



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

February 18, 2021

Faithful attend Ash Wednesday Masses to mark the start of Lent



Rich in symbolism, the distribution of ashes brought many faithful together at parishes across the Diocese of Scranton on Ash Wednesday.

"After dealing with this pandemic almost a year now, it's frankly wonderful to see so many of you gathered here today," the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, said during the televised 12:10 p.m. Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

With people wearing masks, sitting in alternating pews and spaced out to remain physically distant, the Cathedral reached its maximum capacity in accordance with established COVID-19 protocols.

"People have wondered, will people come back at the end of this pandemic? I think those people who have a depth of faith will not only come back but come back with a greater sense of resolve," Bishop Bambera said to the media directly following Mass.

[Read the Full Story](#)



Bishop Bambera's Video Reflection for Ash Wednesday

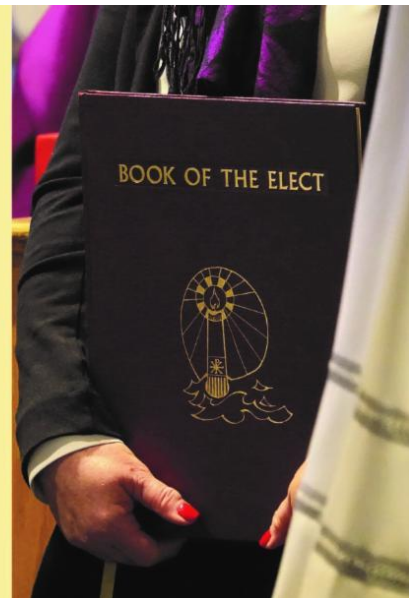
Bishop Bambera will provide short video reflections throughout the season of Lent. The first one released is for Ash Wednesday.

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Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversation 2021

Three LIVE broadcast & livestream celebrations on
CTV: Catholic Television
Saturday, February 20 at 10:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
Sunday, February 21 at 2:30 p.m.



The Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton will host three celebrations of the Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion this weekend (Feb. 20 and Feb. 21) in order to safely accommodate all of the catechumens and candidates who are preparing for the Sacraments in Initiation at Easter.

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera will be principal celebrant and homilist at each liturgy. This year, there are a total of 30 catechumens and 55 candidates from parishes across the Diocese of Scranton participating in the three celebrations at the Cathedral.

CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton will broadcast all three celebrations live. A livestream of each liturgy will also be available on the Diocese of Scranton website and social media platforms.

The celebrations will take place on:
Saturday, February 20, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
Sunday, February 21, 2021 at 2:30 p.m.

For Lent, Ask If One's Life is Centered on God or Oneself, Pope Says

Lent is a time to reconsider the path one is taking in life and to finally answer God's invitation to return to him with one's whole heart, Pope Francis said in his homily at Mass for Ash Wednesday.



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



"The Light is On For You" initiative encourages confession during Lent

“The Light is On For You” campaign was created by the Archdiocese of Washington and has since been implemented by dioceses throughout the United States. The Diocese of Scranton is proud to join this effort once again in 2021 and offer extended hours for confessions during Lent.

Beginning on Monday, February 22, 2021, (the first Monday in Lent) and continuing through the last full week of Lent on Monday, March 22, 2021, confessions will be heard on each Monday of Lent in parishes across the Diocese of Scranton from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. or at another time that best serves the faithful of a particular parish.

[For More Information](#)



Lent

Prayer, Fasting, Almsgiving.

For additional resources and information on the season of Lent, including a "Daily Inspirational Calendar," information on the Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl 2021 and additional tools from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, visit the Diocese of Scranton website.

[Visit the Diocese of Scranton website](#)

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