

The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

WWW.DIOCESEOFSCRANTON.ORG

VOLUME 121 NUMBER 5 ISSN-0164-9418

THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 2021

GAME *Changer*

New assessment tool changing the way Catholic School teachers teach & students learn

WILKES-BARRE – From a quick glance, Kaitlin Chmielewski's first grade classroom at Saint Nicholas/Saint Mary Catholic School in Wilkes-Barre might not have much in common with Debra Smith's eighth grade literature class at Our Lady of Peace Catholic School in Clarks Green. However, when you look closer at how each teacher prepares and delivers their lessons, you notice striking similarities.

For the last two years, both teachers have been using a new tool – NWEA Assessments – to deliver differentiated instruction in their classroom, setting each individual student up for greater growth and success.

The assessments from NWEA – which stands for Northwest Evaluation Association – provide educators with valuable data on each student three times a year allowing them to measure a student's growth over time. That data provides critical information that

helps educators understand each student's skills and abilities.

NWEA Assessments are currently being used at all 19 Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Scranton.

"It allows me to individualize my instruction to allow my students to grow much better than teaching a general lesson to the whole class," Chmielewski said.

Chmielewski explained how the assessments help her teach each one of her first graders in a better way.

"If I see that Student A is struggling on their consonant-vowel-consonant words, I can make sure they're working on those a little harder, whereas if Student B has already mastered that, I'm able to give them the



opportunity to work on the next skill up," she explained.

Debra Smith says the data she receives from the assessments is so specific; it really helps her focus on what every student in her classroom needs.

"It really helps me be a better teacher," Smith admitted. "I really bought into it from the beginning."

Students in grades K-8 take assessment tests in reading, language usage, math and

science three times each school year – once in the fall, once in the winter and once in the spring. Ninth grade students also take the assessment in high school Algebra I.

"I noticed some of my kids weren't as strong as I would have liked them to be in reading informational text, so I started adding more informational text into my curriculum so that was a wonderful way to identify that was what they needed," Smith said.

Continued on Page 9

Vision 2020 Blueprint Process begins assisting parishes facing changes, challenges and opportunities

SCRANTON – More than a year after the Vision 2020 Blueprint Process was introduced to parishioners in the Diocese of Scranton, the pastoral planning initiative remains underway. In fact, it is currently being used to assist several parish communities facing pastoral retirements and other challenges in the coming months.

Vision 2020 is a long range process aiming to look proactively at the realities of our local Church in the present moment while striving to meet the opportunities and challenges of the coming decade.

Many factors will prompt change across the Diocese of Scranton in the future. These factors include rapidly

shifting population demographics, reduced numbers of parishioners active in their faith, parish financial challenges, parish infrastructure needs as well as a diminishing number of ordained priests to serve existing parishes.

"Our ongoing pastoral planning process in the Diocese is both important and necessary to have vibrant parishes and rich participation in the sacraments," the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, said. "This process, at its very core, is about putting our relationship with Jesus first in our own lives and in the life of our Church. We must desire to help all people meet Christ and build God's Kingdom – not our own."

On Dec. 8, 2019, Bishop Bambera introduced the Vision 2020 Blueprint Process to every parish in the Diocese through a video homily played at all Masses. Since that time, pastors have met in their individual deaneries, Bishop Bambera led several regional sessions in communities before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Bishop provided a video presentation to other parishes that were not able to gather in large groups because of the coronavirus.

"Given our faithful people's deep love of their churches, I fully understand the emotions many have regarding any type of pastoral planning process," the bishop explained. "Change is always difficult but

we must constantly evaluate how to best utilize our resources in order to focus on mission more than simply maintenance."

The Diocese of Scranton is not alone in undertaking pastoral planning efforts. A worsening shortage of priests nationwide, among other factors, has many other Dioceses and Archdioceses undertaking similar measures.

Over the past half century, the number of priests across the U.S. has dropped by about 40 percent — from nearly 60,000 priests in 1970 to 35,513 in 2020, according to the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.

Continued on Page 2

The Catholic Light

(ISSN 0164-9418)

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.

POLICY STATEMENT

The Catholic Light is our official diocesan journal. The publication of notices, regulations and extra-synodical decrees in said paper constitute legal promulgation for all the faithful of the Diocese of Scranton, Clergy and Laity.

Published monthly by:

Catholic Light Publishing Company
300 Wyoming Avenue
Scranton, PA 18503-1287

Offices:

300 Wyoming Avenue
Scranton, PA 18503-1287
Phone: (570) 207-2229
Fax: (570) 207-2271

Publisher:

The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L.
Bishop of Scranton

Secretary for Communications/Editor-in-Chief:

Eric M. Deabill

Managing Editor:

Kevin G. McDonnell

Advertising Coordinator:

Eileen Manley

Circulation Coordinator:

Pamela Haeefe

Yearly Subscription Rates:

Resident: \$10
Foreign: \$12

Your donation to the Diocesan Annual Appeal
helps support *The Catholic Light*



Postal Information:

The Catholic Light (ISSN 0164-9418) is published monthly by the Catholic Light Publishing Company, 300 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, PA 18503-1287. Periodicals postage paid at Scranton PA and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to *The Catholic Light*, 300 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, PA 18503-1287

www.dioceseofscranton.org

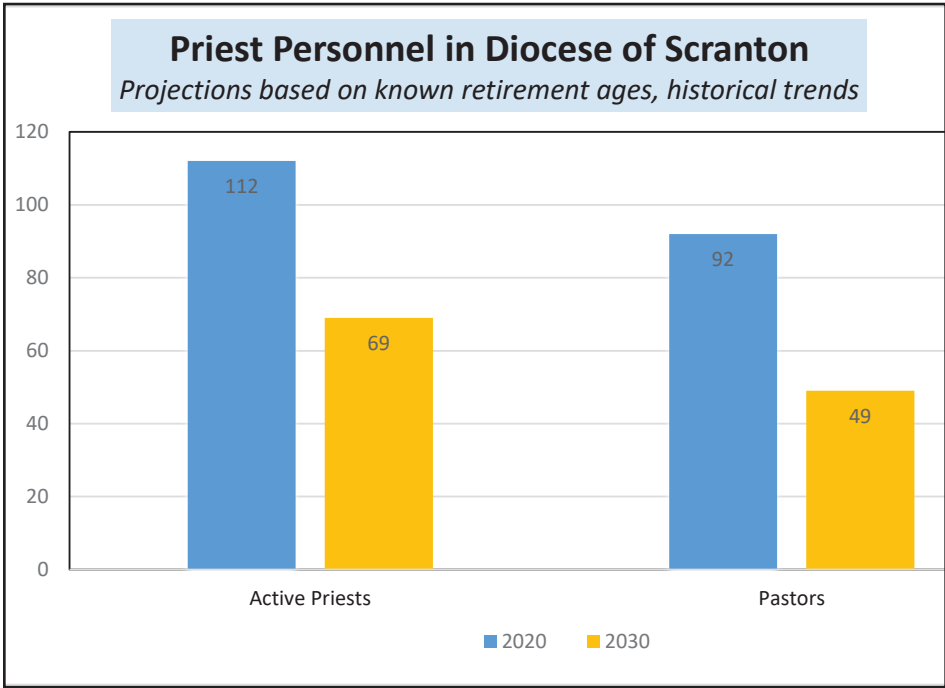
Vision 2020 Blueprint Process is focusing on future of parish life

Continued from Page 1

The Diocese of Scranton currently has 112 active priests, of which 92 are pastors. Based on projections of known retirement ages and historical trends, the Diocese projects that in 2030, the Diocese of Scranton will have only 69 active priests and the possibility of 49 pastors.

“We must be realistic in looking at all of the data, not just in the number of priests but all factors that might prompt change and response. Demographic studies have consistently shown that many areas of the northeast are experiencing a decline in population, including the eleven counties of the Diocese of Scranton. As such, many of our parishes are faced with far more funerals than baptisms. There is an urgency in this moment and a need to be creative and bold. We must continue to evangelize and spread the Good News of Jesus, welcome new immigrants and families into our parishes and focus on fostering vocations to the priesthood and religious life in our Diocese. For example, when is the last time that you heard someone in a parish say to a young man, have you ever thought of being a priest? We need more conversations like that taking place,” the bishop explained.

One important aspect of the Vision 2020 Blueprint Process is there will not be a one-size-fits-all approach. Different things



will prompt changes in various parishes and deaneries at different times.

In order to better serve the mission of the Church, some of the possible changes that parishes might experience would be partnerships with neighboring parishes, linked parishes, alternative types of parish leadership (such as a Parish Life Coordinator) as well as potential merger or closure.

“As a Diocese, we have risen to meet the challenges and the needs for change in the past. Unlike previous pastoral

planning processes, implementation will be approached gradually as needs arise,” Bishop Bambera added. “As members of this local Church, we must all acknowledge the social and demographic factors that will require change and we must all work together to best live out our baptismal calling.”

Additional information on the Vision 2020 Blueprint Process is available on the Diocese of Scranton website at dioceseofscranton.org.

Vision 2020 Blueprint Process Being Utilized with Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Weston

Parishioners of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Weston were recently notified the weekend of April 10/11, 2021, of the planned retirement of their longtime pastor, Rev. Patrick D. McDowell, in June 2021. In a letter sent to parishioners, Father McDowell explained how the pastoral and sacramental needs of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish community would be served going forward.

After looking at many factors, including with input from members of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Pastoral Council, the decision has been made to consolidate the parish of Sacred Heart of Jesus into the parish of Saint John Bosco, Conyngham. This means that the territory and pastoral care responsibility of Saint John Bosco Parish, its pastor and pastoral leaders, will now include all of the households previously served by Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Weston.

A small working team with representatives from both parishes will be assembled to assist with the planning needed to make a smooth adjustment.

Vision 2020 Blueprint Process Being Utilized with Holy Family Parish, Sugar Notch

Parishioners of Holy Family Parish in Sugar Notch were recently notified the weekend of April 24/25, 2021, of the planned retirement of their longtime pastor, Rev. Joseph R. Kakareka, in September 2021. In a letter to parishioners published in the parish bulletin, Father Kakareka explained how the pastoral and sacramental needs of the Holy Family Parish community would be served going forward.

Utilizing the Vision 2020 Blueprint Process which takes into account the long range needs of the entire Diocese, after consulting the pastoral and finance councils of Holy Family Parish and pending the outcome of the necessary canonical processes, Bishop Bambera will follow the recommendation of the priests of the Wilkes-Barre deanery and consolidate Holy Family Parish with Saint Leo Parish, Ashley. The parish territory of Holy Family Parish will become the parish territory of Saint Leo Parish, whose pastor will have full ministerial care for all parishioners of the newly-consolidated parish.

A small working team with representatives from both parishes will be assembled this summer to assist with the planning needed to make a smooth transition.

Jesus is constantly calling us to spread his love

World Day of Prayer for Vocations Mass held April 25 at Sacred Heart Parish in Peckville

PECKVILLE – Jesus is calling his sheep but unfortunately many are just not listening.

That is the message that Rev. Andrew Kurovsky, pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, delivered as homilist for the Diocese of Scranton's World Day of Prayer for Vocations Mass on April 25, 2021. More than 150 attended the annual observance held at the Peckville parish.

"Jesus hasn't stopped calling. Maybe we just aren't tuned in enough to respond," Rev. Kurovsky said.

The long-time pastor said Jesus calls his sheep in many ways. Sometimes it is for service to the priesthood or religious life.

"We need sheep that are going to bring Sacraments and the Word of God to people. My friends, I believe Jesus is calling those sheep. He's still calling them today," Rev. Kurovsky said. "Too many times we fail to see the vocations and how Jesus is calling people right here in our midst so we can encourage them more and more."

Rev. Kurovsky encouraged each person attending Mass to find the vocation to which he or she is being called.

"He's calling sheep to come forward and give their all in terms of elder care and reaching out to those who are in need and have no one to look after them. We need sheep today to perhaps establish Catholic Rehab Centers, for therein lies another pandemic that exists in our world today, that being the pandemic of addiction," he said. "We need sheep in the Catholic Church that are going



Above: Bishop Joseph C. Bambera celebrates the World Day of Prayer for Vocations Mass at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish on April 25, 2021.



Left: Rev. Andrew Kurovsky, pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, delivers his homily.

Below: A family kneels during the Liturgy of the Eucharist. (Photos/Mike Melisky)



to fill the needs of those who are coming into our country now at the border."

James Lavan of Mountain Top drove nearly an hour to

attend the World Day of Prayer for Vocations Mass after being personally invited by members of the Diocesan Vocations Office.

"I was very intrigued to come up here and listen to the message," the Holy Redeemer High School senior said. "I really enjoyed the message."

Levan, 18, is dismayed that many of this peers now do not associate themselves with any religion.

"It really disappoints me that a lot of people I grew up with, going to a Catholic elementary school, a lot of those people do not attend Mass anymore."

As Lavan reflected on Rev. Kurovsky's homily, he found inspiration.

"I'm really hoping that at some point in the future I'll be able to encourage more people to not just attend Mass, but to devote more of their lives to prayer and take more time out of their day to pray the rosary in the morning or join a youth group," he explained.

The April 25th Mass at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish took on special significance because it marked the church's 75th anniversary as a parish.

The Mid Valley parish continues to grow, especially with the number of young families attending Mass.

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, who served as principal celebrant for the Mass, thanked Rev. Kurovsky for his reminder that all of us need to hear the voice of the Lord and follow him.

"I think Father Andy reminded us all very, very profoundly that we have all been invited by God as the sheep to spread the love that has been imparted to us and to proclaim the Gospel message in the lives that we lead," Bishop Bambera said.

Proclaiming God's Word: Seminarians receive Ministry of Lector

Seminarians William Asinari, Thomas Dzwonczyk and Andrew McCarroll received Ministry of Lector at Saint Mary's Seminary on April 14, 2021, by the Most Reverend Michael W. Fisher, Bishop of Buffalo.

The Ministry of Lector calls them to be servants of the Living Word of God. They will proclaim that word in the liturgical assembly, instruct children and adults in the faith and prepare them to receive the sacraments worthily.

Please keep them in prayer as they continue their formation to serve our local Church as a Diocesan Priest!



William Asinari
Saint John the Evangelist Parish,
Honesdale



Andrew McCarroll
Saint Robert Bellarmine Parish
Wilkes-Barre



Thomas Dzwonczyk
Saint John Vianney Parish
Montdale

Celebrating the Easter Season

Jesus provides the way forward amid pain and struggle, Bishop Bambera says at Easter Mass

SCRANTON – By defeating death through the power of the resurrection, Jesus provides hope and a way forward amid the pain and struggles in our lives.

That is the message Bishop Joseph C. Bambera provided to the faithful during Easter Sunday Mass, April 4, at the Cathedral of Saint Peter.

“Through their encounter with the risen Jesus, the lives of those who ventured to his tomb were changed forever,” Bishop Bambera said. “Their lives were changed because God had redirected the course of human history through the resurrection of his Son. By embracing our humanity, Jesus gave us hope by identifying with us in his life, suffering and death.”

Just like the first followers of Jesus, the bishop noted that many people had uncertainty, pain and confusion at the beginning of the current COVID-19 pandemic just one year ago. Despite the challenges associated with the virus, many healthcare workers, first responders, clergy, religious and essential workers not only consoled frightened individuals but also inspired them.

“Like the women who ventured to the tomb of Jesus on that first Easter day, these selfless souls would not allow themselves to be paralyzed. Instead, they worked tirelessly to keep the flame of hope burning in our lives,” Bishop Bambera explained. “And so did all of you! More than you might realize, you provided hope. In so many and different ways, you responded to the needs of others and you served generously and selflessly by telephoning shut-ins. You delivered food, helped teach your children and grandchildren, you shared from your bounty with those less fortunate.”

The bishop also emphasized the words of Pope Francis, in his most recent encyclical letter, *Fratelli tutti*, which said, “No one is saved alone; we can only be saved together.”

“This Easter Day, more than any other, reminds us that although wounded and broken, we are loved and have reason to hope because Jesus has triumphed over sin and death. For such great gifts, may we simply give thanks. And may we trust that the risen Lord, who has won for us the fullness of life, will grasp hold of our hands and lead us to peace,” the bishop said as he ended his homily.

The 10:00 a.m. Mass on Easter was televised by CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton. It was also livestreamed on the Diocese of Scranton website, YouTube channel and social media platforms.

More than 150 people attending the Mass wore face masks and were at social distances from one another in alternating pews, in accordance with COVID-19 safety protocols. The Mass opened with the joyful song, “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today.”

During the Mass, prayers were offered for those afflicted by the coronavirus.

After celebrating Easter last year at home on television or via livestream, many parishioners were thrilled to be back at Mass in person this Holy Week and Easter.

“I’m really excited. I’m happy that the churches are finally open and allowing people to be safe, socially distant and take precautions but actually be back at church,” parishioner Tara Marta said.

“It was really hard last year not being able to come here and worship,” Laura Welde of Archbald said. “I’m very happy. It feels very good.”

“It’s the holiest time of the Christian calendar. It is very important to be in church. Unfortunately, everybody can’t fit in here but they do show everything on television and people do like to watch from home but it’s not like being here in person. Nothing beats it,” Bernadette Hopkins of Throop added.

“It just felt too unnatural not to be able to come to church. You don’t realize it until you can’t come,” Ann Atanasoff of Clarks Summit explained. “It is not the same as being here in person!”

Right Top: Deacon Ed Shoener and Bishop Joseph C. Bambera light the Paschal Candle outside the Cathedral of Saint Peter during the Easter Vigil Mass on April 3, 2021. (Photos/Mike Melisky)

Right Middle: With the Cathedral darkened at the start of the Easter Vigil Mass, the Paschal Candle burns bright as cantor Gina Pascolini sings from the Cathedral ambo.

Right Bottom: Reminding us that Christ is the Light of the World, the Paschal Candle burns bright with Deacon Ed Shoener in the background.



Happy Easter!

Even though Easter Sunday was April 4, 2021, the Catholic Church continues to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection from the dead. There are 50 days of Easter from the first Sunday of Easter to Pentecost.

This time is characterized, above all, by the joy of glorified life and the victory over death, expressed most fully in the great resounding cry of the Christian, Alleluia! All faith flows from faith in the Resurrection: "If Christ has not been raised, then empty (too) is our preaching; empty, too, is your faith" (1 Cor 15:14)

The word "Easter" comes from Old English, meaning simply the "east." The sun that rises in the east, bringing light, warmth and hope, is a symbol for the Christian of the rising Christ, who is the true light of the world. The Paschal Candle is a central symbol of this divine light, which is Christ. It is kept near the ambo throughout Easter Time and is lit for all liturgical celebrations.



Good Friday, April 2, 2021

"God could have chosen to save us in any way that He wanted. Yet He chose to have Jesus carry a cross so that we, in our suffering might discover a God who understands us because he walked with us in all of life, including its most painful experiences."

Excerpt from Homily of Bishop Joseph C. Bambera



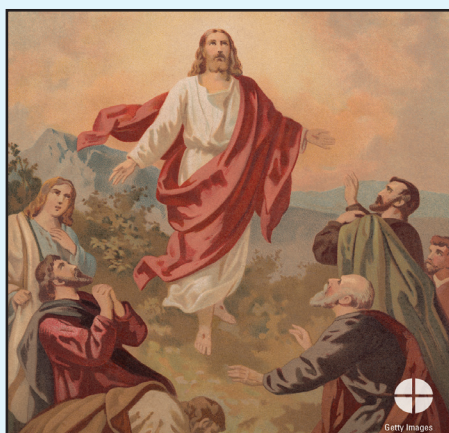
Holy Thursday, April 1, 2021

"The action of Jesus washing the feet of His disciples is a demonstration of His fullness as Son of God and Son of Mary, acting as servant, calling us to be servants. The greatest service we can render to one another is to love one another and to be available and be helpful to one another."

Excerpt from Homily of Monsignor Dale Rupert, Pastor, Cathedral of Saint Peter



Upcoming Liturgical Dates of Significance in the Easter Season



The Ascension of the Lord May 13, 2021

On the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord, the Church celebrates the return of Christ to the Father, his physical body leaving the earth behind.

At the end of His earthly life, Jesus ascends triumphantly into heaven and is invited to sit at the Father's right hand to share His glory.



Pentecost Sunday May 23, 2021

Pentecost marks the occasion of God sending the Holy Spirit upon Jesus' disciples after his Resurrection. On Pentecost, the Holy Spirit gave the disciples the strength to fulfill their commission to spread the Good News of Jesus. The Solemnity of Pentecost, which crowns and fulfills the Easter season, is a good time to pray for a deeper indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

Journey just beginning for those recently welcomed into the Catholic Church

LAKE ARIEL — Lynn Colachino’s captivating journey of faith has been filled with eye-opening epiphanies — or “wow moments,” as she likes to call them — leading her to the threshold of Catholicism.

All told, the young professional woman seemed destined to find her new home of worship at Saint Thomas More Parish in Lake Ariel, where she received her Sacraments of Initiation at the recent Easter Vigil.

Baptized in the Protestant faith years before, Colachino lived in the Philadelphia area for ten years before relocating to Lake Ariel in 2020, at which time, she admitted, she was not practicing her Christian faith.

“I always believed in God, but a few challenges in life did rock my beliefs,” she said, referring to her father’s death when she just 18 and her mother’s passing in December 2016. “It surely left heartache and challenges. My mom was a strong woman and losing her left a void in our family.”

She explained how her mother would accompany her stepfather to Mass and actually planned on converting to Catholicism before she died. Colachino noted how visibly upset he was when the faithful could not attend their churches in person when the pandemic hit last year.

Colachino began talking with her stepdad more and more about the Catholic faith, and he would often say, “You know, our mom could recite the Rosary better than me.”

Like all the parishioners returning to worship at Saint Thomas More when the doors reopened following the pandemic’s outbreak, she and her stepfather were joyfully welcomed back. It was at this time she decided to enter into the initiation process and attended her first conversion class with Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) coordinator Marian Menapace.



Father Mike Kloton, pastor of Our Lady of Immaculate Conception Church in Freeland, confers the Sacrament of Confirmation on Juan Fabian during the Easter Vigil service as the young candidate’s mother, Keledy Hidalgo, looks on as his sponsor.

Colachino recalled, “Marian asked me what brought me to RCIA, and I said, ‘My mom.’ Over time, I realized my mom helped nudge me, but this was really for me.”

During the process, Colachino came to meet Saint Thomas More pastor, Father Stephen Stavoy. “I hope Father Steve knows what an impact he has had on me,” she added, recalling fondly how the priest won her over when he blessed her dog Benny at a Blessing of the Animals service and made a spiritual “corral call” for her sick horse, Dixie.

But it was her encounter with the pastor during her First Confession that changed her spiritually forever.

“I brought to him a few areas I was struggling with, and his words were simple: ‘pray on it,’” Colachino related.

Prayer in all things, she said, has made all the difference in every aspect of her life, and it all began with her conversion.

“RCIA is a process and it takes time,” she said, noting the patience that is required is out of character for her. “The process is beautiful, but it takes a lifetime. I only hope someone hears my story and enters into the journey like I did.”

Juan’s Story

Steeped in faith and very well-spoken, Juan Fabian is mature beyond his years — not to mention his imposing stature that makes the 15-year-old sophomore a valued member of the Hazleton Area High School football team.

But Fabian and his family were never prouder than when the young man received his Sacraments of Initiation as a RCIA candidate at Our Lady of Immaculate Conception Parish in Freeland during this year’s Easter Vigil.

“My experience at Immaculate Conception has been a wonderful journey,” Fabian said. “I’m so glad that I found a church where people are just so nice and supportive.”

The newest member of the Freeland parish was born in Hazleton and baptized in his grandparents’ native land of the Dominican Republic.

“When I go to Immaculate Conception Church I can see the difference in the spirit and energy that the priests bring,” the young man remarked, adding how proud he was when his Dominican grandmother visited and discovered the homey place of worship to attend her Mass.

Fabian continued, “Before receiving my First Communion, I felt like I really wasn’t a part of the Church, but after the Easter vigil and receiving my sacraments I feel now like a true member of the church family.”

The high school student said he firmly believes his faith was tested, strengthened and ultimately rewarded when his mother

was diagnosed with cancer. She has since recovered.

“I didn’t know where to turn to or where to go but church,” he related. “I thank God every day for healing my mother and I know

He will always be there to lift me when I’m down. Immaculate Conception was just a church at first, but now it’s a second home to me where I look forward to continue praising God!”



BISHOP BAMBERA’S SCHEDULE

- April 29** - Confirmation
Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Honesdale, 5:00 p.m.
- May 2-4** - Provincial Meeting of Pennsylvania Bishops
Philadelphia
- May 4** - Confirmation for SS. Peter & Paul Parish, Plains; Saint Andre Bessette Parish, Wilkes-Barre; Saint Elizabeth Parish, Bear Creek
SS. Peter & Paul Church, Plains, 5:00 p.m.
- May 5** - Confirmation for Saint Rose of Lima Parish and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Carbondale
Saint Rose of Lima Church, Carbondale, 5:00 p.m.
- May 6** - Confirmation for SS. Cyril & Methodius Parish, Most Precious Blood Parish and Queen of Heaven Parish, Hazleton
SS. Cyril & Methodius Church, Hazleton, 5:00 p.m.
- May 9** - Mother’s Day Adoption Mass
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 10:00 a.m.
- May 10** - Confirmation for Saint Leo Parish, Ashley; Holy Family Parish, Sugar Notch; Holy Spirit Parish, Mocanaqua
Saint Leo Church, Ashley, 5:00 p.m.
- May 13** - Confirmation
Saint Patrick Parish, Milford, 5:00 p.m.
- May 15** - Misericordia University Commencement
Video Address
- May 15** - Marywood University Commencement
Video Address
- May 16** - King’s College Commencement
Video Address
- May 16** - Confirmation for Saint Lucy Parish & SS. Peter & Paul Parish
Saint Lucy Church, Scranton, 9:00 a.m.
- May 17 & 18** - Confirmation
Saint Matthew Parish, East Stroudsburg, 6:30 p.m.
- May 23** - University of Scranton Commencement
Video Address

Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit!

Bishop Bambera is celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation in many parishes across the Diocese



Saint Joseph the Worker Parish, Williamsport

April 12

Courtesy:
Makenzie Conner



Saint Gregory Parish, Clarks Green

April 14 & 15

Courtesy:
K Hart Photography & Design LLC

Saint Jude Parish, Mountain Top

Saint Mary's, Dorrance

April 21 & 22

Courtesy:
Chris Scuron



Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Brodheadsville

April 26 & 27

Courtesy:
Dori Hurley



NOTICE TO THE ROMAN CATHOLIC FAITHFUL OF THE DIOCESE OF SCRANTON:

The Fraternité Notre Dame Community, since its acquisition of the former Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish complex in South Scranton, Pennsylvania in 2020, has generously provided support to the poor, particularly during the course of the current health crisis. The Community, however, describes itself as a Traditional Catholic Religious Order that is not in union with the Pope. As such, it is not a legitimate religious order of the Catholic Church.

The faithful of the Diocese of Scranton should not attend Masses nor receive the sacraments provided by the Fraternité Notre Dame Community when Masses are available in nearby Churches of the Diocese. Particularly regarding the sacraments of Confession and Marriage, these celebrations would not only be illicit, but also invalid.

COMUNICADO A LOS FIELES CATÓLICOS ROMANOS DE LA DIÓCESIS DE SCRANTON:

La Comunidad de Fraternité Notre Dame, desde que adquirió el antiguo complejo de la parroquia de Santa María de la Asunción en el Sur de Scranton, Pensilvania en el año 2020, ha brindado generosamente apoyo a los pobres, particularmente durante el curso de la actual crisis de salud. La Comunidad, sin embargo, se describe a sí misma como una Orden Religiosa Católica Tradicional que no está en unión con el Papa. Como tal, no es una orden religiosa legítima de la Iglesia Católica.

Los fieles de la Diócesis de Scranton no deben asistir a las Misas ni recibir los sacramentos proporcionados por la Comunidad Fraternité Notre Dame cuando las Misas están disponibles en las Iglesias cercanas de la Diócesis. Particularmente en lo que respecta a los sacramentos de la Reconciliación y la Eucaristía, estas celebraciones no solo serían ilícitas, sino también inválidas.

Diocese of Scranton to celebrate Mother's Day Adoption Mass May 9



SCRANTON – The Diocese of Scranton will celebrate its annual Mother's Day Adoption Mass on Sunday, May 9, at 10:00 a.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton. This liturgy prayerfully recognizes all mothers, with a special emphasis on adoptive and foster mothers. Bishop Joseph C. Bambera will be the principal celebrant.

The Mother's Day Adoption Mass is open to the public. No reservations are required. Attendees will be required to wear properly fitting face coverings and follow physical distancing protocols established by the Cathedral of Saint Peter.

CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton will broadcast the Mass live. A livestream will also be provided on the Diocese of Scranton website, YouTube channel and across all Diocesan social media platforms.

Pope Francis has said that humanity is "built on mothers" and that their love is a cure for a world, which is so often divided and filled with bitterness. On May 9, please join us for the Mother's Day Adoption Mass as we pray for mothers, near and far, including Mary, Mother of the Church.

Showing God's love, one loaf at a time

CLARKS SUMMIT – Just days before Easter, a fresh loaf of bread – pumpkin chocolate chip – arrived on the doorstep of Joan Ondush.

Describing it as “sinfully delicious,” the 80 year old was the beneficiary of the “Easter Loaves of Joy” program at Our Lady of the Snows Parish.

During Holy Week, parish volunteers delivered more than 300 homemade loaves of bread to parishioners who are 80 years or older. The parish came up with the outreach effort after recognizing that many seniors faced isolation and loneliness due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“The virus can spread but also the gifts of God can spread,” Ondush said. “The first thing I thought about was how blessed we are here at Our Lady of the Snows and Church of Saint Benedict to have Monsignor Quinn and Father Stephen (Asomah). They are shepherds of light and hope and depth of character that is reflected in their spiritual life.”

For the baked bread project, the parish relied on the talents and expertise of a group of 30 volunteer bakers. They lovingly created hundreds of homemade treats in favors like banana nut, cinnamon raisin, blueberry, carrot, chocolate zucchini and many more.

Parishioner Carolyn Siwak, along with her children, used all of their free time in the six days prior to Holy Week to bake more than 60 loaves of bread.

“I just thought it was a great project, especially from our standpoint, being able to share with the community a talent that we had,” Siwak explained.

Her son, Nathan, 13, a 7th grade student at the parish, was happy to assist as well and put his baking skills to good use. His siblings Sabrina, 11, and Alexander, 7, also assisted.

“I feel happy about it. I know some of my classmates and friends delivered breads and they told me how happy people were,” Nathan said.

Nearly two dozen 7th and 8th grade students in the parish’s religious education program joined adult volunteers to make the project a success. Some students put together the handmade baskets while others made deliveries with the support of their parents.

“There were a lot of smiles, lots of tears, lots of people who just



Volunteers from Our Lady of the Snows Parish in Clarks Summit delivered more than 300 loaves of fresh homemade bread to parishioners over the age of 80 as part of the “Easter Loaves of Joy.”

haven’t been out of their homes in a year. For them to have someone come to the door and say they’re not forgotten, they are remembered, they are a part of this community, I think that message has reverberated throughout the whole parish in a happy way,” Monsignor Joseph G. Quinn, pastor, said.

Monsignor Quinn, who made roughly 20 deliveries himself, reflected on some of the comments he heard from recipients.

“When one loaf of bread was delivered to a woman, she said, ‘This is like an extra hug from God, I can’t believe it.’ Another woman said, ‘I can’t believe you’re here. I was just thinking about baking bread last night but I didn’t think I could do it,’” Monsignor Quinn added.

Our Lady of the Snows Parish has been reaching out and staying connected to its older parishioners since the COVID-19 pandemic began more than one year ago.

The parish began its outreach efforts with a program called

“Calls of Kindness.” To date, parish volunteers have made approximately 1,400 phone calls to parishioners since March 2020.

“We just wanted to be able to stay connected and reach out,” Sue Burke, Our Lady of the Snows Director of Faith Formation, said. “They thought wow, my parish is calling me, they’re thinking of me.”

“We have one parishioner, who is 105, she was thrilled to get a call,” Monsignor Quinn added.

During the pandemic, Our Lady of Snows Parish looked closely at the age of all its parishioners. They were stunned by what they discovered.

“We have close to 500 people over the age of 75. That is a lot of people who are isolated and wounded throughout all of this. We kept asking ourselves, what can we do?” the long-time pastor said.

Throughout the course of the year, that question constantly came up amongst parish staff.

At Christmas, the parish



Joseph Millan, a confirmation student from Our Lady of the Snows Parish, delivers bread to a parishioner at her home in the Abingtons at the beginning of Holy Week 2021 as part of the “Easter Loaves of Joy.”

conducted its “Tiny Tim” project to help individuals and families in need. Instead of parishioners buying and wrapping gifts, this year the parish mailed out grocery gift cards to families to keep everyone safe. More than \$25,000 worth of gift cards touched the lives of 400 families, children and seniors in the Abingtons.

Many of the projects that Our Lady of the Snows has undertaken since the start of the pandemic have been simple and have not involved a great deal of money. Parish leaders say it has been an opportunity to rediscover the mission of the Church.

Throughout all of their work, they noticed one other important thing – some parishioners are not as “connected” as they thought.

“In a world that is so focused on everything digital and computerized, there are a lot of

people who aren’t even connected. I’m surprised at the number of elders we have that don’t even have cable television, much less have the ability to connect electronically,” Monsignor Quinn explained.

As a result, the Clarks Summit parish has now gone from mailing out 20 bulletins a week to 200 bulletins to keep everyone connected and informed about parish activities.

While all of the parish projects have been a reflection of the compassionate care that has always been a hallmark of Our Lady of the Snows, one big question remains. What is the next big project?

“I’m not sure,” Burke said with a smile. “We’re going to continue reaching out and staying connected. We’re always open for ideas and we go forward with them and work as a team.”



Confirmation students pose with Monsignor Joseph G. Quinn, pastor, Our Lady of the Snows Parish, as they pack hundreds of loaves of bread. Students, left to right, are: Grace Davison, Gavin Padula and Seamus Spangenberg.



Carolyn Siwak, along with her children, Nathan DeMeglio and Sabrina DeMeglio, baked more than 60 loaves of bread for the “Easter Loaves of Joy” project.

Catholic schools serve as benchmark during COVID-19 pandemic

SCRANTON – Healthcare workers and grocery store employees have been widely recognized for being essential workers during the COVID-19 pandemic. Catholic School teachers and administrators should also be among the individuals on that important list.

When all schools in Pennsylvania were ordered closed in March 2020, the Diocese of Scranton Catholic School System quickly and seamlessly transitioned to distance learning the following school day. In order to resume in-person learning in the fall of 2020, appropriate health and safety protocols were developed. To date, some other local school districts have still not been able to return to in-person instruction for all grades.

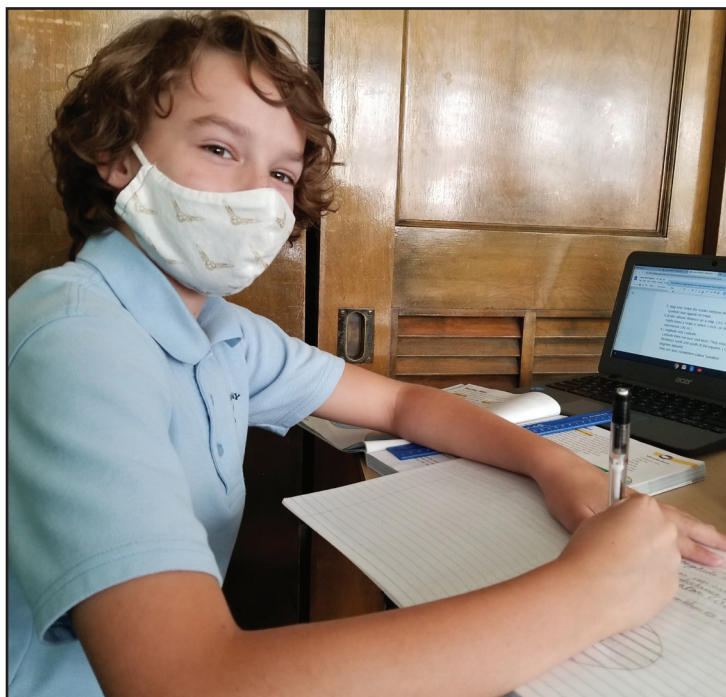
“The pandemic challenged us in so many ways but in our Catholic Schools, we’ve taken those challenges and created the opportunities behind them,” Jason Morrison, Diocesan Secretary for Catholic Education/Chief Executive Officer, said.

Reflecting on how Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Scranton saw such success during the pandemic, Superintendent Kristen Donohue credited not only the teachers, staff and administrators, but also the students and families who followed all safety protocols.

“We could not have done what we did this year without the cooperation of our families, our students who are doing the work, along with our teachers and administrators,” Donohue said.

In order to reopen in the fall, the Diocese of Scranton Catholic School System was intentional, focused and data-driven in its planning process. A Diocesan Health & Safety Committee, made up of educators, health professionals and clergy, developed appropriate safety guidelines.

“We really had to think, from start to finish, about the school day and every detail



that happens,” Donohue said.

While some might point to smaller class sizes in Catholic schools as the reason for success, Morrison said flexibility and balance were much more critical factors.

“We ended up using cafeterias as classrooms in some schools to create space and ensure physical distancing. We had to adjust and be flexible and be creative,” he explained.

Administrators faced constant questions and always needed to adapt Morrison said, pointing to another example, “If we were making a gym into a classroom, we had to determine what gym looks like for students to provide them an opportunity to have physical exercise, whether that be outside in the warmer months or inside.”

Throughout the health crisis, Catholic Schools continued to be innovative.

“We implemented new technologies, we implemented new ways of learning and

everybody got on board with that and I don’t think we can underestimate the team mentality that came into play,” Morrison said.

As a result, parents and families continue to respond. Inquiries about Catholic education continue to come in for the 2021-2022 academic year. Registration is now underway in all 19 Diocesan schools.

“Looking at the numbers relative to other years, we’re on track to have one of our largest growths if things continue as they have been. We’re about three-percent ahead of where we were two years ago, which is the best we’ve had since 2010,” Morrison added.

Another important statistic that Morrison tracks is the retention rate for current students. He says it is currently five-percent higher than it has been in the last three years.

“That trend tells me that the people

who came to us, and maybe they came to us because we were providing an in-person education, are now staying with us because it’s not just that educational environment, it’s that they appreciate, understand and want what we are providing in our schools every day,” Morrison said.

Diocesan schools have promptly dealt with any COVID-19 cases that have arisen. With the end of the academic year quickly approaching, administrators say this has been a year like none other.

“The pace of this year is definitely faster than any other school year that I’ve experienced in my career,” Donohue admitted.

“It has been very inspiring and impressive to watch, not only as a parent with children in the school system, but being part of the school system professionally to watch and be inspired by everybody,” Morrison added.



Assessments provide personalized data to help Catholic School students grow

Continued from Page 1

Smith calls the new assessments a “game changer” when it comes to thinking about the way lessons are taught.

“I can deliver direct instruction for the students but with that direct instruction, I can break them out into small groups and target specific needs. For the students who might not understand a concept that much, I can offer reinforcement activities and more instruction. For the students on the other end of the spectrum, I’m able to give them differentiated learning that is more challenging to them, that really expands their thinking. I’ll use different depth of knowledge questions,” she explained.

Kristen Donohue, Superintendent of Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Scranton, says no other local school district is using NWEA Assessments, so having this tool makes Catholic Schools unique.

“Our real goal is to make sure all of our students are growing. We believe firmly that all students can grow and all students can learn,” Donohue explained.

Donohue recently visited several schools across the Diocese to see how teachers are utilizing the assessment data to help all students reach their God-given potential.

“It’s exciting. This type of planning is very different than years ago when

a teacher would plan one lesson for an entire group of students,” she added. “The outcome is worth every second of planning because you are able to see each student access their education at an appropriate level and really maximize their time in the classroom. This assessment data is one piece that supports our teachers as they provide instruction at the readiness level of our students.”

Many school districts only rely on one standardized test at the end of the academic year and often the results are stale by the time an educator wants to use them. That is the difference between being “achievement-driven” versus “growth-driven.”

“This data is living. We’re continuing to use it and continuing to reflect upon it,” Donohue said.

Using the NWEA Assessment Tool is just another example of how Catholic Schools continue to raise the bar in terms of innovation, Jason Morrison, Diocesan Secretary for Catholic Education and Chief Executive Officer, explained.

“In the local area, we’re the only ones that are using this assessment tool and it gives us a greater understanding of each child,” Morrison said. “We owe it to students ... We need to ensure that we are creating an environment that is faith-filled and academically excellent.”

Diocese of Scranton
CATHOLIC
 SCHOOL SYSTEM
 FAITH • ACADEMICS • SERVICE

The Diocese of Scranton is committed to educating our students in an environment that is academically excellent and facilitates the development of moral judgment and Christian decision-making. We are proud to share the following successes of our students in the classroom and in their service to others. Each day, our schools are fulfilling their mission of preparing today's youth and young adults to become tomorrow's faith-filled leaders.



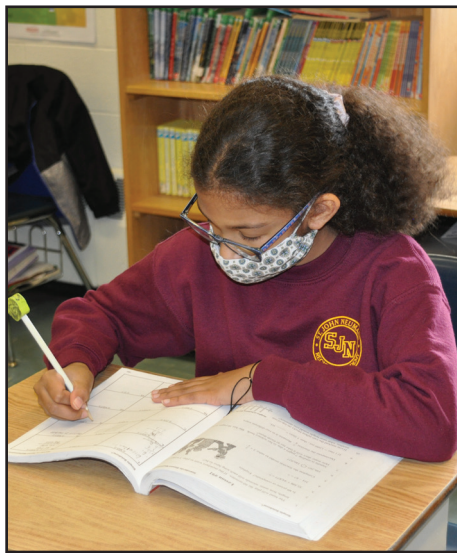
Thomas Rohan, a junior at Holy Cross High School in Dunmore, receives the 8th Carmen Alu "Pay it Forward" award, which honors HCHS student service by Bishop Hannan Class of 2000 alumnus Carmen Alu.



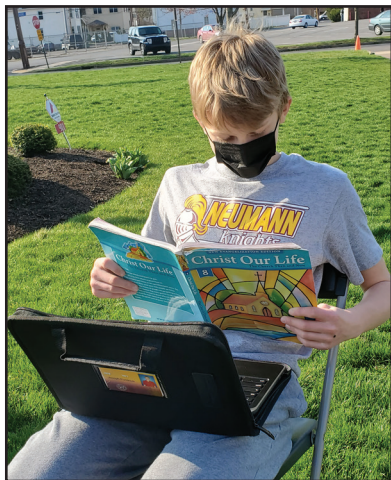
Juniors at Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre recently celebrated "Ring Night" with their families. Some of 11th graders proudly show off their new adornments.



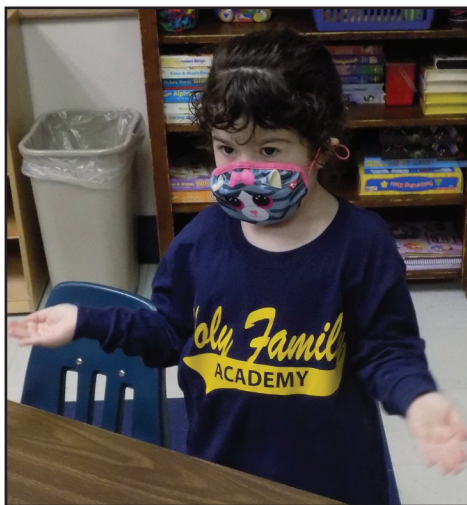
Mateo Antonucci, a seventh grade student at Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School in East Stroudsburg, works on an assignment using his laptop. The school recently purchased 200 Chromebooks using money received from a local county grant.



Saint John Neumann
 Elementary School, Williamsport



On a beautiful spring day, Joey Pontious, an eighth grade student at Saint John Neumann Jr./Sr. High School in Williamsport, enjoys Religion class outdoors.



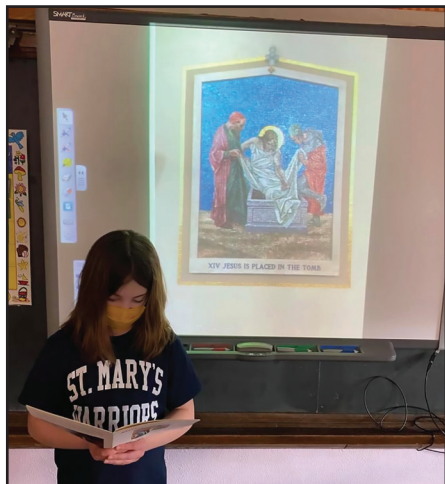
Holy Family Academy in Hazleton



Saint Agnes School in Towanda



Epiphany School in Sayre



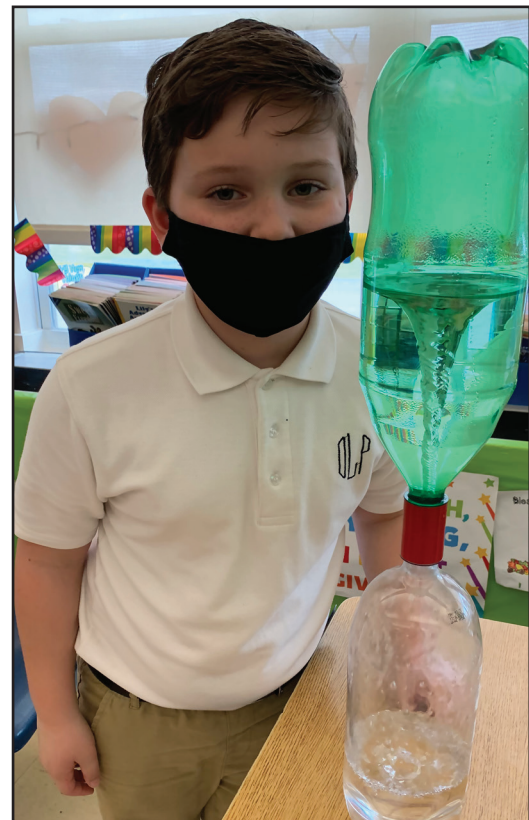
The fourth grade class at Saint Mary of Mount Carmel School in Dunmore led the school in the Stations of the Cross during the last week of Lent.



Eighth graders at Saint Nicolas/Saint Mary School in Wilkes-Barre honored their grandparents and the special seniors in their lives at their annual Mass and celebration.



Students from **Saint Clare/Saint Paul School in Scranton** collected supplies to fill up the St. Joseph's Baby Pantry in support of the Jude Zayac Foundation.



Third graders at **Our Lady of Peace School in Clarks Green** recently learned about severe weather and weather safety in science class. They were able to create tornado tubes to visualize how a tornado formulates and descends.



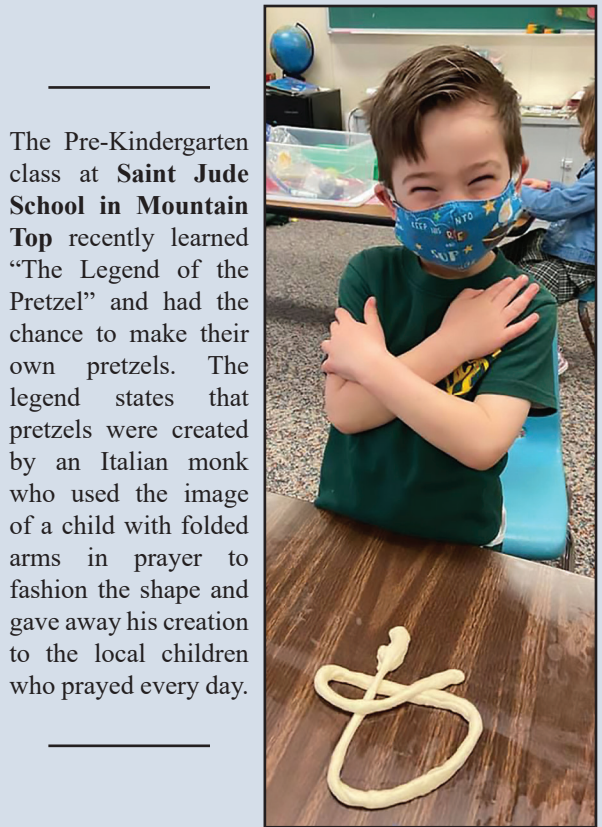
Students from **Notre Dame Elementary School in East Stroudsburg** who have been selected to compete on the state level of the Zaner-Bloser National Handwriting Competition hold their proficiency certificates from the company.



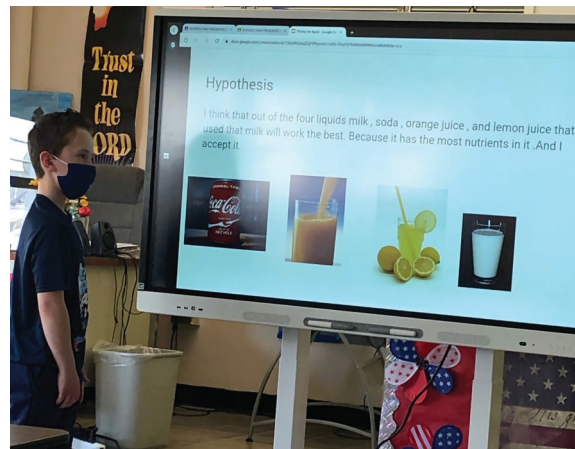
In honor of Earth Day, Ellie Faulent and her eighth grade classmates at **Holy Rosary School in Duryea** helped clean their school's local town park.



Students at **Wyoming Area Catholic School in Exeter** are creating their own ark as a physical reminder of the Acts of Random Kindness (ARK) project they are piloting locally for Unite the World. Students will make donations into smaller ARK banks to help those in need.



The Pre-Kindergarten class at **Saint Jude School in Mountain Top** recently learned "The Legend of the Pretzel" and had the chance to make their own pretzels. The legend states that pretzels were created by an Italian monk who used the image of a child with folded arms in prayer to fashion the shape and gave away his creation to the local children who prayed every day.

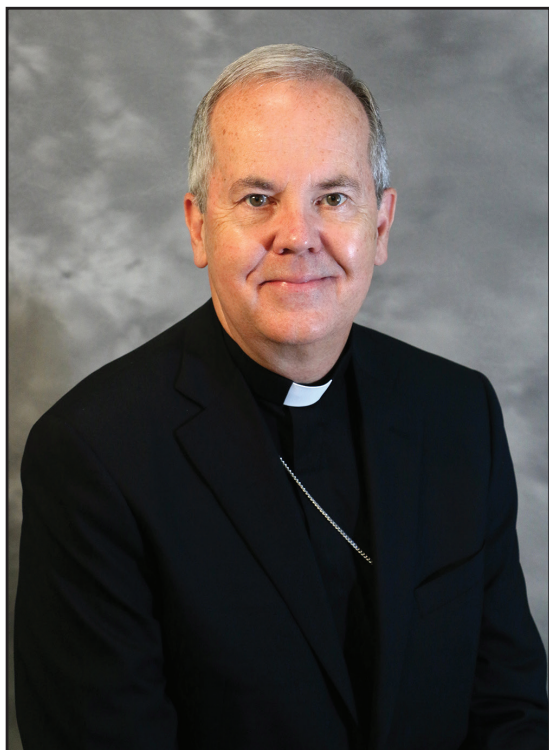


Students in fourth and fifth grades at **All Saints Academy in Scranton** presented their Science Fair projects with their classes utilizing Smartboard technology.

FINANCIAL REPORT



Diocese of Scranton Fiscal Year 2019-20



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I am pleased to share with you the audited financial statements of the Administrative Offices of the Diocese of Scranton for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this last year has presented numerous challenges to all of us. Despite struggle and pain, the Church of Scranton and its people have continued to provide help and hope to countless individuals on a daily basis. Your incredible generosity has made it possible for our parishes, schools, social service ministries and diocesan offices to continue serving our community generously and selflessly. I thank you for your continued financial support to your parish and our Diocese.

In his most recent encyclical letter, *Fratelli tutti*, Pope Francis said, "No one is saved alone; we can only be saved together." Throughout the last year, each one of you has embodied that notion – being both responsive and creative – in adapting to the challenges of the coronavirus and working to safeguard your friends and neighbors.

At the start of the pandemic, many parishes quickly adapted to livestreaming Masses so that while we needed to remain physically distant we did not need to be spiritually distant. Our Catholic Schools have served as an example to others, quickly transitioning to distance learning when schools closed in March 2020 and working tirelessly to make sure in-person learning safely resumed in the fall. Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton has also responded compassionately to the needs of tens of thousands in our community, providing food, shelter and assistance to those most in need.

I continue to be most grateful and inspired by the ministry of our priests, deacons, religious and lay faithful who work each day on behalf of our local Church. In both good and challenging times, they best exemplify how we care about and for one another.

May Our Lord Jesus bless you and your families, and fill you with his peace and continue to keep you safe.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Joseph C. Bambera

Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L.
Bishop of Scranton

The financial information contained on the following pages is derived from the audited financial statements of the Administrative Offices of the Diocese of Scranton as of June 30, 2020 and 2019. The full report is available under the "Financial Services" page at www.dioceseofscranton.org



Mission Statement of the Diocese of Scranton

"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."



Dear Friends of the Diocese of Scranton,

As the Chief Financial Officer of the Diocese of Scranton, it is my privilege to present the 2019-20 audited financial report for the Diocese of Scranton Administrative Offices. This report provides an overview of the prudent use of funds that have been received for the time period covering July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. Bishop Bambera continues to pledge accountability and transparency relating to financial information and we both feel it is important that the faithful of our Diocese understand how the funds entrusted to the Diocese are used to make a positive impact in our 11-county region and beyond.

The 2019-20 fiscal year was truly unique because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our Diocesan ministries, parishes and schools have all been impacted by the global pandemic and the virus continues to have a financial impact at this time. We are thankful for the generous parishioners who continued to provide resources to their parishes, schools and the diocese, even as Masses were suspended amid state-at-home restrictions at the beginning of the pandemic last year.

The key points of the 2019-20 fiscal report are:

- The Diocese had net gain from operations in the amount of \$29,926,995. This came primarily from the sale of Little Flower Manor and Saint Luke's Villa. These funds are being used to pay claims from the Independent Survivors Compensation Program (ISCP). Due to the ISCP, the Diocese had a loss from operations of \$27,644,389 in the 2018-19 fiscal year. When looking at the two years together, the Diocese had a net gain of \$2,282,606 over that expanded period.

- In order to assist survivors of child sexual abuse, the Diocese established its Independent Survivors Compensation Program in January 2019. The last date for submitting a claim was September 30, 2019. The independently run Program provided assistance to more than 200 survivors of abuse committed by Diocese of Scranton priests, members of religious communities and lay employees. As of June 30, 2020, \$27,609,755 has been expensed related to Program claims, of which \$4,740,027 is accrued to be paid after June 30, 2020 in the Statement of Financial Position.

- The Diocese of Scranton Chancery received a Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan of \$1,290,730 granted by the Small Business Administration under the CARES Act. The loan helped keep Diocesan employees on payroll throughout the economic

shutdown, guaranteeing that critical ministries were able to continue. The Diocese used all funds received appropriately and the full amount of the loan was forgiven on December 8, 2020.

- Funds raised by the 2019 Diocesan Annual Appeal totaled \$4,106,002. The Diocese returned \$69,133 directly to parishes that exceeded their goal for the campaign. The amount raised from the 2019 Diocesan Annual Appeal increased from \$3.7 million collected in 2018.

- As in previous years, the financial statements of the Diocesan Administrative Offices have been independently audited by McGrail Merkel Quinn & Associates, P.C., Certified Public Accountants. The statements include activities related to the Diocesan Administrative Offices, not activities related to Catholic Social Services or the Catholic School System. These organizations are audited separately. The statements also do not include parish activities.

I invite you to view the complete audited financial statement for the 2019-20 fiscal year on the Diocese of Scranton website at dioceseofscranton.org/directory/offices/financial-services/.

I express gratitude to Bishop Bambera for his leadership and steadfast support for sensible fiscal practices in our Diocese. I am also grateful for the members of the Diocesan Finance Council who provide wise advice and guidance. As we move forward together in hope, I also renew my thanks to all of you for providing your support to our parishes and Diocese, which makes it possible to continue our ministries during these unprecedented times. They truly are needed now more than ever.

Sincerely in Christ,

Robert J. Miller

Robert J. Miller
Diocesan Secretary for Financial Services



Offices in Support of the Parishes and Diocese include:

Administrative Offices and Chancellor: The Chancery is composed of those institutes and persons who assist the Bishop in governing the entire Diocese, especially in providing for the administration of the Diocese and directing pastoral action.

Catholic Schools: The Catholic Schools Office is committed to educating students and their families in the Catholic faith. The office provides a Catholic education that is spiritually sound and academically excellent and strives to prepare students to be faith-filled leaders and life-long leaders dedicated to serving the Church and society.

Catholic Social Services: Catholic Social Services serves individuals and families in poverty and hardship, responding compassionately to their needs. The agency advocates for individual dignity and self-sufficiency and actively works to replace despair with hope.

Child Protection/Victim Assistance: The Safe Environment Office oversees the creation and implementation of child protection programs and policies across the Diocese. Staff ensures the safest possible place in which children, young people and adults can minister, study and work.

Communications: The mission of the Communications Office is to evangelize through informing all about the Good News of the Catholic faith, the teachings of the Holy Father and our Bishop, Diocesan and parish ministries, programs and events.

Development Office: Offers assistance and support to the development and stewardship programs of all Diocesan parishes, schools and other Catholic institutions. This office helps secure necessary funds to assist the Diocese in its mission to serve God's people.

Finance Office: The Diocesan Finance Office is responsible for administering the temporal resources of the Diocese under the authority of the bishop. The Finance Office provides assistance

with financial activities for diocesan parishes and schools and other related organizations.

Human Resources: Serves more than 1,200 employees of our parishes, schools and Diocesan offices, centrally administering insurance and benefit programs such as medical, dental, life insurance and 403(b) retirement savings plans.

Information Technology: Provides information technology support for diocesan ministries, parishes and offices.

Parish Life Office: The Office for Parish Life works directly on-site in parishes to provide leadership formation, spiritual renewal, program design and resourcing, training for people in all types of parish ministry and consulting on specific parish needs.

Pontifical Mission Societies: The Pontifical Mission Societies of the Diocese of Scranton promotes a mission spirituality and global vision in the hearts and minds of the faithful.

Property and Risk Management: Provides technical and fiduciary oversight in addition to project management for the physical development and maintenance of parish and diocesan properties.

Tribunal: The Diocesan Tribunal acts as the Judicial Arm of the Diocesan Bishop upholding rights and responding to grievances relating to Church Law. Deals mainly in the investigation of and pronouncements on petitions regarding invalidity of marriage (Annulments).

Vocations/Clergy Formation: The Vocations Office seeks to foster vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life and provide opportunities for discernment and mentoring of potential seminary candidates.

REVENUE

- Sources of Revenue for 2019-20 Fiscal Year -

During the 2019-20 fiscal year, the largest source of revenue for the Diocese of Scranton Administrative Offices came from the sale of Little Flower Manor and Saint Luke's Villa, which were sold in September 2019 for approximately \$17,750,000. In connection with the sale and subsequent transfer of assets, the Diocese received approximately \$26,000,000. These funds are being used to pay for the Independent Survivors Compensation Program (ISCP) to provide assistance to survivors of child sexual abuse. The sale proceeds offset a large loss in the 2018-19 fiscal year because of funding for the ISCP.

The Diocese of Scranton's Self-Insurance Program (both medical and general) were two other large sources of revenue in the 2019-20 fiscal year. Under self-insurance, the Diocese assumes responsibility for all claims. In effect, this means that every parish or agency is sharing in the payment of claims through its premiums.

Assessments, which come primarily from parishes, accounted for \$5,337,917 in revenue. This money is used primarily to fund needed support services for Diocesan administration, human resources, child protection, financial services, property and risk management and information technology.

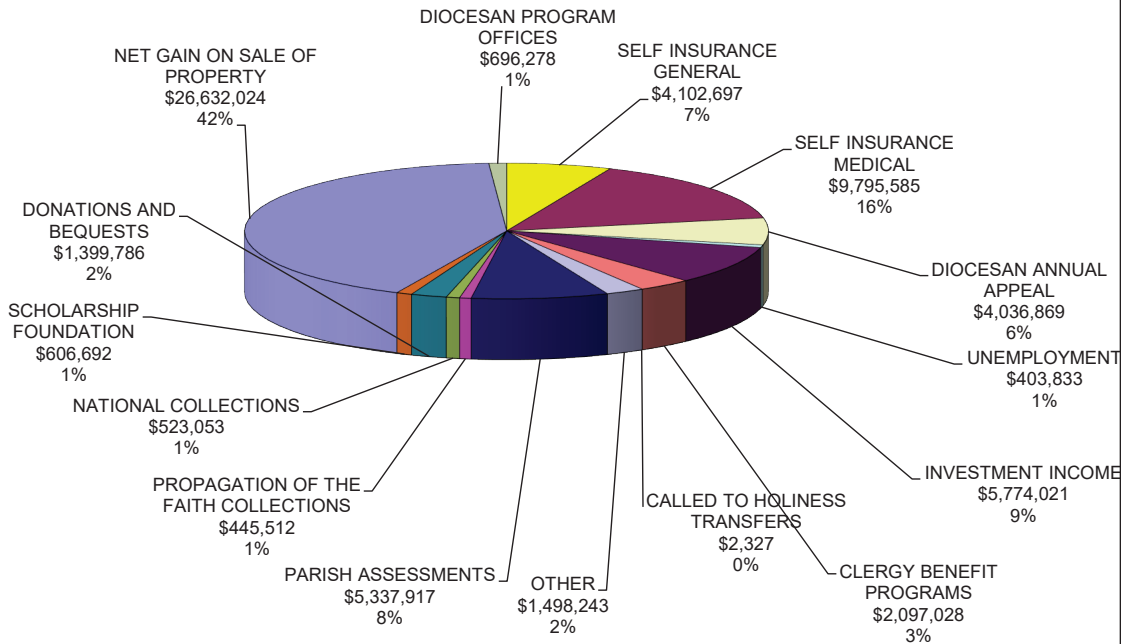
The Diocesan Annual Appeal brought in \$4,036,869 during the 2019-20 fiscal year to support programs and ministries around the Diocese of Scranton. Money from the Diocesan Annual Appeal is used to support Catholic Social Services; clergy formation, education and retirement; parish ministries; direct aid to schools and religious education grants, parish faith formation grants and communication and evangelization efforts. One hundred-percent of donations to the Diocesan Annual Appeal support the ministries outlined above.

The Diocese of Scranton Administrative Offices received a Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan of \$1,290,730 granted by the Small Business Administration under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). These funds enabled diocesan employees to remain on payroll at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. These funds received full forgiveness on December 8, 2020. In the accompanying graph and table, the PPP funds are contained in the "other" category. That would signify the difference between the 2020 and 2019 figures.

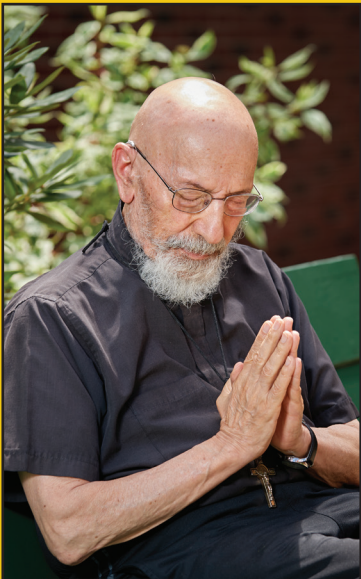
Investment Income totaled \$5,774,021 for the 2019-20 fiscal year.

DIOCESAN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES SUPPORT AND REVENUE

\$63,351,865



Support and Revenue	2020	2019
Net Gain on Sale of Property	\$26,632,024	\$0
Self Insurance Medical	\$9,795,585	\$8,838,357
Investment Income	\$5,774,021	\$3,788,917
Parish Assessments	\$5,337,917	\$5,372,928
Self Insurance General	\$4,102,697	\$4,042,876
Diodesan Annual Appeal	\$4,036,869	\$3,706,473
Clergy Benefit Programs	\$2,097,028	\$2,261,976
Other	\$1,498,243	\$296,135
Donations and Bequests	\$1,399,786	\$575,571
Diodesan Program Offices	\$696,278	\$618,230
Scholarship Foundation	\$606,692	\$739,290
National Collections	\$523,053	\$535,461
Propagation of the Faith Collections	\$445,512	\$410,708
Unemployment	\$403,833	\$216,462
Called to Holiness Transfers	\$2,327	\$156,801
Total	\$63,351,865	\$31,560,185



EXPENSES

- Embracing the Challenges of the 2019-20 Fiscal Year -

Like all years, the 2019-20 fiscal year brought both challenges and opportunities to the Diocese of Scranton. The biggest challenge, of course, has been the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

On Jan. 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the coronavirus outbreak a "Public Health Emergency of International Concern" and on March 10 declared it to be a pandemic.

In an effort to keep the faithful safe in March, the Diocese suspended the Sunday Mass obligation and suspended the public celebration of Mass for a period of roughly two months. In May and June 2020, churches reopened for public Masses with stringent safety protocols in place.

The virus did not slow the vital evangelization and service efforts of the Diocese of Scranton. By engaging livestreaming and other online platforms, parishes continued sharing the experience of our faith. The Diocese itself continued to utilize CTV: Catholic Television to broadcast daily and weekend Masses along with special events and programs to keep the faithful connected.

Showing resiliency, perseverance, creativity and fellowship - priests, pastors, parishioners, teachers, students, staff and our entire Diocesan family - quickly embraced other challenges of the pandemic.

The Catholic Schools Office was well prepared to transition to an online learning environment when Pennsylvania shut down all schools and worked diligently to ensure that in-person education could safely resume in the fall of 2020.

Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton executed its mission seamlessly by continuing to provide food, housing and assistance to the poor and vulnerable. Recognizing the great need for food assistance, the agency also sponsored numerous emergency food distributions in several communities.

Many Diocesan offices and ministries continued to function

through online platforms when large crowds could not gather together. The efforts of many meant that a time of "social distancing" did not have to mean "spiritual distancing."

Even in the midst of the pandemic, the Diocese of Scranton was able to ordain three men to the priesthood at the Cathedral of Saint Peter on June 27, 2020.

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the Diocese and many parishes financially. At this time, it is uncertain how long social distancing restrictions will last and what the complete financial effect will be to the Diocese.

In January 2019, the Diocese announced its Independent Survivors Compensation Program. The Fund has been administered by a third party with an independent oversight committee.

The last date for submitting a claim was September 30, 2019. As of June 30, 2020, \$27,609,755 has been expensed related to ISCP claims, of which \$4,740,027 is accrued to be paid after June 30, 2020 in the Statement of Financial Position.

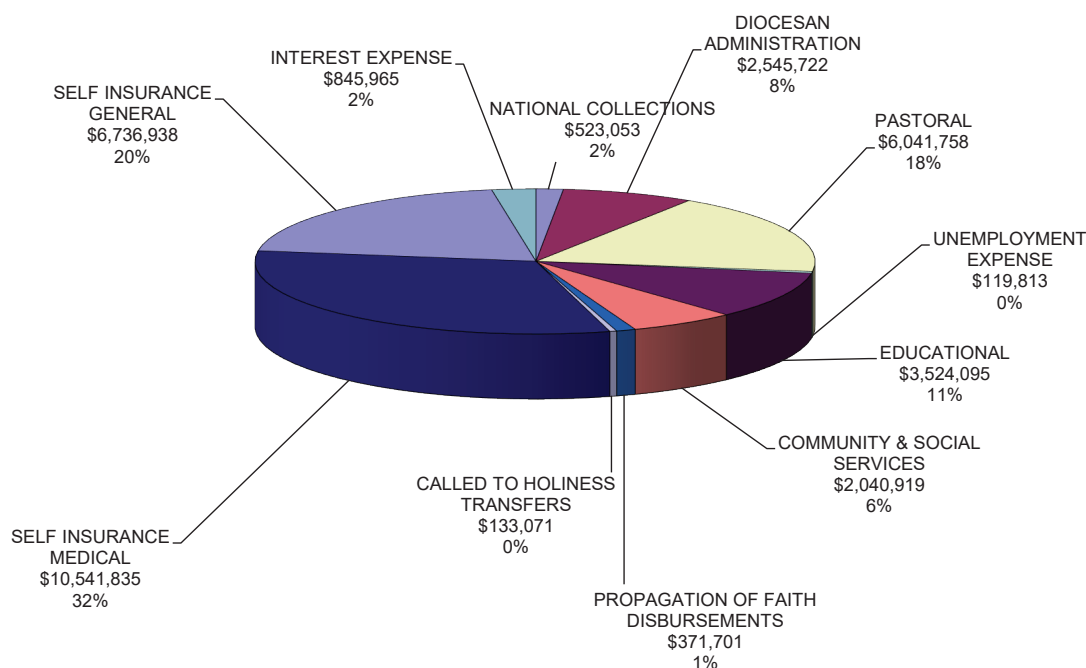
Little Flower Manor and Saint Luke's Villa were sold in September 2019 for approximately \$17,750,000. In connection with the sale and subsequent transfer of assets, the Diocese received approximately \$26,000,000. These funds have been used to pay the claims and costs associated with the ISCP.

Just like other agencies, the Diocese of Scranton itself continuously works to reduce its overall operating budget. As leadership does annually, officials take a long, hard look at their individual budgets to make sure all appropriate savings can be made and our finance department continues to look at all expenses to make sure they are appropriate.

The staff of the Diocese of Scranton, thanks to the generosity of the faithful, continues to serve the Lord with gladness. We are grateful to all those who demonstrate their commitment to the Church.

DIOCESAN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES EXPENSES

\$33,424,870



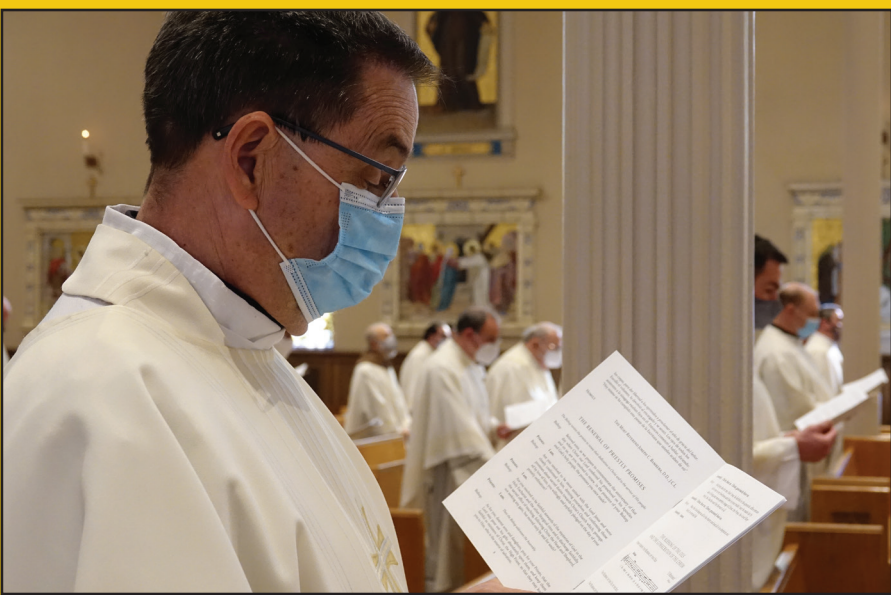
Expenses	2020	2019
Self Insurance Medical	\$10,541,835	\$11,219,211
Self Insurance General	\$6,736,938	\$31,637,153
Pastoral	\$6,041,758	\$6,939,116
Educational	\$3,524,095	\$2,920,246
Diocesan Administration	\$2,545,722	\$2,596,715
Community & Social Services	\$2,040,919	\$1,608,024
Interest Expense	\$845,965	\$837,756
National Collections	\$523,053	\$535,461
Propagation of Faith Disbursements	\$371,701	\$402,695
Called to Holiness Transfers	\$133,071	\$321,246
Unemployment Expense	\$119,813	\$186,951
Total	\$33,424,870	\$59,204,574



Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, center, kneels during the Litany of Supplication at the Ordination Mass for three new priests on June 27, 2020, at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton. The new priests, Rev. Jonathan P. Kuhar, Rev. Shawn M. Simchock and Rev. Kevin M. Miller, lie prostrate on the floor in a gesture of solemn petition. Through the intercession of all the saints, the assembly asks God's blessing for those being ordained. (Photo/Mike Melisky)

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES (Years Ending June 30, 2020 and 2019)

	2020			2019		
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Revenues, gains and other support						
Parish assessments						
Diocesan	\$ 4,381,933	\$ -	\$ 4,381,933	\$ 4,416,560	\$ -	\$ 4,416,560
Clergy Care and Wellness	955,984	-	955,984	956,368	-	956,368
Intra-Diocesan billings						
Self-insurance premiums - General	4,102,697	-	4,102,697	4,042,876	-	4,042,876
Self-insurance premiums - Medical	9,795,585	-	9,795,585	8,838,357	-	8,838,357
Clergy benefit programs	2,097,028	-	2,097,028	2,261,976	-	2,261,976
Diocesan Program Revenues - Schedule 1	696,278	-	696,278	618,230	-	618,230
Diocesan Annual Appeal	-	4,036,869	4,036,869	-	3,706,473	3,706,473
Special collections	-	20,102	20,102	-	36,007	36,007
Donations and bequests	692,249	707,537	1,399,786	465,925	109,646	575,571
Scholarship Foundation contributions	-	606,692	606,692	-	739,290	739,290
Custodial receipts						
National collections	-	523,053	523,053	-	535,461	535,461
Unemployment	403,833	-	403,833	216,462	-	216,462
Called to Holiness transfers	2,327	-	2,327	156,801	-	156,801
Propagation collections	445,512	-	445,512	410,708	-	410,708
Other revenue	210,512	-	210,512	224,095	-	224,095
Paycheck Protection Program loan funds	1,267,629	-	1,267,629	-	-	-
Investment income, net	1,060,406	155,907	1,216,313	1,102,831	171,864	1,274,695
Net realized gain on sale of investments	4,557,708	-	4,557,708	2,514,222	-	2,514,222
Net realized gain on sale of property	26,632,024	-	26,632,024	36,033	-	36,033
Net assets released from restrictions (Note 6):						
Satisfaction of program restrictions	5,322,231	(5,322,231)	-	5,191,295	(5,191,295)	-
 Total revenues, gains and other support	 \$ 62,623,936	 \$ 727,929	 \$ 63,351,865	 \$ 31,452,739	 \$ 107,446	 \$ 31,560,185
Expenses						
Pastoral - Schedule 2	6,041,758	-	6,041,758	6,642,013	-	6,642,013
Educational - Schedule 3	3,524,095	-	3,524,095	2,920,246	-	2,920,246
Community and Social Service - Schedule 4	2,412,620	-	2,412,620	2,010,719	-	2,010,719
Administrative - Schedule 5	19,824,495	-	19,824,495	45,453,079	-	45,453,079
Called to Holiness transfers	133,071	-	133,071	321,246	-	321,246
Custodial disbursements						
National collections	523,053	-	523,053	535,461	-	535,461
Unemployment	119,813	-	119,813	186,951	-	186,951
Interest expense	845,965	-	845,965	837,756	-	837,756
 Total expenses	 33,424,870	 -	 33,424,870	 58,907,471	 -	 58,907,471
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	29,199,066	727,929	29,926,995	(27,454,732)	107,446	(27,347,286)
Other changes						
Provision for bad debt	(362,007)	-	(362,007)	(689,621)	-	(689,621)
Other components of net periodic pension cost	(320,751)	-	(320,751)	(297,103)	-	(297,103)
Pension-related changes other than net periodic pension cost	(2,319,761)	-	(2,319,761)	(691,360)	-	(691,360)
Transfer to lay pension plan	(1,357,720)	-	(1,357,720)	(622,738)	-	(622,738)
Reduction of related party payable	10,000,000	-	10,000,000	-	-	-
Change in net unrealized gains and losses on investments	(5,619,703)	-	(5,619,703)	578,608	-	578,608
 Increase (decrease) in net assets	 29,219,124	 727,929	 29,947,053	 (29,176,946)	 107,446	 (29,069,500)
Net assets, beginning	(27,730,374)	7,633,707	(20,096,667)	1,446,572	7,526,261	8,972,833
Net assets, ending	\$ 1,488,750	\$ 8,361,636	\$ 9,850,386	\$ (27,730,374)	\$ 7,633,707	\$ (20,096,667)



Diocese of Scranton 2020 Parish Life Statistics

Catholic Population	317,438
Infant Baptisms	1,720
Adult Baptisms	100
First Communions	1,918
Confirmations	2,130
Marriages (Catholic & Interfaith)	179
Funerals	4,014

Students in Catholic Schools

Elementary (Pre-K to 8)	3,002
High School	1,050

Children in Religious Education Programs

Elementary:	13,363
High School:	1,030

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION June 30, 2020 and 2019

	ASSETS	
	2020	2019
Cash and equivalents	\$ 12,332,713	\$ 8,163,229
Certificates of deposit	-	1,922,000
Accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$4,060,845 in 2020 and \$3,787,193 in 2019	6,411,106	5,166,973
Accrued interest receivable	133,928	126,207
Contributions receivable	1,225,520	863,450
Due from Catholic Cemeteries	324,059	396,313
Prepaid expense	123,270	357,705
Cash subject to program restrictions	6,028,305	5,239,905
Notes and loans receivable	3,181,856	3,352,440
Investments	54,710,041	55,891,370
Land, buildings and equipment, net	5,891,743	6,189,583
Other assets	489,076	418,590
Total assets	\$ 90,851,617	\$ 88,087,765

	LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
	2020	2019
Accounts payable	\$ 963,507	\$ 481,692
Custodial funds payable	519,070	609,784
Accrued interest expense	205,159	301,298
Contributions payable	1,128,145	670,571
Scholarships payable	533,015	694,150
Liability for pension benefits	11,792,686	10,246,332
Accrued claim expense	3,440,649	2,921,941
Accrued Independent Survivors Compensation Program	4,740,027	20,000,000
Accrued postretirement benefit obligation	10,731,428	10,247,938
Refundable advances	23,101	-
Loans payable	3,181,856	8,352,440
Due to Diocese of Scranton Institute	12,882,371	22,982,170
Funds on deposit		
Catholic Cemeteries Perpetual Care and other funds	18,012,149	18,011,481
Other Diocesan organizations Perpetual Care	12,848,068	12,664,635
Total liabilities	81,001,231	108,184,432
Net assets		
Without donor restrictions	1,488,750	(27,730,374)
With donor restrictions	8,361,636	7,633,707
Total net assets	9,850,386	(20,096,667)
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 90,851,617	\$ 88,087,765



STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

June 30, 2020 and 2019

	2020	2019
Operating activities		
Increase (decrease) in net assets	\$ 29,947,053	\$ (29,069,500)
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash used in operating activities:		
Net realized gain on sale of investments	(4,557,708)	(2,514,222)
Net unrealized loss (gain) on investments	5,619,703	(578,608)
Net realized gain on sale of property	(26,632,024)	(36,033)
Accretion on investments	(35,829)	(50,222)
Depreciation expense	369,487	372,611
Provision for bad debt	362,007	689,621
Reduction in due to Diocese of Scranton Institute	(10,000,000)	-
Increase in accounts receivable	(1,606,140)	(1,478,261)
Increase in accrued interest receivable	(7,721)	(42,876)
(Increase) decrease in contributions receivable	(362,070)	307,564
Decrease (increase) in due from Catholic Cemeteries	72,254	(234,869)
Decrease in prepaid expense	234,435	151,798
Increase in other assets	(70,486)	(52,165)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	481,815	(271,343)
(Decrease) increase in custodial funds payable	(90,714)	101,100
(Decrease) increase in accrued interest expense	(96,139)	96,025
Increase (decrease) in contributions and scholarships payable	296,439	(1,738,375)
Increase in liability for pension benefits	1,546,354	605,070
Increase in accrued claim expense	518,708	918,599
(Decrease) increase in accrued Independent Survivors Compensation Program	(15,259,973)	20,000,000
Increase in accrued postretirement benefit obligation	483,490	116,256
Increase in refundable advances	23,101	-
Decrease in due to Diocese of Scranton Institute	(99,799)	(111,334)
Contributions and interest restricted for long-term investment	(8,279)	(8,258)
Net cash used in operating activities	(18,872,036)	(12,827,422)
Investing activities		
Purchase of fixed assets	\$ (71,647)	\$ (205,529)
Proceeds from sale of property	26,632,024	52,222
Principal collected-loans receivable	170,584	165,744
Purchase of investments	(79,671,594)	(30,827,448)
Proceeds from sale of investments	81,757,036	38,693,165
Net cash provided by investing activities	28,816,403	7,878,154
Financing activities		
Proceeds from loan	-	5,000,000
Principal payments on loan	(5,170,584)	(165,744)
Funds on deposit		
Additions	209,137	180,748
Withdrawals	(25,036)	(26,600)
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	(4,986,483)	4,988,404
Net increase in cash	4,957,884	39,136
Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash, beginning	13,403,134	13,363,998
Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash, ending	\$ 18,361,018	\$ 13,403,134

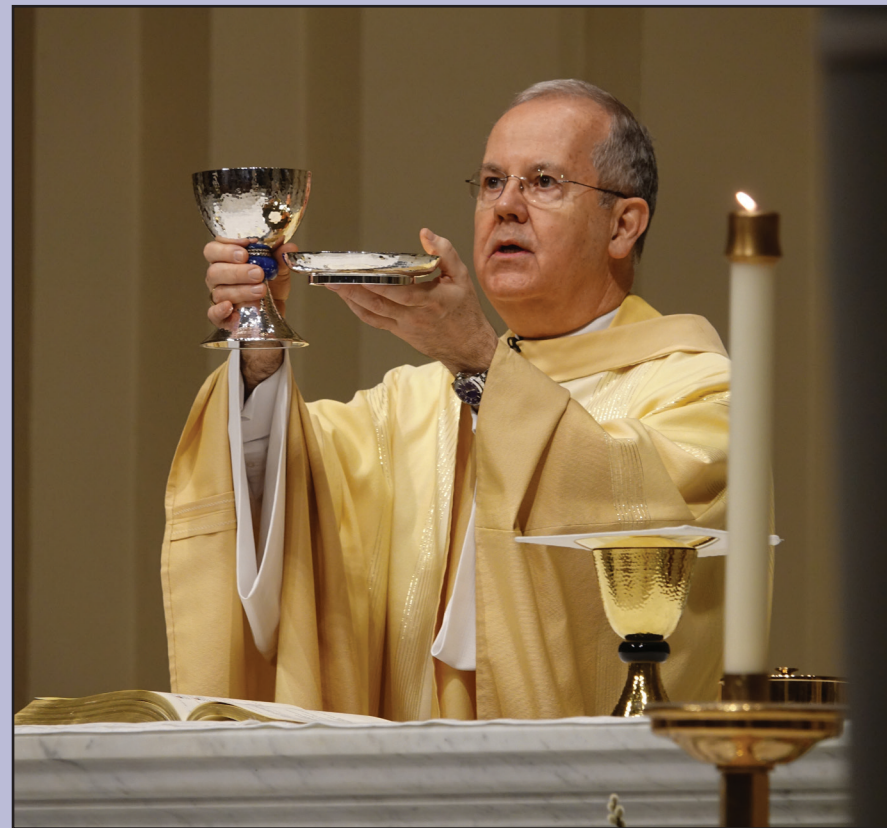
Ordained Priests & Deacons

Bishops	1
Retired Bishops	3
Priests Assigned in the Diocese	101
Priests Assigned outside the Diocese	6
Retired or Ill Priests	93
Total Number of Diocesan Priests	204

Religious Order Priests	52
Religious Order Brothers	4
Religious Order Sisters	394

Permanent Deacons	97
Seminarians	8

Number of Parishes	117
--------------------	-----



Financial Accountability

Transparency and accountability are important parts of our stewardship responsibilities. Each year, the Diocese subjects itself to an independent audit. Diocesan leadership has established and regularly confers with the Diocesan Finance Council. The council, whose existence is required by Canon Law, focuses on financial policies, procedures and activities of the Church of Scranton.

Current members of the Diocesan Finance Council are: Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, John Devine, John Graham, Barbara Maculloch, Sister Therese O'Rourke, Carlon Preate, Rev. Gerald Shantillo and Paul Woelkers.

Please Note

Diocesan finances are audited by McGrail Merkel Quinn & Associates, P.C., Certified Public Accountants & Consultants. The full audited financial statements for the Fiscal Year 2019-20 are published on the Diocesan website at: www.dioceseofscranton.org/directory/offices/financial-services

During Healing Mass for Survivors of Abuse, Bishop Bambera reiterates pledge to keep churches and schools safe

SCRANTON – As he acknowledged and again apologized for the pain of survivors of sexual abuse on April 8, 2021, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera recommitted to creating safe environments across the Diocese of Scranton.

“I pledge to continue to do all within my power to keep our Churches and schools safe for our children and for all of our people to worship, to pray, to learn and to grow in their faith,” Bishop Bambera said.

The bishop’s pledge came during a Healing Mass for Survivors of Abuse held at 12:10 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter. During the Mass, the bishop prayed for God’s healing and peace for all survivors of sexual abuse and particularly for those abused by members of the clergy and Church workers.

“While we have celebrated this Mass in a very public way for three years now, it is more vital today than ever that we continue to pray for survivors of abuse. Why? Because there is still pain,” the bishop said. “A few years of public prayer can’t change



Bishop Joseph C. Bambera leads a prayer during a Healing Mass for Survivors of Abuse at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton on April 8, 2021.

a lifetime of suffering. So many survivors continue to be burdened by nightmares of inhuman behavior on the part of those who should have been trustworthy but were not.”

Since his ordination, Bishop Bambera has met with numerous survivors of abuse who have shared their pain and taught him great lessons.

“They’ve taught me that if the Church is truly intent upon creating safe environments for its children and all of God’s people, the

Church—and especially Church leaders—must never forget or allow time to numb us to the pain that was so willfully inflicted on innocent lives by those who postured themselves as God’s representatives and ministers of his love and mercy,” the bishop explained.

The month of April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. It is a time to recognize the importance of families and communities working together to prevent child mistreatment.

The Healing Mass for Survivors of Abuse took place on the Thursday in the Octave of Easter. During the Easter Octave, the Church celebrates Jesus’ victory over suffering and death through the Resurrection. As the bishop reminded the faithful, there was overwhelming pain after Jesus’ death.

“Today’s scripture passages remind us of the pain and suffering so unfairly inflicted upon Jesus – a good, innocent, loving presence consumed by a broken, sinful world. They also remind us, however, that sin and death did not have the final word in Jesus’

experience,” the bishop said. “God overcame the powers of evil and raised Jesus from the dead. We who gather in His name at this time of prayer are ‘witnesses’ to the saving, healing presence of God, not just in Jesus’ life, but in our world and in our lives as well.”

In moments of desperation, the bishop said faith can help all of us come to understand how God works.

“When we have nowhere else to turn – when we’re no longer capable of fixing the things that have gone awry in our lives – God is finally given room to step into our lives and to carry us when we can no longer walk on our own,” he explained.

As he ended his homily, the bishop again asked for healing.

“May the risen Jesus heal us of our pain, fill us with His love and strengthen us to walk together in faith and so reflect His life and love to a world so desperately in need of it,” Bishop Bambera said.

To read Bishop Bambera’s full homily from the Healing Mass for Survivors of Abuse on April 8, visit dioceseofscranton.org.

Wedding Anniversary Mass planned for June 6

This year’s Wedding Anniversary Mass will allow for limited attendance at an in-person Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

Due to ongoing COVID-19 pandemic concerns, there will be no reception afterward.

The Mass will begin at 2:30 p.m. Attendance will require advance reservation.

If your 25th or 50th Wedding Anniversary has occurred or will occur in 2021, please register for the celebration. The registration deadline is Sunday, May 16, 2021.

The registration process includes an option whereby you can include one or

two photos, as well as a short reflection on wisdom you have gained through your married life together.

Please register for this celebration and recognition, even if you would prefer to not attend an in-person Mass. The form will allow you to note that preference.

For questions or concerns, please reach out to Jen Housel, Director for Community and Family Development, at jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org, (570) 207-2213 x 1104.

The Mass will air live on CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton, the Diocese of Scranton YouTube channel and all Diocesan social media platforms.

Prayer Requests for Priests

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

April 29, Father Francis Pauselli; April 30, Father Jaime Perez Restrepo; May 1, Pope Francis; May 2, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI; May 3, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera; May 4, Father Carmen Perry; May 5, Father Thomas Petro; May 6, Father William Petruska; May 7, Father Michael Piccola; May 8, Father William Pickard; May 9, Saint Joseph Oblate Father Jackson Pinhero; May 10, Father Joseph Pisaneschi; May 11, Father John Polednak, V.E.; May 12, Father Richard Polmounter; May 13, Father John Poplawski; May 14, Monsignor Patrick Pratico; May 15, Monsignor Joseph Quinn; May 16, Father Michael Quinnan; May 17, Father Cyril Rable; May 18, Father Michael Rafferty; May 19, Father Philip Rayappan; May 20, Jesuit Father James Redington; May 21, Father Gregory Reichlen; May 22, Father August Ricciardi; May 23, Father Frederick Riegler; May 24, Father Alex Roche; May 25, Jesuit Father Patrick Rogers; May 26, Monsignor Walter Rossi; May 27, Monsignor Dale Rupert; May 28, Father John Ruth; May 29, Passionist Father Paul Ruttle; May 30, Holy Cross Father John Ryan.

PROMISE to Protect

Pledge to HEAL

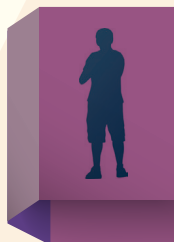


We train everyone to prevent and report abuse.

2,627,827 adults trained
3,685,276 children trained

195 U.S. dioceses/eparchies have a victim assistance coordinator to obtain assistance and provide support for those abused.

We provide outreach to those abused.

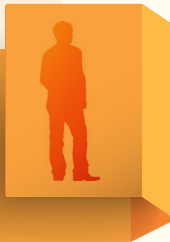


We require background checks.

2,650,835 background checks for clerics, employees and volunteers

100% of U.S. dioceses/eparchies require allegations of sexual abuse to be reported to public authorities.

We report all allegations.



We work with law enforcement.



VOLKSWAGENS
SALES - SERVICE - PARTS

KELLY MOTOR CO.

AUTHORIZED VOLKSWAGEN DEALER

S. Main at Elm, Scranton
570-347-5656

PONTIFICAL MISSION SOCIETIES
IN THE UNITED STATES

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith
Missionary Childhood Association
The Society of St. Peter the Apostle
Missionary Union of Priests and Religious

www.onefamilyinmission.org

MULDOON WINDOW, DOOR & AWNING CO.

Joe Bunevicius & Doug Kneiss
- Over 45 Years Experience -

Specializing in Awnings, Canopies, Carports, Patio and Porch Enclosures, Custom Storm Doors, Storm Windows, Replacement Windows, and Screen and Glass Repair.

Office Hours:
8:00 to 4:30 M-F
8:00 to 12:00 SAT

1230 Sanderson Ave., Scranton • 570-347-9453 • Fax: 570-347-3074

BEDWICK'S
Pharmacy & Gifts

RELIGIOUS GIFTS
FOR MOTHER'S DAY & EVERYDAY

Madonna Medals, Statues, & Prayer Cards
Rosaries, Scapulars, Bracelets, Lapel Pins, & Auto Visor Clips
Children's Books, Christening Gifts, & Religious Pictures
St. Joseph the Homeseller Kits, Irish Items, & Crucifixes

Browse our beautiful, diverse, & extensive selection of religious items

Hours: Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri: 9 a.m.-6 p.m. • Thurs: 1 p.m.-6 p.m. Sat: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION GIFTS

452 Hazle Street - Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702 - 570-823-3818



ROBERT RITTERBECK
Church Painting and Decorating
(570) 343-2899

Please visit our website at www.Ritterbeck.com

STATUES • STENCILS • GOLD LEAF • MURAL RESTORATION

Mission Message

**Go
Forth**

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



"I will give you shepherds after my own heart." With these words, Jeremiah echoes the promise made by God to shepherd His people, caring for them throughout time. It's an assurance that I hope we don't encounter as a footnote of history, but one that is very much a living promise made by God to the Church, to you and me.

God's desire for us as the sheep of His flock (cf. Ps. 100:3) is to shepherd us with loving care and to lead us through this earthly pilgrimage to the Kingdom of Heaven. Central to this mystery of God's providential care for His Church is to raise men to priestly ministry to serve as "shepherds" of His flock.

This past Sunday, we celebrated Good Shepherd Sunday and marked World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Even as we read the Gospel message from John 10, wherein we hear Jesus describe Himself as the "good shepherd," there is another image of the shepherd that I hope we hear and appreciate: "He had compassion

for them; for they were like sheep without a shepherd" (Mt. 9:36).

At times, we may feel like sheep without a shepherd, not in terms of lacking care from the Good Shepherd, but that we are lacking the practical, spiritual care we need here on Earth. We are well aware of the dearth of vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

At the heart of the missionary activity of the Church is the preaching of the Gospel and the celebration of the sacraments. For this to be accomplished we do need many "sheep" to step forward and take seriously the baptismal call to live a life of service. That said, how can we do this well if we have fewer priests and religious? How can we feed others if we have not first been fed?

To build up the kingdom, we must first be built up. The Church is a mission in the sense that She — that each of us — is charged with being called from within to give, to take what we have and share it.

I am eternally grateful for all those who encouraged me as a young man to consider entering the seminary and to give my life in sacrifice to God and for His people. I am confident that my decision to enter the seminary would not have been accomplished — or at least would have been delayed significantly — if it weren't for someone point blank asking me, "did you ever

consider becoming a priest?"

Over 20 years ago, Sister Marianne Addy, IHM, asked me that very question. The very next day — I kid you not — the vocation director of the Diocese called me. The rest is history.

So, Sister Marianne is either to be praised or blamed that I am a priest of the Diocese. Truly, I am grateful for her candor and her no-nonsense question. Her faith motivated her asking a conflicted 17 year old a question that changed the course of his life. Because of her, there is one more priest, one more shepherd — albeit a broken one — serving God's people in our Diocese.

Take a page from Sister Marianne's Playbook. We must pray for vocations to the religious life and priesthood, but we also must be part of the culture that promotes and encourages these men and women to respond to God's call.

These are the people that facilitate our encounters with Christ that feed us, that teach us about God's love and mercy, that inspire us to live lives of fidelity and service. Without them, we do not have a Church. Without their inspiration and loving care, how will more men and women of faith go forth into the world to proclaim the Gospel of life, justice and peace?

Ask the question; encourage and nurture the call.

Apostleship of Prayer

Papal Intention for May 2021

The World of Finance —

Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.

Catholics urged to join in efforts needed to address racism, right wrongs

WASHINGTON (CNS) – Following the verdict in the Derek Chauvin trial, the chairmen of two U.S. bishops' committees prayed God "strengthens us to cleanse our land of the evil of racism, which also manifests in ways that are hardly ever spoken, ways that never reach the headlines."

The May 25, 2020, death of George Floyd while in police custody and the surrounding events, including the three-week trial of Derek Chauvin, the former Minneapolis police officer now found guilty for his death, revealed "so much pain and sadness."

Floyd's death "highlighted and amplified the deep need to see the sacredness in all people, but especially those who have been historically oppressed. Whatever the stage of human life, it not only matters, it is sacred," said the chairmen's joint statement April 21.

It was issued by Bishop Shelton J. Fabre of Houma-Thibodaux, Louisiana, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism, and Archbishop Paul S. Coakley of Oklahoma City, chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development.

The events following Floyd's death – which included protests and riots across the Twin Cities, the nation and the world – "also highlighted the urgent need for racial healing and reconciliation," the prelates said. "As we have seen so plainly this past year, social injustices still exist in our country, and the nation remains

deeply divided on how to right those wrongs."

On April 20, the jury, after deliberating for more than 10 hours over two days, found Chauvin guilty of second-degree unintentional murder, third-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter in the death of Floyd, an African American. Chauvin is white.

His actions in Floyd's arrest, including restraining him for nine minutes and 29 seconds with a knee on his neck as he lay on the street handcuffed, were captured on a bystanders' video that went viral.

Bishop Fabre and Archbishop Coakley joined their voices and prayers in support of Archbishop Bernard A. Hebda of St. Paul and Minneapolis and the entire Minnesota Catholic Conference and they quoted a conference statement:

"As a diverse community, the Catholic Church is committed to changing hearts and minds and to moving the conversation about race in this country beyond accusations and recriminations toward practical, nonviolent solutions to the everyday problems that are encountered in these communities."

The USCCB committee chairmen urged Catholics to "join in the hard work of peacefully rebuilding what hatred and frustration has torn down."

"This is the true call of a disciple and the real work of restorative justice," Bishop Fabre and Archbishop Coakley said. "Let us not lose the opportunity to pray that the Holy Spirit falls like a flood on our land again, as

at Pentecost, providing us with spiritual, emotional and physical healing, as well as new ways to teach, preach, and model the Gospel message in how we treat each other."

The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, also released a statement on the verdict in the trial of Derek Chauvin on April 20, 2021.

The statement reads:

"Today, jurors in a Minnesota courtroom rendered a verdict in the trial of Derek Chauvin for the murder of George Floyd in May 2020. This evening, I offer prayers to the Floyd family and for all who have suffered because of the sin of racism and oppression.

"This moment reminds us that the scourge of racism must continue to be addressed. The Catholic Church boldly proclaims that all human life is sacred and every human person is created in God's image and likeness. In order to confront racism in our land and change hearts and minds, each one of us must take a deep look at ourselves. Racism comes in many forms. Sometimes it is deliberate – often it is subconscious – and at times it occurs when one fails to act when injustices occur.

"The words of Pope Francis from June 2020 challenge us to reflect upon core values of our Catholic faith, 'We cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form and yet claim to defend the sacredness of every human life.'"



A Different Kind of Lawyer

Real Estate
Living Wills
Estate Planning & Administration
Municipal Law

JONATHAN A. SPOHER

Attorney at Law

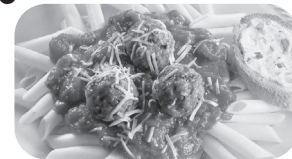
279 Pierce Street, Kingston
570.287.1156

ST. LUCY'S CHURCH

949 Scranton St., Scranton, PA

TAKE OUT ONLY

Penne Pasta & Meatball Dinner



THURSDAY, JUNE 3RD, 2021

Dinners \$10.00 • 3:00–6:00 P.M.

(CONTAINERS PROVIDED)

Penne Rigate with Meatballs • Salad • Italian Bread • Biscotti

DRIVE THRU

THE PARKING LOT IN REAR OF CHURCH OR WALK INTO THE AUDITORIUM TO PICK UP DINNERS (NO SIT-DOWN) ...

STAY IN YOUR CAR – DRIVE INTO PARKING LOT, PLACE YOUR ORDER, THEN PULL UP TO THE TENT. THE FOOD WILL BE DELIVERED RIGHT TO YOUR CAR!



For Tickets Call: St. Lucy's Rectory (570 347-9421), Joe (570 955-7469)

or purchase them at the Drive-Thru on the day of the dinner

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT ST. LUCY'S CHURCH RESTORATION

For All Your Printing & Copying Needs



27 Stauffer Industrial Park • Taylor, PA 18517

570-343-0414 or 570-562-2738

1-888-4-ALL-PRINT

www.pdqprint.com



2140 Warrensville Road
Montoursville
570-433-3161
WWW.VALLEYVIEW.ORG

**CELEBRATING
OVER 28 YEARS OF
CARING! 1993 – 2021**

Valley View Nursing & Rehab Center is a non-profit organization locally owned and operated by Lycoming Community Care, Inc.

- Russel Rehab: Short Term Rehab - *Private Rooms*
- Therapy Provided 7 Days a Week
- Sunrise Terrace Memory Care
- Woods' Edge Independent Living Apartments
- Respite Care

Thank You for Voting us #1 in



*Best Nursing Home
Best Senior Retirement
Living Facility
Best Assistance in Living*

SOME THINGS GET BETTER WITH AGE!



DOING IT ALL
FOR
SEVENTY FIVE
YEARS!

"We Do It All"
...For your home
...For your car
...For your workplace

MESKO GLASS 1-800-982-4055

HOME • AUTO • COMMERCIAL

SCRANTON • WILKES-BARRE • HONSDALE • ALLENTOWN

Glenn G. Yanik ATTORNEY AT LAW

- Estate Planning • Estate Administration
- Real Estate • Business Law • Elder Law
- Durable Power of Attorney
- Wills • Guardianships • Trusts

309 Professional Building,
1501 S. Memorial Highway, Shavertown, PA 18708
570-362-0417 • gyaniklaw@epix.net
— I make house calls —



Home Health, Hospice and
Outpatient Therapy

- ✓ Skilled Nursing
- ✓ Nursing Aides
- ✓ Social Work
- ✓ Pastoral Care
- ✓ Registered Dietary
- ✓ Physical Therapy
- ✓ Occupational Therapy
- ✓ Speech Therapy

P.O. Box 103
750 State Route 93
Sybertsville, Pa. 18251

www.maylathhealth.com

570-708-2929 phone
570-708-1010 fax
1-877-751-0080 toll free

info@maylathhealth.com email



C.H.A.P. Accredited

Training Provided in:
CPR, First Aid and AED

Outpatient Therapy in
Two Locations:
Sybertsville and The Laurels, Hazleton



Diocese of Scranton
VOCATIONS
John Yourishen Memorial Tournament
GOLF CLASSIC

The John Yourishen Memorial Golf Tournament will take place on Monday, July 12, 2021 at Blue Ridge Trail Golf Club in Mountain Top. The tournament will begin with a shotgun start at Noon and will be Captain & Crew format.

Both sponsors and golfers are needed to make the event a success! To become a sponsor for the event, please utilize the form below. Checks can be made payable to Diocese of Scranton "Vocations Endowment."

Anyone with questions about the event can call the Diocese of Scranton Development Office at (570) 207-2250.

SPONSORSHIPS*

PLEASE SELECT (✓) FROM THESE OPTIONS OF SUPPORT:

- ☐ **Archangel Sponsor \$2,500**
- Cart & Green Fees for Four Golfers
 - Lunch, Dinner, Cocktail Reception
 - Hole Signage & Program Recognition
 - Listing in *The Catholic Light*
 - Option to distribute give-away at Registration
 - Complimentary Additional Dinner Guest
- ☐ **Angel Sponsor \$1,250**
- Cart & Green Fees for Four Golfers
 - Lunch, Dinner, Cocktail Reception
 - Hole Signage
 - Recognition in Program and *The Catholic Light*

ARCHANGEL & ANGEL SPONSORS PLEASE COMPLETE:

- ☐ I **WILL** be golfing. Please see the names of my foursome players at right > > >
- ☐ I will **NOT** be golfing. I wish to underwrite the cost of seminarians to play in the tournament.

OTHER SPONSOR LEVELS:

ALSO LISTED IN THE CATHOLIC LIGHT AND THE DINNER PROGRAM

- ☐ **Benefactor \$500**
- ☐ **Flag Sponsor Sign \$250**
- ☐ **Hole Sponsor \$100** ☐ **Other: \$_____**

My/Our donation is made ...

- ☐ In Memory of

Name of the Deceased

- ☐ In Honor of

Name of the Honoree

ALL SPONSORS & DONORS : Please Print Information Below:

PRINT Name or Company for *Catholic Light* & Program

Your Name

Address

Company/Organization

Phone

E-mail

*New Sponsors, please email your company logo to
Development@DioceseofScranton.org

☐ Number of Additional Dinner Guests _____ @ \$75= _____

TOTAL SPONSOR/GOLFER AMOUNT DUE: \$_____

Make checks payable to
Diocese of Scranton "Vocations Endowment"

☐ Check Enclosed ☐ Credit Card - MC/Visa

Card Number

Expiration Date

Return form with payment to:

Diocese of Scranton Development Office
300 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, PA 18503-1279

Questions: 570-207-2250

Development@DioceseofScranton.org

Field limited to the first 176 golfers.

LOOKING FOR A CD ALTERNATIVE?

6 Year Fixed Annuity
6 Year Term

3.15%

\$5000 Minimum
Tax Deferred

Surrender Charge (Yr1-6%, Yr2-5%, Yr3-4%
Yr4-3%, Yr5-2%, Yr6-1%)
Form Nos. AA-09, ASQ-1

Park 2 Annuity
2 Year Term

2.35%

\$1000 Minimum
Tax Deferred

Surrender Charges (Yr1-6%, Yr2-5%)
10% Free Withdrawal per Year
Form Nos. AA-09, ASQ-1, 12012010

Plans provide full withdrawal at the end of the stated term.
Rates are subject to change. Annuity contracts issued by First Catholic Slovak Union, a fraternal benefit society founded in Cleveland, OH in 1890. Not available in all states. Not FDIC or NCUSIF Insured.

Michael J. Ricci, CRPC
P.O. Box 100, Olyphant, PA 18447
800-324-2890



"FOR GOD
& NATION"

**FIRST
CATHOLIC
SLOVAK
UNION**

GROUP CRUISE SILVERSEA - SPIRIT

• JANUARY 3-14, 2022 •



Veranda SUITE with BUTLER

UNIQUE ITINERARY
Departing and
ending in
Ft. Lauderdale.

Ultra-luxury all inclusive cruise without crowds,
less than 600 passengers.

Special pricing for Trans World Travel group.
SPACE IS VERY LIMITED.

Call 570-344-9784 for more information

Support the Catholic Communication Campaign May 15 & 16



CTV: CATHOLIC TELEVISION
Diocese of Scranton, 330 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, PA 18503 (570) 207-2219



Through the internet, print media, television, and radio . . .

Communication Builds Community

Support the Catholic Communication Campaign

Copyright © 2020, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC. All rights reserved. Photo: NewGroupMedia, Diocese of Rapid City.

SCRANTON - During the COVID-19 pandemic, the role of Catholic communications was extremely important. Many people have relied on CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton for Daily and weekend Masses.

On the weekend of May 15 & 16, 2021, the Diocese of Scranton will hold its special collection in support of the Catholic Communication Campaign. This campaign connects people with Christ and builds Catholic communities in the United States and developing countries using the internet, television, radio and print media.

Refresh Your Faith Women’s Conference

SCRANTON - Join this year’s Catholic Women’s Conference and experience Divine Mercy and the restoration of your soul.

Mark your calendars now for the conference, which will be held on Saturday, June 19, 2021.

The day will include inspirational talks by Theresa Bonopartis, Father Chris Alar, Sister Virginia Joy as well as Eucharistic Adoration, the rosary, and a Mass celebrated by Bishop Bambera.

Uplifting music will be performed by Christian music artist Taylor Tripodi and her band.

Participants can also enjoy a continental breakfast, lunch and shopping at the Catholic Vendor

The Catholic Communication Campaign helps people tell their stories of God’s transformative mercy. By supporting the campaign, you participate in bringing these important stories to life!

Half of the money collected remains in the Diocese of Scranton to fund local communication efforts, including the Daily Mass broadcasts and other local programming and specials on CTV: Catholic Television as well as the publication of *The Catholic Light*. Your support helps spread the Gospel message.

We thank you for your generosity toward the Catholic Communication Campaign!

Marketplace.

The mission of the Catholic Women’s Conference is to invigorate and enrich the faith of our sisters in Christ - and we want you to be a part of this transformational day!

The cost to attend the conference is \$40 for in person under the outdoor tent at Marywood University and \$20 for virtual.

Student tickets are \$20, and women religious are welcome free of charge.

Volunteers are always needed and those who sign up for four hours at the conference will receive a free ticket. For more information and to register, visit cwcnepa.com.



Class A, LPTV Broadcast Station: W07BV-CA, Channel 7, Wilkes-Barre/Pittston;
Adams Cable Service, Carbondale: channel 16 • Comcast Cable TV, Scranton/Dunmore/Dallas: channel 12
Comcast Cable TV, Williamsport: channel 16 Metrocast Cable TV, Berwick: channel 20
Service Electric Cable TV, Wilkes-Barre: channel 18 • Service Electric Cablevision, Hazleton: channel 97

MAY SCHEDULE

CTV LOCAL ORIGATION IS BOXED IN BOLD BORDER, OTHER PROGRAMMING IS FROM EWTN

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY		
12:00 AM	DAILY MASS	SUNDAY MASS (Encore)	DAILY MASS (Encore)						
1:00 AM	FR SPITZER'S UNIVERSE	(1:10AM) LITANY OF THE SACRED HEART	THE JOURNEY HOME (Encore)	MOTHER ANGELICA LIVE CLASSICS	EWTN LIVE (Encore)	THE WORLD OVER (Encore)	EWTN NEWS IN DEPTH		
1:30 AM		EWTN GALLERY							
2:00 AM	EWTN NEWS NIGHTLY (Encore)								
2:30 AM	THEY MIGHT BE SAINTS		EWTN GALLERY	EWTN GALLERY	EWTN GALLERY	EWTN GALLERY	EWTN GALLERY		
3:00 AM	EWTN GALLERY	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOGUE	SPECIALS	REFLECTIONS	LIFE ON THE ROCK	BATTLE READY	LITURGY OF THE HOURS		
3:30AM		DEFENDING LIFE		PAPAL AUDIENCE	AT HOME WITH JIM AND JOY (Call in thurs)		AT HOME WITH JIM AND JOY		
4:00 AM	EWTN LIVE (Encore)	REFURBISHING THE SOUL	HOPE TO DIE		BOB AND PENNY LORD	WEB OF FAITH 2.0	SAVORING OUR FAITH		
4:30 AM		(4:35)SUNDAY BEST WITH FR GROESCHEL	GOD'S BLUEPRINT FOR A HAPPY LIFE	(4:40)REGINA COELI FROM NAZARETH		FORGOTTEN HERITAGE	LIFE IS WORTH LIVING	GK CHESTERTON	
5:00 AM	BOB AND PENNY LORD PRESENT	EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL	SUFFERING AND WHAT TO DO WITH IT	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY	EWTN SPECIALS	CATHOLIC BEGINNINGS		
5:30 AM	THE REFORMATION	CATHOLIC VIEW FOR WOMEN	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	CATHOLIC SPHERE			CATHOLICS COME HOME		
6:00 AM	REGINA COELI WITH POPE FRANCIS	EWTN ORIGINAL PRODUCTIONS							
6:30 AM	WHERE GOD WEEPS	G.K. CHESTERTON	CHURCH AND THE POOR	MATTHEWS TESTIMONY TO JESUS	SAINTS VS SCOUNDRELS	THE CHOICES WE FACE	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOGUE		
7:00 AM	THE CHAPLET OF ST. MICHAEL					STATIONS OF THE CROSS	CHAPLET OF ST. MICHAEL		
7:30 AM	THE HOLY ROSARY	HOLY LAND ROSARY					THE HOLY ROSARY		
7:50 AM		LITANY OF BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	LITANY OF THE HOLY NAME	LITANY OF ST. JOSEPH	LITANY OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD	LITANY OF SACRED HEART			
8:00 AM	SUNDAY MASS (Live)	DAILY MASS (Live)							
9:00 AM	(9:20AM) LITANY OF THE SACRED HEART	HOLY ROSARY WITH THE FRANCISCAN MISSIONARIES OF THE ETERNAL WORD							
9:30 AM	EWTN ROSARY FRANCISCANS	SUNDAY BEST WITH FR. GROESCHEL	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY	SCRIPTURE AND TRADITION (ENCORE)	EWTN LIVE (ENCORE)	THE WORLD OVER (Encore)	CAT CHAT		
10:00 AM	SUNDAY MASS ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL	RELIGIOUS CATALOG		MOTHER ANGELICA LIVE	LIVE WITH PASSION	FOCUS	MOTHER ANGELICA LIVE CLASSICS	ROAMIN' CATHOLIC	
10:30 AM		CHOICES WE FACE	ST ANN'S WEEKLY NOVENA					CHOICES WE FACE	AT HOME WITH JIM AND JOY CALL IN
11:00 AM	EWTN NEWS IN-DEPTH	OFOD OR SPECIALS		TERESA OF AVILA	SAINTS FOR TODAY	EUCCHARISTIC JOURNEY	SAINTS		
11:30 AM		THEY MIGHT BE SAINTS							
12:00 PM	SUNDAY MASS (Encore)	THE DAILY MASS FROM ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL, LIVE AT 12:10 p.m. "DIOCESAN DATEBOOK" airs before and after Mass.						EWTN DAILY MASS (Encore)	
12:30PM									
1:00 PM	(1:10PM) LITANY OF THE SACRED HEART	WOMEN OF GRACE						EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOGUE	
1:30 PM	IN CONCERT	AT HOME WITH JIM & JOY	PRO LIFE WEEKLY	AT HOME WITH JIM & JOY	CTV SPECIALS / OFOD	WOMEN OF GRACE HOUR LONG	EWTN BOOKMARK		
2:00 PM		CALLED TO COMMUNION	SCRIPTURE AND TRADITION	FR. SPITZER'S UNIVERSE		THE JOURNEY HOME	LIFE ON THE ROCK	EWTN ON LOCATION	
2:30 PM									
3:00 PM		THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY IN SONG							
3:20 PM	LIVE ADORATION FROM EWTN CHAPEL								
3:30 PM	THE ROSARY FROM LOURDES	THE DAILY MASS FROM ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL, (Encore)						ROSARY FROM LOURDES	
4:00 PM	VATICANO	THE HOLY ROSARY DIOCESAN DATEBOOK						SUNDAY VIGIL MASS ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL	
4:30 PM	SAVORING OUR FAITH	LUCY AND FRIENDS	BUG TIME ADVENTURES	TRUTH IN THE HEART	MY CATHOLIC FAMILY	THE FRIAR			
5:00 PM	THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL	EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHOICES WE FACE	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOGUE	GOD'S BLUEPRINT FOR A HAPPY LIFE	THEY MIGHT BE SAINTS	THE REFORMATION		
5:30 PM	SUNDAY PASSIONIST MASS	SPECIALS						HOPE TO DIE	
6:00 PM	SUNDAY MASS FROM ST. PETERS CATHEDRAL	EWTN NEWS NIGHTLY (Live)						THE JUORNEY HOME	
6:30 PM		CATHOLICS COME HOME	REAL LIFE CATHOLICS	CHURCH UNIVERSAL	VATICANO	WHAT IS GOD'S WILL?			
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		DIOCESAN DATEBOOK							
8:00 PM	(8:20) LITANY OF SACRED HEART	THE JOURNEY HOME (Live)	OFOD OR SPECIALS (CAN BE 90 MINUTES)	EWTN LIVE	THE WORLD OVER (Live)	EWTN NEWS IN DEPTH	EWTN CINEMA		
8:30 PM	CATHOLICS COME HOME		MUSIC AND SPOKEN WORD						
9:00 PM	LIFE ON THE ROCK	EWTN NEWS NIGHTLY (Encore)							
9:30 PM	HOLY ROSARY W MOTHER ANGELICA	WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN	THE CHOICES WE FACE	FOCUS	LIVE WITH PASSION	WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN			
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	LONG RIDE HOME	CROSSING THE GOAL	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	WOMEN OF GRACE HOUR LONG	WEB OF FAITH 2.0		
11:30PM	CATHOLIC VIEW FOR WOMEN	WOMEN OF GRACE					JOURNEY THROUGH THE SCRIPTURES		

S&K ANTIQUES

We buy old Christmas & Halloween items, as well as old toys, old advertising, military, mining & railroad items, musical instruments, sewing machines, watches, jewelry & more.

WE BUY ANYTHING OLD!

570-954-4023 • FREE APPRAISALS

MCDADDE - CHICHILLA APARTMENTS

230 Lackawanna Avenue, Olyphant, PA 18447

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

- 62 or older, handicapped or disabled
- Apartments designed for the mobility handicapped

Rent based on 30% of your income.

Includes all utilities except cable and telephone.

Telephone: (570) 489-4756



• CLOSE TO ALL AMENITIES •



ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES WANTED

1 ITEM OR COMPLETE ESTATES

Post Cards	Guns	Sewing
Books	Sporting Items	Machines
Military	Glassware	Light
Mining Items	Toys	Fixtures
Tools	Clocks	Magazines

570-430-2370



Buying Antiques and Estates, Furniture, Wicker, Toys, Linens, Quilts, Old Sewing Machines, Old Light Fixtures and Lamps, Railroad and Mining Items, Bookcases, Bedroom and Dining Rooms, French Doors, Radios, Books, Cedar Chests, Anything Old

OUR 40th YEAR • 570-343-5628

Stucker Tours

570-655-8458
www.stuckertours.com

WILDWOOD CREST

June 6-9 - \$549 (3) breakfasts, cocktail poolside pizza party with entertainment. Evening of dinner & dancing with live entertainment.

Visits to Smithville, Cape May, Cool Scoops Ice Cream Parlor

QUEEN ESTHER, Sight & Sound, June 19 & Sept. 4 - \$179, Inc. meal

Maine, New Hampshire & Vermont Aug. 22-27 - \$1,199, 8 meals

Mackinac Island & Frankenmuth, MI Sept. 12-18 - \$1,699, 11 meals

ATLANTIC CITY RESORTS CASINO June 27-30 - \$359, \$30 Slot/\$75 food

CALL FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF TOURS



Who's Ready to Travel Again? We Are!

to Campania Italy!

Oct. 9th - 17th, 2021

9 day/7 Night Tour includes:

Sorrento, the Isle of Ischia, Positano, the Amalfi Coast, Mt. Vesuvius and more!

\$3429.00*

* Per Person - Includes: Airfare, taxes, hotel, guided tours, meals and more! Based on double occupancy with payment by cash or check

FOR INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS CALL **570.288.8849**



LISTEN TO CATHOLIC RADIO!

SCRANTON & WILKES BARRE
750 AM & 98.9 FM

HAZLETON
1490 AM & 100.1 FM

DUSHORE ALTOONA
91.7 FM 91.9 FM

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 Respeto 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.

Classifieds • Classifieds • Classifieds • Classifieds • Classifieds

VACATION RENTAL

BRIGANTINE, NJ - 5 minutes from Atlantic City. Sleeps 2-4 comfortably. Bath and a half, ocean view and pool. Call for rates. **570-839-8694** or **570-460-9012**.

APARTMENT FOR RENT

AMUST SEE! 1st FL Apt. N. SCRANTON 5 Large rooms + 2 full baths, spacious kitchen w/Island & desk area open to a large family room w/fireplace. Plenty of closet/storage space, Wash/Dry on site. Hardwood throughout. No pets/smoking, trash incl. \$675 + util's. Sec/Ref call **570-343-3578**.

APARTMENT FOR RENT

DUNMORE - 2nd floor, 5 rooms, heat and water included. For more information. Call **570-498-0083**

MOLD REMOVAL & CLEANUP

TekPure Environmental LLC Professional mold remediation. Comprehensive site evaluations. Sampling/testing. Skilled personnel. Insured. PA license #140395 **570-446-5700** www.TekPure.com

COUNSELING SERVICES

Patrick F. Cioni, M.S., M.A., L.P.C. Individual & Marriage Counseling. Most Insurances Accepted. **570-343-0234**.

HAULING

WEDOCLEANOUTS.com Attics to Basements. You Call - We Haul. Junk Removal - No job too large or small. 1 item or entire estate. Cheaper than a dumpster. Senior citizen and Veteran discounts. Free estimates. Insured. PA license #112108 **570-687-7687**

WANTED TO BUY

Old books, postcards, cigarette lighters, mining & railroad items, match box toys, all antiques & anything old. **570-430-2370**.

CHAPLET CD

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy in Song with all Prayers. Order Yours today and pray the Chaplet at home or in your car...very uplifting!! **\$6.95 Each, 3 for \$15. Send for a free sampler CD of our most popular CDs. Ernie Pappa Productions P.O. Box 324, Chinchilla, PA 18410**

FOR SALE

White 2003 Buick LeSabre for Sale One owner - 52,686 miles. **570-823-5234** **\$4,750** comfortable riding car.

HOUSE FOR SALE

Ranch Style House Newly Remodeled & Adjoining 75x200 foot Lot. 3 Bds, 1 Bath, Natural Gas Heat, Central Air, Private Location, 109 Union St. Hudson, PA 18705. 570-823-5234 By Owner \$249,000. Photos at https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/109-Union-St-Hudson-PA-18705/110650067_zpid/

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI KITCHEN PRESENTS VIRTUAL CELEBRATION

SCRANTON - The Saint Francis of Assisi Kitchen marked the conclusion of its 2021 Host for a Day campaign with a Virtual Celebration on April 28 highlighting the mission of the Kitchen and those who make it possible.

The Kitchen serves a free, hot, nutritious meal to approximately 250 men, women and children each day at lunchtime and three evenings a week. This has continued throughout the pandemic in a safe way via takeout containers.

The Host for a Day campaign is the primary source of financial support for these meals. For a donation of \$100 or more, an individual, family, business, community organization or faith-based group can help to sponsor the day's meal. In effect, each contributor becomes a "host" for a day.

The virtual celebration video is available on the Saint Francis of Assisi Kitchen website or its Facebook page for anyone who would like to view it. Contributions to the kitchen are always welcome!

CARDINAL UNVEILS MAJOR VATICAN CONFERENCE ON PRIESTHOOD IN 2022

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Increasing vocations to the priesthood, improving the way laypeople and priests work together and ensuring that service, not power, motivates the request for ordination are all possible outcomes of a major symposium being planned by the Vatican in February 2022.

"A theological symposium does not claim to offer practical solutions to all the pastoral and missionary problems of the church, but it can help us deepen the foundation of the church's mission," said Cardinal Marc Ouellet, prefect of the Congregation for Bishops and the chief organizer of the symposium planned for Feb. 17-19, 2022.

The symposium, "Toward a Fundamental Theology of the Priesthood," seeks to encourage an understanding of ministerial priesthood that is rooted in the priesthood of all believers conferred at baptism, getting away from the idea of ordained ministry as belonging to "ecclesiastical power," the cardinal said.

RESEARCH WITH FETAL TISSUE FROM ELECTIVE ABORTION CALLED 'DEEPLY OFFENSIVE'

WASHINGTON (CNS) – The chairman of the U.S. bishops' pro-life committee April 20 called on the Biden administration to fund research "that does not rely upon body parts taken from innocent children killed through abortion."

"The bodies of children killed by abortion deserve the same respect as that of any other person," said Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City, Kansas, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities.

"Our government has no right to treat innocent abortion victims as a commodity that can be scavenged for body parts to be used in research," he said.

His remarks were a reaction to a notice the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, posted April 16 in the grants area of its website announcing the end of a Trump administration ban on research involving human fetal tissue acquired from elective abortions.

In addition, NIH and the U.S. Department of Health and Human

Services will no longer convene the Human Fetal Tissue Research Ethics Advisory Board.

"It is unethical to promote and subsidize research that can lead to legitimizing the violence of abortion," Archbishop Naumann said in his statement.

"Researchers have demonstrated that we can do effective scientific research and develop efficacious clinical treatments without harvesting tissue from aborted babies. It is also deeply offensive," he added, "to millions of Americans for our tax dollars to be used for research that collaborates with an industry built on the taking of innocent lives."

Other pro-life reaction to NIH's announcement included a statement from Tom McClusky, president of March for Life Action.

Looking for the Perfect Monument?

Stop by to see why we are the preferred memorial provider.

SELECTION
• Tri-state area's largest • Over 400 memorials on display • More than 25 color choices

QUALIFICATION
• Family owned and operated for over 130 years • Recommended by more than 15 funeral homes • Superior workmanship

PRICE
• Buy direct from the manufacturer
• **NO MIDDLEMAN!**

Serving All Catholic Cemeteries in NE PA

The clear choice for all your memorial needs



Martin Caufield Memorial Works

249 Sunrise Ave., Honesdale, PA 18431

1-800-824-5293 • 570-253-3300 • FAX: 570-253-3360

www.martinaufieldmemorialworks.com

mcmwphil@ptd.net

Full Service Granite Company Since 1877

Catholic Colleges announce upcoming commencements

SCRANTON — A Tony Award-winning screenwriter who was raised in Scranton will be the principal speaker when Marywood University holds its annual spring commencement on Saturday, May 15.

Stephen Karam, currently a teacher of graduate playwriting at The New School in New York, will address the nearly 800 Marywood graduates during four separate commencement ceremonies taking place that day on the university's Scranton campus.

Marywood's three colleges — Health and Human Services, Arts and Sciences, and Professional Studies — will confer degrees to undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral students who hail from 31 states and six countries.

A graduate of Brown University, Karam won the Tony Award for his dramatic works *The Humans*, *Sons of the Prophet* and *Speech & Debate*.

U of S Ceremonies Slated May 22 & 23

The University of Scranton will confer more than 1,000 bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees at in-person undergraduate and graduate commencement ceremonies on Saturday and Sunday, May 22 and 23.

Degrees will be conferred to graduates who had completed their academic degree requirements in August and December of 2020, as well as January and May of 2021.

Following Pennsylvania's current indoor capacity guidelines, a maximum of 2,500 people will be able to attend each of the ceremonies, which will take place at the Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza, Wilkes-Barre Township.

The graduate commencement ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 22. Separate undergraduate commencement ceremonies will be held on Sunday, May 23, for graduates of the

Panuska College of Professional Studies at 9:30 a.m.; the Kania School of Management at 1 p.m.; and the College of Arts and Sciences at 4:30 p.m.

Fr. Bert Kozen and the parishioners of
Immaculate Conception Church

5973 Jacks Hollow Road, Bastress, Pa.

Invite You To Attend Their Annual

SPRING DINNER
SUNDAY, MAY 23RD

Turkey & Ham Dinner

Dinner from Noon until 6 P.M. • NO DINE IN - Curb side pick up ONLY

Dinner includes stuffing, mashed potatoes, noodles, gravy, corn, salad, homemade bread.

• ALL TAKE-OUTS ARE \$10 •

DIR: From Route 15 in South Williamsport, take Route 654 West to Bastress. (10 miles)

Our Basic Care package starting at \$75

- **Putting up seasonal artificial flowers** (flowers included in price)
- **Trimming, edging around monument**
- **Removal of old flowers, décor etc**
- **Light cleaning of monument**
- **Light pruning of shrubbery**
- **Seeding if required**

Before and after photos with each visit to be sent by text or email, also uploaded to "Find A Grave"

Memento Mortuos LLC

Memorial Maintenance

570-519-8200

NepaCemeteryCare.com

Headstone cleaning

Solar Lighting / Memorial Lighting

Mulch / Pavers / Stone placement

Annual and one time packages

Custom floral arrangements

Wreath placement

Flower placement

Planting service

Custom packages

Grave blankets

Multi site discounts

Additional Sites at the same Cemetery only \$60 ea



Memory Keepers Gravesite Care

• kimberly hiller •

570-947-1957

hlkmh6@verizon.net
10 forest glen drive
scranton, PA 18504

NJC INVESTMENTS

Helping to take the mystery out of your financial future

Nicholas J. Colarossi, CRC®

College Planning ■ Retirement Planning
www.njcinvestments.com ■ 570-586-5030

Securities offered through Leigh Baldwin & Co., LLC. Member FINRA/SIPC

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

Oblates of Saint Joseph to celebrate founder's feast

PITSTON — The religious community of the Oblates of Saint Joseph will honor their founder, Saint Joseph Marello, with a three-day triduum of Masses and devotions in anticipation of the feast day of the congregation founder in May.

The annual celebration honoring Saint Joseph Marello will be held daily Wednesday thru Friday, May 26–28, in the Chapel of Saint Joseph, 1880 Route 315 Highway, Laflin.

Eucharistic liturgies will be celebrated each day at noon and 7 p.m. The noon Masses will livestream on the Oblates of Saint Joseph Seminary Facebook page and be broadcast on JMJ Catholic Radio.

Saint Joseph Oblate priests



**Saint Joseph
Marello**

“Year of Saint Joseph.”

The Feast Day Mass of Saint Joseph Marello will be celebrated on Saturday, May 29, at noon by Saint Joseph Oblate Father Paul McDonnell, rector of the religious community.

Saint Joseph Marello (1844–1895) was a priest of the Diocese of Asti in the Piedmont region of Italy, and founded the Congregation

will offer reflections on the spirituality of Saint Joseph and the teachings of Saint Joseph Marello, as the Church continues to celebrate this

of the Oblates of Saint Joseph in 1878. Ten years later he was appointed to serve as bishop of the nearby Diocese of Acqui.

After spending his life in tireless pastoral service, he died unexpectedly in Savona, Italy, on May 30, 1895, at the age of 50.

Pope Saint John Paul II beatified Bishop Marello in 1993 in his native city of Asti and canonized him a saint in 2001 at Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome.

The Oblates of Saint Joseph have been serving in the Diocese of Scranton since 1929, currently in Pittston and Hazleton, as well as in 15 countries throughout the world.

All faithful of the Diocese are invited to attend the triduum and feast day celebration.

Marian Devotion Rosary prayer services listed

Marian Devotion Ministries in the Diocese of Scranton, dedicated to promoting prayerful devotion to Jesus and Mary

through recitation of the Rosary, announces its “Fatima Journey for 2021.”

The Fatima Journey begins on May 15, commemorating the First Apparition of Fatima in Portugal in 1917, and continuing through Oct. 16, in celebration of the last Marian apparition at Fatima later that year.

Prayer rallies and Rosary Evenings are hosted throughout the Diocese and include the Rosary with chanted scriptural mysteries, Fatima prayers and hymns.

Upcoming Marian Devotion events are scheduled as follows:

First Friday Rosary and Mass — May 7, at 6:30 p.m., hosted at Saint Lucy Parish in West Scranton.

May 15 Rosary Rallies — noon at Saint Lucy's, West Scranton, near the outside Marian Shrine behind the church rectory; 3 p.m. at the Oblates of Saint Joseph Chapel, Route 315, Laflin.

Third Monday of the Month Rosary — May 17, from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Oblates Chapel, Laflin.

To host an event or for more information, contact Ernie Pappa at (570) 241-8171 or email: singtomary@aol.com.

IHM Sisters to conclude series of virtual prayer evenings

SCRANTON — The Immaculate Heart of Mary Sisters will conclude their monthly “Evenings of Prayer with the Sisters of IHM” on Wednesday, May 12.

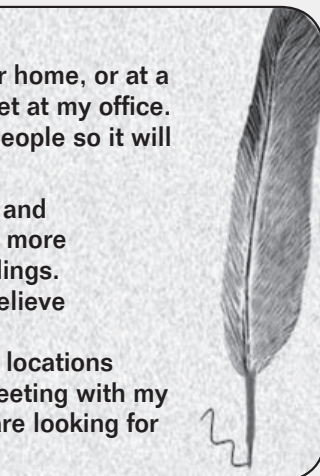
The ongoing series of prayer devotions celebrates the 175th anniversary of the founding of the Congregation of Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in 1845, with each month's service focusing on a specific theme relating to IHM history and the religious community's charism.

Due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, the Evenings of Prayer are offered on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. via

videostreaming. Participants may access the devotions at: <https://video.ibm.com/channel/ihm-tv>.

The theme for the May 12 Evening of Prayer is “Celtic Prayer.”

For more information, contact the IHM Sisters in Scranton at (570) 346-5404 or communications@sistersofihm.org.



**Michael
J. Bendick**
Attorney At Law
(570) 901-1254
www.bendicklaw.com
Located in Shavertown
(Covering Luzerne, Lackawanna,
& Wyoming Counties)

Around the Diocese

Weekly Novena Devotion to Saint Anthony of Padua — **MAY 4-JUNE 8**, hosted by Our Lady of Hope Parish, 40 Park Ave., Wilkes-Barre; 13-week Saint Anthony Novena devotion held on consecutive Tuesday evenings, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the parish church. Novena theme: "Venerable Matt Talbot: Patron Saint of Those Battling Alcohol Addiction." All faithful are welcome; social distancing and facial coverings required. For more information, call (570) 824-7832.

Take-Out Spaghetti Dinner — **MAY 8**, sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 356 in Great Bend; held from 4 to 7 p.m. at the

Knights' Hall, 65 Kilrow St., Great Bend. Cost: adults, \$8; children, \$4. To reserve advanced orders, call (570) 879-4875. Walk-ins are welcome. Dinner held on the second Saturday of the month, September thru May.

Parish Lottery Fundraiser — **MAY-AUGUST**, sponsored by Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish at Lake Silkworth; four-month lottery calendar tickets for May, June, July & August sold for \$25 each. Numbers matching the PA evening lottery drawing win ticket prizes, ranging from \$50 to \$750. Tickets available by contacting the parish office at (570) 477-5040.

Blue Army Reparation Vigil

The next monthly First Friday Reparation Vigil, dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary and sponsored by the Blue Army, will be held **May 7** at Saint Joseph's Oblate Seminary, 1880 Highway 315, Laflin (Pittston).

Devotions begin Friday evening at 8 p.m. with recitation of the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary, during which time confessions are heard. Mass of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is celebrated at 8:55 p.m., followed by benediction, litany and consecration to the Sacred Heart.

The vigil continues with the crowning of the Blue Army Pilgrim Virgin Statue, the Blue Army Pledge, Fatima prayers and Marian hymns, followed by litany and consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The vigil concludes with scapular enrollment at 10:15 p.m.

EUCCHARISTIC PROCESSION



IN HONOR OF ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

MAY 1ST 2021

8:00 AM Mass

1st Saturday Devotions

9:30 AM Eucharistic Procession

St. Joseph tables, fellowship, Adoration to follow

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER PARISH
702 WEST 4TH ST
WILLIAMSPORT PA 17701
QUESTIONS: 570.323.9456



Care for when every moment matters.



Since 2015, more than 2,000 families have trusted our compassionate team to care for their loved ones. We will be here for you when it matters most with the highest quality care for your loved one, and the support and guidance you need. We now offer:

- Community-based palliative care
- Home-based hospice care
- Inpatient and respite care at our Hospice Centers

Call us 24/7 for support at 570.341.4320 or explore our programs at alliedservices.org


AlliedServices
INTEGRATED HEALTH SYSTEM

HOSPICE &
PALLIATIVE
CARE

Hospice Center Scranton, 511 Morgan Highway, Scranton
Hospice Center Wilkes-Barre, 200 S. Meade St, Wilkes-Barre

Pope calls for monthlong global prayer marathon for end of pandemic



VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Pope Francis has called for a global prayer marathon for the entire month of May, praying for the end to the pandemic.

“The initiative will involve in a special way all shrines in the world” in promoting the initiative so that individuals, families and communities all take part in reciting the rosary, “to pray for the end of the pandemic,” said the Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelization in a press release April 21.

“It is the heartfelt desire of the Holy Father that the month of May be dedicated to a prayer marathon dedicated to the theme, ‘from the entire church an unceasing prayer rises to God,’” it said.

The theme refers to the miraculous event recounted in the Acts of the Apostles (12:1-12) when all the church prayed for Peter, who was imprisoned until God sent an angel to free him, illustrating how the Christian community comes together to pray in the face of danger and how the Lord listens and performs an unexpected miracle.

Each day in May, there will be a livestream from one of 30 chosen Marian shrines or sanctuaries to guide the prayer at 6 p.m. Rome time (noon EDT) on all Vatican media platforms.

The pope will open the monthlong prayer May 1 and conclude it May 31, the council said.

Prayers said aloud lead the way to God, pope says at audience

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Because prayer is a dialogue with God, people should not dismiss or be embarrassed by saying their prayers out loud or in a whisper, Pope Francis said.

“Vocal prayer is an essential element of the Christian life,” and when Jesus taught the disciples how to pray, it was with a vocal prayer, the “Our Father,” the pope said April 21 during his weekly general audience.

Continuing his series of talks on prayer, the pope reflected on the importance of speaking the words of prayers out loud rather than seeing prayer just as a mental exercise or form of meditation.

Too often, people think reciting a prayer is something only children or the uneducated

do, but it is the way Jesus taught his followers to pray, he said. “The words we speak take us by the hand. At times they restore flavor, they awaken even the sleepest of hearts,” they reawaken forgotten feelings and they “lead us by the hand toward experiencing God,” he said.

People should be humble when seeing the elderly who unfailingly show their fidelity to the duty of prayer and who are “often the great intercessors of parishes,” he said.

“They are the oaks that from year to year spread their branches to offer shade to the greatest number of people,” he said. “And even though they, too, must have faced moments of darkness, they remain faithful to vocal prayer.”

The Catholic Light

MAILING LABEL - Please be sure to enclose this label with any address changes and mail to The Catholic Light, 300 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, PA 18503

Want More Diocesan News?

Sign up for *The Catholic Light* Weekly E-Newsletter at dioceseofscranton.org

2021 PENTECOST CELEBRATION

In-person and Livestream
May 22 (Saturday) 10am to 12:30pm

The Featured Presenters will be:



Father Alex Roche
Director of Vocations and Seminarians for the Diocese of Scranton



Father Gus Ricciardi
Spiritual Moderator of the CCR in the Diocese of Scranton



Karen McLain
Conference Coordinator for the CCR in the Diocese of Scranton

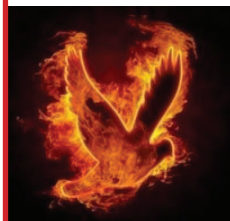


Bob Valiante
Liaison to the Bishop for the CCR in the Diocese of Scranton

Queen of the Apostles Church
715 Hawthorne Street
(Corner of Hawthorne & Spring Streets)
Avoca PA 18642

HIGHLIGHTS...

- Spirit-filled Prayer & Praise
- Inspiring Music & Anointed Worship
- Challenging Teaching
- Prayers for Healing



“Renewal in the Spirit”

Jesus will baptize you
with the Holy Spirit and with **fire!!**
(cf Luke 3:16 and Acts 1:5,8)

“The new evangelization applies to the whole of the Church’s life. It applies, in the first instance, to the ordinary pastoral ministry that must be more animated by the **fire of the Spirit**, so as to inflame the hearts of the faithful who regularly take part in community worship and gather on the Lord’s day to be nourished by his word and by the bread of eternal life.”
~ Pope Benedict XVI to Bishops on 28-October-2012



To attend in-person:

In-person attendance is limited to **70 people** due to COVID-19 restrictions.
All in-person attendees must wear facemasks.
Physical distancing will be observed.
In-person attendees must register
by May 19th with Alexandra Orvieto
by Phone at 570-676-3499
or by Email to aaorvieto@gmail.com
+++ A Free-Will Offering will be taken +++

For the livestream:

Join us on **Facebook** at
<https://www.facebook.com/CCRScrantonDiocese>



CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL
OF THE DIOCESE OF SCRANTON
PO BOX 3306
SCRANTON, PA 18505
570-344-2214
ccrenewal@comcast.net