



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

November 12, 2020

Vatican report on investigation into ex-Cardinal McCarrick released



Two years after Pope Francis called for a full accounting of how Theodore McCarrick was able to rise through church ranks and promised to make the report public, the McCarrick report was issued on Nov. 10, 2020. Archbishop Jose Gomez called the just-released report "another tragic chapter in the church's long struggle to confront the crimes of sexual abuse by clergy."

Visit the Diocese of Scranton website which contains a link to the full report and numerous Catholic News Service stories

BUILDING ON OUR COMMITMENT TO ACCOUNTABILITY

“Be diligent in these matters, be absorbed in them, so that your progress may be evident to everyone.”
(1 Tim 4:15)



Charter & Essential Norms

June 2002, Revised 2005, 2011, 2018

- Zero Tolerance
- Victim Outreach
- Required Reporting to Public Authorities
- Lay Review Boards
- Victim Assistance Coordinators
- Safe Environment Training
- Background Checks
- No Confidentiality Agreements Unless Requested by Survivor
- Ongoing Formation for Clergy



Motu Proprio *Vos Estis Lux Mundi*

May 2019

- Reporting Systems
- Timely Investigations
- Survivor Support
- Whistleblower Protection
- Conflict of Interest Ban
- Lay Involvement
- Compliance with Civil Law
- Grounded in the Law and Life of the Local Church



Implementation Directives

June 2019

- Outlines Use of Lay Experts to Investigate and Publicize Allegations
- National 3rd Party Reporting
- Strengthens Conflict of Interest Ban
- Pastoral Care for Those Harmed
- Affirms Duties of Metropolitan



Protocol

June 2019

- Guidance on Bishops Who Were Removed or Who Resigned for Reasons Related to Sexual Abuse or Abuse of Power
- Guidance on Participation of Such Bishops Removed or Resigned in USCCB Meetings



Episcopal Commitments

June 2019

- Bishops Included in Codes of Conduct that Must Include Prohibitions Against Sexual Misconduct and Harassment
- Bishops Renew Pledge to Be Subject to the Charter
- Commitment to Ongoing Formation for Bishops
- Commitment to Include Expertise of Lay Professionals



Vademecum *Treating Cases of Sexual Abuse of Minors*

July 2020

- Affirms the Rights of Victims
- Underscores Ways to Report Clerical Sexual Abuse
- Reinforces Bishops' Obligations to Preserve Evidence
- Emphasizes Cooperation with Civil Authorities
- Clarifies Obligations of Silence
- Ensures Consistency in the Investigation of Allegations
- Describes the Church's Penal Process





After the Vatican released its extensive report on Theodore McCarrick, Pope Francis renewed the Catholic Church's pledge to uproot the scourge of sexual abuse.

Before concluding his weekly general audience Nov. 11, the pope made his first public statement on the release of the report regarding the "painful case" of the former cardinal.

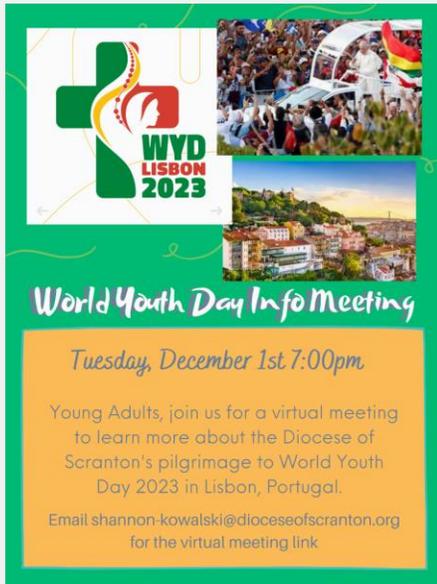
[Read More About Pope Francis' message](#)



The Catholic Social Services 2020 annual campaign is underway. It is relying on the generosity of previous as well as new donors.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, more people than ever are in need of assistance from CSS food pantries, kitchens, shelters and other relief services.

[Visit the Catholic Social Services 2020 Annual Campaign Website](#)



Informational Meeting for World Youth Day 2023

Young adults are invited to attend a virtual meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. to learn more about the Diocese of Scranton's pilgrimage to World Youth Day 2023 in Lisbon, Portugal.

For the virtual meeting link, email Shannon Kowalski at Shannon-Kowalski@dioceseofscranton.org

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