



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

February 25, 2021

Rite of Election brings dozens closer to full entry into Catholic Church

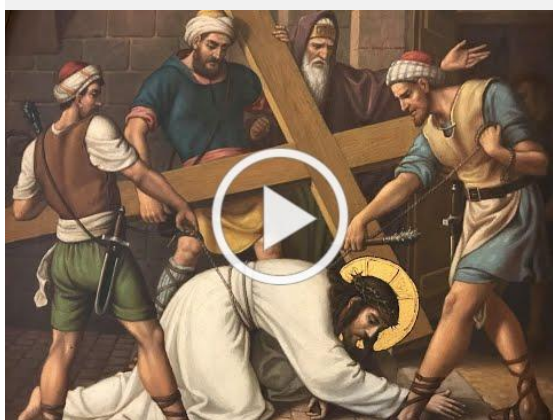


Despite all of the challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, this Lent is filled with hope and joy for Andrew Farr of Scranton. After wanting to become Catholic for years, the Scranton man's dream is about to become a reality.

"I'm incredibly excited to be welcomed into the Catholic Church. I didn't grow up religious so this whole process has been eye-opening for me," Farr said.

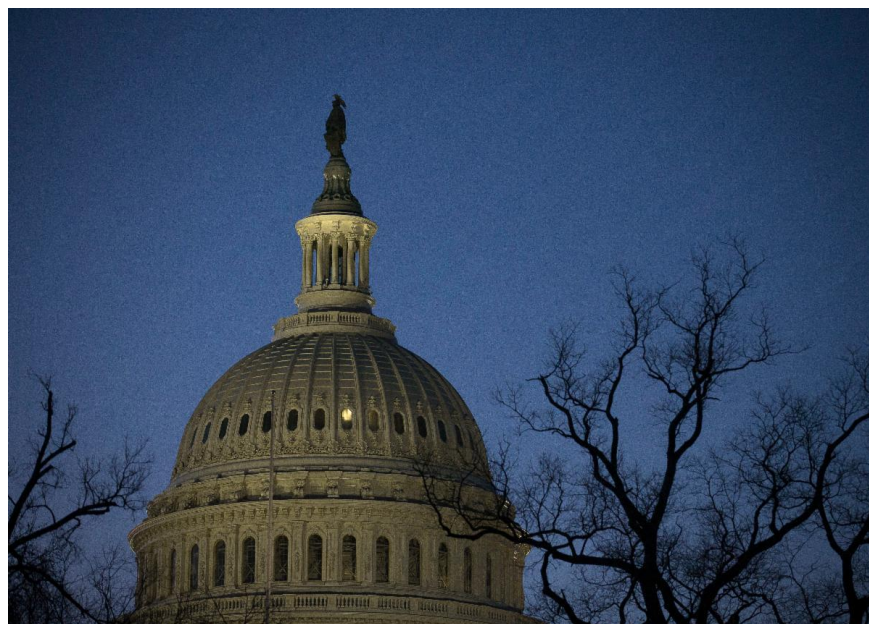
Farr is one of 85 people who made their final declaration of intent to join the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Scranton at the Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion, held on the first weekend of Lent, at the Cathedral of Saint Peter. Due to the pandemic, three different celebrations took place on Feb. 20 and Feb. 21 so people could maintain proper physical distancing.

[Read the Full Story](#)



The Way of the Cross led by Bishop Joseph C. Bambera

Parishes across the Diocese of Scranton are invited to use "The Way of the Cross" led by Bishop Bambera to help their faithful this Lenten season. The video is available for download on the Diocese of Scranton's YouTube channel.



Bishops: If passed, Equality Act will ‘discriminate against people of faith’

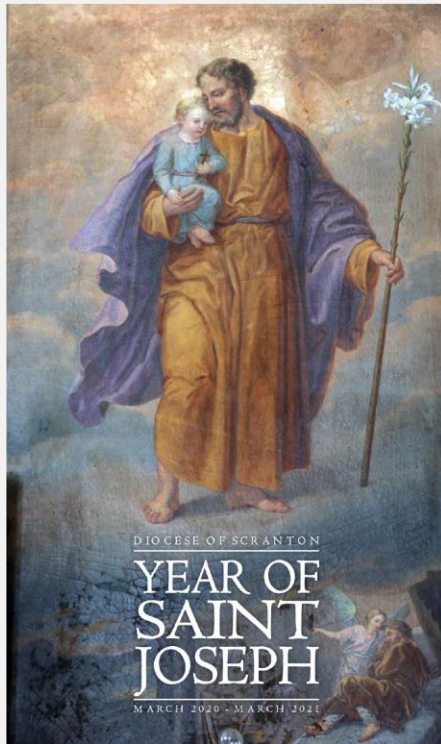
If the House of Representatives passes the Equality Act, its mandates will “discriminate against people of faith” by adversely affecting charities and their beneficiaries, conscience rights, women’s sports, “and sex-specific facilities,” said the chairmen of five U.S. bishops’ committees.

The bill, known as H.R. 5 and recently reintroduced in the House, also will provide for taxpayer funding of abortion and limit freedom of speech, the chairmen said in a Feb. 23 letter to all members of Congress.

H.R. 5 would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity in employment, housing, public accommodations, public education, federal funding, the credit system and jury duty. The House was expected to vote on the measure before Feb. 26.

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

Take Action! Through the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference, Ask Your Representative and Senators in Washington to Vote "No" on "The Equality Act"



Oblates of Saint Joseph to host annual Novena & Feast of Saint Joseph

The Oblates of Saint Joseph religious community will host the annual Novena to Saint Joseph, March 10 - 18, in preparation for the Solemnity of the Patron of the Universal Church, Friday, March 19. Daily Masses will be held in the Chapel of Saint Joseph, 1880 Highway 315, Laflin, at 8:00 a.m., Noon and 7:00 p.m.

[For More Information](#)

Misericordia University names 15th president

Daniel J. Myers, Ph.D., has been appointed the next president of Misericordia University.

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera congratulated Dr. Myers, saying his "background and skills" will help Misericordia University build on its strong tradition of academic excellence.



Dr. Daniel J. Myers

[Read Bishop Bambera's Full Statement](#)



Pope marks 90th anniversary of Divine Mercy apparition

Marking the 90th anniversary of the apparition of Jesus to St. Faustina Kowalska, Pope Francis wrote a letter to Catholics in Poland expressing his hope that Christ's message of divine mercy would remain "alive in the hearts of the faithful."

According to a statement released by the Polish bishops' conference Feb. 22, the anniversary of the apparition, the pope said he was united in prayer with those commemorating the anniversary at the Divine Mercy Shrine in Krakow and encouraged them ask Jesus "for the gift of mercy."

[Read the Full Story](#)



"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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Diocese of Scranton
300 Wyoming Avenue,
Scranton, PA 18503-1279
(570) 207-2238

www.dioceseofscranton.org

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

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