



GoodNewsNotes

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON OFFICE FOR PARISH LIFE

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World Day of the Poor Prayer Service

Wednesday, November 13, 2019 from 6:00 to 8:30p.m.
Diocesan Pastoral Center
330 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton

The **Third World Day of the Poor** will be observed on November 17, 2019. Please join us on Prayer Service on Wednesday, November 13. Everyone is invited to join! We will gather in prayer at 6:00p.m. to celebrate the World Day of the Poor, followed by a showing of the film, "Summer in the Forest" and a conversation on the life work and impact of Jean Vanier, the founder of L'Arche.

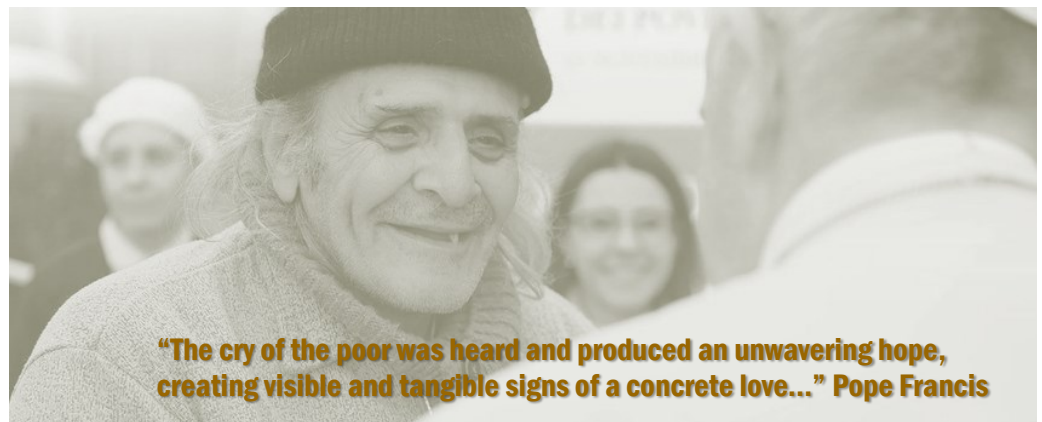


L'Arche is a residential program for persons with disabilities, built around Christian spirituality. Vanier founded the program in 1964 in France when he welcomed two men with developmental disabilities into his home to live in solidarity with one another. Today, L'Arche is active in 35 countries. In his letter announcing the 2019 World Day of the Poor, Pope Francis spoke about Jean Vanier, calling him a "great apostle of the poor." This event will celebrate the his legacy and allow us to discuss how we can better serve the most vulnerable among us.

Please contact Katy Windels at 570-207-2213, ext. 1101 or at KWin-dels@dioceseofscranton for more information or to RSVP by November 8.

World Day of the Poor
November 17, 2019

**Solemnity of
Our Lord Jesus Christ,
King of the Universe**
November 24, 2019



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. This meeting we will center on Lifelong Faith Formation through Catechesis and youth ministry. Members of the Office for Parish Life team will be on hand to discuss:

- Diocesan focus for Lifelong Faith Formation
- What we need to "Move Beyond" to bring this to your parish
- Practical ways of bringing Lifelong Faith Formation to your Parish
- Upcoming formation opportunities for DREs and Youth Ministers
- Open Forum for what you would like to see in the future
- Keeping us Connected-Slack.com

We would love to have every parish represented. So we invite each DRE and Youth Minister or another parish catechetical leader to one of the following meetings:

Wednesday, November 6 (6:00 – 8:00 pm)

Southern Region

Wednesday, November 13 (6:00 – 8:00 pm)

Western

Tuesday, December 3 (6:00 – 8:00 pm)

Northern Region

Wednesday, December 11 (6:00 – 8:00 pm)

Eastern Region

Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry Applications

The Office for Parish Life encourages parish leaders to consider application for the Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry for January 2020!

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

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

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

Starting with our New Candidate Orientation Retreat on Saturday, January 25, 2020, the Office for Parish Life anticipates welcoming new candidates into the *Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry* program in the New Year.

Prospective candidates are encouraged to contact Kitty Scanlan, Coordinator for Lay Ministry Formation, at 570-207-2213, ext. 1157 or by email at Kitty-Scanlan@dioceseofscranton.org for application information, materials, and application submissions.

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

THEOLOGY ON TAP: HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

Guest Speaker - Jen Housel
Director for Community and Family Life
Office for Parish Life

**NOVEMBER 12
7-8:30 PM
SABATINI'S BOTTLESHOP
EXETER, PA**

Contact Katy Windels for more information
(570) 207-2213 ext. 1101
kwindels@dioceseofscranton.org



**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
SPEAKER
PRAISE & WORSHIP MUSIC
RECONCILIATION
SOCIAL**

Sunday, November 17 at 7PM
Saint Matthew Parish
78 Ridgeway St., East Stroudsburg

Sunday, December 8 at 6PM
Saint Jude Parish
420 S. Mountain Blvd., Mountain Top

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

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

WORSHIP

Extraordinary Minister of Communion Training Session

Need to invite more faith-filled parishioners to serve as Extraordinary Ministers of Communion in your parish? Mark your calendars now because the Office for Parish Life will offer the next all-day training session for new Extraordinary Ministers of Communion on **Saturday, November 9, 2019 from 9:00AM to 2:30PM at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, Scranton**. There is no fee for the training and lunch will be provided. To register, please fill out the [EMHC Training Registration Form](#) or call the Office for Parish Life at 570-207-2213.

Start Time for Confirmations with Bishop Bambera

After listening to concerns from pastors on behalf of families regarding the time of Confirmation, Bishop Bambera is offering an option for the start time of a Confirmation celebrated by a bishop. **While 5:00 p.m. has been the preferred time for a weekday Confirmation for many years, there is now an option of a later start at 6:30 p.m. if that responds to a pastoral need on the part of the faithful of the parish.**



For parishes that are part of a combined celebration of Confirmation, the start time should be decided upon by the pastors and parish life coordinators involved. **Please contact David Baloga, Director for Worship, at David-Baloga@dioceseofscranton.org or at 570-207-2213, x. 1158 if you are choosing the 6:30 p.m. option** and notify him of the time for the dinner so that Bishop Bambera can mark this information in his calendar. If you are choosing to keep the 5:00 p.m. start as originally scheduled, there is no need to contact us. If having Confirmation with Bishop Bambera in 2020, please contact David with your change of time by Friday, November 15, 2019. Parishes that have Confirmation with Bishop Bambera in 2021 and 2022 can reply at their earliest convenience.

Advent & Christmas Liturgical Resource

The Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions (FDLC) has compiled a liturgical resource to assist parishes in preparing liturgies for the Advent and Christmas season. This resource includes a Penance Service with alternate readings, music suggestions, sample penances, a liturgical calendar advisory for the seasons of Advent and Christmas, and more. To download this resource, please [click here](#) or visit fdlc.org and click on 'resources.'



Creating Effective Worship Aids

The Scranton Chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians will hold a meeting on **Tuesday, November 12, 2019** beginning at 6:00PM at Holy Name of Jesus Parish, located at 213 West Green St., West Hazleton. The topic for the evening will be "Creating Effective Worship Aids" presented by David Baloga, Director for Worship of the Diocesan Office for Parish Life.

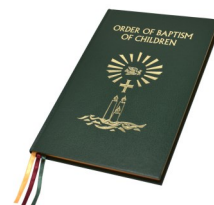


Creating worship aids is a great way to foster the "full, conscious and active participation" of your parishioners. David Baloga will help us learn the ins and outs of creating an printed program that is engaging and aesthetically pleasing. Information and tips for making the most of music reprint licenses will also be offered.

The meeting begins with dinner at 6:00PM, followed by the presentation at 7:00PM, and concludes with Night Prayer. All are welcome to attend. There is no cost for the event, but a free-will offering will be taken up to help offset the cost of dinner. To register, please complete the [online form](#) visit ScrantonNPM.com, or contact David Baloga at 570-207-2213, ext. 1158 by Friday, November 8.

Order of Baptism of Children

A revised translation of *The Order of Baptism of Children* was recently approved by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and confirmed by Rome for use in the dioceses of the United States America beginning on February 2, 2020 (Presentation of the Lord) with mandatory use on April 12, 2020 (Easter Sunday). The following publishers have been authorized to produce the new ritual book and will be available on January 6, 2020. Preorders are being taken now, with some publishers offering discounts for ordering early.



Catholic Book Publishing

(catholicbookpublishing.com)

English only edition—\$27.95

Bilingual edition—\$32.95

Liturgy Training Publications (ltp.org)

English only edition—\$39.95

Bilingual edition—\$54.95

Liturgical Press (litpress.org)

English only edition—\$39.95

Bilingual edition—\$49.95

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

(usccb.org) \$44.95

Magnificat (magnificat.net) \$29.95

COMMUNITY

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

A Simple But Meaningful Way to Support Engaged Couples

Is your parish looking for a way to support parishioners who are involved in the PreCana process? One simple way to show an engaged couple your care is to send a personal letter of prayer and support to them on their PreCana Day of Reflection. The Marriage Sponsor Couple Ministry at St Therese's Church has recently begun this beautiful practice.

To learn more, please contact Beth Aciukewicz, aciukewicz.beth@gmail.com, at St. Therese's, or Jennifer Housel, Director for Community and Family Development, Office for Parish Life. jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org (570) 207-2213 x 1104.

Grief Support Ministries

Parish Grief Support Ministries are an invaluable resource and a blessing in the lives of those grieving. To find a grief support ministry near you, as well as other grief support resources, please visit our diocesan website at <https://www.dioceseofscranton.org/parish-life/community/grief-support/>. If you would like us to include information about a grief support ministry at your parish on our website, or if you would like to inquire about beginning a grief support ministry at your parish, please contact Jennifer Housel, Director for Community and Family Development, 570-207-2213 x 1104, jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org



Retrouvaille Weekend for Married Couples

Is your marriage going down the right road, or is it a little off track? Does the distance between you seem wide? Are you already separated? Looking for a better what? Retrouvaille can help and offers hope for a better relationship. Retrouvaille is a peer ministry of volunteer couples that can help you learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages. Retrouvaille is Christian-based, and Catholic in origin, but welcomes couples of all faiths as well as non-religious couples. Retrouvaille can help get your relationship back on track. An upcoming Retrouvaille Weekend for Couples will take place on January 17-19, 2020 at the Holiday Inn Express, Harrisburg East. For more information, please contact the registration team at 717-356-2185 or visit helpourmarriage.org.

Have You Attended a Marriage Encounter Weekend?

Would you like to gather with other WWME alumni in a small group sharing community?

Would you like to extend an invitation for others to join a current WWME Share Group?

There is a new WWME Share Group being hosted by John and Joanie Walsh of St. Lucy's Parish, Scranton. If your spouse and you have ever attended a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend, gathering with a WWME Share Group can be a great way to extend the benefits of the Weekend for your marriage. If you would like to attend this gathering in the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre area, please contact John or Joanie at (719) 339-9970, joaniewalsh528@hotmail.com.

If you are already involved with a WWME Share Group in the Diocese of Scranton, and would like your group to be listed on our Marriage Support webpage so that others might join you, please contact Jennifer Housel, Director of Community and Family Development, (570) 207-2213 x 1104, jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org

2019 THANKSGIVING COMMUNITY PROGRAM

Friday, November 22nd | 6PM

Interfaith Prayer Service

Sponsored by the Scranton Area Ministerium
Temple Hesed | 1 Knox Road, Scranton 18505

Tuesday, November 26th

Thanksgiving Dinner for Adults and Elderly

Doors open at 5PM, Dinner at 6PM

Scranton Cultural Center

420 N. Washington Ave. Scranton, 18503



FRIENDS OF THE POOR

Wednesday, November 27th | 9AM - 5PM

Family to Family Thanksgiving Basket Giveaway

On-site Registration; Proof of family size required.

Scranton Cultural Center

420 N. Washington Ave. Scranton, 18503



Family to Family
Food Basket Program

"I CALL us to be servant leaders who engage in SERVICE to our neighbors near and far and who work for justice and stewardship to hasten the Reign of God."

SERVICE

Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation

Looking to learn more about your faith, or gain enrichment for your parish ministry? Members of the faithful across the Diocese of Scranton are invited to consider taking a course through the University of Dayton's Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation! Cycle 1 (2020) Session dates run from January 12 through February 15. Registration is now open and closes January 8, 2020. [Click here](https://vlfcc.udayton.edu/) to view the Course Calendar for 2020 or visit <https://vlfcc.udayton.edu/> and click 'calendar.'



Echoes of Faith

Do you want to know more about your faith? Are you a catechist or DRE who is looking for a way to earn a certificate in catechesis? Can you spare an hour a week? The Echoes of Faith 3.0 is for YOU!



Created by the National Conference for Catechetical Leadership (NCCL) and published by RCL Benziger, *Echoes of Faith* is an online education program offering basic adult formation in the Catholic Faith. With fourteen modules divided into three categories, the Echoes of Faith Learning Center can be used for parish Adult Faith Formation and for Basic Catechist Certification. It is also one way to complete the pre-requisites for the Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry.

Please contact Kitty Scanlan at 570-207-2213 ext. 1157 or at Kitty-Scanlan@dioceseofscranton.org for information on how to get started for an affordable \$15 a year.



SOCIAL JUSTICE TRUST FUND GRANT RECEPTION

Help us learn from your parish experience.

SAVE THE DATE



**JAN
22
6PM**

DIOCESAN PASTORAL CENTER

4330 Wyoming Avenue
Scranton, PA 18503



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT KATY AT (570) 207-2213 X 1101

FAITH & POLITICS: A CONVERSATION



How does your faith or worldview shape your political views?

Calling individuals from different backgrounds and political affiliations: You are invited to share your experiences, stories, hopes and concerns — not debate — through structured dialogue sessions to build better understanding.

Monday, November 18th, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

4th Floor, Shopland Hall, Scranton Cultural Center,
N. Washington Avenue, Downtown Scranton

Talking about politics & religion is often a taboo — let's break that rule! Come ready to listen, reflect & learn with your neighbors in Northeastern PA!

Anxious about conversation around the Thanksgiving table? Come to an interactive discussion that will help you learn skills to dialogue across differences.

RSVP required: 570.941.4419 or community@scranton.edu
scranton.edu/dialogues



Scranton Area Ministerium
Working together to build community

ADVENT EVENING OF REFLECTION

led by **Monsignor Christopher J. Schreck**

Tuesday, December 3, 2019 from 7:00—9:00p.m.

Diocesan Pastoral Center, Scranton

***“The People Who Walked in Darkness Have Seen a Great Light:
Reflections on Advent 2019”***

Isaiah is unquestionably the most prominently featured prophet of the Advent season. We will reflect on the pivotal passages of the Book of the Prophet Isaiah which are featured so prominently in the liturgy for Advent and meditate once again on the promise of the Gospel, even and especially in a world in which the struggle between light and darkness is daily engaged.



Monsignor Christopher J. Schreck is a priest of the Diocese of Savannah and from 2012 to 2019 served as 16th Rector/President of the Pontifical College Josephinum, Columbus, OH, as well as Professor of Sacred Scripture in the School of Theology. In 2007, he joined the Josephinum's faculty and served as founding Executive Director of the Pontifical College Josephinum's Institute for the Formation and Ministry of the Permanent Diaconate (2007-2012).

Ordained in 1977 for the Diocese of Savannah, he served five years as Associate Pastor at Saint James Church in Savannah, Georgia (1978-1983), and devoted more than thirty years to seminary education and administration. Monsignor Schreck received his undergraduate A.B. in Classical Studies from the College of William and Mary in Virginia (1973); his graduate S.T.B. (Baccalaureate in Sacred Theology) from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, Italy (1976); his S.S.L. (Licentiate in Sacred Scripture) from the Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome, Italy (1978); and his Ph.D. / S.T.D. (Doctorate in Sacred Theology, with a concentration in Sacred Scripture) from the Catholic University of Leuven, Louvain, Belgium (1990/1991).

Since 1978, Monsignor Schreck has taught and given conferences and workshops in pre-ordination and post-ordination formation programs for permanent deacons and continuing formation programs for priests in numerous (arch)dioceses (e.g., Savannah, Miami, Philadelphia, Wilmington, Camden, Columbus, Covington, Allentown, Scranton, Harrisburg, Palm Beach, Saint Augustine, Providence, Birmingham, Burlington, Venice in Florida). Monsignor Schreck is currently on sabbatical and awaiting a new assignment in the spring of 2020.

**To register you may either e-mail: Susan-Ruane@dioceseofscranton.org
or leave a message at 570-207-1452.**

Please R.S.V.P. before November 22, 2019

OPL TEAM MEMBERS

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

Director for WORD and Lifelong Faith Formation: **Jacki Douglas**

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

Director for WORSHIP: **David Baloga**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Events Coordinator, Diocesan Pastoral Center: **Bridget Purcell**

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