



GoodNewsNotes

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON OFFICE FOR PARISH LIFE

This Issue

Catechist Awards	p. 2
Catechist Camp— "Anchored in Christ"	p. 2
RCIA 101: Crash Course on Christian Initiation	p. 3
NPM National Convention	p. 3
In-Person PreCana Days of Reflection Resume	p. 4
"Amoris Laetitia Family" Year	p. 4
Catholic Women's Conference	p. 4
NEPA Gives	p. 5
Young Adult Day	p. 5

Wedding Anniversary Mass
Sunday, June 6 at 2:30PM
Cathedral of St. Peter

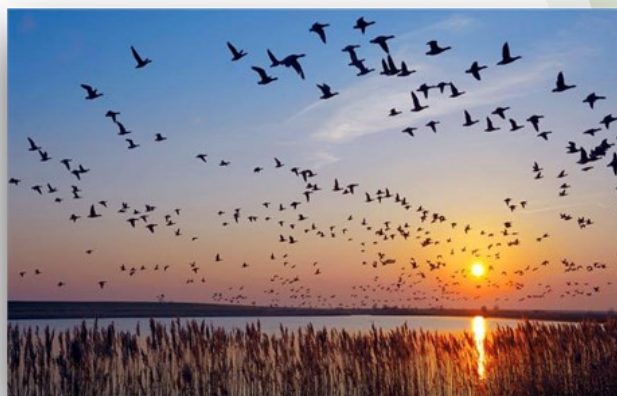
Priest Jubilarians Mass
Thursday, June 24
at 12:10PM
Cathedral of St. Peter

Priesthood Ordination
Saturday, June 26
at 10:00AM
Cathedral of St. Peter

Scout Mass
Sunday, June 27 at 10:00AM
Cathedral of St. Peter

Dear Friends
and Colleagues,

Since Tony and I arrived in the Diocese of Scranton in 2012 we have been welcomed and included, with you, in the mission and ministries of your parishes and families. After prayerful consideration, it is clear to us that we are now called to return to the Midwest in order to be closer to our own family.



Our daughters and son-in-law now reside in the same metro area for the first time in many years, and we will re-locate in July to be nearer to them. Between us we have 21 siblings mostly in the Midwest, with 58 nieces and nephews – many of whom have now married and started their own families. In our years here in Scranton, 41 new babies have been born into our extended family! All of this is just to say that it would take something this big to move us from the Church of Scranton family we have come to love.

Just as Tony and I are beginning a new chapter, your parish communities have a new "post-pandemic" era to initiate – with new challenges and new opportunities. Because of all that we have experienced together, I can attest that the gifts and strengths needed for the next chapter here in the Church of Scranton are present in abundance.

My heart is filled with *gratitude* for the initial movement of the Holy Spirit which called me here to serve, with *continued appreciation* for the vision of church and of servant leadership posed by Bishop Bambera, and with *treasured lessons and memories* collected during our every interaction. You remain in my daily prayer and blessing.

Peace,

Catherine Butel



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! As you are all aware, we are still facing a time of using great caution in gathering many together for a mass.

For the parishes that have already sent in your nominations, 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.

The awards have begun to be mailed to parishes. If you do not receive your awards package by June 14, please contact Jacki Douglas at jdouglas@dioceseofscranton.org or at (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. Over the next few weeks, we will continue to discuss publishers/programs for the upcoming year. Next week we will welcome Kevin O'Donnell from Sadlier.

Here is the list of presenters for the next few weeks.

- June 9—Kevin O'Donnell/Sadlier
- June 16—Jason Tako/Catholic Brain/Adventure Catechism
- June 23—Joseph Hyun/Edmodo

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 June 9, 16 & 23. For more information on how to stay connected, please contact Jacki Douglas, Director of Word and Lifelong Faith Formation, at jdouglas@dioceseofscranton.org or at (570)207-2213 ext. 1100.

Motu Proprio Apostolic Letter

Dr. Joseph White of Our Sunday Visitor has released an explanatory video on the Motu Proprio Apostolic letter on catechesis that Pope Francis released. Dr. Joseph White converted to the Catholic Faith while in graduate school at Virginia Commonwealth University, where he received a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology. He later studied Catholic Theology at St. Mary's University in San Antonio.

Dr. White is a child and family psychologist and Director of Catechetical Resources for OSV Publishing. He has written twelve books and numerous articles about cat-

echesis, Catholic education, and ministry. A popular guest on Catholic radio and television, Dr. White is co-author of the Allelu and Alive in Christ religion series.

Thanks to Dr. White for the wonderful introduction of what this means for all of us. The link for the video is: https://youtu.be/GQLG3t_2m0U

Catechetical Sunday

"Say the Word and My Soul Shall be Healed"

The USCCB has posted the theme for Catechetical Sunday (Sept. 19, 2021)- "Say the Word and My Soul Shall be Healed."

Below are the resources and information that the USCCB have released. In order to access these resources, please go to: <https://www.usccb.org/committees/evangelization-catechesis/leadership-institute-catechetical-sunday-2021>

Anchored in Christ

We are happy to announce that the Office for Parish Life will be hosting an in-person Catechist Camp this year with the theme, **"Anchored in Christ"**! The date for camp will be released soon, watch your email for more information.

Who could attend Catechist Camp?

- A person who loves God- And, desires a deeper knowledge of the father, Son and Holy Spirit
- A person who has a childlike spirit-And, understands the wisdom of teaching children by example, and using words, when necessary
- A person who ponders the Gospel-And, finds the joy sharing life stories that echo the Good News of Jesus
- A person who participates in the Eucharist- And, is humbly aware of living the Works of Mercy
- A person who is a practicing Catholic-And, feels an inner nudge to learn more about our faith
- A person who is a parent, grandparent, godparent, single person, college student-And, is not necessarily a person who has studied theology and Scripture, or an experienced teacher

To learn more, please contact Jacki Douglas, Director of Word and Lifelong Faith Formation, Office for Parish Life. jdouglas@dioceseofscranton.org (570)207-2213 ext. 1100



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

WORSHIP

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.



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>.



Certificate in Ministry Studies™

The most comprehensive ministry training program in North America

Evangelization and Catechesis—Wednesday, June 23 from 9:00AM to 5:00PM

Develops the foundations and practices for nurturing faith growth and Catholic identity in people of all ages through evangelization and catechesis. Participants will explore a variety of ways to promote a living relationship with Jesus in the lives of children, youth and adults. They will examine a contemporary approach to developing Catholic identity and Catholic practices today. Participants will experience and analyze the "postmodern" culture and develop strategies for faith formation in a postmodern world. They will learn creative approaches for evangelization and catechesis and develop skills and methods for evangelizing and catechizing.

Prayer and Worship—Thursday, June 24 from 9:00AM to 5:00PM

Investigates the foundational role that prayer and worship have in fostering the spiritual growth of children, youth, young adults, adults, and families. Participants develop understandings and practical skills necessary for: (a) promoting participation in liturgy, (b) fostering the prayer life of youth and preparing prayer services for people of all ages, and (c) understanding spiritual practices that support the development of spirituality. Participants will apply these understandings by developing a realistic and integrated approach to worship within a comprehensive ministry.

Both course days will take place at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, Scranton. Cost for each course day is \$35 for individual enrolled in the full two-year certificate process (cost for course materials) and \$85 for guest participants taking a single course, or coming from another Diocese.

Register at www.dioceseofscranton.org or contact Kitty Scanlon at Kitty-Scanlan@dioceseofscranton.org for more information.

UPCOMING COURSES



The instructor, Tom East, is the Director of the Center for Ministry Development and author of numerous books including, Leadership for Catholic Youth Ministry. Tom holds a Master of Arts degree in Religious Studies from Mount St. Mary's College in Los Angeles.

In-Person PreCana Days of Reflection Have Resumed

As of May 2021, we have once again begun holding PreCana Days of Reflection in-person. At this time, the June and August classes are being planned in-person as well. We will continue to follow whichever diocesan safety guidelines are in place at the time of each class. Though we hope to continue to offer in-person classes throughout the fall and into the winter, we will determine the safety of doing so on a month-by-month basis.

Due to the ongoing demand for an online class option, the July and December classes will both be offered via an online platform. This has been a challenging year in ministry and I offer my gratitude to everyone involved in ministering to our engaged couples in new and varied ways.

To learn more about our PreCana Days of Reflection or other PreCana formation options, please visit our [Marriage Preparation Webpage](#) or contact Jen Housel, Director for Community and Family Development. (570-207-2213 x 1104, jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org.)

Natural Family Planning Awareness Week 2021

Plans are underway for this year's celebration of Natural Family Planning Awareness Week:

July 25 - 31, 2021

To have, To hold, To honor
Natural Family Planning

Supporting God's gifts of love and life in marriage

For more information, visit the USCCB site dedicated to this event [here](#), and watch our diocesan media and our *Good News Notes* for updates.



"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'".)

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 couples to attend 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.

To learn more, please reach out to Jen Housel, Director for Community and Family Development, at jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org, 570-207-2213 x 1104.

Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation

The registration for Cycle 5 of the VLCFF is now open! Course Dates run from course dates are July 4-August 7 (registration is open through June 30). 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/>.



Catholic Women's Conference
Saturday, June 19, 2021
Marywood University
\$40 In person/\$20 Virtual

**CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION
OR TO REGISTER**

"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



JOIN OUR GIVING DAY!

Support us and give back on June 4, 2021 12am-12am

For more information, go to NepaGives.org

NEPA Gives

Friday, June 4, 2021

Each year, the Diocese of Scranton sends a large contingent of young people - ages 14 to 18 - to the **National Catholic Youth Conference** in Indianapolis. This year's event invites youths to come and "be set ablaze" as they encounter Christ, experience Church, and become empowered for discipleship.

The theme focuses on the second chapter of the book of Acts, which tells about the coming of the Holy Spirit. NCYC 2021 will call upon the Holy Spirit to descend upon our young Church and set them ***Ablaze for the Lord!***

Conference expenses have created a special hardship for the students attending this year because of COVID-19 restrictions and protocol. Your gift of any size will help defray the extra COVID-related costs of travel to this important and exciting conference, which our young people simply do not want to miss.

Thank you for anything you can do to help set young Catholic hearts ablaze! Be sure to watch diocesan social media on Friday, June 4, 2021 for ways to donate, or visit: www.nepagives.org/campaigns/youth-ministry.

YOUNG ADULT DAY | AT CAMP ORCHARD HILL

JUNE 12TH

Zip Lines, Pendulum Swing, High Ropes Course, Rock Wall, Lunch, GaGa Ball, Mass & More!

12pm - 5pm | \$30
Camp Orchard Hill, Dallas



To Register: Email Shannon at skowalski@dioceseofscranton.org



DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

WORLD YOUTH DAY PILGRIMAGE

Young Adults from the Diocese of Scranton will be heading to World Youth Day 2023 in Lisbon!

- Late July/Early August 2023
- Open to 18-35 Year Olds
- Extended Trip to Barcelona Included

For More Information, Please Contact
Shannon Kowalski at
Skowalski@Dioceseofscranton.org

OPL Month At A Glance

June 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 NEPA Gives	5
6 Wedding Anniversary Mass 2:30PM Cathedral	7	8	9 DRE/YM Remote Networking Meeting 11AM	10	11	12 RCIA 101 9AM–3PM, DPC Young Adult Day 12 Noon–5PM Camp Orchard Hill
13	14 Flag Day	15	16 DRE/YM Remote Networking Meeting 11AM Evening of Reflection 6PM-8PM	17	18	19 Women's Conference Marywood University
20	21	22	23 Evangelization and Catechesis Course Day 9AM-5PM DPC DRE/YM Remote Networking Meeting 11AM	24 Priest Jubilarians Mass 12:10PM Cathedral Prayer and Worship Course Day 9AM-5PM DPC	25	26 Priesthood Ordination 10AM Cathedral
27 Scout Mass 10AM Cathedral	28	29	30 Last Day to Register for VLCFF Cycle 3			

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: **Msgr. Vincent Grimalia**

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

Coordinator for Hispanic Ministry: **José Flores**

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

Diocesan Pastoral Center Manager: **Kitty Scanlan**

Administrative Assistant: **Jennifer Andres**



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