



# The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

January 7, 2021

## Assault on U.S. Capitol shocks the world



Individuals climb on walls at the U.S. Capitol in Washington Jan. 6, 2021, during a protest against Congress certifying the 2020 presidential election. (CNS photo/Stephanie Keith, Reuters)

The breach of the U.S. Capitol Jan. 6 sent shock waves around the world.

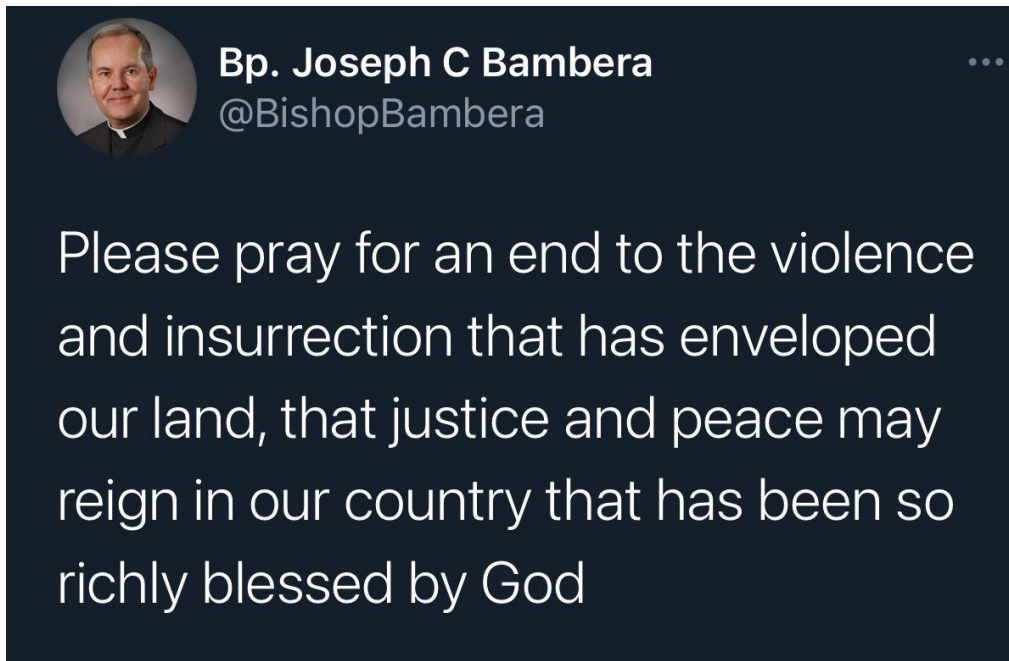
As Archbishop Mark Coleridge of Brisbane, president of the Australian bishops' conference tweeted: "I didn't realize just how much the integrity of and respect for the democratic institutions of the U.S. matter to the rest

of the world until this pandemonium erupted in D.C. From the other side of the world, I find myself shaken and disbelieving."

"Washington: Democracy wounded" read the large headline on the front page of the Vatican newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano*, Jan. 7.

[Read the Full Story from Catholic News Service](#)

In response to the breach of the U.S. Capitol, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, tweeted the following on Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021:



**National Prayer Vigil for Life will be virtual this year**



Each year on the night before the annual March for Life, at least 10,000 people have filled the Great Upper Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington for the National Prayer Vigil for Life.

This year, due to local restrictions on attendance sizes because of the pandemic, the prayer vigil will be virtual.

Catholics across the country are instead being encouraged to take part in a nationwide prayer vigil from Jan. 28 through Jan. 29, marking the 48th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's 1973 Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton decisions legalizing abortion.

The vigil will begin with a live broadcast at 8 p.m. EST on Thursday, Jan. 28 from the basilica, starting with the praying of the rosary followed by Mass.

[For More Information](#)



### **Epiphany celebrates God's all-inclusive love, bishop says**

On the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera said the story of the magi is not merely a Christmas tale with a happy conclusion. During his homily, he said it can powerfully speak to our lives if we allow it to.

[Read the Bishop's Full Homily](#)



### **Like the Magi, look to the heavens for hope, pope says on Epiphany**

In times of doubt and suffering, Christians must not focus on their problems, but instead lift up their eyes to God, who leads them toward the hopeful promise of great things to come, Pope Francis said on the feast of the Epiphany.

[Read the Full Story](#)



**January is Poverty Awareness Month!**

The month of January is Poverty Awareness Month. The Gospel reminds us that we are called to root our lives of faith in the authentic love of neighbor. How can you be in solidarity with your brothers and sisters in need?

*Catholic Social Services of The Diocese of Scranton* responds on a daily basis to the needs of those who are most vulnerable with compassion and care.

We ask that you support their efforts with your prayers. If you are able to help financially, please click on the link below.

[Support Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton](#)

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Diocese of Scranton

300 Wyoming Avenue,  
Scranton, PA 18503-1279  
(570) 207-2238  
[www.dioceseofscranton.org](http://www.dioceseofscranton.org)

Diocese of Scranton | 300 Wyoming Ave, Scranton, PA 18501

[Unsubscribe dan-gallagher@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:dan-gallagher@dioceseofscranton.org)

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