.m. in the chapel of St. Joseph's Oblate Seminary, Route 315, Laflin (Pittston). Prayer service includes recitation of the Rosary, Chaplet of Divine Mercy in song, Fatima prayers, hymns and music for the Scriptural mysteries. All are invited to attend and offer devotional prayers to the Blessed Mother for world peace.

Weekly Novena to St. Anthony of Padua — **OCT. 22-DEC. 17**, hosted by Our Lady of Hope Parish, 40 Park Ave., Wilkes-Barre; 13-week St. Anthony Novena devotion held on consecutive Tuesday evenings, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the parish church. Novena theme: "St. Peregrine: Patron Saint of Cancer Patients." All faithful are welcome to attend; for more information, call (570) 824-7832.

'Socially Responsible Investing' Topic for Annual St. Francis Lecture at King's

"Finance for the Common Good: Activating Strategies of Responsible Investing" will be the topic of the annual Feast of Saint Francis Lecture sponsored by King's College.

This year's lecture presentation will be held on Thursday, Oct. 17, at 7 p.m. in the Burke Auditorium of the McGowan School of Business on the King's campus. Sponsored by the McGowan Center for Ethics and Social Responsibility at King's, the lecture will be open to the public free of charge.

The speaker will be Mary Beth Gallagher, executive director of the Tri-State Coalition for Responsible Investment, a non-profit organization established in 1975 to form and encourage coalitions of businesspeople to align their investments with Catholic social teaching. The organization is also

an advocate for ethical and sustainable business practices with regard to social, economic and environmental justice.

Gallagher will discuss examples of issues that coalition members recently discussed with public companies, including the adoption of a Human Rights Policy to address child labor in the cocoa industry (with Hershey); the financing of private prisons that housed immigrants in inhumane conditions (with JP Morgan Chase); and the cessation of sales to governments of facial recognition surveillance technology (with Amazon).

The McGowan School of Business is on the corner of North River and West Union streets. For information, contact Dr. Bernard Prusak, director, McGowan Center for Ethics and Social Responsibility, at (570) 208-5900, ext. 5689.

Bilingual Evening of Marian Devotion — **OCT. 24**, hosted by the Diocesan Legion of Mary in accord with prayers for world peace and meditations on the mysteries of the Rosary, as requested by the Blessed Mother at Fatima; begins at 5 p.m. at Most Holy Trinity Parish Center Chapel, 236 Route 390, Cresco. Marian devotion includes recitation of the Rosary, Fatima prayers, hymns and the Scripture mysteries in song led by Ernie Pappa, the evening's facilitator. All are invited to attend and offer intercessory prayers to the Blessed Mother.

Padre Pio Prayer Ministry — **NOV. 6**, 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.

Scranton Mental Health Ministry: Spiritual Support Group for Family & Friends — **NOV. 7**, 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

Continued on Page 28



St. Anthony of Padua Novena
at

Our Lady of Hope Parish
40 Park Avenue, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

9 CONSECUTIVE TUESDAYS
October 22nd to December 17th at 5:30 p.m.

Theme: St. Peregrine
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Eucharistic Adoration
Praise & Worship Music
Reconciliation
Social

Sunday, October 20 at 6:00 p.m.
Church of Saint Gregory
330 N. Abington Road, Clarks Green

Sunday, November 17 at 7:00 p.m.
Saint Matthew Parish
78 Ridgeway Street, East Stroudsburg

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- ▶ **If you put it off, you may never get to it.** Face it, we all procrastinate. Especially when it comes to dealing with uncomfortable subjects like your death or declining health. It's best to confront these topics now, while you still can. Life is uncertain. Tomorrow may be too late.
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Social Concerns Committee Fundraiser Aids Women's Resource Center

The Social Concerns Committee representing the Lackawanna County parishes of Blessed Sacrament, Throop, and Holy Cross, Olyphant, recently held a large-scale fundraiser to benefit the Women's Resource Center. Committee members who organized the successful drive are shown above. First row, from left, Margaret Rabel, Jeanne Rabel, Carm Buratti, Peg Ruddy, executive director, Women's Resource Center, and Mary Ann Popovich. Second row, Monsignor Michael Delaney, pastor of Blessed Sacrament and Holy Cross parishes; Judy Korgeski, Rose Kaminski, Laurie Munley, Ann Marie Burns, Janet Popovich and Lucille Radziewski.

Spiritual Offerings Around the Diocese

Continued from Page 27

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.

Catholic Happenings

Fall Harvest Artisan Craft Fair — OCT. 12, hosted by Our Lady of Victory Parish, 327 Cherry Lane Road, Tannersville; held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the parish center. Craft show features all hand-crafted items and homemade food and baked goods; also includes handmade quilt and basket raffle drawings. Free admission. For more information, call Judy (570) 242-1041, or Donna (570) 688-1334.

Annual Handmade Quilt Bingo — OCT. 13, sponsored by SS. Peter and Paul Parish, 13 Hudson Road, Plains; held in the parish's Bernardine Hall (former school auditorium). Doors open at 12 noon and games start at 1 p.m.; winners will choose from a wide variety of handmade quilts. Admission fee: \$20 (in advance) or \$25 (at door), includes six-card game piece for each regular game; other specials and raffle tickets sold separately. For more information, contact the parish office at (570) 825-6663.

Barbecue Chicken Dinner — OCT. 13, hosted by Holy Family Parish, 828 Main St., Sugar Notch; held from 12 noon to 3 p.m. on the parish grounds. Take-out event provides drive-thru service and areas for sit-down eating. Dinner cost: \$10, includes barbecued half chicken (sauce optional), bake potato, bake beans, cole slaw, rolls & dessert. Tickets available after weekend Masses or at the event.

Designer Purse Bingo — OCT. 13, sponsored by the Women's Guild and Prayer Shawl Ministry at Divine Mercy Parish in Scranton; hosted at Eagle McClure Hose Co., Old Forge. Doors open at 11 a.m.; games start at 1 p.m. Admission fee: \$25; winners chose from a variety of designer purses. Event includes refreshments and theme basket/cash raffle drawings. For tickets, contact Sue Otten (570) 604-2343, or Kathy Bauer (570) 961-2663.

Continued on Page 30

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 Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation.

The final cycle for 2019 runs from October 27 through November 30. Registration is open until October 23. To view course offerings in English and Spanish, visit: <https://vleff.udayton.edu/> and click on 'calendar.'

DRE & Youth Minister Network Workshops

We are excited to announce the upcoming Network Workshops for DREs and Youth Ministers. These meetings will have a new focus: Lifelong Faith Formation through Catechesis and youth ministry.

Members of the Office for Parish Life team will be on hand to discuss several various topics.

All DREs and Youth Ministers or other parish catechetical leaders are invited to one of the following meetings (all held from 6 to 8 p.m.):

Wednesday, November 6 — Southern Region

Wednesday, November 13 — Western Region

Tuesday, December 3 — Northern Region

Wednesday, December 11 — Eastern Region

Extraordinary Minister of Communion Training Session

The Office for Parish Life will offer the next all-day training session for new Extraordinary Ministers of Communion on Saturday, November 9, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 330 Wyoming Ave., Scranton.

There is no fee for the training and lunch will be provided.

To register, call the Office for Parish Life at (570) 207-2213.

NPM Meeting: Creating Effective Worship Aids

The Scranton Chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians will hold a meeting on Tuesday, November 12, beginning at 6 p.m. at Holy Name of Jesus Parish, 213 West Green St., West Hazleton.

The topic of discussion for the evening will be "Creating Effective Worship Aids," presented by David Baloga, Director for Worship in the Diocesan Office for Parish Life.

The meeting begins with dinner at 6 p.m., followed by the presentation at 7 p.m. and concluding with Night Prayer.

All are welcome to attend. There is no cost for the event, but a free-will offering will be taken to help offset the cost of dinner.

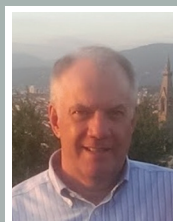
To register, contact David Baloga at (570) 207-2213, ext. 1158 by Friday, November 8.

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON - YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

THEOLOGY ON TAP

A speaker series for young adults ages 21-40

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23RD
SABATINI'S BOTTLESHOP - EXETER
7:00PM
BE GOOD TO YOURSELF: WHY
MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS



Guest Speaker - Dcn. Ed Shoener
 Founder of the Catholic Mental Health Institute and the Katie Foundation

\$7 Cover Charge Includes Pizza and Soft Drinks



SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 26TH

Holy Family Spiritual
Renewal Center,
Nanticoke, PA

Registration & Breakfast
8:00 – 9:15

Main Program
9:20 am – 5:00 pm

Conference Registration:
\$25pp (includes 3
meals on Saturday)

Friday Night Accom.
Add \$25pp/dbl. occ.

****Attendance is limited to the first**
50 paid registrants**

Reservations Contact:
Bob Valiante
Catholic Charismatic Renewal
PO Box 3306,
Scranton PA, 18505-0306
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ccrenewal@comcast.net

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CCR FORMATION DAY

"Hidden in Plain Sight"

"But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. Truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous men have longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear and did not hear it."

Mt. 13:16-17

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY:

8:00....Registration & Breakfast	12:00..Angelus & Lunch
9:20....Welcome	1:30....Song & Praise
9:30....Song & Praise	1:50....Session 3 ... The Ascending Offering
10:00..Session 1 ... The Emmaus Road	2:30....Break
10:50..Break	2:50....Session 4 ... Emboldened by Grace
11:10..Session 2 ... The Face of Christ	3:30....Q and A
	4:00....Concluding remarks and song
	4:30....Supper

OUR FORMATION DAY PRESENTER IS KEVIN CONNOLLY

Kevin and his wife Anne are members of Our Lady of Lourdes parish in Malverne, NY. They have a daughter, Meghan Anne who lives with her husband Albert in Miami, Florida. For over 30 years, Kevin has spoken at prayer meetings, retreats, and communion breakfasts. He was a featured speaker at the 1996 National Catholic Charismatic Convention and the 1998 Syracuse NY Congress on the Holy Spirit. Kevin was awarded his Naval Aviator Wings in September of 1977. He flew jet aircraft off the aircraft carriers USS Saratoga and USS John F. Kennedy. Upon leaving the Navy, Kevin flew for TWA and American Airlines internationally and domestically, and in January of 1999, he was selected to fly Saint Pope John Paul II from St. Louis to Rome. Kevin retired as Captain in May of 2016.



Kevin Connolly

Father James J. Walsh and the Parish Community Cordially invite All



Saint Maria Goretti Church

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Laflin Road, Laflin, PA 18702

website: www.stmariagoretti-laflin.org

SUNDAY, November 3, 2019

NOON TO 5:00 PM (eat-in)

NOON TO 4:00 PM (take-outs)

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CALL TO SCHEDULE A SHADOW DAY

Nanticoke VBS 'Out of This World'



"To Mars and Beyond" was theme for this summer's Vacation Bible School hosted by Saint Faustina Kowalska Parish in Nanticoke, where Sandy Repak serves as youth ministry director. During the week, the young Bible School students were treated to a visit with friends from the "Endless Dreams Animals" petting zoo and animal rescue, and enjoyed an intergalactic celebration with spaceships, rockets and alien balloon art on the last day of camp. Collections were also taken for the parish's "Mary's Closet" and Food Pantry.

Catholic Happenings Around the Diocese

Continued from Page 28

Weekly Bingo — OCT. 14, 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.

Rummage Sale — OCT. 14 & 15, sponsored by the Confraternity of Christian Mothers of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, 116 Hughes St., Swoyersville; held in the school gymnasium. Sale hours: Monday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Tuesday (\$2 bag day), 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Includes sale of baked goods and refreshment items, including homemade halushki and wimpies.

52nd Annual Family-Style Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner — OCT. 16, hosted by St. Luke Church, 120 Kendall Ave., Jersey Shore; lunch served from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., and dinner served from 4 to 7 p.m. (take-out orders available all day). Featuring pork & sauerkraut, knockwurst, mashed potatoes, dumplings, homemade applesauce, bread, homemade dessert and beverage. Cost: adults, \$9 in advance or \$9.50 at door; children (ages 6 to 12), \$3.50. Tickets available by calling the parish office (570) 745-3301 or Sue at (570) 398-0352.

October Benediction & Beer Series: "Ember Days" — OCT. 17 & 24, hosted by Resurrection Parish in Muncy, focusing on "Ember Days," an ancient liturgical season of fasting during the fall harvest for the special intention of priests and religious; begins with adoration at 5:30 p.m. at the Church of the Resurrection, 75 Musser Lane, Muncy. Prayers, music and Sacrament of Reconciliation offered until benediction at 7 p.m. Gathering proceeds to Orlando's, 8 South Main St., Muncy, for fellowship, refreshments and "beer blessing." Oct. 24 event will feature Catholic trivia.

Oktoberfest Dinner & Polka — OCT. 19, sponsored by St. Rita Parish in Gouldsboro; held from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Gouldsboro Fire Hall, 490 Main St. Authentic German dinner features roast pork, kraut & wurst, mashed potatoes, applesauce, desserts and beverages; includes live Polka music entertainment and raffle drawings. Early reservations recommended. Ticket cost: \$10 (in advance) or \$12 (at door). For more information, call (570) 842-4995 or email: stregouldsboro@gmail.com.

Annual Craft Fair & Home Showcase — OCT. 20, sponsored by the Holy Cross High School Parent Club; opens at 10 a.m. at Holy Cross High School, 501 E. Drinker St., Dunmore. Featuring more than

Continued on Page 31

Catholic Happenings Around the Diocese

Continued from Page 30

95 vendors displaying jewelry, festive candles & soaps, candies, ceramics, pottery, home-décor items, handbags and more; also includes basket raffle, door prizes and homemade food for sale. Admission fee: \$3. For more information and vendor applications, contact Renee Hanna at (570) 614-3727.

10th Annual Turkey Dinner

— **OCT. 20**, sponsored by St. Peter Cathedral Parish in Scranton; hosted from 12 noon to 3 p.m. at The Green Ridge Club, 1645 Wyoming Ave., Scranton (take-out dinners available at 11:30 a.m.). Dinner buffet includes roast turkey & stuffing, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, roll and dessert; variety basket and cash raffle drawings available. Dinner cost: adults, \$12; children (ages 12 & under), \$5. For ticket information, call the Cathedral office (570) 344-7231.

Harvest Moon Dance

— **OCT. 26**, sponsored by the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton; hosted at La Buona Vita, 200 Reilly St., Dunmore, from 6 to 10 p.m. Cost: \$40 per person (\$75 per couple), includes appetizers, complete buffet dinner featuring chicken marsala, roast beef and penne with vodka sauce, and soft beverages. Dance music from the 50s, 60s & 70s provided by Rich the DJ from "EJ the DJ." For more details and registration information, contact the Cathedral office at (570) 344-7231.

Rigatoni & Meatball Dinner

— **OCT. 26 & 27**, hosted by Queen of Angels Parish, 607 Church St., Jessup; dinner held on Saturday from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. (take-outs only) and Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. (take-outs), with dine-in from 12 noon to 2 p.m. Includes "Viva Vino" basket raffle, featuring wine and gift cards. Dinner cost: adults, \$10; children (ages 12 & under), \$5. For more information, contact Mary Kay Carpenter (570) 489-2252.

Meatloaf Dinner & Basket Raffle

— **NOV. 2**, hosted by Gate of Heaven Parish in Dallas; take-out dinner orders begin at 4 p.m., followed by sit-down dinners starting at 5 p.m. Cost: \$10 per person,

includes dinner, beverage and dessert. Tickets sold in advance; call the parish office (570) 675-2121.

Toy Bingo

— **NOV. 3**, sponsored by St. André Bessette Parish in Wilkes-Barre; hosted at St. Mary's Byzantine Social Hall, 522 Madison St., Wilkes-Barre. Doors open at 12 noon; games begin at 1:30 p.m. Admission fee: \$15. Seating is limited; advance

reservations are encouraged. To purchase tickets or for more information, contact Mary at the parish office (570) 823-4988.

Autumn Fling Bingo Games

Party — **NOV. 3**, hosted by Mary's Ministry at St. Ignatius Parish in Kingston; doors open at 11:45 a.m. in Conlan Hall and games begin at 1:15 p.m. Featuring assorted gift prizes for all

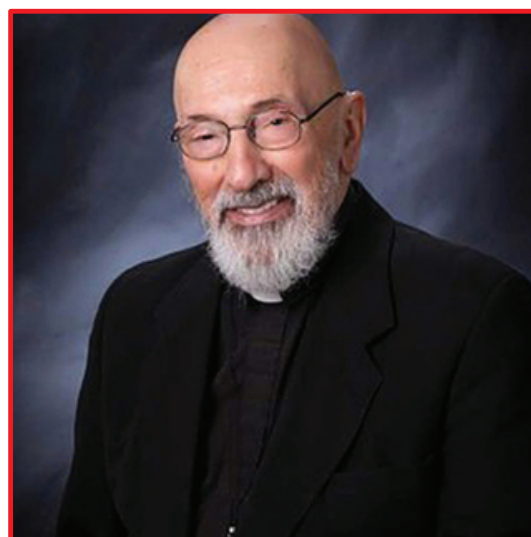
age groups, raffle & door prizes, and cash raffle drawing; food and beverages available for purchase. Admission cost: \$20 in advance (thru Oct. 29); \$25 (after Oct. 29), includes three cards for all 20 games; extra game cards and specials sold separately. Players under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets available at all weekend Masses or by contacting the rectory office (570) 288-6446.

Annual Roast Beef Dinner

— **NOV. 3**, hosted by Mary, Mother of God Parish in North Scranton; dinner held from 12 noon to 4 p.m. at Stirna's Restaurant, 120 W. Market St., Scranton (take-out orders available). Cost: adults, \$10 in advance, \$12 at door; children (under age 10), \$5. Advance tickets available at the parish rectory, 316 William St., Scranton; call (570) 342-4881.



THE ORDER OF MALTA SCRANTON CHAPTER PRESENTS



AN EVENING OF HEALING
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**THURSDAY,
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MSGR. JOHN ESSEFF
MAIN CELEBRANT & HOMILIST

MSGR. NEIL VAN LOON
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SCRANTON CHAPTER

CONFESSIONS - 6:00PM

**HEALING MASS
& ANOINTING - 7:00PM**

FOR MORE INFORMATION

E-MAIL CONTACT@MALTAOFSCRANTON.ORG



More than 30 students attended the Up & Over Retreat for middle school students from September 27-29 at Camp Orchard Hill in Dallas. The event is a weekend of fun, friendship and faith where students spend time outdoors and grow in their faith!

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Diocese of Scranton
2019 **DIOCESAN**
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