



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

August 26, 2021

Diocese of Scranton to hold special collection for Haiti on Sept. 25/26



Debris surrounds the remains of the St. Famille du Toirac church in Toirac, Haiti, Aug. 16, 2021. Twenty people were killed when a magnitude 7.2 earthquake hit during a funeral Mass at the church. (CNS photo/Laura Gottesdiener, Reuters)

In addition to offering prayers for the people of Haiti, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, has asked parishes throughout the Diocese of Scranton to take up an emergency special collection for the Caribbean nation on the weekend of September 25/26, 2021.

Haiti experienced a magnitude 7.2 earthquake Aug. 14 that killed more than 2,200 people and injured at least 12,000 others. Nearly 53,000 houses were destroyed, according to local authorities.

Days later, Haiti was also in the path of Tropical Storm Grace that unleashed torrential rains and caused flash flooding that blocked access to communities in need. The country was already reeling from the July 7 assassination of its president, Jovenel Moise, at the time.

The special collection that will take place in the Diocese of Scranton will be used both to support the humanitarian and recovery efforts of Catholic Relief Services and to provide pastoral and rebuilding support to impacted dioceses through the USCCB's Emergency Disaster Fund.

[For More Information on the Special Collection](#)

U.S. Bishop Chairmen respond to evolving crisis in Afghanistan



Afghan refugees make their way to a bus taking them to a processing center upon arrival at Dulles International Airport in Dulles, Va., Aug. 24, 2021. (CNS photo/Kevin Lamarque, Reuters)

A widespread humanitarian crisis continues to unfold in Afghanistan after the Taliban swiftly seized control of the capital on August 15.

Thousands of people who have worked as interpreters, translators, and in other capacities alongside the United States military over the past twenty years, including Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) applicants, find themselves and their families in danger. The United States is in the process of evacuating diplomats and other U.S. government employees.

On Aug. 26, two explosions, one just outside the Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul, and another at a nearby hotel, killed 12 U.S. service members. Dozens of other people were wounded.

Prior to Thursday's explosions, Bishop Mario E. Dorsonville, auxiliary bishop of Washington and chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Committee on Migration, and Bishop David J. Malloy of Rockford, chairman of the USCCB's Committee on International Justice and Peace, issued a statement on the situation that is playing out.

[Read the Statement of the U.S. Bishop Chairmen on the Evolving Crisis in Afghanistan](#)

Catholic Social Services assists dozens of families at Carbondale food distribution



Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton continues to respond to the needs of people throughout northeastern and north central Pennsylvania during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dozens of families and seniors received a helping hand on Aug. 26 as the agency held a special food distribution outside its River Street office in Carbondale.

Volunteer Joseph Loftus said they assisted a wide range of individuals.

“We had people in their 20s with kids to people who are 60 and 70 just trying to get by,” he explained.

[Read the Full Story from The Catholic Light](#)

**Catholic Men's Conference planned for
October 30**



The sixth “Be A Catholic Man” Catholic Men’s Conference in the Diocese of Scranton is planned for Saturday, Oct. 30, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre.

“Called to Fatherhood” will be theme for this year’s conference, dedicated to the patronage of Saint Joseph.

The event will feature national Catholic speakers who will challenge all men – single, married and ordained – to live virtuous lives in a secular world.

The day’s program will include the Rosary, Eucharistic adoration, sacramental confessions, lunch break and a closing Mass celebrated by Bishop Joseph C. Bambera.

[For More Information](#)

**Pope encourages people to rediscover
importance of Sunday liturgy**



Pope Francis encouraged new courses of action for parishes to help people understand the importance of Sunday Mass and parish ministries, a top Vatican official wrote in a message.

The message was sent on behalf of the pope Aug. 23 to the 71st National Liturgical Week, by Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state. The meeting, held Aug. 23-26 in the Italian city of Cremona, brought together pastoral workers, religious and priests to discuss ways to encourage the faithful to attend the Sunday liturgy and participate in other liturgical celebrations, rites and the sacraments.

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

Join us for Eucharistic Adoration



Eucharistic Adoration

Speaker, Music, Reconciliation & Social

Thursday, August 26

7PM @ CHURCH OF SAINT GREGORY
330 NORTH ABINGTON ROAD, CLARKS GREEN

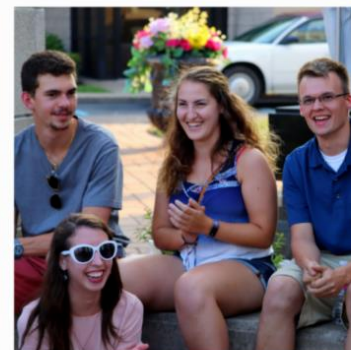
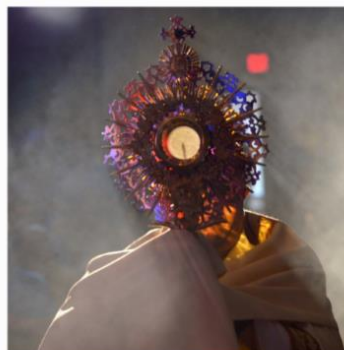
Thursday, September 16

7PM @ QUEEN OF HEAVEN PARISH
750 NORTH VINE STREET, HAZLETON

Thursday, October 28

7PM @ SAINT JUDE PARISH
420 SOUTH MOUNTAIN BOULEVARD, MOUNTAIN TOP

DIOCESAN OFFICES FOR PARISH LIFE AND VOCATIONS
570-207-1452



Parish picnics, bazaars and festivals continue 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](#)

Follow Us



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