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The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

July 15, 2021

Bishop announces date for reinstating Sunday Mass Obligation




The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, released a letter to the faithful of the Diocese of Scranton today indicating the Sunday Mass obligation will be reinstated August 15, 2021, in the Diocese of Scranton.

This change will also occur in each diocese in Pennsylvania on the same date.

In his letter to the faithful, Bishop Bambera emphasized that people who are seriously ill or have a serious health risk, as well as those who have significant fear or anxiety of being part of a large group will continue to be legitimately excused from participating in Mass on Sundays and Holy Days.

[Read Bishop Bambera's Letter to the Faithful \(in both English and Spanish\)](#)

TAKE ACTION: Catholics urged to sign petition to Congress on Hyde Amendment



Stop your
tax dollars from
going to **abortion.**

NoTaxpayerAbortion.com

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This week, the House Committee on Appropriations will be addressing the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (LHHS) appropriations bill, which currently excludes the 46-year-old Hyde Amendment and other longstanding, bipartisan provisions including the Weldon Amendment.

Eliminating these provisions would force taxpayers to pay for elective abortions and force health care providers and professionals to perform and refer for abortion against their deeply-held beliefs, as well as force employers and insurers to cover and pay for abortion.

Without the Hyde Amendment and Hyde-related policies, billions of taxpayer dollars could be used to pay for abortion in the United States and throughout the world. Eliminating the Weldon Amendment would be an egregious violation of conscience rights by forcing individuals and entities to perform, pay for, or otherwise participate in an abortion against their beliefs.

The Diocese of Scranton encourages all of the faithful to take action to help ensure the Hyde Amendment and all similar life-saving appropriations remain in place.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Pro-Life Activities is sponsoring a petition to legislators asking them to preserve the Hyde Amendment.

[TAKE ACTION NOW! Sign the Petition from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops](#)

**Bishop to celebrate Mass July 25 for first
"World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly"**

"I am with you always"

WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

- SUNDAY, JULY 25, 2021 -



**Mass to be celebrated by Bishop Joseph C. Bambera
10:00 a.m. - Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton**

EVERYONE IS INVITED AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!
CTV: Catholic Television will provide a live broadcast of the Mass

Pope Francis has announced the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly will be celebrated on July 25.

All parishes in the Diocese of Scranton have been encouraged to dedicate one Sunday Mass to grandparents and the elderly in advance of the liturgical memorial of Ss. Joachim and Anne on July 26.

The pope has chosen the theme, "I am with you always" (cf. Mt. 28:20) for this inaugural celebration.

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera invites the faithful of the Diocese of Scranton to join him in celebrating Mass for the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly at 10:00 a.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton on Sunday, July 25, 2021.

The Mass will be broadcast live on CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton with a livestream made available on all Diocesan social media platforms.

[Read the Full Story](#)

Annual Saint Ann's Novena begins this weekend at Scranton shrine



The 97th annual Solemn Novena to Saint Ann at the Basilica of the National Shrine, honoring the mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary in West Scranton, opens on Saturday, July 17. It will continue with nine days of Eucharistic worship, devotional prayer and preaching, culminating with the celebration of the Feast of Saint Ann on Monday, July 26.

Very Rev. Passionist Father Richard Burke, rector of the Saint Ann Passionist Monastery and director of the Saint Ann National Shrine Basilica, announces the guest preachers for this year's Solemn Novena will be Passionist Fathers Robert Joerger and Robert Carbonneau.

The theme for the 2021 Novena devotion, "Lift High the Cross," pays homage to the very foundation and charism the religious Congregation of the Passion was established upon 300 years ago by Saint Paul of the Cross — namely, the spreading of the Gospel message through pious devotion to, and particular emphasis on, the Passion and Death of Jesus Christ.

[Read the Full Story](#)

Pope released from hospital, prays at Rome Basilica



Ten days after undergoing intestinal surgery, Pope Francis was released from Rome's Gemelli hospital, the Vatican confirmed.

In a statement released July 14, Vatican spokesman Matteo Bruni said that after leaving the hospital midmorning, the pope visited the Basilica of St. Mary Major to say a prayer of gratitude before the icon of “Salus Populi Romani” (health of the Roman people).

The pope thanked Mary “for the success of his surgery and offered a prayer for all the sick, especially those he had met during his stay in hospital,” the statement said.

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

Diocese thanks parishioners for support of Diocesan Annual Appeal



The 2020 Diocesan Annual Appeal: Bound Together in Hope has concluded with gifts and pledges of nearly \$4.1 million from 20,800 donors. This is 91% of the

goal of \$4.5 million. Forty-six parishes surpassed their Annual Appeal parish goal. Those parishes are all listed on the Diocese of Scranton website.

“I am extremely grateful to our parishioners, clergy and friends for their support of the 2021 Annual Appeal,” Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, said. “I appreciate the generosity of so many of our faithful especially in this most difficult year when everyone has faced struggles of their own.”

[For More Information and a List of the 46 Parishes that Met their 2020 Goal](#)

Parish picnics, bazaars and festivals continue to take place



Parish Picnic at Nativity of Our Lord Parish, Duryea, July 10, 2021

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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