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The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

July 1, 2021

Bishop ordains Mark J. DeCelles to the priesthood



Surrounded by family and friends inside the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton, Mark J. DeCelles was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Scranton by the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, on Saturday, June 26, 2021.

“I have so many emotions it is hard to name them all,” Father DeCelles, 39, said directly following the 10 a.m. Mass. “I feel cared for, I feel loved, I feel supported.”

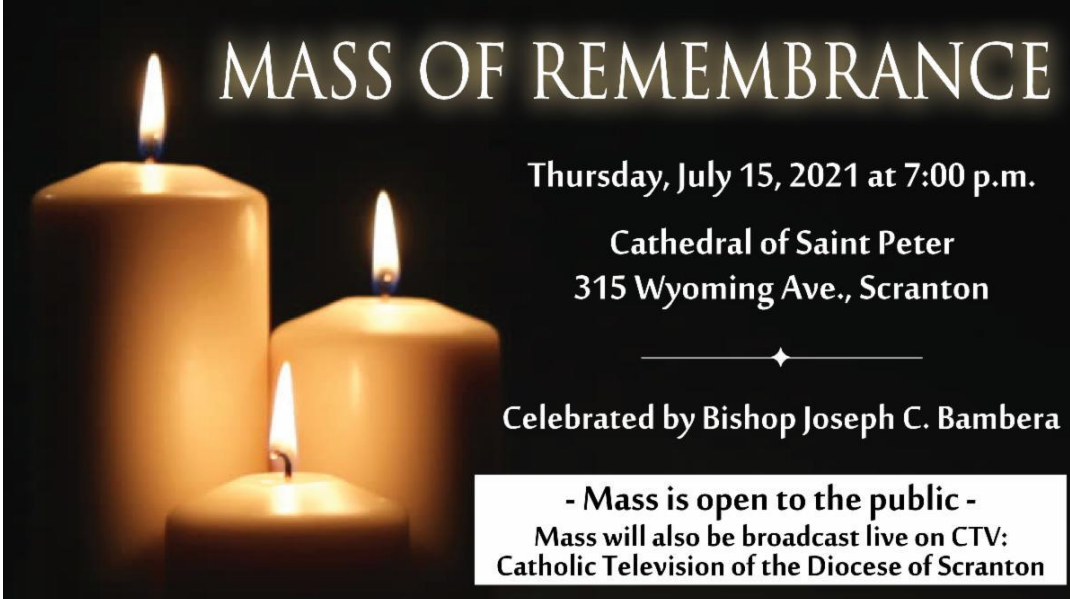
More than 150 people attended the Dunmore native’s Ordination Mass. With classes, exams and the seminary experience now behind him, Father DeCelles feels ready to serve the Church of Scranton and its people.

“It feels natural. I’ve been in formation for four years now. I’ve been a deacon for over a year and I feel well prepared,” he explained.

[Read the Full Story](#)

[View a Facebook Photo Album from the June 26 Ordination Mass](#)

Mass of Remembrance to be held at Cathedral of Saint Peter July 15



MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

Thursday, July 15, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Cathedral of Saint Peter
315 Wyoming Ave., Scranton

— ♦ —

Celebrated by Bishop Joseph C. Bambera

- Mass is open to the public -
Mass will also be broadcast live on CTV:
Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton

Many families continue to suffer the loss of loved ones who have died as a result of violent or tragic death. In response, the Diocese of Scranton is offering the annual Mass of Remembrance on Thursday, July 15, at 7:00 p.m. in the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

This Mass is offered for families and friends of those who have died in tragedy, especially through murder, suicide or accidental death. This year, we will also continue to remember in a special way those who lost their battle with COVID-19. The Mass will be a way for family and friends to remember and celebrate the lives of these victims and to stand together surrounded in God's love.

Parishioners are encouraged to register the name of their loved one for entry into the Book of Remembrance. We ask that the names of the deceased loved ones are registered no later than Friday, July 9.

[For More Information on the Mass of Remembrance or for a Link to Register the Name of a Deceased Love One](#)

Pope at Pallium Mass: Freedom comes from welcoming Christ



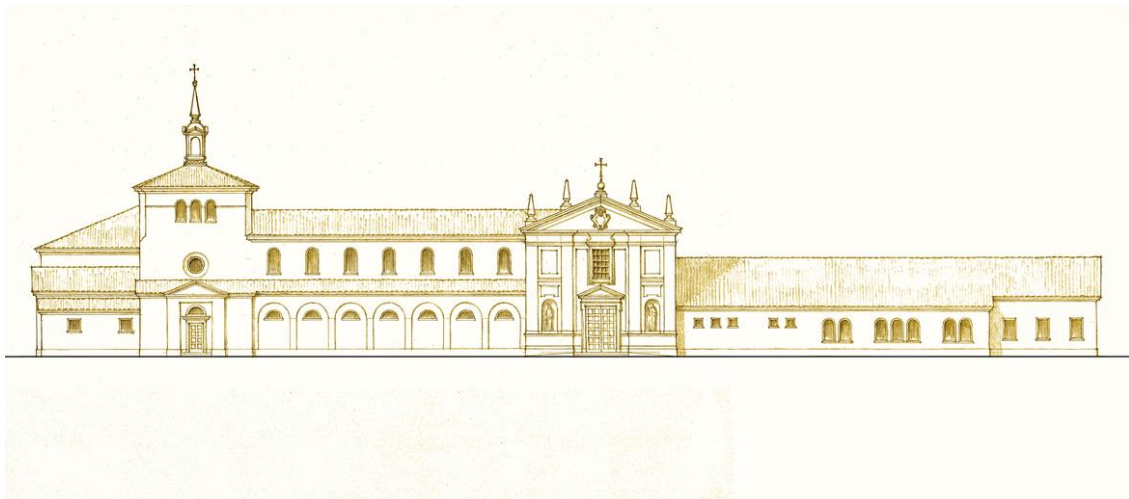
Sts. Peter and Paul were great not just because of their zeal for the Gospel, but because they allowed Christ to enter their hearts and change their lives, Pope Francis said.

“The church looks to these two giants of faith and sees two apostles who set free the power of the Gospel in our world, but only because first they themselves had been set free by their encounter with Christ,” the pope said during his homily at Mass for the feast of Sts. Peter and Paul June 29.

The feast day celebration in St. Peter’s Basilica included the traditional blessing of the pallium, the woolen band that the heads of archdioceses wear around their shoulders over their Mass vestments.

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

Discalced Carmelite Nuns launch new website, release sketch of authentic Spanish Carmel planned for Pleasant Mount



As *The Catholic Light* first reported in its June 17, 2021 edition, a Community of cloistered Discalced Carmelite Nuns have announced intentions to build a new Carmelite Monastery in the Pleasant Mount area, relocating to the Diocese of Scranton from their current home in the Diocese of Brooklyn.

The Discalced Carmelite Nuns recently launched fundraising efforts to pay for the new Monastery, which would be located on 13 acres of land donated by a local family who was willing and eager to assist in the effort.

This week, the Nuns launched a new website to inform the community about the project and provide ways for the faithful to assist them in building the new Carmelite Monastery.

[Visit the New Website with More on the Discalced Carmelite Nun's Vision for a New Monastery](#)

Saint Vincent de Paul Kitchen to reopen dining room for guests beginning July 5



Saint Vincent de Paul Kitchen in Wilkes-Barre will reopen its dining room to guests on a daily basis beginning Monday, July 5, 2021.

With a decreasing number of COVID-19 cases locally and the availability of vaccines, kitchen staff will once again welcome clients into the dining room

at 39 East Jackson Street for a warm, nutritious daily meal between 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Additionally, Saint Vincent de Paul Kitchen will also be resuming evening meals as well. Evening meals take place in the dining room every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evening from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. Evening meals will resume at the kitchen Tuesday, July 6, 2021.

[Read the Full Story](#)

PA Governor signs three bills designed to fight human trafficking



On Wednesday, June 30, 2021, Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf signed three bills designed to fight human trafficking. All three bills were supported by the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference in its ongoing efforts to tackle the problem.

“Human trafficking is a scourge that not only still exists, but thrives all around us,” said Eric Failing, the Executive Director of the PCC. “These bills combine to form a strong package of penalties, treatment and youth protection that we believe will help to stop human traffickers and their recruiters.”

[For More Information on the Three Human Trafficking Bills Signed into Law](#)

Youth at Florida Catholic parish help lead prayers, vigil following tragedy



After girding themselves with eucharistic adoration, rosary, songs and reflections, the teens, young adults and parish community of St. Joseph stepped out into the night air to solemnly walk to Surfside's new ground zero.

For three hours – and all the way until midnight – the participants in the June 26 prayer vigil, organized in response to the Champlain Towers South partial collapse, turned their thoughts heavenward: 12 parish families were affected by the tragedy, eight of whom remain missing.

As of June 30, 16 people were confirmed dead and about 145 others were still missing as search and rescue efforts entered their seventh day.

The death toll from the tragic collapse could end up on par with that of the 1995 bombing of a federal building in Oklahoma City if few or no more victims are rescued from the dismal scene of rubble being televised around the world. In that earlier tragedy, after a two-week rescue effort ended, the fatalities numbered 168.

[Read the Full Story](#)

Parish picnics, bazaars and festivals begin to take place



Several parishes across the Diocese of Scranton are in the process of holding or planning summer events now that COVID-19 guidelines are beginning to ease.

The Diocese of Scranton's Communications Office has a list of all summer bazaars, picnics and festivals that have been submitted thus far. The list will continue to be updated as new events are submitted.

[To View the Full Listing of Parish Bazaars, Picnics and Festivals Received So Far](#)



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