

# Diocese of Scranton Catholic High Schools Class of 2021

## Holy Redeemer High School



**Patrick  
DelBalso**



**Lauren  
Patrick**

WILKES-BARRE — Holy Redeemer High School was the first Diocesan secondary school to hold spring commencement exercises when graduation ceremonies were staged on June 2 at the Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza in Wilkes-Barre Township.

A total of 130 Holy Redeemer seniors, led by Principal Doreen S. Dougherty, were conferred their diplomas by Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, who also addressed the graduates and offered benediction.

The class' Baccalaureate Mass was celebrated June 1 in school's McCarthy Auditorium. Serving as principal celebrant and homilist was Father Seth Wasnock, chaplain of Holy Redeemer High School.

The 2021 Holy Redeemer class valedictorian is Patrick DelBalso, son of Patrick and Leane DelBalso of Plains. This year's Holy Redeemer salutatorian is Lauren Patrick, daughter of Edward and Andrea Patrick of Mountain Top.

Of the total number of graduates, 120 will be enrolling in colleges or universities to further their education, including 49 who will be attending Catholic institutions of higher learning. The 2021 Holy Redeemer senior class merited a total of 690 scholarship awards worth more than \$35 million.

**"We have been blessed  
with our God-given talents  
to boldly go out into the world  
to make positive changes.  
The world is a beautiful place  
with endless opportunities  
just waiting for us to shine.  
Class of 2021, be kind, be  
yourself, be amazing!"**



— *Patrick DelBalso*  
Valedictory Address  
Excerpt

**"Our senior year was not what any of us  
had ever imagined. Yet, through God's grace,  
we braved our challenges and have become  
stronger individuals in the process. Now,  
filled with hope and excitement for what  
the future holds, we step forth in the beginning  
of the rest of our lives."**

— *Lauren Patrick*  
Salutatory Address  
Excerpt

## Saint John Neumann Regional Academy

WILLIAMSPORT — Graduation ceremonies were conducted for the Saint John Neumann Regional Academy Class of 2021 on June 3 at the Church of Saint Boniface in Williamsport.

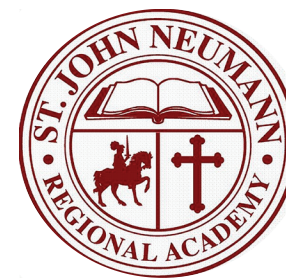
Saint John Neumann Principal Alisia McNamee presided over the presentation of diplomas to the 15 members of this year's graduating class, which were conferred by Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, who also offered remarks and the closing benediction.

The Baccalaureate Mass was celebrated June 1 at Immaculate Conception Church in Williamsport, where Father Bert Kozen, host pastor, served as principal celebrant and homilist.

This year's Saint John Neumann valedictorian is Sydney Rosenthal, daughter of Dr. Marc Rosenthal and Lorraine Seiffert, Williamsport. Salutatorian honors were bestowed upon Faith Reid, daughter of Thomas and Sarah Reid, residents of Williamsport.

All of the 2021 Saint John Neumann graduates will be pursuing further education on the university/college level, including four class members who plan to attend Catholic institutions of higher learning. As a class, the Saint John Neumann seniors amassed 21 academic scholarships worth \$1.4 million.

**"So many great adventures  
await us. My only sorrow  
today is that we don't  
experience them together.  
I'm honored to have the  
privilege to stand up here  
today and recognize each  
and every one of us for the  
unique individuals we were,  
are, and will become."**



— *Sydney Rosenthal*  
Valedictory Address  
Excerpt

**"The education we received at Saint John Neumann  
not only drove each of us to succeed, but it also  
created within us a deeper understanding  
of our faith and how we can rely on it once we leave.  
With the weekly Masses, theology classes,  
and prayer integrated into our schedules, each one  
of us had a chance to root ourselves in Christ."**

— *Faith Reid*  
Salutatory Address  
Excerpt



**Sydney  
Rosenthal**



**Faith  
Reid**



**247**

*The total number of young men and women who graduated from the four Catholic High Schools in the Diocese*

**\$61 million**

*Graduates earned nearly 1,200 scholarships, cumulatively earning this much toward their future schooling*

**94%**

*The percentage of seniors who will continue their education in college. Nearly 40% will attend Catholic institutions*

## Notre Dame High School



— Aaron Bailey  
Valedictory Address  
Excerpt

**“Prepare for the next journey and never forget that you are resilient! We dealt with year-long challenges that no other class in Notre Dame school history has dealt with and we got through it all.”**

**“Our families and teachers taught many things, including how to be kind and considerate, and we have built friendships on these principles. We will remember the support we have given each other when things were tough, and the celebrations we shared, even for the smallest achievements.”**

— Rachel Krechel  
Valedictory Address  
Excerpt

EAST STROUDSBURG — Commencement exercises were held June 4 for Notre Dame High School, during which 40 graduates received their diplomas from Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, who also offered the principal address and closing benediction.

Pocono Raceway in Long Pond provided the setting for the graduation ceremonies for the Class of 2021 at Notre Dame, where Jeffrey N. Lyons serves as principal.

The Baccalaureate Mass was celebrated June 3 in the school's theater by Father Ryan Glenn, chaplain of Notre Dame High School.

Earning co-valedictorian honors for this year's Notre Dame graduating class were Aaron Bailey, son of Ronald and Sandra Bailey of Tobyhanna; and Rachel Krechel, daughter of Steven and Kelli Ann Krechel, Saylorsburg.

Nearly the entire 2021 Notre Dame senior class will continue their education at the university/college level, including ten students who will be attending Catholic institutions of higher learning. The class received a total of 86 scholarship awards valued at nearly \$7.5 million.

## Holy Cross High School



— Peyton Phillips  
Valedictory Address  
Excerpt

**“We will continue to strive. We will continue to achieve, serve and prevail. We will indubitably blaze trails where none has gone before and have many great stories to tell. God bless the Class of 2021.”**

**“We have been well prepared by Holy Cross. We have been prepared in not only academics but also in care and concern for others. The future might not be exactly how you planned it and it likely will not be what you expect. But we must keep our faith in God, Who has been a loving and influential presence throughout our time at Holy Cross.”**

— Norah Kelly  
Salutatory Address  
Excerpt

DUNMORE — The Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza in Wilkes-Barre Township provided the setting for the annual commencement of Holy Cross High School.

Graduation ceremonies for the 62 members of the 2021 Holy Cross senior class were held on June 4, led by school Principal Benjamin D. Tolerico.

Presiding over the commencement exercises and conferring the high school diplomas was Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, who addressed the Holy Cross graduates and gave the benediction.

The Baccalaureate Mass was celebrated June 3 at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton, with Father Cyril D. Edwards, school chaplain, serving as principal celebrant and homilist.

The 2012 Holy Cross valedictorian is Peyton Phillips, daughter of Nancy and Justin Phillips of Nicholson. Class salutatorian is Norah Kelly, daughter of Meg Kelly and Thomas Pappas, Scranton.

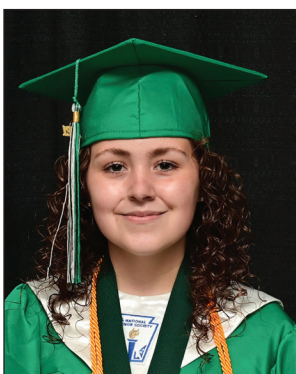
Nearly 95 percent of the Holy Cross graduation class will be attending institutions of higher learning, with 29 graduates planning to enroll at Catholic colleges or universities. As a whole, the class earned 392 post-secondary scholarship awards totaling almost \$17 million.



**Aaron Bailey**



**Rachel Krechel**



**Peyton Phillips**



**Norah Kelly**

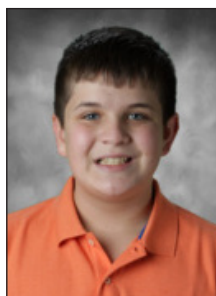


# Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Award

The Diocese of Scranton Catholic Schools Office recognizes these Seton Award winners for their achievement on the high school entrance examination and their enrollment in a Diocesan high school for the 2021-2022 school year. Families of these individuals are commended for their commitment to Catholic education, and the students are congratulated for this distinguished honor. For these students and for all young people in our Catholic schools, Catholic education impacts their formation by incorporating a strong emphasis on the spiritual that is evident in all components of the learning process. Our vision for these students is to provide them an educational experience that promotes a lifelong learning in the faith, and one that prepared them to be responsible, competent, and confident persons as citizens of our country and world. In addition, our schools are dedicated to providing a loving, safe and nurturing environment where the young learn respect for themselves and for all persons.



Emma Woody  
All Saints Academy



Richard Shelp  
All Saints Academy



James Howey  
Epiphany School



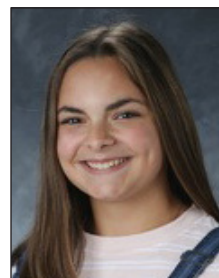
Sofia Marica  
Epiphany School



Adriyanna Kushner  
La Salle Academy



Zachary Kovaleski  
La Salle Academy



Chloe Mendicino  
Our Lady of Peace School



Angelina Tavani  
St. Agnes School



Elizabeth Kilmer  
St. Agnes School



Brayden Moran  
St. Clare/St. Paul School



Yelyzabeta Myronyuk  
St. Clare/St. Paul School



Roger Rossi  
St. Clare/St. Paul School



Andrew Cleveland  
St. Clare/St. Paul School



Gavin Monahan  
St. Mary of Mount Carmel School



Tyler Musso  
St. Mary of Mount Carmel School



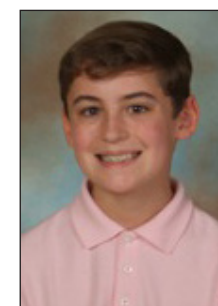
Jenna Pipan  
Good Shepherd Academy



Christopher Dutko  
Good Shepherd Academy



Jadon White  
Good Shepherd Academy



Owen Clark  
Good Shepherd Academy



Erica Boyle  
Holy Family Academy



Tyler Berlanda  
Holy Family Academy





To the students who have benefited from a Catholic education, and to those  
who continue their educational journey in a Catholic environment,  
we salute you and pray that God, through the intercession of  
Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, guides you in

*Faith, Hope and Love.*



Matthew Lyons  
Holy Rosary School



Thomas Dugan  
St. Jude School



Addison Rosenko  
St. Nicholas/St. Mary School



Matthew Ahnert  
Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School



Cadence Bohdal  
Notre Dame Elementary School



Kaidance Meixel  
St. John Neumann Jr./Sr. High School



Evan Licari  
Holy Rosary School



Carolyn Phillips  
St. Nicholas/St. Mary School



Ian Harris  
Wyoming Area Catholic School



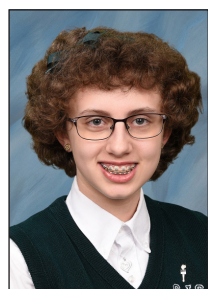
Blain Assegid  
Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School



Rory Malone  
Notre Dame Elementary School



Margaret Lundy  
St. John Neumann Elementary School



Grace Tedford  
St. Jude School



Emily Pugh  
St. Nicholas/St. Mary School



Jack Broda  
Wyoming Area Catholic School



Shelbi Calligari  
Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School



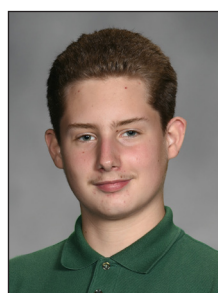
Sophia Reid  
St. John Neumann Jr./Sr. High School



Brecken Gusick  
St. John Neumann Elementary School



Logan Sekol  
St. Nicholas/St. Mary School



Michael Peterson  
Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School



# Congratulations Catholic High School Graduates!

## Class of 2021

### HOLY CROSS

Jack O'Malley Allardyce  
Kathryn Grace Augustine  
Bria Ann Beggin  
Emma Lauren Beilman  
Patrick Michael Bennie

Alice Julia Jones  
Kevin Joseph Jumper  
Will Anthony Kalinich  
Robert J. Kane



Jillian Frances Brennan  
Sarah Lynne Callejas  
Paige Marie Caskey  
Lucca Anthony Cerminaro  
Kelsey Anne Conlon  
Laurel Marie Cortazar  
Arabella Cecile Cox  
James B. Davis IV  
Matthew Adrian Dec  
Carter Elizabeth Englehardt  
Kylie Noelle Engleman  
Ryan Philip Evans  
James Michael Fay  
Emily Jane Ferguson  
Kylee Rian Gale  
Patrick Robert Gilman Jr.  
Emily Rose Haikes  
William Robert Hanna  
Lauren Elizabeth Hegedus  
Ryan Joseph Huester  
Amaya S. Jackson

Norah Ann Kelly †  
Molly Marie Landsiedel  
Thomas Theodore Lee  
Abigail Grace Lentowski  
Mark Lopez  
Brandon Ludovici Jr.  
David Joseph Mariotti  
Julia Hockey Mazur  
Erin Elena McGee  
Catherine Grace McGovern  
Jacob Richard McLane  
Nathan Patrick McLane  
Ashlyn Marie McNally  
Tyler Loren Mendicino  
Samuel Morales  
Sarah Elizabeth Murphy  
Alexander Joseph Nole  
Peyton Olivia Phillips \*  
Cristia Lourdes Ives Polizzi  
William Henry Roever II  
Craig T. Roman

### \* Valedictorians

David Christopher Romanski  
Corey Thomas Scochin  
Caroline Grace Shaffern  
Andrew Nicholas Skutack  
Alexis Marie Tanana  
Mikele – Danilo A. Tenev  
Connor Benjamin Tone  
Rebecca Maureen Tone  
Kristina Lynn Tranovich  
Elizabeth Wallace  
Douglas Patrick Walsh

### HOLY REDEEMER

Dominic Michael Alberti  
Matthew Albrecht  
Theresa Erin Amerise  
Amelia Rose Anderson  
Logan M. Atcavage  
Aubrey Lynn Ayre  
Amelia K. Banks  
Laura Bednar  
Krista Marie Biago  
Addison Teresa Bielski  
Isabelle Paige Birmer  
Rachel Grace Black  
Molly Marie Blaskiewicz  
Lucia Asuntina Bonk

### † Salutatorians

Michael James Brown  
John Michael Bush  
Anna Elizabeth Capaci  
Matthew Australia Carty  
Kyle Bernard Castle  
Kimberly Ann Clocker  
Kailey Marie Considine  
Makaylee Brianna Crake  
Patrick David Michael DelBalso \*  
Madison Jane Dewees  
Michael G. Dotzel Jr.  
Collin Patrick Dougherty  
Emily Dairin Dougherty  
Jacob Drevitch  
Daniel David Drost  
David Joseph Durko  
Katelyn Rebecca Engel  
Jacob Lawrence English  
Gianna Lyn Evans  
Amanda Clare Feher  
Tanner Fenstermacher  
Ava Rose Fino  
Alexandra Fumanti  
Anthony Francis Giovinnazzo  
Kenly Jane Golanoski  
Amelia Frances Grudkowski  
Alexander J. Hajkowski

Sean Carson Hand  
Rose Kathryn Hayward  
Emmslie Hernandez  
Christopher Hine  
Sierra Nicole Hines  
Tyler Joseph Hoedl



John Joseph Jamiolkowski III  
Olivia C. Kaluzny  
Connor James Kane  
Ryan Patrick Kane  
Zachary James Kehoe  
Hannah Elisabeth Kern  
Peter Michael Khoudary  
Zev Isaac Kornfeld  
Ethan Christopher Kozden  
Brett Anthony Kugler  
Kelci Charlee Kuren  
Christina Marie Kurlandski  
Abigail Rose Kush  
James Thomas Lavan  
Tyler Lee  
Olivia Kathryn Lewis  
Ayva Rose Lisowski  
Kathleen Margaret Magda  
Emily N. Mahler







Aimee Makowski	Brady Dominic Rood
Anthony L. Mandoza	Maxwell Missett Rosen
Bella Rose Martin	Vaughn A. Rudloff
Matthew Martin	Sydney Anne Rush
Owen Gerard Martin	Alexander Joseph Rymar
Joshua William Mayerski	Raymond Anthony Sabatini
Bailey Elizabeth M'Dermott	Abigail Maria Sankus
Lance Robert McGrane	Mariel Rose Schramm
Kip William Miller	Daniel Anthony Schuler
Hasan S K A Mohammed	Matthew Francis Schuler
Gabrielle Marie Morgan	Abbigail Elizabeth Schultz
Chloe Faith Morris	Lynzie Isabella Skoronski
Olivia Grace Murray	Adam Gregory Smith
Maxwell William Nehila	Nicholas M. Smith
Catal Ormando	Mya Kalyn Soler
Olivia Elizabeth Owens	Karissa F. Spade
Antonio H. Panzak	Matthew James Spiccioli
Lauren Frances Patrick †	Sarah Patricia Stettler
Olivia Noelle Pavlico	Jeffrey Thomas Stilp
Vanessa Celine Pinto	Jordan Elizabeth Stochla
Jacob William Pizzolato	Giana Taylor Stoddard
Logan James Porzucek	Anthony Joseph Strish
Julianna Rose Powis	Michael David Strunk
Erica Elizabeth Rey	Joseph Ethan Swartwood

Aleeza Syed  
 Hideki Joseph Takagi  
 Dominick Jeffrey Adam Tavella  
 Lola Rose Terrana  
 Michael James Tkach  
 Alexa Mercedes Ullrich  
 Abigail Patricia Varzaly  
 Andrew Jamison Wallace  
 William Leon Wasiakowski  
 Alyssa C. Whitfield  
 Amelia Rose Williams  
 Matthew Steven Williams  
 Colin James Wills  
 Grace Elizabeth Wolsieffer  
 Austin Michael Zabresky  
 Noah Stephen Zim

**NOTRE DAME**

Aaron Christopher Bailey ✱  
 Amy Falleiros Coogan  
 Gabriella Ann Danatzko  
 Aleena Jade DeLorenzo  
 Dylan Nicholas DiLauro  
 Gianna Anastasia DiLauro  
 Arthur Andrei Dragomir



Jamie-Lee Garcon  
 John Michael Gilroy  
 Lianna Marie Hilario  
 Gianna Iandoli  
 Laura E. James  
 Matthew D. James  
 Miya Veronica Jankowski  
 Kristina Rose Kasharian  
 Rachel Lily Kasharian  
 Rachel Reilly Krechel ✱  
 Sarah Rose Ledet  
 Devlin J. Leonard  
 Mary Elizabeth Long  
 Xavier Leon Lorenzo  
 Michael Nicholas Martinetti  
 Alyssa M. Martinez-Tovar  
 Vi Son Nguyen  
 Matthew Dariusz Nowacki  
 Jordan Emily Pansy  
 Ahnika Elizabeth Patrow  
 Chloe E. Paul  
 Nicholas Maxon Pelletier  
 Jefferson Perez  
 Myka Simone Price  
 Maurice Ramirez Sierra  
 Yudeliz Ellie Sanchez  
 Macy Elizabeth Schnatter

Shawn Bernard Aaron Seay  
 Michael Alexander Tichy  
 Selena Teresa Vergara  
 Juliana Marie Vojtash



William Reid Warnken  
 Zachary Brian Wolf

**ST. JOHN NEUMANN  
 REGIONAL ACADEMY**

Ellie Dare Androvette  
 Keon Elijah Issah Burkholder  
 Kevin le Quoc Cao  
 Megan Elaine Crosby  
 Jeffrey Lynn Hamilton  
 David Dwayne Hill  
 Juliana Kathleen Kriner  
 Zachary Wayne Lisi  
 Alexander James Lockcuff  
 Ryan Thomas McNamee  
 Caleb James Reddy  
 Faith Margaret Reid †  
 Sydney Hannah Rosenthal ✱  
 ZuZu Victoria Shanaway  
 Qadry Ismail Taylor

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

Mr. Jason W.S. Morrison, M.B.A. • Diocesan Secretary of Catholic Education/Chief Executive Officer

Mrs. Kristen Donohue, M.Ed., Superintendent of Catholic Schools

Ms. Kathleen A. Gilmartin, M.Ed. • Assistant Superintendent of Catholic Schools

Mrs. Michele Long, M.Ed. • Assistant Superintendent of Catholic Schools

OFFICE OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS  
 DIOCESE OF SCRANTON



# "Kindness is Contagious"

## Wyoming Area Catholic School donates money to C.E.O. as part of pilot project

EXETER – When 150 students leave their classroom and head outdoors in late May – you would expect a lot of noise. The sound coming from the kids at Wyoming Area Catholic School on May 27, 2021, did not involve talking or joking around however.

The sound of coins – quarters, dimes, nickels and pennies – rattling around loudly filled a large tent on the school's front lawn.

"That's inspirational," Rabbi Yossi Schulman told the students during a special presentation celebrating the school's ARK Charity Program. "ARK" stands for Acts of Random Kindness.

As part of a pilot program, each student received a small plastic bank in the shape of an ark. The students collected money outside of school whenever they performed a selfless act. The kids brought the money to school and counted it weekly to highlight the power of collective giving.

The students chose to donate all of the money to the Commission on Economic Opportunity (CEO), which helps to fight food insecurity in northeastern Pennsylvania.

"I would hold the door open for people in the morning and when I'm at my house, my grandma would ask me to carry the bags and I would usually do it," 10-year-old Cayden Richards said.

"I helped my mom with the laundry," 10-year-old Julianna O'Hop added.

Rabbi Schulman, president of the Unite the World organization, asked the Diocese of Scranton if one of its schools would participate in the pilot project and Wyoming Area Catholic School was selected.

"You have done such a phenomenal job," principal Eileen Rishcoff told the students as the students and community members gathered to celebrate the project's success.



**Students from Wyoming Area Catholic School raise plastic banks on May 27, 2021, and shake them to highlight the coins they collected as part of the schools ARK Charity Project. (Photos/Eric Deabill)**



**Students from Wyoming Area Catholic School empty their ark-shaped banks into collection buckets in an effort to fight hunger in northeastern Pennsylvania.**

Gretchen Hunt, Resource Development Director for C.E.O., called the students an "inspiration."

"You've turned not just yourselves, but your whole family and your extended family into givers in demonstrating acts of kindness every day," Hunt said.

Hunt explained that the funding the students collected will help children who don't have enough food to eat at home.

"A lot of times, hunger, especially in families with children goes unseen," she added. "It could be the kid sitting next to you in class, it could be the family that lives down the street that you play with after school and we don't see it unless somebody tells you and that's a hard thing to tell somebody when you're struggling because you're hungry."

Students enjoyed taking part in the project.

"I love the fact that my school was given the opportunity to do this and help out

our community and other people in need," 12-year-old Isabella Falzone said. "This has just been a great opportunity for me to grow in my faith and really learn valuable life lessons about donating time and money and doing little acts of kindness."

"I was really inspired and I thought it was really cool that our school was able to donate so much money in that short period of time that we had to do it," O'Hop added. "It makes me feel really good that our school can raise so much money and that every kid in the school knows how important it is to raise money for other people."

Part of the reason why the students had such fun with the project was because Wyoming Area Catholic School built a large ark, resembling Noah's Ark, out of boxes. For every \$5 donated, students got to color a picture of an animal and stick it to the ark. In no time, the ark was covered in lions, zebras, koalas, monkeys and alligators, among other animals.

On the day of the school presentation, the school donated a \$2,000 check to C.E.O. to signify the students' collection up until that point. By the end of the year, the school raised more than \$5,000 total.

"Looking out at you today is perhaps one of the greatest inspirations I've seen in a very long time. You are our future! You are so inspiring to me personally, to our community, because of the way you grasped this project. You built the ark, you collected coins and money in such a short period of time, you understand the idea of giving back. Please never forget that. It is our responsibility to look out for others because if we don't do it, who will?" Charles Barber, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Luzerne Foundation, told the students.

As the program wrapped up and each student deposited their coins in buckets to be tallied, one overriding theme became apparent. Rabbi Schulman emphasized it.

"Kindness is contagious," he said.

## House Call: Catholic Social Services distributes food to senior apartments



**James Harris, an employee of Saint Francis Kitchen, hands food to Ryan Stefanovich and other volunteers, who helped to distribute it to seniors at Saint Catherine Manor in Dunmore on May 26, 2021.**

DUNMORE – Residents living in two apartment complexes in Lackawanna County recently received a helping hand thanks to Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton.

On May 26, more than 50 elderly residents living at Saint Catherine Manor in Dunmore received fresh food and vegetables delivered to their door. A similar delivery took place for residents of Saint Michael on the Hill in Jessup on June 10.

Karen Beavers, a resident at Saint Catherine Manor for the last

six years, greatly appreciated the extra assistance.

"Everything helps. Every little bit helps when you're a senior," Beavers said.

Ryan Stefanovich, a Catholic Social Services Relief Services Case Manager, said the residents received a number of different items.

"We have meat, chicken, hamburger, several canned vegetables, orange juice, tea and other things that the residents can use," Stefanovich explained.

Catholic Social Services worked with Schiff's to get all of

the food delivered.

"Every little bit helps, especially in these unprecedented times," Stefanovich added, referring to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Beavers said the food delivery is appreciated by residents – because many have medical conditions that make it hard to make frequent trips to the grocery store.

Asked what she will make with the food delivered to her, she responded, "I'll probably make barbeque chicken!"