

The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

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Deacon Ed Shoener lights the paschal candle during the Easter Vigil Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton on Saturday, April 11, 2020.

RISEN JESUS BINDS US TOGETHER

During an Easter season unlike any other, bishop brings hope amid COVID-19 pandemic

SCRANTON – As the holiest day of the Christian calendar, Easter is a time of rejoicing and proclaiming the good news that Christ is risen.

In the time of the coronavirus, this Easter season has not been like any other.

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera celebrated Holy Week liturgies, including Easter Sunday Mass, at the Cathedral of Saint Peter with no public parishioners.

“While this moment is unlike any Easter celebration that we have ever experienced, we are still bound together as brothers and sisters through the power of the risen Jesus, aren’t we?” the bishop asked as he started his homily.

In front of television cameras and an empty cathedral, Bishop Bambera described an experience that took place just one week earlier during Palm Sunday Mass. He described it as both surprising and poignant.

While beginning the

Eucharistic prayer, Bishop Bambera said two people stood outside the front doors of the cathedral, kneeling on the granite deck as he prayed the words of consecration. They blessed themselves at the end of Mass and left.

“Reflecting upon that experience for the past week, it occurred to me that what I was privileged to witness was nothing short of a powerful reminder of this Easter day – a sign of the resurrection of Jesus,” Bishop Bambera said.

Easter Sunday came nearly one month after public Masses were suspended in the Diocese of Scranton amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Over that time, many people have been wanting to worship together and experience the Lord in the Eucharist and other sacraments.

“That desire, that longing that we all have to be back in our churches is not because the Lord has been absent from our lives for weeks. To the contrary, the very desire that we have to celebrate

the Eucharist in our churches is because the risen Jesus is with us – as close to us as our hearts where he has always promised to be – having been planted there at baptism and welcomed throughout our lives of faith.

“Surely, our hearts are broken as we’ve had to celebrate these holiest days of the Church year apart from one another and the altars upon which we commemorate the mystery of our faith: Christ has died – Christ is risen – Christ will come again. Yet, woven into that mystery is Jesus’ promise to remain with us through the power of His resurrection. Because of that promise, you and I long to gather once again as Church – the People of God. For every moment that this longing intensifies in our hearts, give thanks, for it is prompted by nothing less than Easter and the presence of the risen Jesus already within you,” Bishop Bambera said.

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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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Diocese begins planning for time when restrictions are lifted

As the national conversation regarding the COVID-19 pandemic shifts to discussion and coordination of gradually reopening some businesses, many faithful in the Diocese of Scranton are wondering when the suspension of public Masses will be lifted.

In our Diocese, leadership has started discussing ways to safely return to sacramental life and other parish activities, even if on a limited basis, but stress it is still too early to determine any timelines.

The Diocese of Scranton will rely on the guidance of both governmental and health care professionals as this process moves forward.

On Monday, April 20, 2020, Governor Tom Wolf extended the state's

stay-at-home order until at least May 8, 2020, which he set as a "target date" to begin opening parts of the state's economy but reiterated the process would be slow and gradual.

"As time unfolds, people coming back into normal activities will probably happen a little more slowly than some might expect," Bishop Joseph C. Bambera said. "We have to be extremely cautious that we do it in such a way that we protect those individuals entrusted to our care and that we do it mindful of our need to be good to one another."

The Diocese recognizes that it will need to be cognizant of the important balance between allowing people the ability to gather while still protecting their health and safety.

"People have often said to me, can't we do something to experience the sacraments? Isn't there some way that we can participate in the life of the Church, especially the Eucharist? No one wants to gather to celebrate the Eucharist with the faithful of our Diocese more than me. Yet, I am also charged by God to care for all the lives that are given to me. Our faith is far, far more powerful and more significant than any other reality or power in the world. But God has also given us common sense and places us in the midst of the world to care for what we've been given. That's why we must be careful during these particular days as we plan the best steps moving forward," Bishop Bambera added.

It is time to build a new world without inequality, injustice, pope says

ROME (CNS) – As the world slowly recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a risk it will be struck by an even worse virus -- that of selfish indifference, Pope Francis said.

This dangerous virus is "spread by the thought that life is better if it is better for me and that everything will be fine if it is fine for me. It begins there and ends up selecting one person over another, discarding the poor and sacrificing those left behind on the altar of progress," he said in his homily at a Mass on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 19.

The current pandemic instead must compel people to prepare for a "collective future" that sees the whole human family as one and holds all of the earth's gifts in common in order to be shared justly with those in need, he said.

"This is not some ideology: it is Christianity," and it mirrors the way the early Christian community lived, the pope said at the Mass, celebrated privately at Rome's Church of the Holy Spirit, which houses a shrine dedicated to Divine Mercy.

The Mass was celebrated on the 20th anniversary of St. John Paul II's declaration that the Sunday after Easter would be celebrated as Divine Mercy Sunday. The Divine Mercy movement was founded in the early 1900s by Polish St. Faustina Kowalska, who said Jesus told her he wanted a feast of Divine Mercy as a refuge and shelter for all souls.

In his homily, Pope Francis noted that St. Faustina said Jesus told her, "I am love and mercy itself; there is no human misery that could measure up to my mercy."

The Lord always patiently and faithfully waits for people to recognize their failings and sins and to offer them to Him "so that he can help us experience His mercy," the pope said.

Even the disciples, and especially St. Thomas, experienced fear and doubt, failing to believe in the risen Lord right away, the pope said.



Pope Francis celebrates Mass marking the feast of Divine Mercy at the Church of the Holy Spirit near the Vatican in Rome April 19, 2020. The church houses a sanctuary dedicated to Divine Mercy. (CNS photo/Vatican Media)

Jesus doesn't scold them with a sermon because "he wants us to see him not as a taskmaster with whom we have to settle accounts, but as our father who always raises us up," just like any father would when his child falls, the pope said.

"The hand that always puts us back on our feet is mercy: God knows that without mercy we will remain on the ground, that in order to keep walking, we need to be put back on our feet," he said.

Right now, he said, the world is undergoing a "time of trial" and, like St. Thomas, "with our fears and our doubts, (we) have experienced our frailty. We need the Lord, who sees beyond that frailty an irrepressible beauty," like a crystal that is delicate, but precious and transparent before God who lets his light of mercy "shine in us and through us in the world."

The most beautiful message on the feast of Divine Mercy, the pope said, comes from St. Thomas, "the disciple who arrived late," but for whom the Lord waited, not leaving him behind.

"Now while we are looking ahead to a slow and arduous recovery from the pandemic, there is a danger that we will

forget those who are left behind. The risk is that we may then be struck by an even worse virus, that of selfish indifference," he said.

The COVID-19 pandemic "reminds us that there are no differences or borders between those who suffer," he said. "We are all frail, all equal, all precious."

"May we be profoundly shaken by what is happening all around us: the time has come to eliminate inequalities, to heal the injustice that is undermining the health of the entire human family," the pope urged.

"Let us welcome this time of trial as an opportunity to prepare for our collective future," the pope said, because without a vision that embraces everyone, "there will be no future for anyone."

"Let us show mercy to those who are most vulnerable for only in this way will we build a new world," he said.

Because of restrictions in place to curb the spread of the coronavirus, the Divine Mercy Mass was celebrated without the presence of the public, with only a small choir and with only two concelebrants.

Bishop: Longing to return to church signifies the risen Jesus is with us

Continued from Page 1

Drawing upon the words of Pope Francis, the bishop explained that the faithful need to be “willing to enter into the mystery” of God.

“This crisis, more than anything else in our history, has continually reminded us that we’re all powerless to navigate this world on our own. Yet, when we’re humble enough to admit our weakness, God is given room to dwell within us,” the bishop said.

That hope needs to be spread even in times of trouble.

“Brothers and sisters, the risen Jesus isn’t waiting alone in our churches for us to return. In the fear, the grief, the pain and confusion of these past weeks, the risen Jesus has already come to you and to me, where we are, to help us carry on each day, to enable us to care for one another, and to give us hope,” Bishop Bambera added.

The bishop also reflected on Saint Matthew’s Gospel which was proclaimed during the Easter Vigil Mass. “Do not be afraid,” is what an angel said to the women who went to Jesus’ tomb.

“We’re no different than the first followers of Jesus – confused, heartbroken and powerless to sort out all that had happened to their teacher and friend – Jesus – and to themselves. Yet, the power of God enabled them to find hope in the midst of pain from the enduring message of each of the Gospel

accounts of Jesus’ resurrection,” Bishop Bambera said.

The bishop said Easter faith can be nurtured by experiences all around us. He reflected back upon the two people he saw on Palm Sunday outside the Cathedral of Saint Peter.

“I was blessed to experience the power of the risen Jesus in those two faithful souls who knelt outside of our cathedral on Palm Sunday. Each of you have been blessed to experience His life and love if you look carefully enough and listen with your hearts,” the bishop joyfully said.

As he ended his homily, Bishop Bambera stressed that Jesus is risen and lives among us.

“Because of Jesus, we too shall rise. We shall rise out of the tombs that our homes have become in these difficult days. And we shall rise from the darkness of sin and death to life and hope and peace.

“May these Easter words of Saint John Paul II rest in your hearts and console you on this great day of resurrection: ‘There is no evil to be faced that Christ does not face with us. There is no enemy that Christ has not already conquered. There is no cross to bear that Christ has not already borne for us and does not now bear with us. And on the far side of every cross, we find the newness of life in the Holy Spirit, that new life which will reach its fulfillment in the resurrection. This is *our faith*. This is our witness before the world,’” the bishop ended by saying.



Bishop Joseph C. Bambera stands at the back of an empty cathedral, preparing to begin the Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday, April 9, 2020. (Photo/Eric Deabill)



Left: Bishop Joseph C. Bambera celebrates the Eucharist during the Easter Vigil Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton on Saturday, April 11, 2020. (Photo/Bill Manley)

Above: After walking to the altar in silence on Good Friday, April 10, 2020, Bishop Bambera lies prostrate on the floor in prayer. (Photo/Eric Deabill)

Right: Bishop Bambera venerates the Holy Cross at the Cathedral of Saint Peter on Good Friday as a reminder of God’s sacrifice and saving power in our lives. (Photo/Eric Deabill)



Pastors spread messages of Easter hope via livestreaming



"If God can raise the dead, he can surely help those who call on Him in this time of misfortune. If God can raise the dead, he can surely help those who ask His wisdom in their desire to revive the dramatic downturn in the economy for the sake of the common good."

Rev. Joseph Manarchuck
Pastor, Saint Joseph Parish, Matamoras and Saint Patrick Parish, Milford



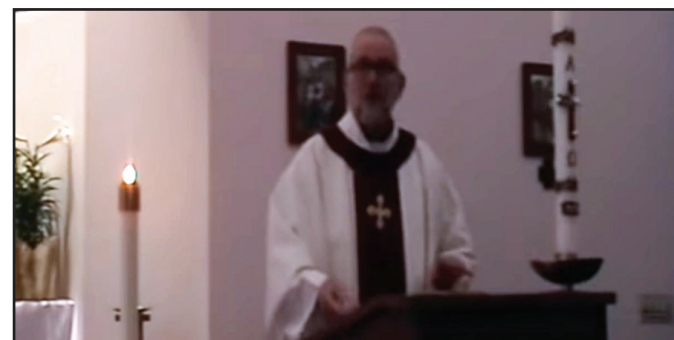
"We have a choice. We can be confined to darkness of fear and anxiety or we can allow God's love to free us from those things. It's a powerful love. It's all about Easter!"

Monsignor John J. Sempa
Pastor, Corpus Christi Parish, West Pittston



"Hope is as necessary for the spirit as food is for the body. It is amazing what the human spirit can endure and overcome, provided that it is nourished by the bread of hope."

Rev. Thomas J. Major
Pastor, Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Dushore



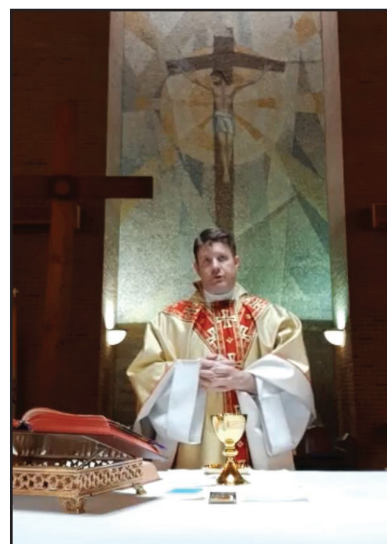
"Today, it's all the empty tomb and letting the resurrection permeate our very beings. How about letting that thought migrate to the people around us. Lets let the empty tomb be more contagious than the coronavirus by the way we treat each other."

Rev. Stephen J. Stavoy
Pastor, Saint Thomas More Parish, Lake Ariel



"Our Lord's sacrifice continues to have power in our lives. Our Lord, who is truly risen from the dead, is with us. He continues to offer to us that gift of new life. He continues to offer us hope. He continues to offer us victory over sin, victory over sorrow, victory over death and at this very Mass, he extends to us everlasting life."

Rev. Michael McCormick
Pastor, Our Lady of Lourdes,
Montoursville



"We now have 50 days to meditate on this mystery of the resurrection and to rejoice in the power of the resurrection and the fact that all of us who believe in Christ will be raised, like Jesus, from the dust of the Earth when we will be clothed in incorruptibility and live forever."

Rev. David W. Bechtel
Pastor, Saint Peter Parish, Wellsboro &
Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish,
Elkland

CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton broadcasts 24 hours a day and is carried on seven cable systems covering most of the Diocese of Scranton. Despite the suspension of public Masses at this time, a private Mass is still celebrated daily in the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton and made available for broadcast on television, social media platforms and the Diocese of Scranton's YouTube channel.

On weekdays, the Mass is broadcast at 12:10 p.m., 3:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
On weekends, the Saturday Vigil Mass is broadcast at 4:00 p.m. and rebroadcast on Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m.

Donors responding generously to Coronavirus Emergency Fund

SCRANTON – More than 300 people have made donations to the Diocese of Scranton Coronavirus Emergency Fund in support of parishes, Catholic Social and Human Services ministries and Catholic schools during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Donors to the Coronavirus Emergency Fund may support a specific parish in the Diocese, one of the Diocese's food pantries, kitchens and shelters, or any of the 20 Diocesan Catholic Schools. More than \$50,000 has already been raised so far with gifts ranging from \$10.00 to \$2,000.

"I am extremely grateful to everyone who has supported the Coronavirus Emergency Fund," Bishop Joseph C. Bambera said. "Your generosity is of great help to our parishes and public ministries as we continue to serve our brothers and sisters in Christ during this critical time."

Gifts to the fund support the increasing number of people in need at five food pantries in Carbondale, Hazleton, Scranton and Wilkes-Barre, kitchens in Scranton and

Wilkes-Barre and three homeless shelters in Hazleton, Scranton and Wilkes-Barre.

The Coronavirus Emergency Fund also provides an opportunity to support emergency tuition assistance for Catholic school families and support for faculty and staff. Donors can also contribute to any of the Diocese's 118 parishes that have seen a reduction in weekly offertory contributions due to the suspension of Masses as a result of the COVID-19 health crisis.

Interested donors are encouraged to make gifts to the Coronavirus Emergency Fund online at www.dioceseofscranton.org/emergencyfund.

If donors prefer, they can mail gifts to Coronavirus Emergency Fund, Diocese of Scranton, 300 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, PA 18503. Checks should be made to the Diocese of Scranton and list the gift designation – either the parish name, Catholic Human and Social Service program or specific Catholic School they wish to support.

Holy Hour with Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction held



Bishop Joseph C. Bambera held a Holy Hour with Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction on Thursday, April 16, 2020, at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton. The Holy Hour was broadcast live on CTV: Catholic Television and the Diocese of Scranton social media platforms. Video is available at www.dioceseofscranton.org.

CLERGY APPOINTMENTS

His Excellency, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, announces the following appointments, effective at a time to be determined, given the ongoing health crisis:

Reverend John J. Victoria, from Pastor, Saint Ann Parish, Williamsport, to Chaplain, Mercy Center, Dallas.

Reverend Gerald W. Shantillo, from Pastor, Saint Matthew Parish, East Stroudsburg, to Episcopal Vicar for Clergy. Father Shantillo will also serve as Sacramental Minister, Our Lady of the Eucharist Parish, Pittston.

Reverend Jeffrey J. Walsh, from Episcopal Vicar for Clergy and Sacramental Minister, Our Lady of the Eucharist Parish, Pittston, to Pastor at a parish yet to be determined.

Praying and serving together through crisis



By Sister Kathryn Kurdziel, I.H.M.

Delegate for Religious

Congregations of religious women and men were founded to serve pressing needs in society; they respond rapidly and collaboratively to crisis.

Even from lockdown, hundreds of religious quickly organized, reaching out to the needs of families, neighbors, friends, employees, the sick, the homebound, and the homeless to assess needs and lift spirits.

First and always, religious carry their deep concerns to prayer: the rosary, personal prayer, hours of adoration, praying together over PA systems, connecting with others through Zoom, telephone, street to porch, and any way possible.

Some sisters distributed homemade masks to employees, volunteers, and other sisters who are on the front lines meeting the public, distributing food and staffing soup kitchens, baby pantries, shelters, and hospitals. Others hit the phones tending to parishioners, faculties, students, employees, and

nursing home residents, consoling those disconsolate because of illness, loneliness and personal losses.

Through email, snail-mail, phone and Facebook, they collected funds for *Friends of the Poor* and other food distribution services which even included Easter baskets for the children! Immense connectivity efforts among leadership personnel reached beyond local borders coordinating through dioceses and national and international leadership conferences. Local and global best practices for safety, employee benefits, stimulus packages, and care of missionary members in foreign countries were all shared.

Religious communities felt most impacted by concern for suffering people, by the creative outpouring of generosity and thoughtfulness, by availability of daily Mass, triduum services, and inspiring homilies through internet and CTV and, by the Easter Bunny who didn't forget to visit homeless women and children.



Sister Babette Opferman, I.H.M., lights a candle for adoration during the COVID-19 pandemic.



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 26

FIRST READING

ACTS 2:14, 22-33

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed: “You who are Jews, indeed all of you staying in Jerusalem. Let this be known to you, and listen to my words. You who are Israelites, hear these words. Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God with mighty deeds, wonders, and signs, which God worked through him in your midst, as you yourselves know. This man, delivered up by the set plan and foreknowledge of God, you killed, using lawless men to crucify him. But God raised him up, releasing him from the throes of death, because it was impossible for him to be held by it.

For David says of him:

*I saw the Lord ever before me,
with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.
Therefore my heart has been glad and my tongue has exulted;
my flesh, too, will dwell in hope,
because you will not abandon my soul to the netherworld,
nor will you suffer your holy one to see corruption.
You have made known to me the paths of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence.*

“My brothers, one can confidently say to you about the patriarch David that he died and was buried, and his tomb is in our midst to this day. But since he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants upon his throne, he foresaw and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that neither was he abandoned to the netherworld nor did his flesh see corruption. God raised this Jesus; of this we are all witnesses. Exalted at the right hand of God, he received the promise of the Holy Spirit from the Father and poured him forth, as you see and hear.”

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11

Response: Lord, you will show us the path of life.

SECOND READING

1 PT 1:17-21

Beloved: If you invoke as Father him who judges impartially according to each one’s works, conduct yourselves with reverence during the time of your sojourning, realizing that you were

ransomed from your futile conduct, handed on by your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold but with the precious blood of Christ as of a spotless unblemished lamb. He was known before the foundation of the world but revealed in the final time for you, who through him believe in God who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

GOSPEL READING

LK 24:13-35

That very day, the first day of the week, two of Jesus’ disciples were going to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus, and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred. And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him. He asked them, “What are you discussing as you walk along?” They stopped, looking downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know of the things that have taken place there in these days?” And he replied to them, “What sort of things?” They said to him, “The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, how our chief priests and rulers both handed him over to a sentence of death and crucified him. But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel; and besides all this, it is now the third day since this took place.

Some women from our group, however, have astounded us: they were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find his body; they came back and reported that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that he was alive. Then some of those with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women had described, but him they did not see.” And he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the Scriptures.

As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, “Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?” So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, “The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!” Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of bread.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 3

FIRST READING

ACT 2:14A, 36-41

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed: “Let the whole house of Israel know for certain that God has made both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.” Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and they asked Peter and the other apostles, “What are we to do, my brothers?” Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is made to you and to your children and to all those far off, whomever the Lord our God will call.” He testified with many other arguments, and was exhorting them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand persons were added that day.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

23: 1-3 A, 3B4, 5, 6

Response: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

SECOND READING

1 PT 2:20B-25

Beloved: If you are patient when you suffer for doing what is good, this is a grace before God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example that you should follow in his footsteps. *He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.*

When he was insulted, he returned no insult; when he suffered, he did not threaten; instead, he handed himself over to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness.

By his wounds you have been healed. For you had gone astray like sheep, but you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

GOSPEL READING
JOHN 10:1-10

Jesus said: “Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever does not enter a sheepfold through the gate but climbs over elsewhere is a thief and a robber. But whoever enters through the gate is the

shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice.

But they will not follow a stranger; they will run away from him, because they do not recognize the voice of strangers.”

Although Jesus used this figure of speech, the Pharisees did not realize what he was trying to tell them.

So Jesus said again, “Amen, amen, I say to you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture.

A thief comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy; I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly.”



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 10

FIRST READING
ACTS 6:1-7

As the number of disciples continued to grow, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. So the Twelve called together the community of the disciples and said, “It is not right for us to neglect the word of God to serve at table. Brothers, select from among you seven reputable men, filled with the Spirit and wisdom, whom we shall appoint to this task, whereas we shall devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”

The proposal was acceptable to the whole community, so they chose Stephen, a man filled with faith and the Holy Spirit, also Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicholas of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these men to the apostles who prayed and laid hands on them.

The word of God continued to spread, and the number of the disciples in Jerusalem increased greatly; even a large group of priests were becoming obedient to the faith.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM
PS 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19

Response: Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

SECOND READING
1 PT 2:4-9

Beloved: Come to him, a living stone, rejected by human beings but chosen and precious in the sight of God, and, like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

For it says in Scripture:

*Behold, I am laying a stone in Zion,
a cornerstone, chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in it shall not be put to shame.*

Therefore, its value is for you who have faith, but for those without faith:

*The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone, and
A stone that will make people stumble,
and a rock that will make them fall.*

They stumble by disobeying the word, as is their destiny.

You are “a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own, so that you may announce the praises” of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

GOSPEL READING
JOHN 14:1-12

Jesus said to his disciples: “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be. Where I am going you know the way.”

Thomas said to him, “Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?”

Jesus said to him, I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, then you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us.”

Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you for so long a time and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on my own. The Father who dwells in me is doing his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else, believe because of the works themselves. Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these, because I am going to the Father.”

Spiritual Communion Prayer

It has long been a Catholic understanding that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion, which is a source of grace. Spiritual Communion is an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament and lovingly embrace him at a time or in circumstances when one cannot receive Him in sacramental Communion. The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass. Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid the sins that would make us unable to receive Holy Communion worthily.

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,

Come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you as if you were already there

And unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you.

Amen.

Religious education directors and youth ministers stay connected during COVID-19 pandemic

With Pennsylvania schools now closed for the rest of the academic year, many parishes across the Diocese of Scranton have worked to transition their religious education and faith formation programs to an online learning platform.

During this unprecedented time, the Diocese of Scranton Office for Parish Life has been working to bring Directors of Religious Education and youth ministers together on a regular basis.

Jacki Douglas, Director for WORD and Lifelong Faith Formation and Shannon Kowalski, Coordinator for Youth/Young Adult Ministry, have started to offer weekly video conference chats for parish faith formation leaders.

“We’re in a forum where you don’t have to speak. You can just be there to listen to what is going on and get filled up,” Douglas said.

On Wednesday, April 15, 2020, a total of 26 religious education leaders from across the Diocese joined in the weekly discussion. They reflected on scripture and talked about the challenges and opportunities that the COVID-19 pandemic brings.

Kathy Stocki, Faith Formation Director for Saint Ann Basilica Parish in West Scranton, was one of the participants in the conversation.

“In so many ways, we as catechists have lamented that our reach was somewhat specific to the students who were enrolled in our programs and throughout this experience, our reach has become greater,” Stocki said.

Using the REMIND App, Saint Ann Basilica Parish has put out religious education resources to families to support not just children in their faith experience, but everyone, during the coronavirus crisis.

“The extension of the catechesis, I think, has been a blessing in some ways because



Directors of Religious Education and youth ministers from around the Diocese of Scranton are coming together weekly by video conference technology during the COVID-19 pandemic.

it has extended our reach,” Stocki added. “Where they are, Church is.”

Sandy Czyczyk, Director of Religious Education at Saint Catherine of Siena Parish in Moscow, said her parish also uses the REMIND App to communicate with parents.

“I used the catechetical Sunday theme, ‘Jesus, Stay with Us,’ as an introduction to our first weekend of Gospel readings and letting parents know that information would be coming from the teachers for lessons each week,” Czyczyk said.

Without having students filling classrooms on a weekly basis, Czyczyk said she has spent her time researching videos that best explain the Gospel message for her different grade levels and coming up with questions for families to reflect on together.

“We are directing it to the family and I think it is really exciting that I’m putting the

reading in the hands of the parents,” she added.

During Holy Week, Saint Catherine of Siena Parish encouraged families to make an “Alleluia banner” for their homes.

“We’re trying to continue formation in more creative ways. It is more challenging doing it online but parents are receptive to whatever they’re getting,” Czyczyk said.

Sue Burke, Director of Faith Formation at Our Lady of the Snows Parish and the Church of Saint Benedict, said she has been working to make sure her students, especially those involved in youth ministry, are supported at this time.

“We have a group FaceTime we try to do two times a week and we just try to stay in touch with them and stay positive for them,” Burke said.

In terms of seizing this moment as an opportunity, Burke said, “it has taken me back to the basics.”

The struggle of young adults is also being felt at Saint Joseph the Worker Parish in Williamsport, where youth ministry members typically met on Sunday night before the coronavirus.

“They’re longing for the Eucharist... They don’t know when this will end,” Makenzie Conner, Director of Youth Ministry, said. “That has been the hardest part, hearing how students are upset over not being able to go to Mass or confession. Holy Week was rough.”

At the Lycoming County parish, young adults are being encouraged to take part in online programming. One student has even started a Catholic teen blog during this uneasy time period.

“We’re really trying to push the domestic church, what are you doing as a family together? What does your home life look like every Sunday? People are posting pictures of how they watch Mass or posting what they did as a family. There has been a lot of great stories,” Conner added.

While there are a lot of uncertainties over the current health situation, including when things will get back to normal, Directors of Religious Education and youth ministers say every challenge presents an opportunity.

“I think it’s a wonderful time to really encourage all of our families to be united with our priests and our bishop and all those who are serving us in the faith and doing such a wonderful job bringing so many of these virtual and electronic resources to us in our homes,” Stocki said.

Any Director of Religious Education or youth minister who would like to join the weekly video conference discussion can email JDouglas@dioceseofscranton.org for the weekly link.

Congratulations

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on the 10th anniversary of your ordination as a bishop on April 26th.

Thank you for exemplifying your motto

– *“Walk Humbly with Your God”* –

as you shepherd us.



MAY THE LORD CONTINUE TO BLESS YOU AND GUIDE YOU.



During time of crisis, Catholic Social Services responds to need

As local, statewide and national unemployment rates climb and families find their incomes slashed, food pantries operated by Catholic Human/Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton are seeing an influx of new faces seeking help.

From Hazleton to Carbondale, large numbers of first-time visitors have reached out for assistance as they find themselves out of work.

“People are coming out in droves,” Stephanie Miller, Director, Catholic Social Services Scranton and Carbondale, said.

At the Nativity Place Food Pantry in South Scranton, Miller said, “we served more than 90 people in one day. Normally, an average for us is 40 so we are more than double.”

In addition to new faces seeking assistance, Miller said many seniors are also now asking for help.

“We’re here to help the community. We want to be there for the community,” Miller added.

In Hazleton, where the number of COVID-19 cases is reported to be particularly high, the need is just as great.



Volunteers begin the distribution of food outside the Nativity Place Food Pantry during an event in late March. (Photo/Dan Gallagher)

“During the first three weeks in March, we saw about 550-560 families. Normally for a month, the average is about 425 families,” Neil Oberto, Director, Catholic Social Services Hazleton, said.

While the Catholic Social Services food pantry in Hazleton scaled back its operating schedule to two days per week for the sake of volunteers, it is still committed to providing help and hope.

“This is part and parcel of our mission. I think folks recognize that,” Oberto said.

In the city of Wilkes-Barre,

the Saint Vincent de Paul Food Pantry has seen its numbers remain relatively consistent over the last month.

“We have seen newer faces. I think it is people who are scared. Some are getting it (food) because they’re scared,” Mike Cianciotta, Director of Saint Vincent de Paul Kitchen, said.

The Wilkes-Barre food pantry remains open weekly on Tuesday and Thursday.

“Usually they’re only supposed to come once a month but right now I’m not keeping track. People can come whenever

they need food,” Cianciotta added.

While food pantry operators have seen an increase in need, they have also seen an increase in public support for their operations.

“We’re very grateful for the support from the community,” Oberto said.

Oberto said he has received numerous calls from businesses and individuals offering support, donations and outreach.

One of the most recent donations came from the Lackawanna College Hazleton Center, which donated toilet paper, cleaning supplies and non-perishable items to the Catholic Social Services facility in Hazleton.

“As a part of the Hazleton community, our faculty, staff and students are honored to donate what we are able to during this unprecedented time. We are committed to the success of our city and will do whatever we can to help individuals in need,” April Harris-Snyder, Director of the Lackawanna College Hazleton Center, said.

That community support has

become apparent in all areas where Catholic Social Services operates pantries.

“We just had Giant Food Mart reach out to us and offer to donate to our pantry twice a week so our community has been very supportive,” Miller added about the situation in Scranton. “The Scranton Federation of Teachers has been sending us money for the pantry. Everyone is realizing this is an issue and they want to help.”

Miller adds that even though public Masses have been temporarily suspended, the Church of Saint Gregory in Clarks Green is still holding its regular collection for Catholic Social Services’ food pantries.

“People are aware of what is going on and they really see what we do at this time,” Cianciotta added.

During the coronavirus pandemic, operators of each food pantry said it is humbling to see the important work of serving others continue at the time it is needed most.

“This is God’s love through people who step up and help,” Oberto said.

Information on Catholic Human/Social Service Ministries

FOOD PANTRY INFORMATION

SCRANTON

Saint Francis Food Pantry
500 Penn Avenue
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Nativity Place Food Pantry
640 Hemlock Street
Tuesday and Thursday
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

CARBONDALE

Catholic Social Services Office
34 River Street
Monday: 9:00 a.m. – Noon
Tuesday and Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. – Noon and
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Thursday: 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Friday: 9:00 a.m. – Noon

WILKES-BARRE

Saint Vincent de Paul Food Pantry
39 East Jackson Street
Tuesday and Thursday
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

HAZLETON

Saint Joseph Food Pantry
214 West Walnut Street
Monday: 10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. and
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Thursday: 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

KITCHEN INFORMATION

SCRANTON

Saint Francis of Assisi Kitchen
Meals served daily 11:00 a.m. to Noon

WILKES-BARRE

Saint Vincent de Paul Kitchen
Meals served daily beginning at 11:00 a.m.

SHELTER INFORMATION

SCRANTON

Saint Anthony’s Haven

WILKES-BARRE

Mother Teresa’s Haven

HAZLETON

Divine Providence Shelter

Forest City parish distributes meals to people in need



Ascension Parish in Forest City joined forces with Zazzera’s Supermarket to provide spaghetti dinners to people in need throughout their Susquehanna County community. Volunteers braved the snow on Saturday, April 18, 2020, to distribute approximately 150 meals to individuals who had pre-registered. People picked-up the free meals in the Sacred Heart Church Hall parking lot.

Parish food pantries seeing new faces, meeting needs across the Diocese

ASHLEY – Volunteers at the Ashley Food Pantry, which is hosted at Saint Leo's/Holy Rosary Parish, were expecting a larger than normal turnout for their April food distribution but even they were surprised by the number of new faces that showed up.

"Normally in a month, we'll get four new clients," Thomas Hooper, Ashley Food Pantry volunteer, said. "Thursday (April 16), we got 32 new clients. In one month, we got almost as many new clients as we do in a year."

Just like larger community organizations, many parishes across the Diocese of Scranton host food pantries at their facilities. They are also seeing an increased need during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I was the one parking the cars. The majority of them (clients) were younger people, not retirees, which was not surprising in a sense," Hooper said. "A lot of younger people are being affected now."

The Ashley Food Pantry opens its doors once a month, the second Thursday of every month, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and again from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. It serves residents in the 18706 zip code,

which includes Ashley, Hanover Township, Sugar Notch and Warrior Run. The next food distribution is scheduled for Thursday, May 14, 2020.

"Everybody puts a lot of time and effort into it because they know it's a good cause," Hooper added.

The Ashley Food Pantry gets a majority of its food from CEO/Weinberg Northeast Regional Food Bank. The rest of the food donations come from individuals and parishioners at Saint Leo's/Holy Rosary Parish. Volunteers who help distribute the food come from three area churches.

While the coronavirus forced changes to normal distribution methods, the process now includes pre-bagging food and enforcing social distancing guidelines. Hooper believes it is worth it to serve the community.

"If you were in that situation of needing food, you'd want someone out there doing it for you. I think that is the motive behind it," he added.

For several decades, volunteers from the Saint Joseph the Worker Parish Food Pantry in Williamsport have also been stepping up to help their community.

"We get new people every week," Margaret Harpster, Food Pantry Coordinator, said.

The pantry, which is open every Wednesday from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. has served 150 families in the last four weeks. That is an increase from the normal 100 to 125 families.

"We know we're serving a need. You know you are helping them. You are forming a relationship with them as well," Harpster said.

In addition to parishioners from Saint Joseph the Worker Parish, the pantry also gets assistance from parishioners at Saint Boniface, Saint Lawrence and Saint Ann parishes.

Since the coronavirus crisis started, volunteers say they've also seen a big increase in people looking to help.

"We've had a tremendous amount of donations, people wanting to help which has been amazing," Harpster said. "We have grocery stores that donate to us every week. The Weis store in Montoursville gives us bakery items and the meat department will give us frozen meat. Aldi's will also give us a variety of things."



A volunteer from the Saint Joseph the Worker Food Pantry in Williamsport is ready to distribute bread and fruit to the community on Wednesday, April 15, 2020. (Photo/Makenzie Conner)

Living their faith: Catholic School students make masks to help community

They may attend different Diocesan schools, but Annie Reilly and Julia Mazur have something in common, they are sewing hope in their community.

Reilly, a sixth grade student at Saint Clare/Saint Paul School in Scranton and Mazur, a junior at Holy Cross High School in Dunmore, have each spent the last several weeks making masks for family, friends and members of the community amid the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

"I decided to make masks the Sunday after getting out of school," Reilly said.

After the 12-year-old's mother saw a pattern on Facebook, Reilly's instincts kicked in.

"I took a sewing class since I was in second grade but I stopped when I was in fourth grade," Reilly joked. "Some people might call it frustrating but once you get the hang of it, it's pretty easy."

To date, Reilly has created roughly 50 masks. She typically makes five or six a day, in between balancing regular school assignments.

"I was a little slow at first because I forgot how to turn on corners but then I watched a video and I remembered how to do it. It's kind of easy once you know. You kind of hop right back into it," Reilly added.

Any money that Reilly makes from sewing and selling her masks is being donated to Saint Francis of Assisi Kitchen in Scranton.

"Our family has always been involved with Saint Francis of Assisi Kitchen. We always do a 'Day of Service' there in honor of my aunt. When she (Annie) saw all these people are hungry and without food, she wanted to give back and that is where she wanted to donate to," mother Alyson Reilly said.



Julia Mazur, 17, a junior at Holy Cross High School in Dunmore has made more than 350 masks for her community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In a time of such uncertainty, Annie Reilly said she simply wants to spread a little bit of kindness.

"I'm hoping that when we spread this kindness, it will filter and more people will start doing more acts of kindness to help us get through this time," she added.

Julia Mazur, 17, started her mask-making effort for similar reasons.

"I started because my grandmother has a compromised immune system," Mazur said.

While her first requests for masks came from family and friends, Mazur said



Annie Reilly, 12, a sixth grade student at Saint Clare/Saint Paul School in Scranton has made more than 50 masks for her community during the ongoing health crisis.

associates of her mother who work in a local nursing home and prison quickly followed.

"It makes me feel great to know the places that couldn't get them are being able to get them and use them," Mazur said. "I'm doing my best to do something that protects people and keeps them safe."

To date, Mazur has already made more than 350 masks. She averages 20 per day.

"It's crazy at this point," Mazur joked. "I had never made one before. I actually saw a Facebook post on how to make one and I just went off of that. It was based on the CDC

(Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines."

The Holy Cross student has now enlisted her mother to help her cut fabric. She had some of the material already around the house but other people are now donating it to her.

Normally, Mazur wouldn't have a lot of free time on her hands to make masks. But since she works for the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins, who have had games postponed, she has more time to fulfill requests.

"I can't go to work right now. This is another thing to do to keep me busy!" Mazur added.

"I've been really proud to be a Catholic School parent"

Parents describe the transition to remote learning for Diocese of Scranton Catholic School System

PITTSSTON — Sticking to a routine has helped the Riley family adjust to distance learning within the Diocese of Scranton Catholic School System.

"I have been really astounded at how the process has gone," mother Anita Riley said.

Riley's daughter, Ava, 7, is currently a first grade student at Holy Rosary School in Duryea.

"We were immediately prepared. We started that Monday after the closure and we were doing school work, which for my daughter allowed her to continue that routine," Riley said. "I've been really proud to be a Catholic school parent!"

Constant communication from school administration has helped ease fear and concern and facilitated a smooth transition.

"We still feel like a community even though we are apart," Riley added.

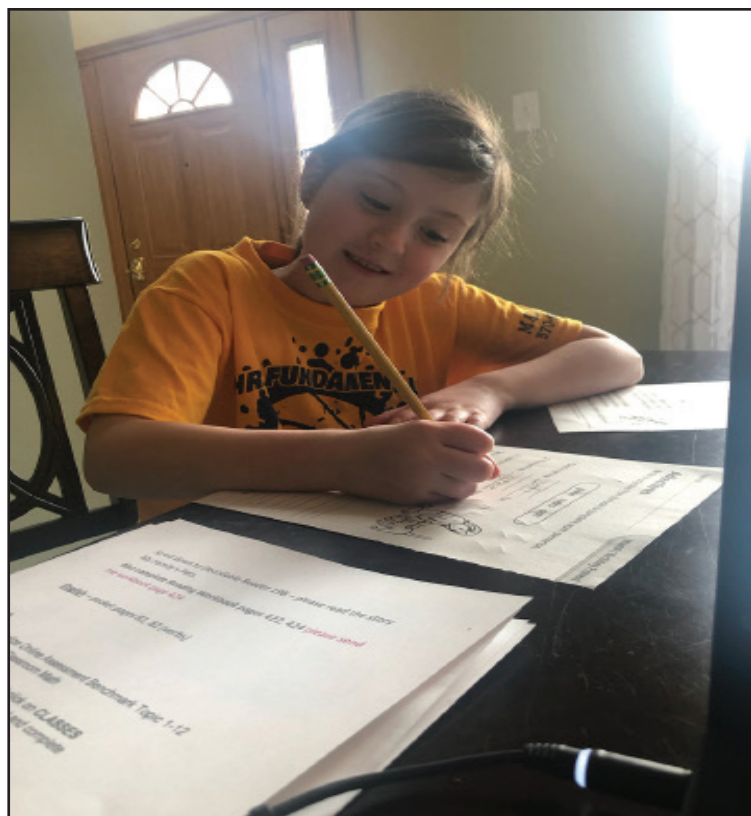
The Riley family also credits the hard work and dedication of teachers, many of whom are available to answer questions about assignments at any time.

"The teachers have been nothing short of amazing," Riley said. "The passion, how much they care about the students and how sad they are to not be teaching has been relayed to us and felt genuinely from day one."

The Nealon family in Archbald agrees with those sentiments regarding the transition to distance learning and the dedication of the Catholic school faculty.

"I can't be more impressed with the way they handled it," father Jack Nealon said. "You can plan for fire drills and snow days, I can't imagine how they planned for this. But the way they executed it was very well-prepared and very deliberate."

The Nealon family has two boys, Riley and Brayden, who are students at La Salle Academy in Jessup. Riley is an eighth grade student and Brayden is in fourth grade.



Ava Riley, 7, a first grade student at Holy Rosary School in Duryea does a distance learning assignment from her Pittston home.

"You can really tell that the kids were the first priority; the safety of the kids, the normalcy for the kids and the academics, there was really no lapse in that," Nealon added.

While certainly not the ideal way to learn, the Nealon family is thankful for technology that allows students and teachers to stay connected, including Google Classroom. Preparing for each school day actually starts the night before.

"The evening before, my wife will get emails from all the boys' teachers. It's not just math and English, but it's also the music teacher and the gym teacher. It is the full curriculum!" Nealon said. "They couldn't have planned for it, they couldn't have seen this coming, but they were on top of it."

La Salle Academy principal, Ellen Murphy, said the entire educational team works together to provide children the continuity of skills and opportunity for academic growth.

"It was an extraordinary challenge that was met by

extraordinary people," Murphy remarked. "They immediately went to the mode of 'we can do this.' There was some fear and concern but they supported each other and they worked together. I can't say enough about how well the faculty works with each other and they support each other."

Murphy believes a lot of the credit for the success of distance learning also belongs to parents.

"I think the parents have shown incredible strength. This is very difficult to assume this role in their children's lives. They're partnering with the teachers to do what they can to make life a little more normal," she said.

Murphy personally sees all of the lessons of educators and has been added as a co-teacher in many video conferences. That gives her the unique perspective of being able to see all the online lesson plans in action.

"I watched a teacher's lesson. She had a white board in her parlor and she filmed herself explaining a math concept to the

students. It was just amazing and she was available for them via the Google Classroom for questions as she was explaining this lesson and they were beginning to work the concept," Murphy said.

La Salle Academy currently has 200 students ranging from pre-school to eighth grade.

While the educational process has been turned upside-down in many regards, Murphy said one important thing remains constant.

"The most important part of every lesson plan is that every teacher begins with a prayer and encouragement," Murphy said. "To keep that prayer consistent and to remind each other of the need for prayer, that's the most important part of every lesson that we're doing every day."

Kristen Donohue, Superintendent of Catholic Schools, said all 20 schools within the Diocese of Scranton have now moved into the fourth marking period. After initially reviewing information, teachers are now introducing new concepts and students are completing assignments that are graded.

"We feel very confident going into the fourth marking period that we're able to provide

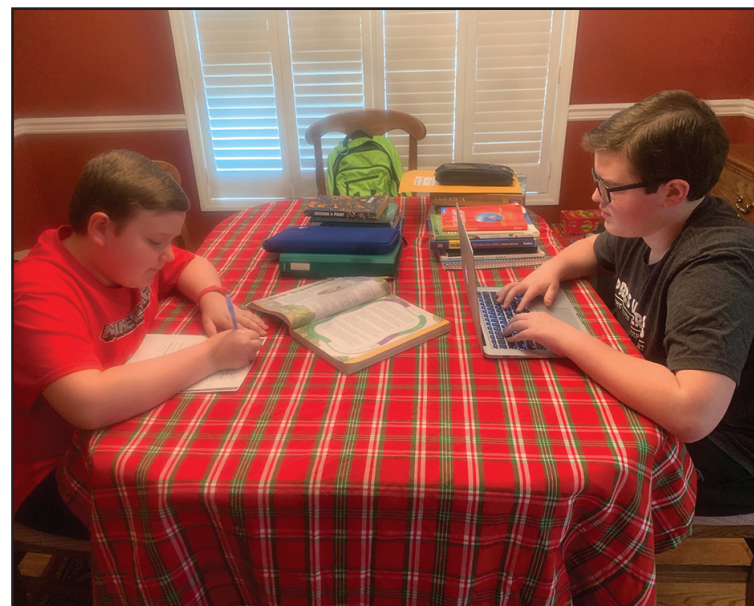
a quality education for our students," Donohue said.

Since March 16, 2020, when distance learning began, Donohue said educators have been constantly refining the process to make it the best it can be. They have been sharing best practices to make the virtual educational experience the best it can be.

"We're extremely proud of how our principals and teachers have transitioned overnight and planned to prepare for our students in the most compassionate and strategic way to be able to continue that education and know that was the most important priority for students to continue education even though we weren't able to access our buildings," she added.

Moving forward, administrators are now working to plan for milestone events like graduations, especially in the high schools, to give seniors the recognition they deserve.

"Nothing has been formalized yet but these students have worked so hard and our families have sacrificed so much to make this happen. We just want to make sure we give our seniors the recognition they deserve, in a genuine, authentic and creative way," Donohue added.



Brayden Nealon, left, and his brother, Riley Nealon, right, both students at La Salle Academy in Jessup, work on distance learning activities from their home in Archbald.

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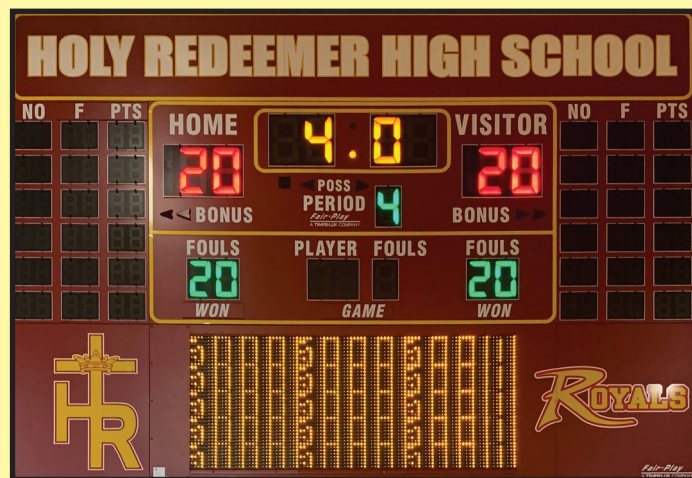
All four Diocesan high schools participated in the "Be the Light" campaign on Friday, April 17, 2020, joining hundreds of other schools in Pennsylvania. The campaign honors all students from the Class of 2020 who had their senior year cut short during the COVID-19 pandemic. Scoreboards displayed 20-20 in honor of this year's graduating class, while 4 and 19 were displayed signifying COVID-19. For football fans, the 4 and 19 indicates the crisis is on its final down.



Holy Cross High School



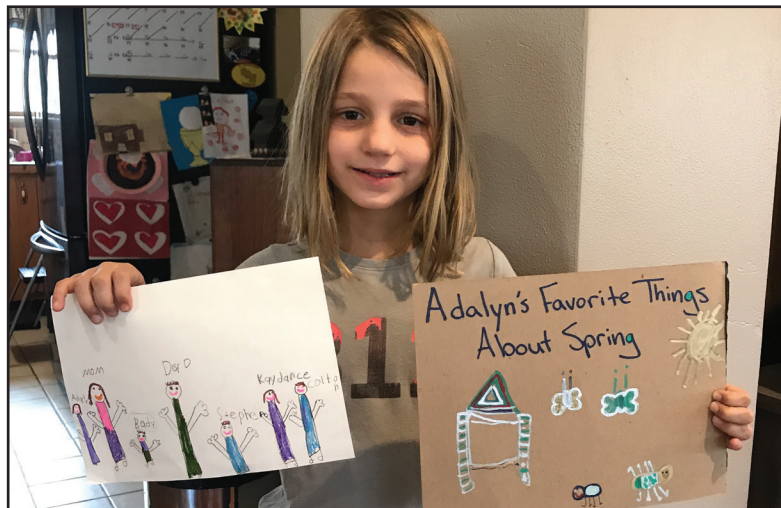
Saint John Neumann High School



Holy Redeemer High School



Notre Dame High School



Adalyn Meixel, a kindergarten student at Saint John Neumann Elementary School in Williamsport, shows some of the assignments she has been working on since distance learning began for all students.



Nicole Siciliano, Senior Class President at Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School in East Stroudsburg, works on Honors Calculus via Google Classroom.



Third grade students from **La Salle Academy in Jessup** sent cards to residents at the Mid Valley Senior Center. Staff members from the senior center, which is also located in Jessup, have since informed the students that the cards were hung on the residents' doors so they could regularly see them.

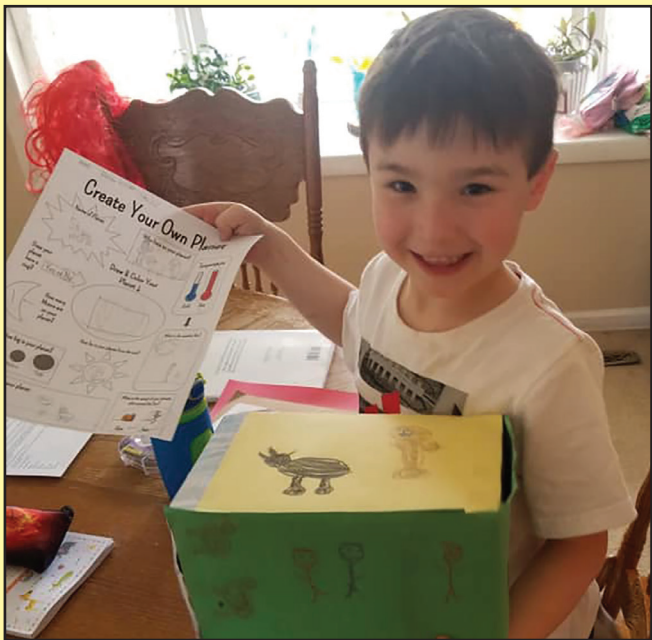


First graders from **Our Lady of Peace School in Clarks Green** were recently “Zooming” with their teacher, Mrs. Layaou, as she sits in her makeshift classroom.



Victoria Sabetta, a kindergarten student at **Wyoming Area Catholic School in Exeter**, works on a coding project from home as part of the school's distance learning program.

Randall Skuba, a student at **Holy Family Academy in Hazleton**, is all smiles as he shows his first grade project which involved making a planet system.



Nikko Lesoine, a first grade student at **Notre Dame Elementary School in East Stroudsburg**, works on a STREAM (Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Arts, Math) assignment as part of the school's distance learning program.



The Thompson siblings, twins Aiden & Erin are fifth graders and little sister Katie is in first grade, celebrate virtual Spirit Day at **Monsignor McHugh School in Cresco** from high atop their castle.

Students from the third grade class at **Good Shepherd Academy in Kingston** were spreading God's love through the cards they made for the residents at Mercy Center Skilled Nursing Unit in Dallas.



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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.



Elder Law

- Guardianships
- Asset Protection Planning
- Medicaid Application Assistance

Estate Administration

Probate :

Settle all estate matters and distribute inheritances.

Inheritance Tax :

Utilize all discounts and proper deductions.
Meet all requirements and deadlines.

- Powers of Attorney • Living Wills • Wills
- Trusts Guardianships • Asset Protection Planning
- Medicaid Application Assistance

Estate Planning

- Powers of Attorney • Living Wills
- Wills • Trusts Guardianships



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April is Child Abuse Prevention Month



By Kathleen Bolinski

Safe Environment
Coordinator

I begin this message with a wish for continued safety and good health. In these incredible times we are obligated to focus on this immediate crisis. But with God's help we will slowly resume some sense of normalcy.

Child abuse prevention month, an annual event in April, has understandably been eclipsed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Although the emphasis has been diminished, the significance remains of the utmost importance. According to the 2018 Pennsylvania Child Protective Services Annual Report, there were more than 44,000 reports of abuse and more than 5,000 of those were designated as substantiated abuse cases. The category with the highest number of substantiated cases remains sexual abuse, a sad commentary on the status of our society. Each of those numbers represents a child experiencing unimaginable trauma.

We must all do our part to prevent the continued abuse of children. Training is critical. Although public gatherings are not possible at this time, you can complete both VIRTUS and mandated reporter trainings online. To access VIRTUS online, please go to the website and register at virtusonline.org. Once you create an account, select the online module. The University of Pittsburgh offers mandated reporter training online at reportabusepa.pitt.edu.

There is no question that we pray for the conclusion of this pandemic. But once we've resumed our former routines, let us not proceed with complacency. We must move into the future with renewed purpose and appreciation of life. By joining the fight against child abuse, we affirm the value of those who are most vulnerable. Will you enlist in the battle to protect children?



Prayer Requests for Priests

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

April 23, Father Neftali Feliz-Sena; April 24, Father Michael Finn; April 25, Father Richard Fox; April 26, Father Martin Gaiardo; April 27, Father Andrew Gallia; April 28, Father J. Duane Gavitt; April 29, Father Anthony Generose; May 1, Pope Francis; May 2, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI; May 3, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera; May 4, Father Richard Ghezzi; May

5, Father Ryan Glenn; May 6, Congregation of Holy Cross Father Anthony Grasso; May 7, Father Joseph Greskiewicz; May 8, Monsignor Vincent Grimalia; May 9, Father Louis Grippe; May 10, Father Eugene Gunning; May 11, Father Gerald Gurka; May 12, Priestly Fraternity of Saint Peter Father Simon Harkins; May 13, Passionist Father Lee Havey; May 14, Father Robert Hochreiter; May 15, Father Joseph Horanzy; May 16, Father Thomas Hudak; May 17, Father Andrew Hvozdozic

DALLAS TOWNSHIP – The Misericordia University Board of Trustees has appointed Kathleen Cieplak Owens, Ph.D., to serve as president of the institution for the 2020-21 academic year. Dr. Owens's term as president will begin on July 1, 2020 and end on June 30, 2021. Dr. Owens is president emerita of Gwynedd Mercy University in Lower Gwynedd Twp., where she served as president from 2002 until her retirement in Aug. 2017.

"The Board believes Dr. Owens's extensive professional accomplishments and experience with the Mercy Mission in Catholic higher education will serve our university well as we manage our presidential transition and the planned recovery from the unprecedented COVID-19 crisis," Christopher L. Borton, chairperson of the Misericordia University Board of Trustees, said.

"I am both excited and humbled to have the opportunity to serve the Misericordia University community during this transition period," Dr. Owens said.



Dr. Kathleen Owens

Dr. Owens will replace Thomas J. Botzman, Ph.D., as president of Misericordia University. Dr. Botzman is completing a highly successful seven-year term as Misericordia's president. He has accepted the president's position at the University of Mount Union in Alliance, Ohio. The search for Misericordia's president for 2021-22 and beyond will begin in late summer as the Board of Trustees will conduct a national search to select Dr. Botzman's long-term successor.

Dr. Owens currently resides in the Chicago area with her husband.

PCC applauds PA Senate for passing telemedicine bill in safe form

On April 21, the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference applauded the PA Senate passage of Senate Bill 857 – Telemedicine – in a form that retains current protections against dangerous drugs identified by the FDA, including a drug used for abortions.

"Telemedicine promises to be a life-saving measure across Pennsylvania," said Eric Failing, Executive Director of the PCC. "There is no doubt about that. We thank the senators who voted to keep Telemedicine as a completely life-saving bill."

"This was, without a doubt, the premier pro-life vote of the entire session," Failing continued. "It is sad that some chose to politicize the issue by arguing that only some lives are worth saving and those of the unborn are not."

Failing pointed out that a third of all abortions being done now are done chemically.

"If our pro-life prohibitions would be stripped out of the Telemedicine bill, the number of abortions in Pennsylvania would increase dramatically," Failing added.

Failing is now calling on Governor Tom Wolf to sign the bill.

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Though the St. Francis of Assisi Kitchen "Host For A Day" campaign continues, the Appreciation Reception, scheduled for April 22 at Genetti Manor in Dickson City, has been postponed. We will announce a new date for the banquet ASAP. *Thank you for your understanding and continued support.*

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Mission Message

Go Forth

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



The new normal. Surely you have heard this phrase that has slipped into our daily lexicon. Not only have we heard this term used frequently, but we have also encountered this reality and are living “the new normal.” For many, this is an unwelcomed state of affairs, a change that we have all tried to avoid or at least delay as quickly as possible. The fact remains that the new normal is unavoidable and we ought not to seek a stay from it. However, it seems profitable for us to approach and embrace the new normal with a sense of awe.

I read recently that what we are doing at home each day of this pandemic, how we are carrying ourselves during this unsettling seclusion will affect the world around us when we return to “normal.” If we’re not doing so already, we have to start getting our acts together. That’s not a criticism or a judgment of your spiritual character, it’s a look into my own mirror. I wish I had

spent these days in deeper, more focused prayer and communion with God. Don’t misunderstand me, I haven’t given up on prayer or my duties to pray as the Church expects a priest to pray; I just haven’t gone deep enough. I have to go deeper. We all have to go deeper.

If we want the new normal not to be a burden, but a grace, we have to go deeper. Faith will sustain us, hope will give us trust, and charity will well up in us a deeper love of God and our neighbor. This is a time of spiritual renewal. Our time at home, whether we are alone or with our spouses and children, can be—if we allow it—a movement from spiritual survival to spiritual renewal.

This time of spiritual renewal can engender in us a truly missionary spirit as well. I have complained more than most about the abrupt cessation of so much of what I enjoy in life. So many pastimes and opportunities for entertainment have been halted or adjusted to the point of becoming boring or unrecognizable. Sporting events on television from the year or years past where we literally know the outcome of the game, reruns of television programs that we’ve watched for the umpteenth time, and so much more. Our lives are on the brink

of seemingly endless boredom.

You know what never gets old, never gets boring? You know what is always new and fresh? Prayer. One fruit of my prayer has been that I need to reorient my priorities and my expectations, spiritual and otherwise. I need to pull back and relax, to just be quiet and chill out. God our Father speaks to us in the psalms and presses us to “be still and know that I am God” (Ps. 46:10). God did not cause COVID-19 but He can cause, in the midst of this dreadful time, a renewal that can truly change the world for the better. What we are doing daily during this quarantine matters.

God is calling us to be still, to know that He is God. It’s a personal and pivotal choice for each of us to make. How will we come out of this and into the new normal? I pray to God I’m not the same. I pray that I’m new. I hope that each of us can come out on the other side of this knowing that we took some serious time to encounter God in our lives so that we can then go forth into the world to be His body, His hands, His feet, His eyes as Saint Teresa of Avila once prayed. This world will need this and God has chosen you and me to be a part of it.

Apostleship of Prayer

Papal Intention for May 2020

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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 Respecto de Reportar el Abuso Sexual de Un Menor de Edad

Es la norma de la Diócesis de Scranton reportar cualquier alegación de abuso sexual de un menor de edad a las autoridades. Si usted es una víctima de abuso sexual cometido por un sacerdote, diácono, religioso o empleado laico, o voluntario de la Diócesis de Scranton, usted está obligado a reportar el asunto inmediatamente a las autoridades de la ley.

Si algún sacerdote, diácono, religioso, empleado laico o voluntario de la Diócesis de Scranton tiene sospecha de que un menor de edad ha sido sujeto a cualquier forma de abuso, incluyendo abuso sexual de menor de edad, el asunto será reportado a las autoridades de la ley.

Es la norma de la Diócesis defender todas las regulaciones civiles y del estado. Al fin de que la Diócesis esté comprometida igualmente a defender las normas del Código de Derecho Canónico y defender los principios de la Carta Para la Protección de Niños y Jóvenes (Conferencia de los Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos), lo cual incluye apoyar a las víctimas de abuso sexual en pos del bienestar emocional y espiritual.

Por eso, información respecto a una alegación del asunto sexual de un menor de edad, debe ser reportada a la Coordinadora Diocesana de Asistencia para Las Víctimas, Mary Beth Pacuska, a (570-862-7551).

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Catholic Women's Conference watching COVID-19 pandemic

SCRANTON – During these unprecedented times, the organizers of the 2020 Catholic Women's Conference "Full of Grace" are still prayerfully hoping the conference will be able to take place.

As organizers and the Diocese continue to watch and adhere to federal and state guidelines, a final decision on whether the conference will need to be postponed will be made in mid-May.

The event, slated for the University of Scranton, is currently scheduled to take place on June 20, 2020. Any updates regarding the conference will be provided at cwcnepa.com.

If the event is able to proceed, one of the guest speakers is expected to be Deb Hadley, who knows the challenges that come with pursuing a relationship with God.

A cradle Catholic, Hadley was shown the ropes of Catholicism by her parents and had settled into her faith comfortably. She could never have seen the suffering and loss God had planned for her life, nor the effects it would have on her faith life and her work in society.

Hadley's journey began with the death of her daughter, Kaylie,

from Sudden Unexpected and Unexplained Death from Epilepsy (SUDEP). Kaylie was a young teacher preparing to be married and her epilepsy was, as of then, under control.

The shock rattled Hadley, who noticed holes in her spiritual life after her daughter died.

"I realized I didn't have a relationship with the Lord," Hadley said. "I didn't know who He was or where He was or what He was or if He was."

This realization led Hadley to begin to dig deeper into her faith. She read spiritual books, began posting on a Facebook page called "RIP Angel Kaylie" and started working to deepen her prayer life.

Hadley's faith was tested yet again with the loss of her son, Tyler, nine months and two days after Kaylie's death, in a car crash which killed him and three other boys.

Hadley described the loss as causing her to spiral out of control again.

"The second loss I had was completely different, because I knew the Lord and I had a relationship with Him and I felt his presence with me," Hadley said.

At Tyler's funeral, Hadley was confronted by others saying that Tyler's death did not make sense and there was no reason why God had taken him so soon.

Hadley chose not to listen to the negative beliefs that her son's death was meaningless.

"I said if there is no purpose in this then I am so mad at God that I would have to go through all this suffering for nothing," Hadley said. "I said there is

purpose for this and I know He will bring good from it and I will trust Him."

Hadley's trust in God was integral to her survival after losing her two children and views the deaths as an integral part of her faith journey.

"I never would have thought that in losing Kaylie I would find the Lord like I have and then losing Tyler would allow me to share my love for him with others," Hadley said.

Hadley has applied herself tirelessly to her work at KT Humble Hearts Foundation, which now works to fund community cohesion events and scholarships for local schools, to comfort grieving families, families with hardships and to support the Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota.

Hadley has been a member of the National Speakers' Association since 2014, and has been called to numerous public and private events (religious and secular) to share her story in what has become her most sought after message "My Amazing Life."

To hear Hadley speak at the Catholic Women's Conference, tickets can be purchased for \$40 each before June 7 and \$50 after. If the conference is postponed because of COVID-19, any tickets purchased will be credited to the postponement date. Student tickets under the age of 22 cost \$20 and religious sisters enter free of charge.

The mission of the Catholic Women's Conference is to invigorate and enrich the faith of our sisters in Christ.


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Pennsylvania Catholic Conference thanks state senators who call for halt of Planned Parenthood’s abortion services during Elective Procedure Ban

HARRISBURG – The Pennsylvania Catholic Conference applauded the efforts of 16 Republican state senators who asked the Wolf Administration to direct Planned Parenthood to stop surgical abortions during the current health crisis. The lawmakers sent a letter to Governor Wolf and Pennsylvania Health Secretary Dr. Rachel Levine on April 15, 2020, stating that performing such procedures is in direct violation of the business closure orders issued by both of them.

“We can’t thank these senators enough for their continued commitment to pro-life efforts,” Eric Failing, Executive Director of the PCC, said. “Abortion is wrong any time, but especially now during this health crisis. Just the thought of PPEs, which are so desperately needed by our healthcare professionals and first responders, being used to

destroy life rather than save life is sickening. Planned Parenthood’s website has stated the fact that six of their facilities will be open for abortion services.”

Failing and the senators note that Governor Wolf’s directive prohibits all elective surgeries. There is also the concern that providing abortions may place several people at risk for contracting COVID-19.

Signing onto the letter was President Pro Tempore Joe Scarnati, along with Sens. David Argall, Dave Arnold, Ryan Aument, Michele Brooks, John DiSanto, Scott Hutchinson, Wayne Langerholc, Scott Martin, Doug Mastriano, Bob Mensch, Kristin Phillips-Hill, Joe Pittman, Pat Stefano, Judy Ward and Kim Ward.

The Pennsylvania Catholic Conference is based in Harrisburg and is the public affairs arm of Pennsylvania’s Catholic bishops.

Bishops urge FDA to develop ethical vaccine for COVID-19

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera from the Diocese of Scranton joins several of his fellow bishops in urging federal officials to develop an ethical vaccine for COVID-19.

Four bishop chairmen of committees for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) have urged Dr. Stephen M. Hahn, Commissioner of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), to ensure that vaccines for COVID-19 are developed ethically and are free from any connection to the exploitation of abortion.

Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City in Kansas and chairman of the Committee on Pro-Life Activities; Archbishop Paul S. Coakley of Oklahoma City and chairman of the Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development; Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of Fort Wayne-South Bend and chairman of the Committee on Doctrine; and Bishop John F. Doerfler of Marquette and chairman of the Subcommittee on Healthcare Issues, signed the letter to the FDA Commissioner. They were joined by the leaders of many healthcare, bioethics, and pro-life organizations.

The letter expressed strong support for efforts to develop an effective, safe, and widely available vaccine as quickly as possible, but also strongly urged that the federal government “ensure that fundamental moral principles are followed in the development of such vaccines, most importantly, the principle that human life is sacred and should never be exploited.”

The letter noted that “among the dozens of vaccines currently in development, some are being produced using old cell lines that were created from the cells of aborted babies.” Furthermore, “there is no need to use ethically problematic cell lines to produce a COVID vaccine, or any vaccine, as other cell lines or processes that do not involve cells from abortions are available and are regularly being used,” the signers stated. “It is critically important that Americans have access to a vaccine that is produced ethically: no American should be forced to choose between being vaccinated against this potentially deadly virus and violating his or her conscience.”



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MAY SCHEDULE

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12:00 AM	DAILY MASS	SUNDAY MASS (Encore)	DAILY MASS (Encore)					
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)	FR. SPITZER'S UNIVERSE	
1:30 AM	ICONS SPOTLIGHT	EWTN GALLERY						
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	SPECIALS	
3:30AM		DEFENDING LIFE		PAPAL AUDIENCE	SAINTS VS SCOUNDRELS	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOG	AT HOME WITH JIM AND JOY	
4:00 AM	EWTN LIVE (Encore)	SUDAY VESPER			HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH	BOB AND PENNY LORD PRESENT	WEB OF FAITH 2.0	SAVORING OUR FAITH
4:30 AM		(4:35)SUNDAY BEST WITH FR GROESCHEL	THE CHURCH:GOD'S PLAN	(4:40)REGINA COELI FROM NAZARETH	THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS	LIFE IS WORTH LIVING	EXTRAORDINARY FAITH	
5:00 AM	PROPHESY IN SONG	EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL	LETTER AND SPIRIT	EWTN SPECIALS	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY	CATHOLIC BEGINNINGS	
5:30 AM	DECISION POINT	JOURNEY THROUGH SCRIPTURE	APOSTOLATE FOR FAMILY CONSECRATION	FUNDAMRNTALS OF CATHOLICISM		CATHOLICS COME HOME		
6:00 AM	REGINA CAELI 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. SCOUNDRLS	
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 BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	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	SUNDAY MASS ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL	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			SALT & LIGHT TV- THE CHURCH ALIVE			FOCUS	AT HOME WITH JIM AND JOY	
11:00 AM	VATICANO	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	CTV STATIONS OF CROSS	HOLY ROSARY FROM LOURDES	
12:00 PM	SUNDAY MASS (Encore)	THE DAILY MASS FROM ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL, LIVE AT 12:10 p.m.						
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	THE DOMESTIC CHUR CH	AT HOME WITH JIM & JOY	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOGUE	
1:30 PM	IN CONCERT	THE SAINTS OF CHINA	ST.FAUSTINA: DIVINE MERCY	SPECIALS	DOCTORS OF THE CHURCH	OUR FATHER'S PLAN	EWTN BOOKMARK	
2:00 PM		CALLED TO COMMUNION	SCRIPTURE AND TRADITION	FR. SPITZER'S UNIVERSE	THE JOURNEY HOME		STATIONS OF CROSS	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	LIFE IS WORTH LIVING	THE HOLY ROSARY					SUNDAY MASS ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL	
4:30 PM	SAVORING OUR FAITH	DIOCESAN DATEBOOK						
5:00 PM	THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL	MASTERPIECE DONUT SHOP	WE ARE CATHOLIC	MY TIME WITH JESUS	CAT CHAT	BUGTIME ADVENTURES		
5:30 PM	SUNDAY MASS ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL	EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHOICES WE FACE	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOGUE	BOB & PENNY LORD PRESENT	GENESIS TO JESUS	CATHOLIC ANSWERS LIVE	
6:00 PM	SUNDAY VESPER	SPECIALS						LETTER AND SPIRIT
6:30 PM	(6:35)SUNDAY BEST ...	CATHOLICS COME HOME	REAL LIFE CATHOLICS	CHURCH UNIVERSAL	VATICANO	SPECIALS	THE JOURNEY HOME	
7:00 PM	SUNDAY MASS	THE DAILY MASS FROM ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL, (Encore)						DAILY MASS
7:30PM		THE HOLY ROSARY			POPE'S AUDIENCE	THE HOLY ROSARY		
8:00 PM		(8:20) LITANY OF SACRED HEART	DIOCESAN DATEBOOK					
8:30 PM	CATHOLICS COME HOME	THE JOURNEY HOME (Live)	CTV SPECIAL PRESENTATION	EWTN LIVE	THE WORLD OVER (Live)	SPECIALS	EWTN CINEMA	
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 AND LIGHT TV SISTERHOOD
10:00PM	EWTN SPECIALS	THE WORLD OVER LIVE (ENCORE)	SCRIPTURE AND TRADITION (ENCORE)	FR. SPITZER'S UNIVERSE	PRO-LIFE WEEKLY	LIFE ON THE ROCK	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY	
10:30 PM					DEFENDING LIFE	ICONS SPOTLIGHT		
11:00PM	CATHOLIC BEGINNINGS	BATTLE READY	CROSS TRAINING	CROSSING THE GOAL	LONG RIDE HOME	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	WEB OF FAITH 2.0	
11:30PM	CATHOLIC VIEW FOR WOMEN	WOMEN OF GRACE						PARABLE

Help our Friends and Neighbors with a gift to the Diocese Coronavirus Emergency Fund



The COVID-19 pandemic has posed many challenges for all of us. Our parishes and Diocesan ministries are facing increased risks of financial shortfalls and are struggling to pay bills and provide services due to the Coronavirus health crisis.

If you are in a position to help out, we kindly ask you to consider supporting the vital ministries provided by our parishes and our Diocese.

Go to dioceseofscranton.org/emergencyfund and make a gift to support:

- One of our 118 parishes
- A specific kitchen, food pantry, shelter or relief assistance program
- Any of our 20 Diocesan Catholic schools

Thank you for considering a gift at this time so that our parishes and Diocesan ministries may continue to fully serve all those in need.

For more information, please contact Jim Bebla at 570-207-2250 or jim-bebla@dioceseofscranton.org

The Catholic Light

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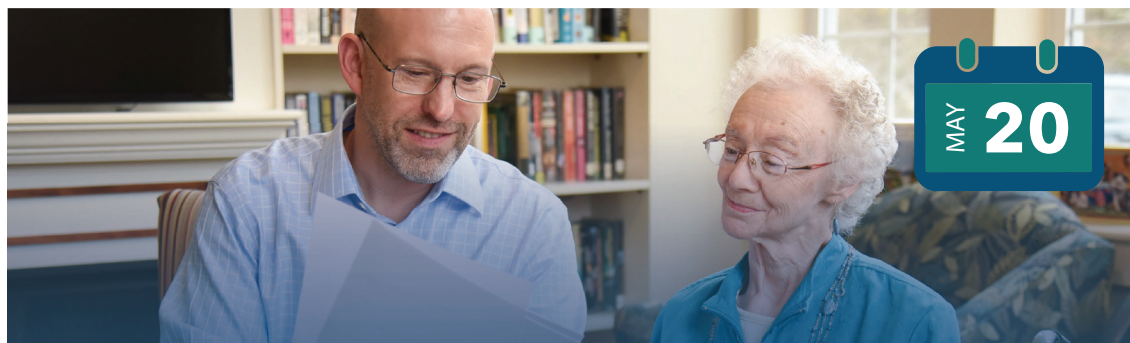
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