



# GoodNewsNotes

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON OFFICE FOR PARISH LIFE

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## CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL OF THE DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

# Pentecost Celebration

In-Person and Livestream

**Saturday, May 22, 2021**  
**from 10:00AM to 12:30PM**

**Queen of the Apostles Parish**  
**715 Hawthorne Street, Avoca PA 18642**



### Highlights include:

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

### 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*

**Mother's Day Adoption Mass**  
**Sunday, May 9**  
**at 12:10PM**  
**Cathedral of St. Peter**

**Solemnity of the Ascension**  
**Thursday, May 13**

**Pentecost**  
**Sunday, May 23**

**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 Alexandira Orvieto by phone at 570-6763499 or by email to [aaorvieto@gmail.com](mailto:aaorvieto@gmail.com). A free-will offering will be taken.

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



## Webinar on the Blessed Virgin Mary

**"The Immaculate Ever-Virgin Mary: Mother of God, Mother of the Church, Mother of All."**

Please consider joining this webinar on **Thursday, May 20, 2021 at 1:00PM** when Dr. Fastiggi will cover all the major Marian dogmas: Mother of God, perpetual virginity, Immaculate Conception, the Assumption, as well as Our Lady's association with Christ and the Holy Spirit in the work of salvation, and Our Lady's Role as Queen of Families. Since this is the Year of St. Joseph, he will also talk about St. Joseph as the witness to Mary's virginity and the protector of the Holy Family.



Register at [this link](#). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with the link to join the webinar.

## Resource on COVID-19 and Health

This resource created by Kendall Hunt is available for Grades K through 12 is free and focuses on the question How can people help end pandemics? It is designed to teach students about the COVID-19 pandemic, transmission of the COVID-19 virus, impacts of the pandemic on communities, and offers advice on how people can end the pandemic. [Click here](#) for this resource.

## Catechist Awards

The Catechist Awards celebrate the dynamic mission of gifted Catechists, Parish Catechetical Leaders, and Directors of Religious Education/Faith Formation. Each of these catechists demonstrate the importance of passing on the faith and their example inspires us into mission!

The Office for Parish Life will accept any completed Catechist Award Form for the 2020-2021 Award Year. We will mail the awards back to the parish, and then provide recognition for all those nominated. The names of those who receive this year's catechist awards will be published on the Office for Parish Life webpage of the Diocese of Scranton website, the *Good News Notes* and our Facebook Page.

The materials you will need for the Diocesan Catechist Awards nomination process for 2020-2021 have already been sent via email. Please arrange an opportunity to publicly recognize those who receive the Catechist Awards for their years of service in the parish. While we understand that this may not be done in person, please use your bulletin, Facebook or any other available resource you have to highlight the award recipient. For questions, please contact Jacki Douglas at [jdouglas@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:jdouglas@dioceseofscranton.org) or 570-207-2213 ext. 1100

## Remote Networking Meetings

**Save the Dates**—We are excited to continue our Remote Network Meetings for DREs and Youth Ministers. We have spent quite a bit of time lately sharing what great things are being accomplished at our parishes. It is impressive to the creative steps being taken to help families and continue the mission of religious education.

We would love to have every parish represented. We invite each of you to join us every other Wednesday at 11AM. Our upcoming meeting dates are May 12 & 26. For more information on how to stay connected, please contact Jacki Douglas at [jdouglas@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:jdouglas@dioceseofscranton.org) or at (570)207-2213 x-1100.

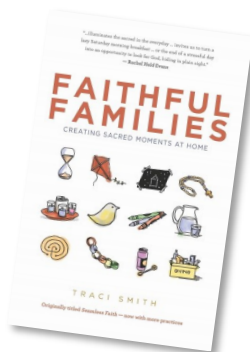
## Empower Families to Practice Faith at Home

Faith formation can't happen if children and youth are spending just one hour a week at church - or much less these days, so what are the barriers families encounter when trying to establish faith practices at home?

The Rev. Traci Smith, author of *Faithful Families*, joins us on **Wednesday, May 5 at 12:00pm** to present the fundamentals of developing faithful family practices and outline the role that ministry leaders play in encouraging and supporting families. Discover how to help parents feel confident and well equipped as they nurture their children's faith development, at every age. We'll also spend time in an "Idea Lab" learning and sharing in small groups and we'll wrap up the webinar with Q&A.

Now is the perfect time for families to develop real habits and practices of faith at home. Following the webinar, participants will receive links to several short videos and outlines of spiritual practices that you can share with your congregation.

Register for this webinar at [this link](#).



## Support Catechesis in a Digital World

Join a free virtual event for diocesan, parish, and school catechetical leaders. In English and Spanish sessions, catechetical experts will delve into the influence of the digital culture and how it has led to a new virtual reality in our mission as catechists. Register now to discover ways you can maximize technology to evangelize and catechize. Come away as an enlightened and empowered change maker ready to become an evangelizing presence in the digital world!

To register, [click here](#).



"I CALL us to be servant leaders who WORSHIP our God and celebrate the Sacraments in union with the universal Church."

# WORSHIP

## OCP Parish Grants Program

The COVID-19 pandemic has created extensive hardships for parishes across the country, many forced to find new ways to meet the spiritual needs of their communities while working with an increasingly tight budget. It is for this reason that Oregon Catholic Press (OCP) is honored to partner with communities of faith across the country through its annual OCP Parish Grants Program, aimed at supporting and enhancing the worship experience of the faithful as they begin their return to in-person celebrations. Since its inception in 2001, the OCP Parish Grants program has awarded over \$3.3 million to parishes throughout the country.

Applications for the OCP Parish Grants Program are being accepted through May 30, 2021. All applicants are required to fill out an online application providing information about their parish—demographics, pastoral ministries offered and intentions for the grant. Recipients will be announced in August. Awarded grants must be used for liturgical and/or musical purposes. Applicants do not need to currently use an OCP worship program in order to qualify.

For more information, please visit [ocp.org/parish-grants](https://ocp.org/parish-grants) or call 1-800-LITURGY (548-8749).

## NPM National Convention

The National Association of Pastoral Musicians National Convention will take place in New Orleans, Louisiana on **July 27-30, 2021**. The event will be a "hybrid event" offering both an in-person and virtual experience for an attendee to register. Feel safer not traveling this year, or does your budget not allow for travel? Sign up for the virtual convention experience. You'll watch the same Plenum addresses, breakout sessions and other events that your in-person attendees are experiencing as well.

Want to join the fun in New Orleans? Register as an in-person attendee. We have some surprises up our sleeve to make the in-person experience full of New Orleans spirit. [Click here](#) for more information.

## FDLC Webinar Series on the Liturgical Year

The Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions (FDLC) is sponsoring a series of free, seventy-five minute webinars on the Liturgical Year that continue through June 23. Sessions are live each Wednesday at 1:00 PM, and archived version may be viewed anytime. To register for the webinar series, please visit <https://www.fdlc.org/formation>.



## RCIA 101: A Crash Course on Christian Initiation

Have new leadership with your parish RCIA team? Never had the RCIA process in your parish and don't know where to begin? Been doing RCIA for years but want to learn more?

The Office for Parish Life will offer a virtual "crash course" day on the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults on **Saturday, June 12, 2021 from 9:00AM to 3:00PM**.

The goal of this offering for priests, deacons, parish life coordinators, RCIA coordinators, RCIA team members is to provide a overall sense of what the Church asks of parishes in responding to seekers and preparing them for Initiation. This course day would be ideal for anyone new to the RCIA as well as seasoned veterans who are looking to deepen their understanding of the process.

To register, please [click here](#) and complete the online registration or for more information, please contact David Baloga at 570-207-2213 ext. 1158 or at [David-Baloga@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:David-Baloga@dioceseofscranton.org).



# VIGILIA DE PENTECOSTES

"TODOS QUEDARON LLENOS DEL ESPÍRITU SANTO"  
(HECHOS 2, 4)



## SÁBADO MAYO 22

7:00 PM - 9:30 PM

DESDE NUEVA YORK  
EN ADORACIÓN Y MÚSICA



### PABLO CASTRO

CANTAUTOR CATÓLICO

**CUPO LIMITADO**  
**IGLESIA SANTA MARÍA GORETTI**  
42 REDWOOD DRIVE, LAFLIN, PA 18702

MÁS INFORMACIÓN:  
570.207.2213 EXT 1130

**DONACIÓN VOLUNTARIA: \$10**



# COMMUNITY

"I CALL us to be servant leaders who build COMMUNITY through hospitality, respect, inclusion and holiness."

## Wedding Anniversary Mass

June 6, 2021

Celebrating this year's Wedding Anniversary Mass at the diocesan, and *especially* at the parish level, is one wonderful way we can observe this "Amoris Laetitia Family" Year! Ideas for celebrating at the parish level will be sent directly to pastor's and parish offices. (To learn more, please contact Jen Housel.)

This year's celebration will allow for limited attendance at an in-person Mass at the Cathedral of St. Peter on Wyoming Avenue in Scranton. (Due to ongoing pandemic concerns, there will be no reception afterward.) The Mass will begin at 2:30, and attendance will require advance reservation.

If your 25<sup>th</sup> or 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary has occurred or will occur in 2021, please register for the celebration via [this link](#).

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, or if there are issues registering online, please reach out to Jen Housel, Director for Community and Family Development, at [jhou-sel@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:jhou-sel@dioceseofscranton.org), 570-207-2213 x 1104.

## PreCana Days of Reflection Continue to Be Offered

We continue to offer our diocesan PreCana Days of Reflection once each month. Though we postponed a few classes early in 2020 due to the pandemic, we began to offer in-person classes in the summer, following all pandemic guidelines. In fall of 2020 we pivoted to a live, online platform that has been well-received.

A return to in-person classes will begin as of May 2021, and we will continue to offer PreCana Days of Reflection throughout 2021 and for the foreseeable future. If pandemic restrictions require us to return to exclusively online classes, we are able to do so.

Due to the popularity of our diocesan online classes, we will continue to offer some PreCana Days of Reflection via an online platform in 2021 and beyond. To learn more about PreCana options, please visit [this link](#) or reach out to Jen Housel.

\*Special note: many couples who postponed their 2020 Weddings are marrying in 2021. Our PreCana class

sizes are still limited due to pandemic protocols. Please encourage and help the engaged couples you are working with to register for their PreCana Class as early as possible, to help ensure they can reserve their spot in a timely class.

## "Amoris Laetitia Family" Year

March 19, 2021- June 26, 2022

As we embark upon this exciting "Amoris Laetitia Family" Year of observance, please consider the ways in which your parish and you can walk with families in earnest and intentional ways. We encourage you to reach out to our Office for Parish Life with any questions or concerns, or for assistance in implementing opportunities at your parish.

Click [here](#) to read the twelve proposals and suggestions for a commitment to family pastoral care in the light of the apostolic exhortation "Amoris Laetitia". (From the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life: "12 ways to walk with families following 'Amoris Laetitia'".)



HEAVEN & EARTH  
A FIRST FRIDAY EVENT

# Open Mic Night

Friday May 7th | 6PM-8:30PM  
Refreshments will be served

Heaven & Earth Cafe  
400 Wyoming Avenue  
Downtown Scranton


FREE PARKING IN GUILD BUILDING LOT




"I CALL us to be servant leaders who engage in SERVICE to our neighbors near and far and who work for justice and stewardship to hasten the Reign of God."

# SERVICE

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON - YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY  
*Lectio Divina*  
 Young Adults ages 18 - 35, join us on Monday nights to pray with the Easter readings  
  
 Monday Nights from  
 April 19th to May 24th  
 7pm | via Zoom  
  
 Lectio Divina (literally divine reading) is a way of becoming immersed in the Scriptures very personally. The Christian form of Lectio Divina is a way of developing a closer relationship with God by reflecting prayerfully on His words. In Lectio Divina, the chosen spiritual text is read four times in total, giving an opportunity to think deeply about it and respond thoughtfully.  
  
 Email Shannon at  
 shannon-kowalski@dioceseofscranton.org  
 to register and receive the Zoom link.




**PINTS WITH PRIESTS**  
  
**05.26.21**  
 YOUNG ADULTS 21 TO 40YRS OLD  
  
 Join us at 7:00pm and enjoy a pint of your favorite drink or ice cream and engage in spiritual & theological conversations with your peers and some priests!  
  
 Guests Priests: Fr. Alex Roche, Fr. Seth Wasnock, & Fr. Ryan Glenn  
  
 This is an online event - please email Shannon at shannon-kowalski@dioceseofscranton.org to receive the Zoom link

## Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation

**The Learning Cycle 4 of the VLCFF is coming up! Course Dates run from May 16 through June 19, 2021** (registration open now through May 12). To see the full list of available courses in English or Spanish, and/or to register for a class, please visit <https://vlcff.udayton.edu/calendar/>






## Center for Ministry Development


The Center for Ministry Development - Course Days for Youth Ministry and Lifelong Faith Formation will take place **on June 23 and 24, 2021 (Wednesday/Thursday) from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM**. Tom East is the instructor.

Topics covered in this 2-day course series will include "Fostering Faith Growth through Evangelization and Catechesis" and "Fostering Faith Growth through Prayer and Worship".

Stay tuned for more information on this event to be published in the coming weeks!

**2021 SOCIAL JUSTICE GRANT PROGRAM**

<p>THE SOCIAL JUSTICE GRANT COMMITTEE HAS RECEIVED APPLICATIONS FROM 24 DIFFERENT PARISHES FOR THE 2021-2022 GRANT YEAR.</p> <p>PARISHES WILL BE NOTIFIED OF THEIR GRANT STATUS IN EARLY JUNE.</p>	 <p>Parish Food Pantries, Summer Lunch Programs, Food Insecurity Emergency Financial Assistance,</p>
 <p>Social Justice Education, Care for God's Creation, Homelessness and Housing Insecurity, Legislative Advocacy</p>	 <p>Parish Nurse Ministry, Hispanic Ministry, Care for the Elderly, Pro-Life Ministries, Prison Ministry, Disability Ministries</p>


 For more information, contact Shannon Kowalski at (570)207-2213 or shannon-kowalski@dioceseofscranton.org

# OPL Month At A Glance

## May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Young Adult Lectio Divina 7PM	4	5 Empower Families to Practice Faith at Home Webinar 12 Noon	6	7	8
9 Mother's Day Adoption Mass 10AM Cathedral	10 Young Adult Lectio Divina 7PM	11	12 DRE/YM Remote Networking Meeting 11AM Last Day to Register for VLCFF Cycle 3	13 Ascension Thursday	14	15
16 VLCFF Cycle 4 Begins	17 Young Adult Lectio Divina 7PM	18	19	20 Webinar on the Blessed Virgin Mary 1PM	21	22
23 Pentecost	24 Young Adult Lectio Divina 7PM	25	26 DRE/YM Remote Networking Meeting 11AM Pints with Priests 7PM	27	28	29
30	31 Memorial Day					

### OPL TEAM MEMBERS

Diocesan Secretary for Parish Life: **Catherine Jantsch Butel**

Director for WORD and Lifelong Faith Formation: **Jacki Douglas**

Director for WORSHIP: **David Baloga**

Director for SERVICE and Mission: **Shannon Kowalski**

Coordinator for Pilgrimages: **Fr. Andrew Hvozdovic**

Director for COMMUNITY and Family Development: **Jen Housel**

Coordinator for Ecumenical/Interfaith Relations: **Msr. Vincent Grimalia**

Coordinator for Lay Ministry Formation: **Kitty Scanlan**

Coordinator for Hispanic Ministry: **José Flores**

Consultant for Pastoral Council Development: **Ann Marie Cawley**

Events Coordinator, Diocesan Pastoral Center:

Administrative Assistant: **Jennifer Andres**



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