

The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

WWW.DIOCESEOFSCRANTON.ORG

VOLUME 121 NUMBER 11 ISSN-0164-9418

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2021

Diocese of Scranton synod effort begins Oct. 17

SCRANTON – Pope Francis wants to hear your thoughts and dreams about the Catholic Church.

The Holy Father is inviting Catholics who are already involved in church life – as well as those who may be on the margins or who have left the church – to voice their ideas and concerns about issues that are important to the Catholic Church today.

The pope is calling for the church to practice “synodality,” that is listening to – and hearing – one another in all facets of church life.

The process launches Oct. 17 in dioceses worldwide. On Oct. 10, Pope Francis celebrated Mass in Saint Peter’s Basilica to officially open the 2023 Synod of Bishops preparatory phase.

The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, is inviting the faithful of the Diocese of Scranton to join him in an Opening Mass for the Synod of Bishops on Oct. 17 at 10:00 a.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

The Diocesan Mass on Oct. 17 will begin a local listening process in the Diocese of Scranton that will take place over the next six months.

“Through a process of careful listening, our participation in the synod process will enable us to better understand how the Christian community participates in the life of our Church in the Diocese of Scranton today and how that shared participation among our members might grow in the future,” Bishop Bambera wrote in a letter to the faithful earlier this month. The full text of Bishop Bambera’s letter can be found on Page 3 of this edition of *The Catholic Light*.



OPENING MASS FOR SYNOD OF BISHOPS IN THE DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Sunday, October 17, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton



Celebrated by

The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L.

Bishop of Scranton

CTV: CATHOLIC TELEVISION WILL PROVIDE LIVE COVERAGE OF THE MASS

The Diocese of Scranton is still in the process of developing a broad consultation process that will utilize parishes, schools and other diocesan structures. While some of the listening opportunities will be conducted in-person, there will also be an online opportunity to reach all members of the community in the Diocese of Scranton.

Through this process, Pope Francis is calling all Catholics to look more deeply into how we are all “journeying together” as a church and where the Holy Spirit is calling us.

“The calling of this synod is well-aligned with the

challenge Pope Francis offered his brother bishops to ‘dialogue fearlessly,’” according to a document provided to local dioceses by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. “The Holy Father has made a request of the people of God to participate as fully and authentically as possible in the synodal process.”

More details on how individuals in the Diocese of Scranton can participate and make their voice heard will be released in the coming weeks.

The Catholic Light will continue to provide coverage of the opportunities that are available to the faithful.

By listening to Holy Spirit, synod can be process of healing, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – A synod calls on everyone to become experts in “the art of encounter” in a way that is uplifting and transformative, Pope Francis said, formally opening the process leading up to the assembly of the Synod of Bishops in 2023.

“Celebrating a synod means walking on the same road, together” just like Jesus did – encountering, listening and discerning with all who one meets, the pope said in his homily at the Mass in St. Peter’s Basilica Oct. 10.

“Are we prepared for the adventure of this journey? Or are we fearful of the unknown, preferring to take refuge in the usual excuses: ‘It’s useless’ or ‘We’ve always done it this way?’” he asked.

Some 3,000 people attended the Mass, including the 270 people – cardinals, bishops, priests, religious and laypeople – invited to the day of reflection in the Vatican Synod Hall Oct. 9.

The weekend of events began the “synodal journey,” which will explore the theme, “For a synodal church: communion, participation and mission.” Bishops around the world were to open the process in their dioceses Oct. 17. The



Pope Francis gives the homily as he celebrates a Mass to open the process that will lead up to the assembly of the world Synod of Bishops in 2023, in St. Peter’s Basilica at the Vatican Oct. 10, 2021. (CNS photo/Remo Casilli, Reuters)

diocesan phase, which runs until April, will focus on listening to and consulting the people of God.

In his homily, the pope said they should begin the synodal process “by asking ourselves – all of us, pope, bishops, priests, religious and laity – whether we, the Christian community, embody this ‘style’ of God, who travels the paths of history and shares in the life of humanity.”

The day’s Gospel reading (Mk 10:17-30) of Jesus setting out on a journey and encountering a rich man offers just one example of how Jesus “walks alongside people and listens to the questions and concerns lurking in their hearts,” he said. “He shows us that God is not found in neat and orderly places, distant from reality, but walks ever at our side.”

Celebrating a synod, he said, means walking on the same road as others and living out the “three verbs” that characterize a synod: to encounter, listen and discern.

“We too are called to become experts in the art of encounter. Not so much by organizing events or theorizing about problems as in taking time to encounter the Lord and one another,” to devote time to prayer and adoration, and to listen to what the Holy Spirit wants to say to the church, the pope said.

Continued on Page 2

The Catholic Light

(ISSN 0164-9418)

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE
DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Catholic community of the Diocese of Scranton, are called through Baptism to imitate the servant leadership of Jesus Christ. In union with Our Holy Father, the Pope, we proclaim the Gospel faithfully, celebrate the sacraments joyfully, and boldly promote life, justice and peace in northeastern and north central Pennsylvania.

POLICY STATEMENT

The Catholic Light is our official diocesan journal. The publication of notices, regulations and extra-synodical decrees in said paper constitute legal promulgation for all the faithful of the Diocese of Scranton, Clergy and Laity.

Published monthly by:

Catholic Light Publishing Company
300 Wyoming Avenue
Scranton, PA 18503-1287

Offices:

300 Wyoming Avenue
Scranton, PA 18503-1287
Phone: (570) 207-2229
Fax: (570) 207-2271

Publisher:

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

Secretary for Communications/Editor-in-Chief:

Eric M. Deabill

Managing Editor:

Kevin G. McDonnell

Advertising Coordinator:

Eileen Manley

Circulation Coordinator:

Pamela Haeefe

Yearly Subscription Rates:

Resident: \$10
Foreign: \$12

Your donation to the Diocesan Annual Appeal helps support *The Catholic Light*

Diocese of Scranton
DIOCESAN
ANNUAL APPEAL

Postal Information:

The Catholic Light (ISSN 0164-9418) is published monthly by the Catholic Light Publishing Company, 300 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, PA 18503-1287. Periodicals postage paid at Scranton PA and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to *The Catholic Light*, 300 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, PA 18503-1287

www.dioceseofscranton.org

Synodal process looks to hear from voices on the margins of the church

Continued from Page 1

Jesus shows that an encounter has the power to change someone's life – "the Gospel is full of such encounters with Christ, encounters that uplift and bring healing," the pope said. In fact, Jesus was never in a hurry, and he would never have looked at a watch to signal it was time to wrap things up. "He was always at the service of people he met in order to listen to them."

Each encounter requires "openness, courage and a willingness to let ourselves be challenged by the presence and the stories of others," the pope said. It means not hiding behind a facade or stiff formalities indicative of a spirit of clericalism or of courtiers, but it means being a father.

To that end, the pope said he would be meeting a group of people who live on the streets later that day. He said they had already started meeting because another group of people had gone to listen to them and from there, "they have been able to begin the journey."

Sincere listening involves the heart, not just the ears, Pope Francis said. The aim is not to be able to answer people's questions, especially with pre-packaged or "artificial and shallow responses," but to provide an opportunity to tell one's story and speak freely.

"Whenever we listen with the heart, people feel that they are being heard, not judged; they feel free to recount their own experiences and their spiritual journey," he said.

Listening to one another "is a slow and perhaps tiring exercise" but it must be done, including listening to "the questions, concerns and hopes of every church, people and nation," and to the "challenges and changes" that world presents, he added.

Encountering and listening "are not ends in themselves" where everything stays the same, but must lead to discernment, he said.

"Whenever we enter into dialogue, we allow ourselves to be challenged, to advance on a journey. And in the end, we are no longer the same; we are changed," he said.

The synod is "a journey of spiritual discernment that takes place in adoration, in prayer and in dialogue with the word of God," the pope said.

Discernment is what lights the way and guides the synod, "preventing it from becoming a church convention, a study group or a political congress, but rather a grace-filled event, a process of healing guided by the Holy Spirit," Pope Francis said.



Pope Francis leads a meeting with representatives of bishops' conferences from around the world at the Vatican Oct. 9, 2021. The meeting came as the Vatican launches the process that will lead up to the assembly of the world Synod of Bishops in 2023. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

Like he asked the rich man in the Gospel reading, Jesus is asking everyone "to empty ourselves, to free ourselves from all that is worldly, including our inward-looking and outworn pastoral models, and to ask ourselves what it is that God wants

to say to us in this time and the direction in which he wants to lead us," he said.

Pope Francis wished everyone "a good journey together! May we be pilgrims in love with the Gospel and open to the surprises of the Spirit."

Adsumus, Sancte Spiritus Prayer of invocation to the Holy Spirit

Every session of the Second Vatican Council began with the prayer *Adsumus Sancte Spiritus*, the first word of the Latin original meaning, "We stand before You, Holy Spirit," which has been historically used at Councils, Synods and other Church gatherings for hundreds of years.

As we are called to embrace this synodal path of the Synod 2021-2023, this prayer invites the Holy Spirit to operate within us so that we may be a community and a people of grace.

**We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.**

**With You alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it.**

**We are weak and sinful;
do not let us promote disorder.
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our actions.**

**Let us find in You our unity
so that we may journey together to eternal life
and not stray from the way of truth
and what is right.**

**All this we ask of You,
who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father and the Son,
forever and ever.**

Amen.



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON
300 WYOMING AVENUE
SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA 18503-1279

October 4, 2021

Memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

In reflecting upon the Gospel stories of Jesus' life and ministry, it is apparent that much of His time was spent in listening – listening to struggling souls who were seeking a better life for themselves and those they loved. What set Jesus apart was that He listened not only to the words they spoke but also to the movement of their hearts as they shared their disappointments and fears, grief and pain, brokenness and sin, hopes and dreams. In every instance, Jesus listened to those who approached him with the merciful heart of God, acknowledging their life's journey and treating them with respect and dignity. Authentic listening – not just with our ears, but also with our head and heart – is a truly powerful, sacred and deeply human experience.

Throughout her history, the Church has valued the art of listening. From the earliest days of Christianity, the Church has used the model of a *Synod* as a means of listening to the voice of Christ alive in each member of the Church. Simply put, a *Synod* is a process to gather Christ's disciples to hear their voices.

On March 7, 2020, His Holiness, Pope Francis announced that a Synod of Bishops would convene at the Vatican in October 2023, the theme of which will be *For a synodal Church: communion, participation and mission*. As a vital first step in the Synod process, the Holy Father has invited each diocese around the world to listen to the voices of its people, including those who are marginalized or may have fallen away from the Church.

By virtue of our Baptism, all of us are called to be active participants in the life of the Church through discernment, participation and co-responsibility. Through a process of careful listening, our participation in the Synod process will enable us to better understand how the Christian community participates in the life of our Church in the Diocese of Scranton today and how that shared participation among our members might grow in the future.

I invite you to join me in-person, as the Diocese of Scranton begins our participation in the Synod process with an opening Mass on Sunday, October 17, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton. Pope Francis will formally open the Synod at the Vatican on the weekend of October 9 and 10.

Our diocese is in the process of developing a broad consultation process for participation in our parishes, schools and other diocesan structures over the next six months. In addition, online opportunities to reach all members of our community will be available. While more details will be shared in the near future, I encourage your participation in this historic moment in the life of Church in the Diocese of Scranton in whatever manner you feel best responds to your situation.

Far from being a temporary or one-time experience in calling the Church to participate in the Synod process, Pope Francis is reminding us that the very mission of the Church requires the entire People of God to be on a journey together, with each member playing his or her crucial role, united with each other. The Holy Father's hope, which is my prayer as well, is that the experience of this unique worldwide opportunity will bring about a new springtime for listening, discernment, dialogue and decision-making in our Church, so that the whole People of God can better journey together with one another and the entire human family, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

I look forward to walking together with you during these exciting days in our Church. Thank you and God bless you.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

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

Diocesan Annual Appeal supports parish projects through Social Justice Grants

Funding supports Saint Ann Basilica Parish food pantry

SCRANTON – For nearly 18 years, the food pantry at Saint Ann Basilica Parish has been meeting the needs of its community.

“It started out slow in 2004 and ever since it has been growing and growing,” co-founder Dennis Yanchik said.

The West Scranton parish recently received a Social Justice Grant from the Diocesan Annual Appeal to make sure all clients are able to receive assistance. Every parish in the Diocese of Scranton can apply for a Social Justice Grant to address important needs in their community like parish food pantries.

“The Diocesan Annual Appeal is a fantastic endeavor,” Yanchik added. “It’ll help us purchase items that we’re low on. We can do a lot of things with it and we do a lot of things with it to help other people.”

Saint Ann Food Pantry holds two distributions monthly – on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 2:00 until 4:00 p.m.

People who rely on the food pantry say it is an important community asset.

“It is a big helping hand,” Joseph ‘Greg’ Saylock said while selecting food to take home on a recent Wednesday. “Some weeks you have nothing and then you come here and eat for a couple days.”

The Old Forge man says he appreciates the “fabulous work” of the volunteers.

“They’ve been nothing but terrific to me,” he explained.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, organizers of the food pantry say they have seen additional clients who have fallen

on hard times – whether because of job losses, health problems or loss of insurance.

“We’re here for anybody, anybody and everybody,” Yanchik said. “They don’t have to be parishioners.”

Ann Marie Crecco began volunteering at the Saint Ann Food Pantry in 2006 after seeing an advertisement in the parish bulletin.

“When you reach out to people, they reach back to you,” she said.

In addition to helping on pantry distribution days, Crecco also brings food to the homebound.

“When I deliver the food, it is where it is Christmas all over again for people,” she explained. “They just can’t believe that I actually want to help them.”



Ann Marie Crecco, volunteer with the Saint Ann Basilica Parish food pantry, packs food bags to be distributed to people in the community.

Each one of the volunteers who help operate the Saint Ann Food Pantry is humble and kind. While they often downplay the importance of their work – it is

truly making a difference.

“We’re not saving the world or anything but it gives us a good feeling,” Yanchik said.

Pro-life efforts in Tioga County boosted by Appeal funds

MANSFIELD – Since opening its doors in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic, Heart of Tioga has already served more than 100 women seeking help with ultrasounds.

“We wouldn’t be here if it wasn’t for the community,” Sharon Quimby, Executive Director, Heart of Tioga, said. “All of our donations, everything, all of our support is from the community so we couldn’t exist.”

Parishioners of Holy Child Parish in Mansfield quickly embraced the mission of Heart of Tioga. The Pregnancy and Parenting support center specializes in helping women deal with pregnancy-related issues by providing alternatives to abortion.

Several people involved in the parish’s Health Ministry Committee volunteer at Heart of Tioga. They organize the facility’s “baby boutique” which provides clothing, diapers and other essentials to mothers in need.

“It’s just a beautiful way for women to be supported,” Laurie Coffee, a Holy Child parishioner, explained.

Holy Child Parish uses

funding from the Diocesan Annual Appeal to support its parish Health Ministry Committee – which includes many of its pro-life activities.

“To help a mom get through this piece is a gift to us, and a gift to them and a gift to these children because we want these children. We want them to have the babies,” Coffee added. “We want them to have the support they need to not feel like they’re alone once they have the babies.”

Heart of Tioga offers free pregnancy tests and ultrasounds to expectant mothers along with a variety of classes on pregnancy, labor and delivery and parenting skills.

Quimby says the impact of the funding from the Diocesan Annual Appeal and the assistance of volunteers from Holy Child Parish has been invaluable.

“It’s a huge blessing. There is so much that needs to be kept up,” Quimby explained.

Holy Child Parish recently held a baby bottle drive to support Heart of Tioga that raised more than \$750. The parish also held a virtual baby shower for the facility in which parishioners were able to donate baby clothes.

“It’s nice to contribute something of yourself. I like to do things behind the scenes so I don’t mind taking baby items, sorting and washing,” parishioner Kathy Draxler of Sullivan Township said.

In addition to supporting Heart of Tioga, Holy Child Parish uses its funding from the Diocesan Annual Appeal to support several other programs that support its parish community, including the local food pantry and a medical equipment loan program.

“The monies that we received from the Social Justice Grant have allowed us to purchase, in this past year, two oversized wheelchairs. In the past, we’ve made purchases of a knee-scooter, attachments of feet for wheelchairs and a lot more,” Dotty Welsh, Holy Child parishioner and medical equipment coordinator said.

In a small shed located in the back of the parish parking lot, the parish’s health ministry committee stores numerous wheelchairs, walkers, canes and crutches that can be loaned out to people in the community when the need arises.

“This ministry would not be functioning as it does if it weren’t



Laurie Coffee, left, and Kathy Draxler, parishioners of Holy Child Parish, organize baby items inside the baby boutique at the Heart of Tioga Pregnancy & Parenting Support center in Mansfield.

for the Social Justice Grant. We don’t have any fundraisers,” Welsh explained.

People in the community have benefited greatly from the medical equipment loan program.

“It is a wonderful program,” Linda Brown of Mansfield said. “In 2006, I had a hip replaced so I borrowed a cane, walker and raised toilet seat. In 2011, I had a knee replaced so I borrowed the same thing. In 2019, I had another knee done so I have used this many times!”

Anyone needing the medical equipment simply needs to sign the items out and can keep whatever they borrow as long as they need it.

“We had a call from a young woman in Wellsboro whose husband had terminal cancer and she wanted him to be able to come home but she needed a hospital bed, so we took and transported one and set it up in their house for them,” Welsh said.

This weekend (Oct. 16 & 17) is In-Pew Commitment Weekend for the 2021 Diocesan Annual Appeal

SCRANTON – Parishioners across the Diocese of Scranton are being asked to make a gift to the 2021 Diocesan Annual Appeal this weekend.

The weekend of Oct. 16 & 17 is designated as In-Pew Commitment Weekend. Pledge envelopes have been mailed to the homes of all parishioners and everyone is asked to return the envelopes to their parish offertory this weekend.

If anyone has not received a pledge envelope, they can use the form on this page of *The Catholic Light* or can visit annualappeal.org to make a safe, secure online donation.

Gifts to the 2021 Diocesan Annual Appeal have a significant impact to help diocesan ministries serve an increasing number of people in need and provide opportunities to offer programs and services in different ways in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The main ministries supported by gifts to the Diocesan Annual Appeal are:

- Parish Social Justice Grants
- Faith Formation Grants
- Catholic Social Services
- Catholic Schools
- Care of Ill & Retired Priests
- Support of Seminarians
- Parish Life and Ministry Formation
- Catholic Media and Communications

Throughout the coronavirus pandemic, Diocesan ministries have responded to the ongoing challenges in many unique ways.

Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton – along with parish food pantries – have served an increased number of individuals, families and seniors since the pandemic began in March 2020. All of our community partners continue to identify hunger as one of the most pressing needs throughout the pandemic and the recovery period.

During the pandemic, more than 75 percent of parishes began livestreaming Masses to keep parishioners connected. The Diocesan Office for Communications continued to broadcast the Daily Mass from the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton and has offered new weekend Masses and prayer opportunities both on television and through livestreaming. Tens of thousands of parishioners have utilized the Mass broadcasts.

Significant adjustments were made in our Catholic schools in March 2020 to quickly move to distance learning. The faculty and staff of Diocesan schools worked tirelessly to provide in-person education during the 2020-2021 school year in a safe environment.

Donors to the Diocesan Annual Appeal

can designate their gift to any of the ministries that is funded.

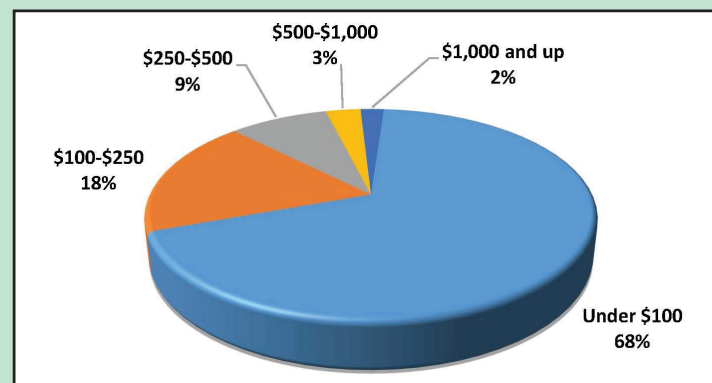
For more information on the ministries supported by the Appeal or to view one of the regional videos highlighting the importance of the Appeal visit annualappeal.org.

Gifts may also be made by calling the Diocesan Development Office at (570) 207-2250.

Donations may also be sent to: Diocesan Annual Appeal, 300 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, PA, 18503.

Gifts of all sizes are appreciated!

We ask all parishioners to consider a gift to the 2021 Diocesan Annual Appeal especially during In-Pew Commitment Weekend. An analysis of all gifts made last year show that 68% of donations were under \$100.



Giving to the 2021 Diocesan Annual Appeal is easy!

Return this form to:

Diocesan Annual Appeal, 300 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, PA 18503

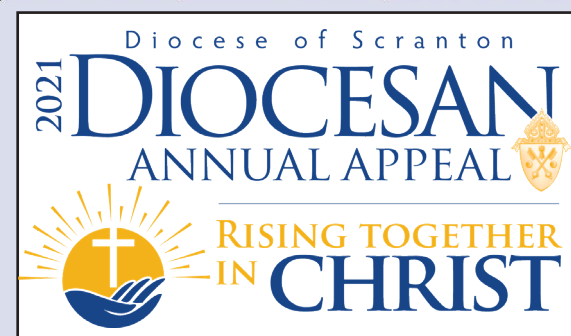
Your Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

Email _____

Please credit my gift to (Parish Name & City) _____



Total amount pledged \$ _____

Enclosed amount \$ _____

Balance to be paid \$ _____

☐ I would like to pledge a gift now.

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ Other \$ _____

Check One: ☐ Single Payment in Full ☐ Monthly Payments _____ # of Payments

You may pay using your credit card by carefully completing the following:

Name on credit card (please print) _____

Check One ☐ ☐ Card # _____ CVV _____ Exp. Date _____

One-time Payment

Monthly Payments

Amount \$ _____ **or** Amount to be deducted each month \$ _____

For _____ months, Starting in _____
(Number of months) (month)

Your Signature _____ Date _____

Thank you for considering a gift to the Diocese.

Please make checks payable to: **Diocese of Scranton**



DIOCESE CELEBRA EL PATRIMONIO HISPANO CON MISA CATEDRAL

SCRANTON - La Catedral de San Pedro se llenó de hermosa música y orgullo cultural cuando la Diócesis de Scranton celebró una Misa Pontificia por el Mes de la Herencia Hispana el sábado 25 de septiembre de 2021.

Fieles feligreses de herencia hispana de East Stroudsburg, Hazleton, Wilkes-Barre, Scranton, Jermyn y más allá llenaron la Catedral para la celebración. El Reverendísimo Joseph C. Bambera, Obispo de Scranton, actuó como celebrante principal y homilista de la Misa, que se celebró íntegramente en español.

Durante su homilía, el obispo Bambera dijo que los miembros de la “comunidad hispana bendecida y atesorada aquí en la Diócesis de Scranton son un tesoro más allá de las palabras.” El obispo continuó: “Nos da a todos esperanza mientras esperamos que comparta sus dones únicos y bendecidos con nuestra Iglesia y haga su parte en el apoyo a la misión de la Diócesis de Scranton.”

DIOCESE CELEBRATES HISPANIC HERITAGE WITH CATHEDRAL MASS

SCRANTON – The Cathedral of Saint Peter was filled with beautiful music and cultural pride as the Diocese of Scranton celebrated a Pontifical Mass for Hispanic Heritage Month on Saturday, Sept. 25, 2021.

Faithful parishioners of Hispanic heritage from East Stroudsburg, Hazleton, Wilkes-Barre, Scranton, Jermyn and beyond filled the Cathedral for the celebration. The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, served as principal celebrant and homilist for the Mass, which was celebrated entirely in Spanish.

During his homily, Bishop Bambera said members of the “blessed and treasured Hispanic community here in the Diocese of Scranton are a treasure beyond words.” The bishop continued, “You give us all hope as we look to you to share your unique and blessed gifts with our Church and do your part in supporting the mission of the Diocese of Scranton.”



Nine diaconate candidates instituted as acolytes

SCRANTON – Nine men took the next step in their formation for the permanent diaconate Oct. 2 when they were instituted as acolytes during a special Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter.

The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, served as principal celebrant and homilist for the 12:10 p.m. Mass.

The men instituted as acolytes include: John F. Bankus, John F. Bubbs, Martin J. Castaldi, Sr., Matthew R. Eisley, William D. Flowers, Thomas A. Kostic, Steven J. Miller, Nicholas M. Rocco and Frank H. Zeranski.

As acolytes, the men are now entrusted with the duties of attending to the altar, assisting the deacon and priest at Mass and distributing Holy Communion as extraordinary ministers.

During the institution rite, the nine deacon candidates who were clothed in white albs, approached the altar one by one and knelt before the bishop. He placed a ciborium in the hand of each candidate and said, “Take this vessel with bread for the celebration of the Eucharist. Make your life worthy of your service at the table of the Lord and of His Church.” Each of the candidates then replied, “Amen.”

In his homily, Bishop Bambera used the Gospel of Luke (Luke 9:11b-17) and the exchange between Jesus and His disciples that led to the feeding of thousands of people with five loaves and two fishes to highlight the important work the acolytes have ahead.

“The Eucharistic overtones in the feeding of the multitude are obvious. What may be less obvious, but hardly insignificant, is the fact that Luke’s version heightens the role of the disciples in the process of feeding the crowds. Don’t lose the significance of this fact,” the bishop said.

Bishop Bambera explained that the disciples set the stage for Jesus to work His miracle and were the ones who served as distributors of the food.



Nine men were instituted as acolytes by Bishop Joseph C. Bambera during a special Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton on Oct. 2, 2021. Pictured following Mass, front row, left to right: Deacon Walter Janoski, Coordinator of Candidate Advisor and Pastoral Formation Programs; Nicholas M. Rocco; John F. Bankus; Matthew R. Eisley; Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton; William D. Flowers; John F. Bubbs; and Monsignor David Bohr, Secretary for Clergy Formation and Director of Permanent Diaconate Formation. Back row, left to right: Frank H. Zeranski; Steven J. Miller; Martin J. Castaldi, Sr.; and Thomas A. Kostic.

“The fact that the disciples are actually the ones through whom the crowds experience the lavish generosity of Jesus points to the manner in which Jesus will continue to provide for His people long after he ascends to His Father – namely, in and through the work of His Church,” Bishop Bambera continued.

Bishop Bambera concluded his homily by emphasizing that the living presence of Jesus compels those being instituted as acolytes – and all of us – give others dignity, respect and care.

“Like the disciples of Jesus in today’s gospel who were used by the Lord to feed thousands of hungry people on a hillside in

Galilee, all of us are challenged to both give thanks for all that we have been given and to use what we have been given for the sake of others,” the bishop continued. “Without counting the cost, setting conditions or demanding a return.”

Following the Mass, several of the new acolytes reflected on their years of formation thus far.

“I’m proud and humble,” Steven J. Miller explained. “We have been going through all of the classes. Right now, we’re

studying about the liturgy but also really praying, asking for God’s guidance.”

“We are in our fourth year. I can see myself growing spiritually,” William D. Flowers said, emphasizing the importance of praying the Liturgy of the Hours twice a day. “No matter how much you think you know, you’re always learning something.”

The nine deacon candidates are scheduled for ordination to the permanent diaconate on Nov. 26, 2022.



Nicholas M. Rocco, far left, joins the eight other deacon candidates standing in the front pews of the Cathedral of Saint Peter on Oct. 2, 2021. (Photos/Mike Melisky)



During the Institution of Acolytes, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera places a ciborium in the hands of Martin J. Castaldi, Sr., at the Cathedral of Saint Peter on Oct. 2, 2021.

Late Deacon J. Morris Smith remembered as ‘spiritual man for all seasons’

WILLIAMSPORT — The sheep have lost their shepherd.

The passing of Deacon J. Morris Smith, Th.D., a month ago on Sept. 15 has left a spiritual void in the Lycoming County community he faithfully served for so long as permanent deacon at Saint Joseph the Worker Parish, prior to his retirement last year.

As the beloved “Shepherd of the Streets” for 20 years — a ministry sponsored by the United Churches of Lycoming County — Deacon Smith is being remembered as well as mourned as a man of the cloth who literally “walked the walk” and truly practiced what he preached.

Widely and overwhelming admired for his gifts of mind, heart and soul, the deacon was an accomplished Scripture scholar and teacher, ecumenical spiritual director, and pastoral counselor. He was also a published contemplative poet and had recently written a tutorial for self-study.

Deacon Morris, as he was affectionately known, was ordained a permanent deacon for the Diocese of Scranton in 1993 following his conversion to the Catholic faith in 1990. By ordination, he was the founding formation and spiritual director for DOULOS – Servants of the King, an ecumenical adult ministry formation center in Ralston, where he and his wife Barbara were members of the former Saint Aloysius Parish.

In fondly recalling her friend with whom she worked so closely for nearly 30 years, Gwen Bernstine, retired director the Lycoming United Churches, said, “I cannot think of anyone who

represented the love of Christ to all the people in our community any better than Morris did — every day.”

She continued by expressing, “He was always willing to keep his heart and mind open as he listened to you, and his responses were kind, gracious and wise. We miss his ability to help us see new and better ways to live together in community.”

A Texas native, Smith was steeped in the study of Sacred Scriptures, having served as a pastor with the Church of Christ. After receiving his Master of Arts in Biblical Studies from Saint Mary’s University in San Antonio, Texas, he earned his Doctorate of Theology degree from National Christian University in Arlington.

Following his ordination to serve as a diocesan deacon, he founded the Institute of Biblical Studies for the Lay Apostolate in the Diocese and served as adjunct course instructor for the chair of theological studies for the former Saint Pius X Seminary at The University of Scranton.

Jim Foran, former director of religious education at Saint Joseph the Worker Parish, first met Smith before his diaconal ministry.

“I always admired Morris for his gentleness, knowledge and compassion. But first and foremost was his integrity,” he said. “His work as Shepherd of the Streets was most challenging. Every day he was dealing with some kind of crisis. He left his mark on the community, dealing with the most vulnerable folks in our community. At the parish, he was noted for many things, but especially his knowledge of the Scriptures.”



Deacon J. Morris Smith

Father David Bechtel, newly appointed pastor of Saint Joseph the Worker, first encountered the deacon’s mental and spiritual acumen when he served as assistant pastor at the parish.

Noting that the primary ministry of a deacon is charitable works of service, Father Bechtel said Deacon Smith’s role as Shepherd of the Streets was most fitting. “He worked selflessly as the Shepherd until his retirement.”

“I experienced him as the quintessential Southern Gentleman,” the pastor noted, “and remember him as a theology professor at The University of Scranton,” though as a diocesan seminarian he was not among the deacon’s students.

“His commanding knowledge of the Bible and Greek was evident when he preached. He loved parsing Greek words and explaining why passages are translated the way they were. His loss will be felt for years to come.”

A student of Deacon Smith’s well-known Bible Study classes, Saint Joseph the Worker parishioner Rita Shoemaker recalled, “He had a great knowledge of the original languages and could compare the various translations. I will always remember him for his ‘Glory Be’ (prayer) ending. He said ‘shall’ means maybe, but ‘will’ is positive. So that is the way many of us from his classes say the prayer.”

Like his mentor, Darin Hamm — a self-described “on-fire Protestant for ten years” — is now a convert to Catholicism and a member of the Williamsport parish where the deacon is best known. Hamm told how, upon receiving the “call from Jesus Christ to become Catholic,” several people implored him to seek out Morris Smith.

“The day I sought him out I was parked in a rough part of town and two drug abusers knew right where I would find him,” due to the deacon’s street ministry.

Hamm recalled how Deacon Morris insisted that the future Catholic read his book. “So in the next few years I spent two or three days a week with him as he taught me. As time went on, my spirit had settled because of him in a very good way. Of all the Christians I have met, Morris is number one in my book.”

Beth McMahon, Ph.D., emerita professor at Lock Haven University, spoke of how the Catholic deacon greatly influenced the Favors Forward Foundation she founded 20 years ago.

“Morris was the first person to join our board of directors, and we were struggling to find the perfect name for a group of volunteers who freely share their time, talent and treasures to those who are struggling with life-changing hardships,” she reminisced. “Morris schooled us on God’s favor and explained to us in the brilliant Morris Smith-style the close association among favor, grace and mercy.”

It was an epiphany moment, Dr. McMahon recalled, when the group looked on in awe and said,

“Perfect!” Favors Forward had its name.

“He taught others by his relentless action to do good and, therefore, his impact continues to be felt in our community,” she further noted. “He role-modeled love, compassion, kindness, hope and empathy. He stepped up to share his time, talent and treasures — always taking action to move his Favors Forward!”

A member of Saint Boniface Parish in Williamsport, Sally Grieco served with Smith on the Diocesan Commission on Ecumenism.

“I will always remember being part of the trip to the Holy Land that Morris and his wife led in 1997,” Greico recalled. “We understood what we were seeing much more clearly because of him. Because of his vast knowledge of Scriptures, it was amazing how he brought the sites more to life. Of course with Morris, it was sightseeing during the day and Bible study at night!”

“He was very unassuming and always did everything with others in mind,” she said. “Morris was always patient and treated with compassion those who had fallen on hard times and needed help. He touched so many people and will be very fondly remembered.”

Prayer Requests for Priests

The Daily Prayer Request for Priests schedule is as follows:

October 14, Father Andrew HvozdoVIC; October 15, Holy Cross Father Daniel Issing; October 16, Father George Jeffrey; October 17, Monsignor John Jordan; October 18, Father Joseph Kakareka; October 19, Father Louis Kaminski; October 20, Father William Karle; October 21, Monsignor Arthur Kaschenbach; October 22, Father Joseph Kearney; October 23, Jesuit Father Herbert Keller; October 24, Father Brian Kelly; October 25, Father E. Francis Kelly; October 26, Father John Kilpatrick; October 27, Father Shane Kirby; October 28, Father Michael Kirwin; October 29, Father Kenneth Kizis; October 30, Father Michael Kloton; October 31, Holy Cross Father Charles Kociolek; November 1, Pope Francis; November 2, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI; November 3, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera; November 4, Father Bert Kozen; November 5, Father Stephen Krawontka; November 6, Holy Cross Father Brent Kruger; November 7, Father Jonathan Kuhar; November 8, Monsignor Alexander Kulik; November 9, Father Jose Kuriappilly; November 10, Father Andrew Kurovsky; November 11, Father Joseph Kutch; November 12, Father Sixtus Kyeremeh; November 13, Father Arun Lakra; November 14, Father John Lambert; November 15, Father William Langan; November 16, Father John Lapera; November 17, Saint Joseph Oblate Father Victor Leon; November 18, Jesuit Father John Levko; November 19, Father Michael Litchcek; November 20, Holy Cross Father Thomas Looney; November 21, Father Gregory Loughney; November 22, Holy Cross Father Robert Lozinski; November 23, Father Edward Lyman.



Deacon J. Morris Smith leading one of his intimate, laid-back Bible Study classes.

Holy Family Parish holds closing Mass



Reverend Vincent H. Dang celebrates the closing Mass for Holy Family Parish in Sugar Notch on Sunday, Sept. 19, 2021.

SUGAR NOTCH – With a turn of the key, parishioner Agnes Munley ceremonially locked the doors of Holy Family Church on Sept. 19, 2021.

Prior to the locking ritual, dozens of parishioners gathered for a closing Mass for the church at 1:00 p.m. Father Vincent H. Dang, pastor, celebrated the Mass. Father Joseph R. Kakareka, pastor emeritus, concelebrated.

As parishioners processed out of the church for the final time, they sang “Holy God, We Praise Thy Name.”

Holy Family Parish was established in 1903 to serve Polish immigrants who came to the United States around the turn of the century. Many settled in the Sugar Notch area for jobs in the coal mines. The coal altar inside the church was purchased in 2000 in memory of those men.

Over its 118-year history, the parish educated students in its own elementary school and underwent

numerous renovations – which included new entrances, interior painting and the addition of the coal altar. Holy Family Parish’s current brick building took three years to build and was dedicated on Sept. 13, 1913. The parish’s first wooden church was destroyed by fire after being struck by lightning in June 1910.

Parish restructuring has been part of the history of Holy Family Parish – as the community faced the closure of Ss. Peter & Paul Church in 1995 and Saint Charles Borromeo in 2009.

With the closure of Holy Family Parish, parishioners will now belong to Saint Leo the Great Parish in Ashley, and the territory boundary of Saint Leo the Great Parish will now include the previous territorial boundaries of Holy Family Parish.

May God’s Blessings be upon all of the parishioners of Holy Family Parish and the newly formed Saint Leo the Great Parish.

Plains parish to host Padre Pio relics

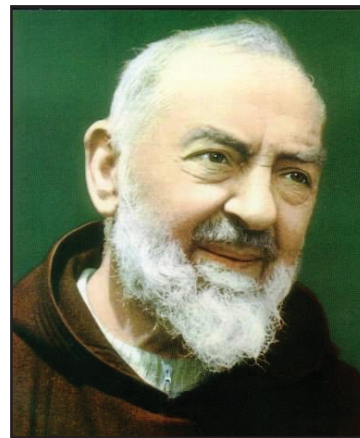
PLAINS — Father John Lambert, pastor, announces Saints Peter & Paul Parish will host a day of devotion with Eucharistic celebration on Sunday, Nov. 28, honoring Saint Padre Pio, as the parish welcomes the saint’s relics from the Saint Pio Foundation in New Rochelle, N.Y.

The commemorative gathering opens at 1 p.m. with recitation of the Holy Rosary, followed by a brief introduction.

Sunday Mass will be offered at 2 p.m. at Saints Peter & Paul Church, 13 Hudson Road, Plains, followed by exposition and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Serving as principal celebrant and homilist for the liturgical celebration will be Franciscan Father Pio, who received

his First Communion for Padre Pio of Pietrelcina in Italy and currently serves in the Scranton Diocese.



The Mass will be concelebrated by Father Lambert and Saint Joseph Oblate Father Paul McDonnell, rector of the Oblates of Saint Joseph Chapel, Laflin, and Sacramental Minister for Our Lady of the Eucharist Parish, Pittston.

The day’s celebration will conclude with veneration of relics of Saint Padre Pio, in conjunction with video presentations on the life

of the saint.

All faithful throughout the Diocese are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Cathy Mack, coordinator, at (570) 654-6063.

Hundreds attend annual Candlelight Novena at Scranton church



The faithful use LED candles during the Candlelight Novena at Saint Lucy Church in Scranton on Oct. 6, 2021. (Photo/Mike Melisky)

SCRANTON – Hundreds of people attended the annual Candlelight Rosary Novena to the Blessed Mother this month at Saint Lucy’s Church in West Scranton.

The beloved tradition returned this year after being canceled last year because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This year’s Candlelight Novena began on Saturday, Oct. 2, and concluded on Sunday, Oct. 10.

The faithful recited a Novena for the Souls in Purgatory each night at 7 p.m.

Parishioners used LED candles at the popular devotion.

The yearly tradition also included the crowning of Our Blessed Mother which took place every evening.

The Novena closed each evening with Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Reverend Sam Ferretti, pastor; Deacon Carmine Mendicino; and choir director Christopher Mendicino were instrumental in making the beloved tradition such a success this year!

Eucharistic Adoration

at St. Jude Parish

SPEAKER, MUSIC, RECONCILIATION, AND SOCIAL.

Thursday, October 28th
The Feast of St. Jude
7:00 PM
420 South Mountain Blvd
Mountain Top Pa. 18707



Young adults invited to Leave a Mark Mass Nov. 7

Annual celebration allows youth to interact with Bishop Bambara

SCRANTON – Young adults in the Diocese of Scranton are invited to join Bishop Joseph C. Bambara for the sixth annual Leave a Mark Mass on Sunday, Nov. 7, 2021.

The Mass will take place at 5:00 p.m. in the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton with a social immediately following in the Diocesan Pastoral Center. Bishop Bambara will serve as principal celebrant of the Mass and Father Alex Roche, Diocesan Director of Vocations and Seminarians, will serve as homilist.

In the past, hundreds of young people have attended this gathering to kick off National Vocation Awareness Week in the Diocese of Scranton. Young adult representatives from local colleges/universities

and parishes help plan the Mass, social and promotion strategies.

Bridget Barnic, a graduate of Marywood University and active parishioner at Divine Mercy Parish, Scranton, has served with other young adults and ministry leaders on the planning committee for all six years.

“I was invited to take part in multiple brainstorming conversations in 2016 that eventually turned into the Leave a Mark event,” Barnic said. “It is great to see how it developed and grew over the past few years. I look forward to promoting the event this year and serve any way I can on Nov. 7. I encourage all young adults from throughout the diocese to attend!”

The idea for the Leave a Mark Mass was born out of comments made by Pope Francis at World Youth Day 2016 in Krakow, Poland.

“Dear young people, we didn’t come into this world to ‘vegetate,’ to take it easy, to make our lives a comfortable sofa to fall asleep on,” Pope Francis said. “No, we came for another reason: to leave a mark. It is very sad to pass through life without leaving a mark.”

CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton will provide live coverage of the Leave a Mark Mass for those individuals not able to attend in person. Livestreaming will also be made available on the Diocese of Scranton website and social media platforms.



Young adults take a selfie with Bishop Joseph C. Bambara following the 2019 Leave a Mark Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton. (Photo/Mike Melisky)

For more information on the Leave a Mark Mass, contact the Diocesan Vocations Office at (570) 207-1452 or visit dioceseofscranton.org/vocations.

National Vocation Awareness Week Nov. 7 - 13, 2021

Please ask Our Lord for more dedicated, holy priests, deacons, and consecrated men and women. May they be inspired by Jesus Christ, supported by our faith community and respond generously to God’s gift of vocation!

APPOINTMENTS

His Excellency, Bishop Joseph C. Bambara, announces the following clergy appointments, effective as follows:

Reverend Richard J. Cirba, to Dean, Wilkes-Barre Deanery of the Diocese of Scranton, effective September 20, 2021. Father Cirba will continue to serve as Pastor, Saint Robert Bellarmine Parish, Wilkes-Barre, and Pastor, Exaltation of the Holy Cross Parish, Hanover Township.

Reverend Charles P. Connor, from Leave of Absence, to Retirement for reasons of health, effective September 15, 2021. Father Connor will serve as a Sacramental Minister, as needed.

Reverend Joseph J. Evanko, to Episcopal Vicar, Southern Pastoral Region of the Diocese of Scranton, effective September 20, 2021. Father Evanko will continue to serve as Pastor, Saint Jude Parish, Mountain Top, and Pastor, Saint Mary, Help of Christians Parish, Dorrance.

Reverend Richard G. Ghezzi, to Retirement for reasons of health, effective September 15, 2021. Father Ghezzi will continue to serve as Sacramental Minister, Allied Services Meade Street Senior Community, Wilkes-Barre, and Allied Services Center City Senior Community, Wilkes-Barre.

His Excellency, Bishop Joseph C. Bambara, announces the following Priest Personnel Board appointments as follows:

Reverend Andrew S. Hvozdevic, Pastor, Gate of Heaven Parish, Dallas, and Our Lady of Victory Parish, Harveys Lake, appointed to a 3-year term, effective September 20, 2021.

Reverend Jonathan P. Kuhar, Assistant Pastor, Saint John Neumann Parish and Saint Paul of the Cross Parish, Scranton, appointed to a 3-year term, effective September 20, 2021.

Reverend John S. Terry, Pastor, Our Lady of Hope Parish, Wilkes-Barre, re-elected to a 3-year term, effective September 20, 2021.

Reverend Seth D. Wasnock, Pastor, Saint Maria Goretti Parish, Laflin, elected to a 3-year term, effective September 20, 2021.



BISHOP BAMBARA’S SCHEDULE

October 17 - Synod Opening Mass in the Diocese of Scranton
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 10:00 a.m.

October 26 - Mass for Commissioning of Lay Ministry Candidates
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 7:00 p.m.

October 30 - Diocesan Men’s Conference Mass
Woodlands Inn & Resort, Plains Township

October 31 - World Mission Sunday Mass
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 12:15 p.m.

November 2 - All Souls’ Day Mass
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 12:10 p.m.

November 7 - Mass for Consecrated Life
Jubilee for Women & Men Religious
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 12:15 p.m.

November 7 - Leave a Mark Mass
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 5:00 p.m.

November 14-18 - USCCB Fall Plenary Assembly
Baltimore

Service projects bring parish communities together and make an impact

HAZLETON – From cleaning up a cemetery to making birthday bags for children who visit a soup kitchen, more than 165 people throughout the Diocese of Scranton participated in various service projects on the weekend of Oct. 2 and 3.

Parish and school groups arranged service opportunities in their communities as part of the “Scranton Serves” initiative. Organized by the Diocesan Offices for Parish Life and Vocations, the weekend of service challenged people to put their faith into action in tangible ways.

More than 30 people participated in a clean-up project on Oct. 2 at Transfiguration Cemetery in the Hazleton area. Volunteers from both Holy Rosary Parish in Hazleton and Holy Name of Jesus Parish in West Hazleton rolled up their sleeves to help.

“It was a good project for both parishes to get together,” volunteer Brian Schott said. “It’s really great because some people we haven’t seen before. We’re getting to make new friends.”

Shannon Marsyada, a parishioner at Holy Name of Jesus Parish, admits she did not know many of her fellow volunteers at first but quickly became acquainted with everyone.

“I love volunteering. I feel like I’m doing God’s work. He is using my hands today,” she said. “This is what God intended for us to do. We’re not here for ourselves. We’re here for each other.”

Father Wilfredo Cusicanqui, Assistant Pastor of both parishes, also participated in the service



Volunteers from Holy Rosary Parish in Hazleton and Holy Name of Jesus Parish in West Hazleton work to clean up Transfiguration Cemetery on Oct. 2, 2021. (Photo/Ed Koons)

project saying he was very happy to see all the people who assisted.

“It’s fantastic to see the turnout and everyone is just working and looking to see what else they could do in order to make the cemetery a beautiful place for others to rest,” volunteer Barbara Bayzik said.

While the cemetery clean up was underway in lower Luzerne County, dozens of young adults from Saint Matthew Parish in East Stroudsburg and Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish in Brodheadsville were participating in the Pocono Pregnancy Center’s Walk for Life in Stroudsburg as part of “Scranton Serves.”

Following the walk, the volunteers from Saint Matthew Parish took part in clean-up projects around their church while some people from Our Lady Queen of Peace did landscaping outside Shepherd’s Maternity House, a pregnancy resource center operated by Catholic Social Services.

Meanwhile, 7th and 8th grade Confirmation students at Gate of Heaven Parish in Dallas and Our Lady of Victory Parish in Harveys Lake made 56 birthday bags for children who visit the Saint Vincent de Paul Kitchen or reside at the McAuley House. The bags were filled with cake mixes, icing, birthday candles, balloons, streamers, toys and more.

At Saint Mary, Help of Christians Parish in Dorrance, nearly 50 people worked to clean church pavilions, paint classrooms and clean the social hall kitchen.

“It is good to help out

the church,” volunteer Conor Buckley said. “We’re just cleaning up the church. We’re getting ready for a festival that we’re about to have.”

Parishioners of Saint Mary’s got assistance from their linked parish, Saint Jude’s in Mountain Top.

“It’s good for people to get out in their community,” volunteer Jack Scanlan added. “I think it’s nice when you get a lot of people here. It makes the work go by faster and you get more work done in total.”

“I think it’s really good to see

that all these people who didn’t have to be here came to help out,” volunteer Steven Rowlands added.


On Sunday, Oct. 3, the service projects continued as more than 20 volunteers from Saint Therese Parish in Shavertown made blankets for children in need of a proper place to sleep.

Seven volunteers from Saint Ignatius Parish in Kington also volunteered to clear the fall and winter pasture for sheep at the Dorothy Day Catholic Worker Farm in Harveys Lake.

Saint Mary, Our Lady Help of Christians Church in Dorrance hosted the Saint Jude Youth Group for a combined Diocesan Day of Service on Oct. 2, 2021. The jobs that volunteers participated in included cleaning bazaar stands and the parish hall along with painting classrooms. (Photo/Ed Koons)



Volunteers from Saint Ignatius Parish work to clean up the pasture for the sheep at the Dorothy Day Catholic Worker Farm in Harveys Lake on Oct. 3, 2021. (Photo/Shannon Kowalski)



All are invited to

The Scranton Diocese Order of Malta


Virtual Healing Mass

Tuesday, November 9, 2021 at 6 p.m.

MONSIGNOR JOHN A. ESSEFF

- Mass Celebrant and Homilist -

Log on to www.stpaulscranton.org
after 5:45 to attend



Holy Cross students participate in annual Respect Life Mass



Holy Cross seniors Julia Goetz and Andrew Francis serve as gift bearers for the Diocese of Scranton's annual Respect Life Mass on Oct. 3 at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

SCRANTON – When reflecting on the importance of October as Respect Life Month, it is heartening to know that many young people are involved. Thousands of students attend the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. – while many others take part in pro-life efforts in their high school and colleges.

Several students from Holy Cross High School in Dunmore showed their commitment to the protection of life on Sunday, Oct. 3, by serving as readers, gift bearers and altar servers at the Diocese of Scranton's annual Respect Life Mass held at the Cathedral of Saint Peter.

"I think it's important as high schoolers to be here and represent our age group and our support for life," senior Molly White said.

"It's important to me. It makes me happy to see everybody coming together to respect life," senior Andrew Francis added.

Julia Goetz, a Holy Cross senior from Old Forge, believes it is a critical topic for teenagers to discuss.

"I think it's important as a teenager to bring up how important it is to be pro-life and that life is God's gift to us," she said.

The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, served as principal celebrant and homilist for the Respect Life Mass. He invited the faithful to focus upon Saint Joseph as the great defender of life for our Savior, Jesus, and his mother, Mary.

"In the gospels, Saint Joseph is

described as a man of deep faith, who, despite his uncertainty about the events surrounding the birth of Jesus, is willing to set aside his own judgments and instead place his trust unwaveringly in the power of God. For Saint Joseph, God was in control and that was all that mattered," Bishop Bambera said.

The bishop also explained how threats to human life are continuing to increase.

"In our very own country, while the United States Supreme Court has provided us with some degree of hope by agreeing to hear a major challenge to abortion rights, just over a week ago, the United States House of Representatives voted to pass what many have described as the most radical abortion on demand bill that our nation has ever seen," Bishop Bambera noted.

While particularly noting the "scourge of abortion" as a threat to human life, the bishop also identified other threats that include assisted suicide, euthanasia, infanticide, human cloning, the death

penalty, human trafficking, unjust immigration laws and the dire consequences of war.

"When we rationalize why the taking of one life should be allowed, every life is in jeopardy," Bishop Bambera said.

That part of the bishop's homily resonated with Molly White, who served as a reader during the Mass.

"Trying to get rid of the death penalty is important to me," she explained.



Above: Holy Cross seniors Ryan Legg and Molly White serve as readers at the Respect Life Mass on Oct. 3, 2021.

House OKs abortion bill called 'far outside the American mainstream'

WASHINGTON (CNS) – In a 218-211 vote Sept. 24, the U.S. House passed what opponents consider one of the most extreme abortion bills ever seen in the nation – the Women's Health Protection Act.

"This bill is far outside the American mainstream and goes far beyond *Roe v. Wade*," Rep. Chris Smith, R-N.J., co-chairman of the Congressional Pro-Life Caucus, said in remarks ahead of the vote. "This bill constitutes an existential threat to unborn children and to the value of life itself."

H.R. 3755 codifies the U.S. Supreme Court's 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision legalizing abortion nationwide. The measure establishes the legal right to abortion on demand at any stage of pregnancy in all 50 states under federal law.

"For the first time ever by congressional statute, H.R. 3755 would legally enable the death of unborn baby girls and boys by dismemberment, decapitation, forced expulsion from the womb, deadly poisons or other methods at any time until birth," he said.

"A significant majority of Americans are deeply concerned about protecting the lives of unborn children," the Catholic congressman added.

He pointed to a 2021 Marist Poll that found 65% of Americans want *Roe v. Wade* "reinterpreted to either send the issue to the states or stop legalized abortion."

The bill nullifies: requirements to provide women seeking abortion with specific information on their unborn child and on alternatives to abortion; laws requiring a waiting period before a woman receives an abortion; laws allowing medical professionals to opt out of providing abortions; and laws stating that only licensed physicians can perform abortions.

"This deceptively named bill is the most extreme pro-abortion bill our nation has ever seen," Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City, Kansas, chairman of the U.S. bishops' pro-life committee, said Sept. 24. "H.R. 3755 is not about the health of women, but only about eliminating any and all protections for unborn children – including baby girls."

If it became law, "it would lead to the deliberate destruction of millions of unborn lives, leaving countless women with physical, emotional and spiritual scars," he said in a statement.

"This bill assumes that abortion can be the only, or best, solution to a crisis pregnancy" and "is built on a false and despairing narrative that utterly fails women," he continued. "In treating abortion as the moral equivalent to the removal of an appendix, this proposal is radically out of step with the American public."

"As a nation built on the recognition that every human being is endowed by its Creator with the unalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, this bill is a complete injustice," Archbishop Naumann said.

"Congress should embrace public policy that respects the rights of mothers, their children and the consciences of all Americans," he added, "not advance a radical 'abortion on demand until birth' policy that is completely out of step with our country's principles."

The Senate version of the Women's Health Protection Act, S. 1775, is not expected to pass, but sponsors of the House bill said their vote still sends a message about the outrage they say has been felt by women over the new Texas law banning abortion after six weeks.

The vote also comes ahead of the Dec. 1 oral arguments to be heard by the high court in an appeal from Mississippi to keep its ban on abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy.

Supporters of the law are urging the court to reexamine its previous abortion rulings, including *Roe*.

"In the United States, the tragically pervasive acceptance of abortion has resulted in more than 62 million abortions since *Roe v. Wade*," Bishop Michael F. Burbidge of Arlington, Virginia, said in a statement.

"Still, today the U.S. House of Representatives voted to impose abortion on demand nationwide -- and thus double down on daily murder of the defenseless -- by passing the false and deceptively named 'Women's Health Protection Act,'" he said Sept. 24.

"Let us be clear: Abortion harms women and ends the life of a child; it is not health care, and it protects no one," he said. "Health and protection are about healing, defending and saving lives, not destroying them."

National pro-life leaders were quick to respond to the House vote, including Jeanne Mancini, president of March for Life, who said that "pro-abortion Democrats have revealed their true vision for abortion policy in America" by pushing legislation she also called "deceptively named."

All House Democrats but one voted for H.R. 3755; Rep. Henry Cuellar, D-Texas, was the lone Democrat opposed to it. No House Republicans voted for the measure.

If President Joe Biden, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., "and their allies get their way, the United States will soon be indistinguishable from North Korea and China on the human rights issue of abortion," Mancini said.

United in Faith

Diocesan faithful encouraged to participate in 'America Needs Fatima' Rosary rallies Oct. 16

SCRANTON — Catholics throughout the Diocese of Scranton will unite with faith communities around the nation on Saturday, Oct. 16, at noon, to lend their prayerful pleas to the chorus of intercessions of supplication and reparation as part of this year's "America Needs Fatima" Rosary Crusade.

Each year since 1985, when the "America Needs Fatima" campaign was founded, faithful gather at noontime on a Saturday in October to send their Rosary prayers and petitions heavenward, seeking the Blessed Mother's intercession on behalf of the United States.

The unified, simultaneous prayer effort coincides with October's designation by the Catholic Church as the Month of the Holy Rosary — with the Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary celebrated on Oct. 7 — and Respect Life Month.

Prayerful recitation of the Rosary as a visible sign of the power of prayer in public arenas pays homage to the Blessed

Mother's final apparition to the shepherd children of Fatima in Portugal on Oct. 13, 1917, culminating her messages of the need to offer the Holy Rosary as an essential tool for world peace and spiritual conversion.

The "America Needs Fatima" Rosary rallies include reparatory prayers for the country, particularly regarding the evil of abortion, and offenses against the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Special intentions also include a greater respect for all human life — from conception to natural death — and converting hearts and minds away from the death of sin.

Joining tens of thousands of similar "public square" prayer gatherings across America, the following outdoor Rosary events will be held this Saturday, Oct. 16, at noon in the Scranton Diocese:

Mountain Top — Weis Parking Lot, 237 South Mountain Boulevard, Mountain Top. Information, Marie (570) 574-0849, or Carmen (570) 262-7373.

Downtown Scranton — Lackawanna County Courthouse, Washington Ave., Scranton.

Pittston (5:30 p.m.) — Grotto of the Blessed Mother on the grounds of the Oblates of Saint Joseph Chapel, Route 315, Laflin.

Wilkes-Barre — Our Lady of Fatima Blessed Grotto, North Street, North Wilkes-Barre.

Duryea — Healey Park, Foote Ave. & Wright Street, Duryea (sponsored by the Knights of Columbus).

West Scranton — Grotto of Our Lady of Fatima adjacent from Saints Peter & Paul Church, West Locust Street, West Scranton.

Tunkhannock — Grounds of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, 99 East Tioga St., Tunkhannock. Information, parish office (570) 836-3275.

Roaring Brook Township — Grounds of Saint Eulalia Church, 214 Blue Shutters Road, Roaring Brook Township.

Jermyn — Our Lady's Shrine (rectory grounds) at Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary Parish, 624 Madison Ave., Jermyn.



Faithful from Saint John the Evangelist Parish in Honesdale gathered for a Rosary rally on Saturday, Oct. 9, in Central Park in Honesdale.

2021 PUBLIC ROSARY CRUSADE

IN HONOR OF
104th Anniversary of the Apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima

Praying the Rosary for America

When: Saturday, October 16, 2021 @ 12:00 NOON

Where: Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church
99 East Tioga Street, Tunkhannock, Pa., 18657 (Outside)

For more information: Call our Parish Office at (570) 836-3275

"The intention for our Rosary Crusade is to implore God and Our Lady to save America from today's chaos, immorality and social upheaval."

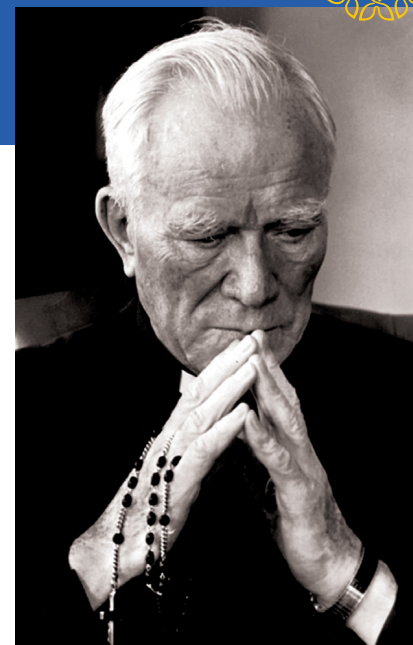
JOIN THE 2021 PUBLIC ROSARY CRUSADE TODAY!



Father Patrick Peyton, C.S.C. "The Rosary Priest"

Sainthood candidate Father Patrick Peyton is most known for his famous message, "The family that prays together stays together." On December 17, Pope Francis declared him Venerable and currently a possible medical miracle is under review by the Congregation for the Causes of Saints in Rome. Please join us in prayer to advance his Cause. The world needs a Saint for Family Prayer!

Learn more about Father Peyton from his early days as a sacristan at Saint Peter's Cathedral in Scranton to the opening of his Cause; you'll be inspired. Find out how he was a media pioneer who created thousands of radio programs, films and television specials to inspire families to pray together daily. Father Peyton traveled the world conducting hundreds of Rosary Rallies with more than 28 million people in attendance. Through it all, he remained a humble Holy Cross priest. Be inspired by his story and share it with others, and let us all live out his vision that all families pray together every day.



Learn more at FatherPeyton.org or purchase your own copy of his autobiography "All for Her" or the documentary about his life "PRAY: THE STORY OF PATRICK PEYTON" at HCFMStore.org. Become a member of the Father Peyton Family Prayer Guild and together we can spread his message around the world! Find Guild info at FatherPeyton.org.



HOLY CROSS
FAMILY MINISTRIES

SPONSORED BY THE ORDER OF MALTA, SCRANTON CHAPTER

Thousands gather for first-ever Pennsylvania March for Life

HARRISBURG – More than 3,000 pro-life supporters gathered at the Pennsylvania Capitol on Sept. 27 to send a strong message to state lawmakers, urging them to protect unborn children by passing legislation to further restrict abortion. Many elected leaders in attendance say the crowd was among the largest for any cause that they have seen in recent memory.

“Life is sacred and we need to fight for the right to live, the right to be born,” Gabriel Petrofsky of Wellsboro, Tioga County, said.

The crowd came from every corner of the Commonwealth, including many from the 11 counties of the Diocese of Scranton.

“I volunteer at the Pregnancy Resource Center of Greater Hazleton and our director asked if we wanted to come and I wanted to bring my son so he could be more involved as well,” Grace Bott of Nuremberg, Luzerne County, said. “We came with a bus group. There are several of us from the Resource Center that are here as well.”

The crowd was so large that the group not only filled the Capitol steps and surrounding lawn, anti-abortion activists spilled out onto North 3rd Street. The Pennsylvania Family Institute, based in Harrisburg, partnered with March for Life to host the rally.

Many in the crowd had very personal reasons for attending the event.

“The doctor told my parents that I wasn’t alive several months before I was born and they chose to not listen to the doctors,” Kevin Costello of Tunkhannock, Wyoming County, said.

Costello took the day off from work so



More than 3,000 pro-life supporters marched around the State Capitol in Harrisburg Sept. 27 as part of the first-ever Pennsylvania March for Life. (Photos/Eric Deabill)

he could drive more than two hours to attend the rally. He was excited to see such a large crowd of people dedicated to respecting life.

“They’re here because their heart is moved to support the most precious and vulnerable population we have, which is the unborn,” Costello added.

Carol Carlini of McElhattan, Clinton County, took a bus to the Capitol with a group from the Williamsport area.

“I thought the crowd was tremendous. It’s wonderful to feel the spirit of Jesus here with so many people, honoring what he said and that is ‘do not kill.’ We just don’t want to see abortion go on any longer,” she explained.

Carlini attended the rally with her adopted daughter Madison.

“God put our family together. Her mother, who was a college student, could have aborted but she didn’t. She carried Madison for nine months and I’ll forever be grateful,” she said. “We have a family because that woman decided to carry her. I’m just forever praising Jesus and letting everyone out there know there are options, there is help, there are other choices to abortion.”

Prior to marching around the Capitol, numerous speakers addressed the crowd.

Surrounded by members of the Republican caucus, House Speaker Bryan Cutler, R-Lancaster, took the stage at the rally to loud cheers as he said, “We hear you loud and clear. Life begins at conception.”

He was joined by Senate Majority Leader Kim Ward, R-Westmoreland, who reaffirmed her stance for protecting life by leading the crowd in large cheers of “We are pro-life.”

Pennsylvania currently allows abortions up to 24 weeks of pregnancy for any reason except to select a gender. Anyone under the age of 18 is required to have permission of a parent or guardian.

Pennsylvania Republican lawmakers have introduced numerous anti-abortion bills during the last legislative session. Gov. Tom Wolf, a Democrat, has vowed to veto any bill that restricts a woman’s reproductive rights.

In response to rally and March, Wolf tweeted the first-ever Pennsylvania March for Life was just an anti-woman rally by a different name.

“As I have said before, so called ‘pro-life’ policies are actually anti-choice,” Wolf added in a written statement. “As governor, I have vetoed three anti-choice bills that have come to my desk. Make no mistake, I will veto any others.”

As the thousands of marchers took to the street, they were undeterred in having their voice heard.

“There are a lot of people who value what God values, which is every life, from the start of conception to the end,” Lauren Owlett of Morris Township, Tioga County, said.

“This is a government by the people and for the people and they need to start listening to the people and doing what the people desire. I believe across this nation, God is moving mightily and he wants abortion to stop,” Carlini added.



Prior to the Pennsylvania March for Life, anti-abortion activists filled the steps outside the State Capitol Building for an 11 a.m. rally featuring numerous speakers.



Gabriel Petrofsky of Wellsboro, center, participates in the Pennsylvania March for Life with a group of pro-life supporters who travelled to Harrisburg from Tioga County.

Six educators honored with Saint John Paul II Award

SCRANTON — Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, served as principal celebrant and homilist for the annual Diocesan Teachers Institute Mass on Monday, Sept. 27, 2021, at the Cathedral of Saint Peter.

During the Eucharistic liturgy, which is traditionally held at the beginning of each academic year to celebrate Catholic education in the Diocese of Scranton, six educators in the Diocesan School System were honored for their commitment to being faith-filled examples to young people.

Each of the honorees received special recognition by being bestowed the Saint John Paul II Award for 25 or more years of dedicated service to Catholic education in the Diocese.

The award recipients included: Robert Andrews, Holy Cross High School in Dunmore; Daniel Banicky, Our Lady of Peace School in Clarks Green; Ann Innocenti, La Salle Academy in Jessup; Jennifer Jones, Good Shepherd Academy in Kingston; Mary Elizabeth “Betsy” Kozak, Holy Rosary School in Duryea; and Janice Puhak, Holy Family Academy in Hazleton.

In welcoming the faithful to the afternoon liturgy, Kristen Donohue, Superintendent of Catholic Schools, said, “As we gather for today’s Mass to celebrate the dedication and commitment of the teachers, staff and administration of the Diocese of Scranton, we also reflect on God’s strength and support for the many blessings and good health we have been afforded to do this great work.”

Donohue noted that the Diocesan Teachers Institute being held throughout the day afforded an opportunity for reflection on the untiring efforts within the various roles in the 19 Catholic schools throughout the Diocese.

“This day offers us a unique learning experience which ultimately creates the opportunity for growth,” she said.

As he announced the recipients of the Saint John Paul II Award, Diocesan Secretary of Catholic Education/Chief Executive Officer Jason Morrison lauded all Catholic school educators for creating an environment where students grow and learn.



Six educators from the Diocese of Scranton Catholic School System received the Saint John Paul II Award recognizing 25 years or more of dedicated service to Catholic Education in the Diocese of Scranton on Sept. 27, 2021. The award recipients joined Bishop Joseph C. Bambera and Catholic School Administrators for a photo after the Diocesan Teachers Institute Mass. Pictured in the front row are, from left: Mary Elizabeth Kozak, Holy Rosary School; Robert Andrews, Holy Cross High School, Bishop Bambera; Ann Innocenti, La Salle Academy; and Daniel Banicky, Our Lady of Peace School. Pictured in the back row, from left: Kristen Donohue, Superintendent of Catholic Schools, and Jason W. S. Morrison, Diocesan Secretary of Catholic Education/Chief Executive Officer. Also receiving the award, but not able to attend the Mass, were Jennifer Jones, Good Shepherd Academy, and Janice Puhak, Holy Family Academy. (Photo/Mike Melisky)



Saint Vincent de Paul is depicted in a stained glass window at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton. Bishop Joseph C. Bambera referred to the artwork during his homily for the Diocesan Teachers Institute Mass on Sept. 27. The bishop said Saint Vincent de Paul’s ministry is very similar to the work that Catholic school teachers and administrators do on a daily basis.

“Most especially, they are witnesses to the faith, serving as sharers in the mission of Jesus Christ by leading young people to know, love and serve God,” he said.

Those Catholic school teachers who were on hand to receive their award from Bishop Bambera all concurred they feel blessed and honored to have been called to the “education vocation.”

“It truly is a ‘calling,’” Andrews said about his role as a geometry teacher at Holy Cross High School. “I never feel like it’s a job. I really love what I do and look forward to every day.”

Innocenti, who teaches third grade at La Salle Academy, said she is living a “wonderful vocation.”

“I loving being with the children,” she remarked, quickly adding that is of utmost importance to always bear in mind that God is “our Master Teacher. He is always with us.”

As a seventh and eighth grade instructor of science and social studies at Our Lady of Peace School, Banicky remarked, “I totally enjoy teaching.”

“There’s a new adventure

every day,” he said. “No two days are alike.”

Her fellow educators and award-recipients echoed Kozak’s comments when she offered, “It’s

a blessing to be able to do what we do.”

They were also in total agreement with the Holy Rosary School fifth grade teacher’s strong

belief that each Diocesan Catholic school and its students form a unique, close-knit community. “We are really like an extended family,” she noted.

OPEN HOUSE
HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL
DIOCESE OF SCRANTON
 JOIN US ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2021
 VISIT HCHSPA.ORG FOR MORE DETAILS

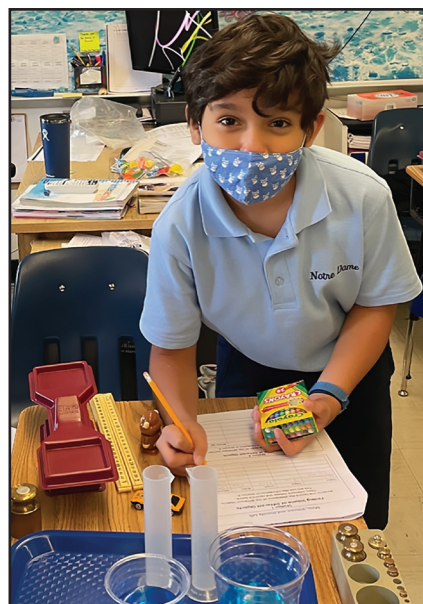
Diocese of Scranton

CATHOLIC

SCHOOL SYSTEM

FAITH • ACADEMICS • SERVICE

The Diocese of Scranton is committed to educating our students in an environment that is academically excellent and facilitates the development of moral judgment and Christian decision-making. We are proud to share the following successes of our students in the classroom and in their service to others. Each day, our schools are fulfilling their mission of preparing today's youth and young adults to become tomorrow's faith-filled leaders.



Oscar Navas-Mendoza, a fifth grade student at **Notre Dame Elementary School in East Stroudsburg**, works on a mass and volume experiment in science class.



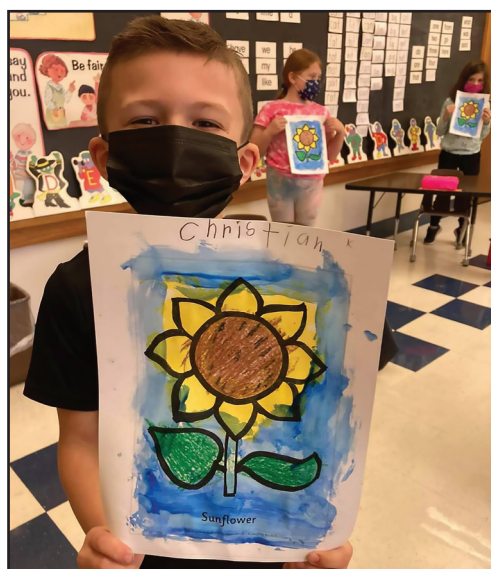
Emma Bride, a fourth grader at **Saint Agnes School in Towanda**, watches as Rev. Edward Michelini, pastor of Saints Peter & Paul Parish, blesses her cow Abby during the school's annual Blessing of the Animals Ceremony.



Tom and Judy Lambert enjoy spending time with their grandchildren, Carmin and Natalie, at the annual Grandparents Day Liturgy, hosted by **Holy Rosary School in Duryea**.



Maddie Szura and Leah Skudalski, students at **Good Shepherd Academy in Kingston**, present Luke Malonis, program manager, Saint Hedwig's Veterans Village in Kingston, with a donation to continue its work. The funds were raised during the school's annual "Back to School Bash."



Students at **Holy Family Academy in Hazleton** are "budding" artists and love showing off their beautiful sunflower paintings.



Let's Get Poppin' is the theme for **Saint Jude School in Mountain Top's** annual Race for Education fundraiser. As more money is donated, the students add popcorn to their counter so they can see how close they are to their \$15,000 goal.



The Living Rosary was led by the eighth-grade class at **Wyoming Area Catholic School in Exeter** on Oct. 7, the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary.

Students at **Saint Nicholas/Saint Mary School in Wilkes-Barre** brought their favorite furry friends to school on Oct. 4, the Feast of Saint Francis, so they could receive a special blessing.



It was Spirit Week at **Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School in East Stroudsburg** as they prepared for the Oct. 9 Homecoming 2021 celebration. Each day had its own theme including, "Wear Your Favorite Jersey," "Matching Accessories," and "Decades Day."



Second grade students at **Our Lady of Peace School in Clarks Green** examine plant parts using microscopes to help them collect data.



The Class Olympics, a tradition of Homecoming/Spirit Week activities at **Holy Cross High School in Dunmore**, was held on a beautiful fall day. Students competed against one another in robust games and enjoyed a BBQ/picnic-style lunch.



Congratulations to Kathryn Apolinario, Joseph Connolly, Annabella Tayoun and Cole Lipinski, the 2021-22 Student Council Officers at **La Salle Academy in Jessup**.



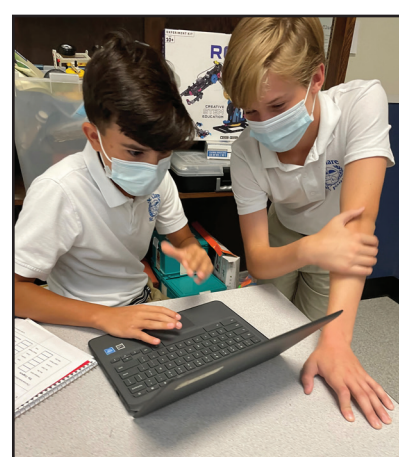
As part of their celebration of the Blessing of the Animals on the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, students at **Epiphany School in Sayre** collected \$815.25 in donations for Saint Francis Kitchen in Scranton.



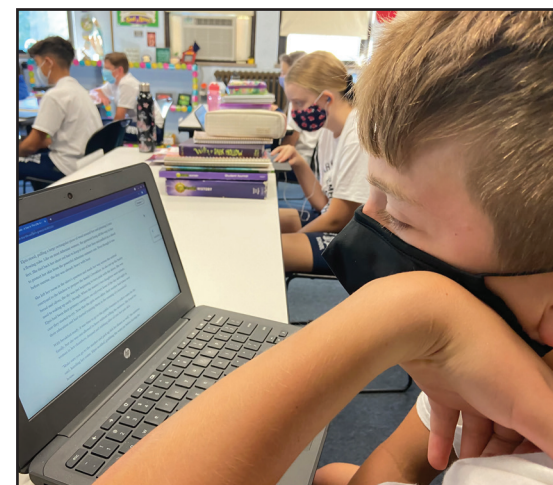
On Oct. 2, the Feast of the Guardian Angels, the first grade class at **All Saints Academy in Scranton** created their own Guardian Angels to watch over and protect them.



Callie Cummings, a kindergarten student at **Saint John Neumann Elementary School in Williamsport**, is learning about counting groups of 4 and 5.



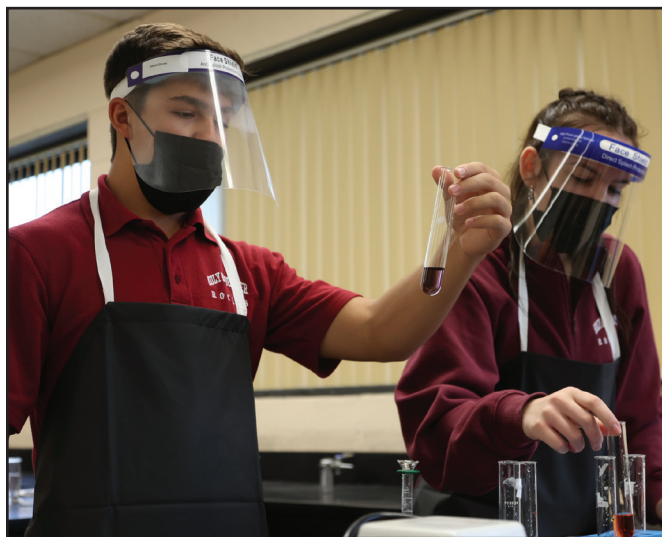
Eighth graders at **Saint Clare/Saint Paul School in Scranton** work collaboratively in science class to answer clues about the human body to solve a mystery.



Students are hard at work using technology to assist in their research at **Saint Mary of Mount Carmel School in Dunmore**.



Kylie Cendoma and Emma Henderson, seniors at **Saint John Neumann High School in Williamsport**, pose with miniature ecosystems they created for their Environmental Science Class. Materials were collected at a local park and students will observe the changes over the next few weeks while learning about matter and energy flow in ecosystems.



AP Chemistry seniors at **Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre** perform experiments involving volume and mass.



THE SOCIETY
FOR THE PROPAGATION
OF THE FAITH
LA SOCIEDAD
PARA LA PROPAGACIÓN
DE LA FE



**"WE CANNOT
BUT SPEAK ABOUT
WHAT WE HAVE SEEN
AND HEARD"**
(ACTS 4:20)

**"NO PODEMOS
DEJAR DE
HABLAR DE LO QUE
HEMOS VISTO
Y OÍDO"**
(HCH 4,20)

**WORLD
MISSION
SUNDAY**

**DOMINGO
MUNDIAL
DE LAS
MISIONES**

2021

Pray and Give Generously on **OCTOBER 24, 2021**
WORLD MISSION SUNDAY



A Pontifical Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral of Saint Peter at 12:15 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 31, 2021. The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will be the principal celebrant. Father Brian J.T. Clarke, Diocesan Director of the Pontifical Mission Societies, will concelebrate. The homilist will be Father Stephen A. Asomah, Parochial Vicar, Our Lady of the Snows Parish, Clarks Summit. CTV: Catholic Television will broadcast the Mass.

Bishop Bambera's Letter for World Mission Sunday

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Just a few days ago on October 3, we celebrated the feast day of St. Thérèse of Lisieux. Affectionately known to many as the “Little Flower,” St. Thérèse is the patroness of the Missions. Perhaps the great paradox of her patronage is that Thérèse never left her cloister. Her entire religious life was lived out in her humble convent in Lisieux, France. Though she desired so deeply to be a missionary, she was compelled to live a life of relative obscurity, to become a missionary through her prayer, her sacrifice and the “little way” that defined her life and has inspired the lives of many.

Thérèse's simple life reminds me of a quotation from another saintly missionary, Mother Teresa of Calcutta, “do small things with great love.” Each of us has been compelled to encounter how to carry out the Christian way of life in our own “cloisters” as pandemic restrictions had us holed up in our homes in the early months of COVID-19. Somehow, our lives as people of faith and as disciples of Jesus Christ had to carry on. Admittedly, to do so we had to find creative ways to be faithful to our worship and acts of prayer as our public worship was curtailed. We found ways to reach out to family and neighbors even as we were limited in our physical contact with them and discovered opportunities to support the poor and vulnerable as so many religious and social service agencies found it challenging to meet their needs.

This is the crux of missionary discipleship. Certainly, many have and will continue to travel to places throughout the world to serve as missionaries. Indeed, in our own country, missionaries will continue to serve the needs of the poor and marginalized as they seek to alleviate their burdens. And, yes, many will continue to serve with a missionary zeal in a spirit of servant leadership from their homes. Not everyone—whether it's because of illness, age, or other circumstances—can leave their homes to engage the mission entrusted to them. Much can be learned from the example of St. Thérèse who, despite never leaving her cloister, is among the most notable missionaries in our Church.

In his message for World Mission Sunday, Pope Francis spoke of “a temptation to disguise and justify indifference and apathy in the name of healthy social distancing...” However, he went on to highlight that there is an “urgent need for the mission of compassion, which can make that necessary distancing an opportunity for encounter, care and promotion.” Surely, even from a distance we can serve and can encounter. Let us endeavor to do so spurred on by the life of St. Thérèse and the Gospel mandate to “make disciples of all nations” (Mt. 28:19).



Faithfully yours in Christ,

† *Joseph C. Bambera*

The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L.
Bishop of Scranton



Rev. Stephen A. Asomah

Biography of Rev. Stephen A. Asomah, Homilist for World Mission Sunday Mass

Born and raised in Ghana, West Africa, in a small town called Jinijini, on Dec. 28, 1976, Fr. Asomah went to the local Roman Catholic primary and Junior High School and graduated in 1993. He is the seventh of eight kids of Amponsah Frimpong and Martha Somaa. Desiring to be a priest, he went to St. James Seminary High School and graduated in 1996.

He continued his seminary formation in St. Paul's Major Seminary, Sowotum, Accra, for spirituality and philosophy and St. Peter's Regional Seminary, Pedu, Cape Coast, for theological studies. He was ordained on July 12, 2008, and was assigned to teach at St. James Seminary High School, his alma mater for four years.

From Aug. 9, 2012-Jan. 31, 2019, Fr. Stephen served in the Archdiocese of New York as a missionary. While in New York, he served as Parochial Vicar in these parishes: Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Poughkeepsie; St. Anthony of Padua Church, West Harrison; St. Frances de Chantal Church, Bronx (became a temporary Administrator for 11 months); and Our Lady Queen of Peace on Staten Island. During these years, Fr. Stephen studied for master's degrees in Communications (2017) and Educational Leadership and Administration at Iona College and the University of Fordham (2020), respectively.

Fr. Asomah moved to the Diocese of Scranton on Feb. 1, 2020, and is serving at Our Lady of the Snows Church in Clarks Summit as a Parochial Vicar.

Christians don't form cliques, pope says in Mission Sunday message

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Compassion and a constant effort to reach out to others are essential elements of being "missionary disciples," even in the midst of a pandemic, Pope Francis said in his message for World Mission Sunday.

"In these days of pandemic, when there is a temptation to disguise and justify indifference and apathy in the name of healthy social distancing, there is urgent need for the mission of compassion, which can make that necessary distancing an opportunity for encounter, care and promotion," the pope wrote in his message for the celebration, which will be held Oct. 24.

The theme chosen for the 2021 celebration is taken from the Acts of the Apostles: "We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard."

"Our life of faith grows weak, loses its prophetic power and its ability to awaken amazement and gratitude when we become isolated and withdraw into little groups," the pope wrote.

"By its very nature, the life of faith calls for a growing openness to embracing everyone, everywhere," he said. "The first Christians, far from yielding to the temptation to become an elite group, were inspired by the Lord and his offer of new life to go out among the nations and to bear witness to what they had seen and heard: the good news that the kingdom of God is at hand."

Christ calls every believer to share the good news of God's love and his offer of salvation in Christ, the pope said. "No one is excluded, no one need feel distant or removed from this compassionate love."

"Always, but especially in these times of pandemic," he said, "it is important to grow in our daily ability to widen our circle, to reach out to others who, albeit physically close to us, are not immediately part of our 'circle of interests.'"

The early Christians faced misunderstandings, hostility and persecution from without and divisions within, Pope Francis noted, but the Acts of the Apostles documents how they endured hardship by clinging firmly to Christ and grew in the "conviction that God is able to act in any circumstance, even amid



apparent setbacks, and in the certainty that all those who entrust themselves to God will bear good fruit."

"Our own times are not easy," the pope wrote. "The pandemic has brought to the fore and amplified the pain, the solitude, the poverty and the injustices experienced by so many people. It has unmasked our false sense of security and revealed the brokenness and polarization quietly growing in our midst."

"We have experienced discouragement, disillusionment and fatigue," he said, and most people have been tempted at times by "a growing negativity that stifles hope."

But like the early Christians, "in our communities and in our families, we can hear the powerful message of life that echoes in our hearts and proclaims: 'He is not here but has risen!'"

The message of Gospel hope frees Christians from fatalism, Pope Francis said, and gives them "the freedom and boldness needed to rise up and seek with creativity every possible way to show compassion, the 'sacramental' of God's closeness to us, a closeness that abandons no one along the side of the road."

Sharing "what we have seen and heard," he said, includes the great mercy God has shown to each person.

The outreach of mercy and solidarity can "become a point of reference and a source of credibility, enabling us to recover a shared passion for building a community of belonging and solidarity worthy of our time, our energy and our resources," the pope said.



Reading the Scriptures and holding fast to faith in the risen Lord motivates Christians and liberates them from "the worst kind of skepticism," one that tells them that nothing will ever change, he said.

"In our present circumstances," he wrote, "there is an urgent need for missionaries of hope who, anointed by the Lord, can provide a prophetic reminder that no one is saved by himself."

Pope Francis remembered "with gratitude all those men and women who, by their testimony of life, help us to renew our baptismal commitment to be generous and joyful apostles of the Gospel."

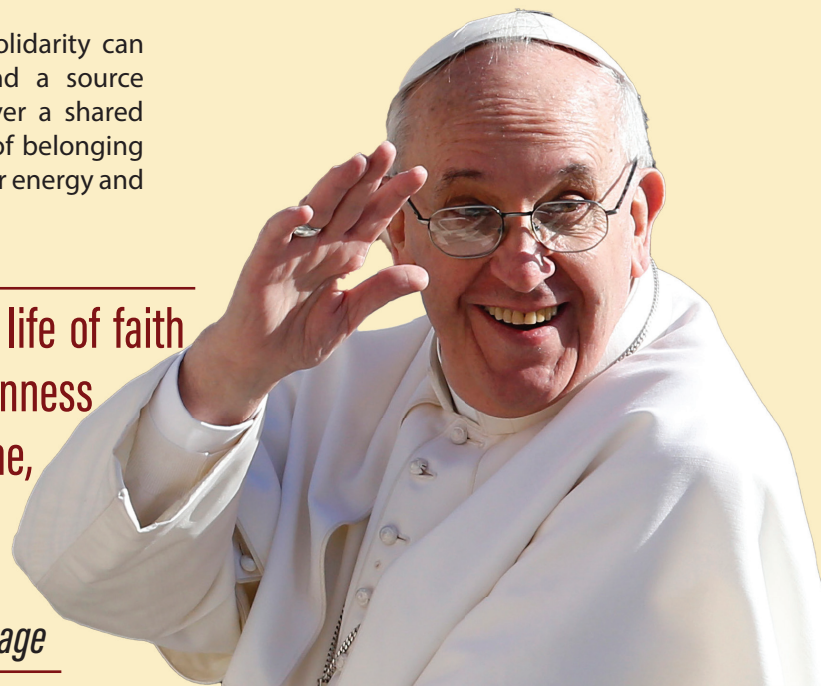
While reminding all Catholics of their obligation to support the missions and share the Gospel, he also asked people to pray that God would continue to call men and women to dedicate their lives totally to missionary work.

"The call to mission is not a thing of the past or a romantic leftover from earlier times," the pope wrote. "Today, too, Jesus needs hearts capable of experiencing vocation as a true love story that urges them to go forth to the peripheries of our world as messengers and agents of compassion."



"By its very nature, the life of faith calls for a growing openness to embracing everyone, everywhere."

*-Pope Francis
World Mission Day 2021 Message*





What is the Pontifical Mission Societies in the United States?

PONTIFICAL SOCIETY OF SAINT PETER THE APOSTLE

The Society of Saint Peter collaborates in the growth of the young churches through financial support for building new seminaries and formation programs for the new local priests, religious and sisters.

PONTIFICAL SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH

The Propagation of the Faith's commitment is to arouse in the people of God an authentically universal spirit in order to make grow in the local Churches a missionary awareness in accordance with the Church's natural outreach.

PONTIFICAL SOCIETY OF MISSIONARY CHILDHOOD

The Pontifical Society of Missionary Childhood or of the Holy Childhood leads children to discover the missionary spirit and teaches them to help children of their same age around the world through prayer and small material sacrifices.

PONTIFICAL MISSIONARY UNION

The Missionary Union, the soul of the other Mission Societies, is an association of the clergy, men and women religious and laypersons which proposes to arouse the passion for the mission in the Church, contribute to missionary formation, and encourage the Christian communities to cooperate and take active part in evangelization.

**"WE CANNOT BUT SPEAK
ABOUT WHAT WE HAVE
SEEN AND HEARD"**

[ACTS 4:20]

**2021
WORLD MISSION SUNDAY**



MISSION MESSAGE

Go Forth

By Father Brian J.T. Clarke
Diocesan Director,
Pontifical Mission Societies



In this brief letter for World Mission Sunday, I want to thank each of you for your selfless service to the Church, especially as you sacrifice financially for the Missions in support of the poorest of the poor throughout our Diocese, our nation, and our world.

I thank our pastors for their patience with me and my office as we organize events and collections throughout our Diocese designed to deepen our awareness of the needs of the Missions and to support them with our prayers and financial resources. I thank Bishop Bambara and our diocesan leadership and staff for the unyielding support and encouragement as we seek to become even more mission minded.

Finally, please join me in thanking God for the missionaries throughout the world who sacrifice so much, many of whom give up the familiarity and comfort of their native lands and often face unsafe and uneasy realities, yet embrace the call for mission and offer those three words, "Here I am." Please continue to pray for our mission here and abroad.

Consider becoming a member of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith by filling out the information sheet on this page and mailing it to the care of my office: The Society for the Propagation of the Faith, Diocese of Scranton, 300 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, PA 18503.

Again, thank you for all that you do and for so generously responding to the Lord, "Here I am." We will be remembering each of you in our prayers every day and in a special way on World Mission Sunday. May God bless us as we go forth in His name.

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

As a member, your gift means financial and spiritual support to:

Missionaries, Seminarians, Religious Novices, Catechists, Schools, Hospitals, Orphanages, Maternity Clinics and Feeding Programs in more than 1150 Mission Dioceses!

As a member, you receive:

The grateful prayers of missionaries around the world, special remembrance in more than 15,000 Masses a year and a subscription to MISSION Magazine

YEARLY

☐

Individual.....\$5.00

☐

Family.....\$10.00

PERPETUAL

☐

Perpetual Membership for a Family.....\$100.00

☐

Perpetual Membership for Individual.....\$50.00

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Parish: _____

If Membership is for another: _____ (living/deceased)

Apostleship of Prayer

Papal Intention for October 2021

Missionary Disciples —

We pray that every baptized person may be engaged in evangelization, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavor of the Gospel.

Bishops to continue discussion of Catholics and Eucharist in fall meeting

WASHINGTON (CNS) – When the U.S. bishops meet this fall for their annual assembly, they will revisit the discussion they began in mid-June about the Eucharist and will be presented with a draft document on the “meaning of the Eucharist in the life of the church.”

But in the time since their virtual spring assembly, the topic of the Eucharist, and particularly the debate it raised about denying Communion to Catholic politicians who support abortion, has prompted ongoing discussion.

It even came up on the pope’s flight back from Bratislava, Slovakia, Sept. 15.

Pope Francis said he preferred not to comment directly on the

issue of denying Communion in the United States, but he urged bishops to take a pastoral approach rather than wade into the political sphere.

And it’s a complicated issue, pointed out Timothy O’Malley, director of education at the McGrath Institute for Church Life at the University of Notre Dame and author of the recent book “Real Presence: What Does It Mean and Why Does It Matter?”

During a Zoom discussion on this topic sponsored by Georgetown University this past summer, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Indiana, acknowledged the work ahead would be challenging, but as chairman of the bishops’ Committee on Doctrine, he was prepared to address it.

That committee is charged with drafting the document on the Eucharist that will be presented to the bishops in November.

“The goal of the document is to contribute to the eucharistic revival,” he said.

VOLKSWAGENS
SALES - SERVICE - PARTS



KELLY MOTOR CO.
AUTHORIZED VOLKSWAGEN DEALER
S. Main at Elm, Scranton
570-347-5656

MULDOON WINDOW, DOOR & AWNING CO.



Joe Bunevicius & Doug Kneiss
- Over 45 Years Experience -

Specializing in Awnings, Canopies, Carports, Patio and Porch Enclosures, Custom Storm Doors, Storm Windows, Replacement Windows, and Screen and Glass Repair.

Office Hours:
8:00 to 4:30 M-F
8:00 to 12:00 SAT

1230 Sanderson Ave., Scranton • 570-347-9453 • Fax: 570-347-3074

MAYLATH Valley Health Systems inc.

Home Health, Hospice and Outpatient Therapy

- ✓ Skilled Nursing
- ✓ Nursing Aides
- ✓ Social Work
- ✓ Pastoral Care
- ✓ Registered Dietary
- ✓ Physical Therapy
- ✓ Occupational Therapy
- ✓ Speech Therapy

P.O. Box 103
750 State Route 93
Sybertsville, Pa. 18251

www.maylathhealth.com

570-708-2929 phone
570-708-1010 fax
1-877-751-0080 toll free

info@maylathhealth.com email



C.H.A.P. Accredited

Training Provided in:
CPR, First Aid and AED

Outpatient Therapy in
Two Locations:
Sybertsville and The Laurels, Hazleton

Statement of Ownership
Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation
(Required by 39 USC 3685) September 22, 2021, of

The Catholic Light

ISSN 0164-9418 Published monthly at: 300 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania 18503-1224

Publisher: Catholic Light Publishing Co., Scranton, Pa.

Editor-in-Chief: Eric M. Deabill, Scranton, Pa.

OWNER (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning and holding one percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual must be given.)

Catholic Light Publishing Company, Scranton, Pa.

President: Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Scranton, Pa.

Vice President: Rev. Gerald W. Shantillo, Scranton, Pa.

Treasurer: Eric M. Deabill, Scranton, Pa.

Secretary: Linda E. Price, Scranton, Pa.

Known bondholders, mortgagees and other security holders owning or holding one percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities: None.

	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 months	Single Issue nearest to Filing Date
A. Total No. Copies Printed (Net Press Run)	44,522	44,731
B. Paid Circulation		
1. Outside County	43,902	42,123
2. In County		
3. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales	None	None
4. Other classes of mail	None	None
C. Total Paid Distribution	43,902	42,123
D. Free Distribution		
1. Outside County	520	508
2. In County		
3. Other classes of mail	None	None
4. Outside the mail	None	None
E. Total Free Distribution	520	508
F. Total Distribution	44,422	42,631
G. Copies Not Distributed	100	100
H. Total	44,522	42,731
I. Percent Paid	99%	99%

I certify that the statements made by me are correct and complete.

Eric M. Deabill, Editor-in-Chief



ROBERT RITTERBECK

Church Painting and Decorating

(570) 343-2899

Please visit our website at www.Ritterbeck.com

STATUES + STENCILS + GOLD LEAF + MURAL RESTORATION

Thanksgiving Dinner in Scranton to mark 45 years

SCRANTON – The organizers of several community-based Thanksgiving programs are asking the people of northeastern Pennsylvania to open their hearts and ensure no one goes without this holiday season.

Linda Robeson, whose family spearheads the Family-to-Family Thanksgiving Food Basket Program, expects to distribute food to more than 3,500 families this year and has already ordered more than \$150,000 in supplies. That is \$25,000 more in food than was needed last year.

The food will be distributed on Wednesday, Nov. 24, in the parking lot of the Armed Forces Reserve Center, 3401 Olyphant Avenue, Scranton. The event will begin at 10 a.m. and run through 5:30 p.m.

“We’re so grateful for every penny because we need every penny,” Robeson explained. “Five dollars and twenty dollars add up very quickly.”

The Family to Family Food Basket Program started in 1986 and has traditionally taken place inside the Scranton Cultural Center. Because of the need for social distancing, the location of the distribution will take place at the Armed Forces Reserve Center for the first time.

The annual Thanksgiving Dinner for Adults and Elderly, organized by the Friends of the Poor, will also see changes for the second year in a row because of the pandemic.

Dinners will once again be packed as take-outs and handed out to those in need outside the Scranton Cultural Center in a drive-by event on Tuesday, Nov. 23, from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. Volunteers will distribute the meals on the corner of North Washington Avenue and Vine Street in Scranton.

“It’ll be chaotic but it’ll be fun and there’s nothing more fitting for a Friends of the Poor event,” Friends of the Poor Operations Manager Brady Funkhouser said.

Initiated by the late Sister Adrian Barrett, I.H.M., in 1976 with 24 guests in need of a meal and family to share it with, the event has grown steadily over the decades. This year, an estimated 3,500 dinners will be prepared and distributed.

This year will mark 45 years of the Friends of the Poor hosting the Thanksgiving Dinner for Adults and Elderly.

The Thanksgiving Community Program will kick off with an Interfaith Prayer Service held the Friday night before the two big food distributions take place. All are welcome to join.

“On Nov. 19, at 7:00 p.m., we will gather at Temple Hesed for the first time since 2019 to celebrate the blessings we as a community have seen over the past year and a half. We’ll pray for those who still struggle and we’ll come together as a community in hope, love and gratitude,” Funkhouser noted.

How to Help

FAMILY TO FAMILY

A donation of \$30 sponsors a family of four. Donations can be sent to:

Family to Family Program
PO Box 13, Scranton, PA 18501

Online donations can be made at friendsofthepoorscranton.com/family-to-family-food-basket-program

Text your donation by texting “Thanks” to (570) 525-5956

THANKSGIVING DINNER FOR ADULTS AND ELDERLY

Friends of the Poor is looking for donors to cover the cost of the 76 30-pound turkeys that are ordered along with other food and takeout items. Send donations to:

Friends of the Poor
Thanksgiving Community Dinner
2300 Adams Avenue
Scranton, PA 18509

Online donations can be made at friendsofthepoorscranton.com

For more information, call (570) 340-6086



CTV: CATHOLIC TELEVISION

Diocese of Scranton, 330 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, PA 18503 (570) 207-2219

Class A, LPTV Broadcast Station: W07BV-CA, Channel 7, Wilkes-Barre/Pittston;
Adams Cable Service, Carbondale: channel 16 • Comcast Cable TV, Scranton/Dunmore/Dallas: channel 12
Comcast Cable TV, Williamsport: channel 16 Metrocast Cable TV, Berwick: channel 20
Service Electric Cable TV, Wilkes-Barre: channel 18 • Service Electric Cablevision, Hazleton: channel 97

OCTOBER SCHEDULE

CTV LOCAL ORIGATION IS BOXED IN BOLD BORDER, OTHER PROGRAMMING IS FROM EWTN

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
12:00 AM	DAILY MASS	SUNDAY MASS (Encore)	DAILY MASS (Encore)				
1:00 AM	FR SPITZER'S UNIVERSE	(1:10AM) LITANY OF THE SACRED HEART	THE JOURNEY HOME (Encore)	MOTHER ANGELICA LIVE CLASSICS	EWTN LIVE (Encore)	THE WORLD OVER (Encore)	EWTN NEWS IN DEPTH
1:30 AM		EWTN GALLERY					
2:00 AM	EWTN NEWS NIGHTLY (Encore)						
2:30 AM	THEY MIGHT BE SAINTS		EWTN GALLERY	EWTN GALLERY	EWTN GALLERY	EWTN GALLERY	
3:00 AM	EWTN GALLERY	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOGUE	SPECIALS	ANGELUS FROM NAZARETH	LIFE ON THE ROCK	BATTLE READY	THE WILL OF GOD
3:30AM		DEFENDING LIFE		PAPAL AUDIENCE(3:15)	AT HOME WITH JIM AND JOY (Call in thurs)		AT HOME WITH JIM AND JOY
4:00 AM	EWTN LIVE (Encore)	LIVING THE DIVINE MERCY	FIRST COMES LOVE	REFLECTIONS(4:15)	BOB AND PENNY LORD	WEB OF FAITH 2.0	SAVORING OUR FAITH
4:30 AM		SUNDAY BEST WITH FR GROESCHEL	GOD'S BLUEPRINT FOR A HAPPY LIFE	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	THE PROMISE	LIFE IS WORTH LIVING	GK CHESTERTON
5:00 AM	THE REFORMATION	EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL	DOMINICAN SISTERS	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY	EWTN SPECIALS	CATHOLIC BEGINNINGS
5:30 AM	WHERE GOD WEEPS	CATHOLIC VIEW FOR WOMEN	METANOIA	CATHOLIC SPHERE			CATHOLICS COME HOME
6:00 AM	ANGELUS WITH POPE FRANCIS	EWTN ORIGINAL PRODUCTIONS					
6:30 AM	JOURNEY THROUGH THE SCRIPTURES	G.K. CHESTERTON	CHURCH AND THE POOR	MATTHEWS TESTIMONY TO JESUS	SAINTS VS SCOUNDRELS	THE CHOICES WE FACE	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOGUE
7:00 AM	THE CHAPLET OF ST. MICHAEL					STATIONS OF THE CROSS	CHAPLET OF ST. MICHAEL
7:30 AM	THE HOLY ROSARY	HOLY LAND ROSARY					THE HOLY ROSARY
7:50 AM		LITANY OF BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	LITANY OF THE HOLY NAME	LITANY OF ST. JOSEPH	LITANY OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD	LITANY OF SACRED HEART	
8:00 AM	SUNDAY MASS (Live)	DAILY MASS (Live)					
9:00 AM	(9:20AM) LITANY OF THE SACRED HEART	HOLY ROSARY WITH THE FRANCISCAN MISSIONARIES OF THE ETERNAL WORD					
9:30 AM	EWTN ROSARY FRANCISCANS	SUNDAY BEST WITH FR. GROESCHEL	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY	SCRIPTURE AND TRADITION (ENCORE)	EWTN LIVE (ENCORE)	THE WORLD OVER (Encore)	MY CATH. FAMILY
10:00 AM	SUNDAY MASS ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL	RELIGIOUS CATALOG					LUCY AND FRIENDS
10:30 AM		CHOICES WE FACE	MOTHER ANGELICA LIVE	LIVE WITH PASSION	FOCUS	MOTHER ANGELICA LIVE CLASSICS	HERMIE AND FRIENDS
11:00 AM	EWTN NEWS IN-DEPTH	OFOD OR SPECIALS		ST ANN'S WEEKLY NOVENA	CHOICES WE FACE	NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING	AT HOME WITH JIM AND JOY
11:30 AM		THE PROMISE	MAN AND WOMAN	THE CASE FOR MARRRIAGE	MARRIAGE WORKS IN CHRIST	SAINTS	BOB & PENNY LORD PRESENT
12:00 PM	SUNDAY MASS (Encore)	THE DAILY MASS FROM ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL, LIVE AT 12:10 p.m.					EWTN DAILY MASS (Encore)
12:30PM		"DIOCESAN DATEBOOK" airs before and after Mass.					
1:00 PM	(1:20PM) LITANY OF THE SACRED HEART	WOMEN OF GRACE					EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOGUE
1:30 PM	IN CONCERT	AT HOME WITH JIM & JOY	PRO LIFE WEEKLY	AT HOME WITH JIM & JOY	CTV SPECIALS / OFOD	WOMEN OF GRACE HOUR LONG	EWTN BOOKMARK
2:00 PM		CALLED TO COMMUNION	SCRIPTURE AND TRADITION	FR. SPITZER'S UNIVERSE	THE JOURNEY HOME	LIFE ON THE ROCK	EWTN ON LOCATION
2:30 PM						STATIONS OF CROSS	
3:00 PM	THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY IN SONG						
3:20 PM	LIVE ADORATION FROM EWTN CHAPEL						
3:30 PM	THE ROSARY FROM LOURDES	THE DAILY MASS FROM ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL, (Encore)					ROSARY FROM LOURDES
4:00 PM	VATICANO	THE HOLY ROSARY					SUNDAY VIGIL MASS ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL
4:30 PM	SAVORING OUR FAITH	MASSTERPIECE DONUT	THE FRIAR	TRUTH IN THE HEART	CAT CHAT	BUG TIME ADVENTURES	
5:00 PM	THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL	EWTN BOOKMARK	THE CHOICES WE FACE	EWTN RELIGIOUS CATALOGUE	POLISH CATHOLIC	THEY MIGHT BE SAINTS	GRAB YOUR CATECHISM
5:30 PM	SUNDAY PASSIONIST MASS	SPECIALS					MEANING OF SUFFERING
6:00 PM	SUNDAY MASS FROM ST. PETERS CATHEDRAL	EWTN NEWS NIGHTLY (Live)					METANOIA
6:30 PM		CATHOLICS COME HOME	REAL LIFE CATHOLICS	CHURCH UNIVERSAL	VATICANO	WHAT IS GOD'S WILL?	TURLEY TALKS
7:00 PM	SUNDAY MASS	THE DAILY MASS FROM ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL, (Encore)					DAILY MASS
7:30PM		THE HOLY ROSARY					
8:00 PM		DIOCESAN DATEBOOK					
8:00 PM	(8:20) LITANY OF SACRED HEART	THE JOURNEY HOME (Live)	OFOD OR SPECIALS (CAN BE 90 MINUTES)	EWTN LIVE	THE WORLD OVER (Live)	EWTN NEWS IN DEPTH	EWTN CINEMA
8:30 PM	CATHOLICS COME HOME		MUSIC AND SPOKEN WORD				
9:00 PM	LIFE ON THE ROCK	EWTN NEWS NIGHTLY (Encore)					
9:30 PM	HOLY ROSARY W MOTHER ANGELICA	WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN	THE CHOICES WE FACE	FOCUS	LIVE WITH PASSION	WEEKLY NOVENA TO ST. ANN	LIVING RIGHT WITH DR. RAY
10:00PM	EWTN SPECIALS	THE WORLD OVER LIVE (ENCORE)	SCRIPTURE AND TRADITION (ENCORE)	FR. SPITZER'S UNIVERSE	PRO-LIFE WEEKLY	LIFE ON THE ROCK	
10:30 PM					DEFENDING LIFE	ICONS SPOTLIGHT	
11:00PM	CATHOLIC BEGINNINGS	BATTLE READY	LONG RIDE HOME	CROSSING THE GOAL	REAL LIFE CATHOLIC	WOMEN OF GRACE HOUR LONG	WEB OF FAITH 2.0
11:30PM	CATHOLIC VIEW FOR WOMEN	WOMEN OF GRACE					EWTN BOOKMARK

Glenn G. Yanik

ATTORNEY AT LAW

- Estate Planning • Estate Administration
- Real Estate • Business Law • Elder Law
- Durable Power of Attorney
- Wills • Guardianships • Trusts

309 Professional Building,
1501 S. Memorial Highway, Shavertown, PA 18708
570-362-0417 • gyaniklaw@epix.net
— I make house calls —



N.E.P.A. CARPET CARE

\$30 PER ROOM

SERVING NORTHEAST PA

570.591.6414

Who makes house calls?

As of October 2015, I will now meet clients either at their home, or at a location they choose and no longer require clients to meet at my office. I have decided that I would change the way I meet with people so it will be as easy and as convenient as possible for the client.

Based on my practice, which consists of estate planning and administration along with elder law, I find that clients are more comfortable discussing such matters in familiar surroundings. While I know this may seem unconventional to some, I believe I will be able to serve clients much better in this fashion.

If anyone is uncomfortable with home visits, I have a few locations where I can meet in an office setting. I look forward to meeting with my existing clients and especially meeting new clients that are looking for any assistance in estate or elder law matters.



Elder Law

- Guardianships
- Asset Protection Planning
- Medicaid Application Assistance

Estate Administration

Probate :

Settle all estate matters and distribute inheritances.

Inheritance Tax :

Utilize all discounts and proper deductions.

Meet all requirements and deadlines.

- Powers of Attorney • Living Wills • Wills
- Trusts Guardianships • Asset Protection Planning
- Medicaid Application Assistance

Estate Planning

- Powers of Attorney • Living Wills
- Wills • Trusts Guardianships



Michael J. Bendick

Attorney At Law

(570) 901-1254

www.bendicklaw.com
Located in Shavertown
(Covering Luzerne, Lackawanna,
& Wyoming Counties)

Remembrance day for aborted children observed in Diocese



The ninth annual National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children was commemorated on Sept. 18 in the Diocese of Scranton at the memorial site of the “Tomb of the Unborn” at Mount Olivet Cemetery in Carverton. The prayer service began with the recitation of a pro-life prayer by Father Frank Pavone, national director of Priests for Life, which was one of the event’s sponsoring organizations with Citizens for a Pro-Life Society and the Pro-Life Action League. Faithful in attendance proceeded to pray five decades of the Rosary for all innocent victims of abortion. Participants pictured are, first row from left: Jayne Kolesa, Catherine Suraci, Helen Smita, Nancy Flannery, Marilyn Litwin, Maureen Roughsedge, Diane Blaski, Maryann Lawhon, Nancy Restaino, Ada Magni and Chris Calore. Second row: Jerry Kory, Anna Kory, Sharon Yale, Ron Marcellini and Daniel Wisnieski.

‘Tomb of Unborn’ 25th anniversary commemoration slated Oct. 24

Prayerful commemoration of the Knights of Columbus “Tomb of the Unborn” at Mount Olivet Cemetery in Carverton will be held on Sunday, Oct. 24, beginning at 2 p.m.

Father Thomas Petro, chaplain of Pittston Knights of Columbus Council 372, will serve as leader for the celebration, during which Rosary prayers will be recited.

All Wyoming Valley Knights and area faithful are welcome to attend. For more information, call (570) 654-3713.

BENNINGTON AND SON

CHURCH SPECIALISTS INC.

INTERIOR

- ✦ Plastering
- ✦ Painting
- ✦ Stencil Work
- ✦ Gold Leafing
- ✦ Refinishing of Woodwork and Pews
- ✦ Professional Wall Washing
- ✦ Marbleizing
- ✦ Stained Glass Work
(Restoration and New)

EXTERIOR

- ✦ Steeple Work
(Restoration and New)
- ✦ Painting
- ✦ High Pressure Cleaning
- ✦ Masonry Restoration
- ✦ Water Proofing/Caulking
- ✦ Roofing and Flashing
- ✦ Metal Fabrication
- ✦ Fiberglass Work

PO Box 845 • Scranton, Pa 18501
570-342-8878 • Fax 570-344-0541
www.benningtonandson.com
e-mail: bennington90@verizon.net

*Providing church restoration
services for 75 years.*

Hazleton pro-life activist presses forward with podcasts

HAZLETON—For more than four decades, Maryann Lawhon has been a voice for the vulnerable “from womb to tomb,” moved by her love for God and the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

Having brought the message to others—first by word of mouth and then in a documentary film—Lawhon has now taken to the internet with a video podcast that brings information and inspiration about pro-life issues to viewers through a series of interviews.

Recently, Lawhon has touched on issues such as Students for Life, end-of-life questions, loving those with Down syndrome, and dealing with miscarriage.

Newly retired from her nursing career, Lawhon fills her days with tending to pro-life issues—keeping current with the latest happenings and connected with others who share her passion for life.



**Maryann
Lawhon**

Although in-person presentations were limited during the pandemic, the need to inform people about important pro-life issues was ongoing; providing pro-life resources online was a vital part of continuing the effort during a difficult time.

Now, even though in-person gatherings are increasing, Lawhon said she has learned the value of the podcast.

“It gives me a chance to interview people I might not otherwise have the opportunity to interview,” she said. “It gives people from all over the state and even the world (the opportunity) to hear life-changing messages about the value of our God-given lives.”

Lawhon’s interviews have included Dan Bartkoviak from the Pennsylvania Family Institute, who spoke on infanticide; Lianna Hollendonner of Students for Life, who gave a message of hope and energy, particularly to inspire and empower our youth; and an interview with radio producer Joe McCullough, during which she told the story of John and the evolution of her efforts.

Lawhon also has a weekly radio program on MJM Catholic Radio, during which she talks about pro-life issues and interviews a variety of like-minded people.

An evolving journey

Lawhon began her journey of bringing John’s voice to others by simple word of mouth. The charismatic Scranton native was soon asked to speak to church and community groups, bringing a message of hope to women.

In 2013, Lawhon and River-Song Productions produced “The Voice of John,” taking her important message to the big screen—a message that has now been received in a variety of venues ranging from movie theaters to women’s groups.

She has also produced videos which are available on YouTube, including one about a young man named John with Down syndrome, who thanked Lawhon for “taking our side” following a church service during which she talked about valuing life.

Lawhon also documented the death of her father in 2016, which ultimately led to a happy reunion with God. Lawhon continues to release video podcasts that are inspirational and relevant to contemporary pro-life issues.

In her latest podcast, she announced a Christmas card contest, whereby students in grades 7-12 throughout the Scranton Diocese can submit the verse to be used for this year’s “Pro-Life Christmas Card.” Entries are being accepted through Oct. 25 and may be forwarded to: Pennsylvanians for Human Life, 103 John’s Jog, Drums, PA 18222.

The contest winner will be announced on Oct. 27 and eligible for a \$150 cash prize.

Always open to feedback, she hopes people who want to learn more about pro-life issues view the video podcasts and share them with others.

The podcasts and a variety of other resources, including more information on the Christmas card contest, are available on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/TheVoiceOfJohn> and on the “Voice of John” website at shorturl.at/vxDGW.



TRAVEL IS THE ONLY THING THAT MAKES YOU RICHER!

**THOMPSON TOURS 2022 Trips! Visit us at
thompstontours.com or call us at
1-866-484-6677**



Our 2022 Royal Caribbean
Cruises & Cruisetours!

ANTHEM OF THE SEAS

11 NIGHT SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN

January 31- February 11, 2022

Departing from: Cape Liberty (Bayonne), New Jersey
Ports of Call: San Juan, Puerto Rico • Philipsburg,
St. Maarten • St. John's, Antigua • Castries, St. Lucia
• Basseterre, St. Kitts From \$1150.00 per person

EASTERN CARIBBEAN & BERMUDA CRUISE

June 23-July 1, 2022

Departing from: Cape Liberty (Bayonne), New Jersey
Ports of Call: Royal Naval Dockyard, West End,
Bermuda Philipsburg, St. Maarten • San Juan, Puerto Rico
Labadee (Cruiseline Private Island), Haiti
From \$1295.00 or a family of four \$3995.00

ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS

5 NIGHT BERMUDA CRUISE

June 9-14, 2022

From \$989.00

Sailing from Bayonne, NJ to
Beautiful Bermuda!

4 NIGHT CANADA CRUISE

Sailing to Halifax, Nova Scotia!

June 14-18, 2022

From \$599.00

QUANTUM OF THE SEAS

AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND CRUISE TOUR

January 6-25, 2022 11 Night New Zealand Cruise

5 Night Tour of Australia, including Sydney, Cairns,
Great Barrier Reef and the Kuranda Rain Forest
From \$5895.00 per person*Air included.

**ALASKA CRUISE TOUR WITH ALASKIAN
GOLD RAIL SERVICE!**

July 26-August 8, 2022

7 night cruise, Alaskan Gold Rail Service, Denali Park,
Fairbanks, Anchorage & Seattle!
From \$3695.00*air included!

**10 NIGHT HAWAII CRUISE WITH 3 NIGHTS
POST CRUISE IN WAIKIKI**

Departing from: Vancouver, British Columbia

Ports of Call: Victoria, British Columbia • Lahaina, Maui,
Hawaii • Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii
From \$2995.00 *air included!

VOYAGER OF THE SEAS

9 NT BEST OF WESTERN EUROPE CRUISE

April 14-24, 2022

Departing from: Barcelona, Spain

Ports of Call: Cartagena, Spain • Gibraltar (U.K.) •
Lisbon, Portugal • Amsterdam, Netherlands • Copenhagen,
Denmark

From \$2195.00 per person*air included!

7 NIGHT SCANDINAVIAN & RUSSIA CRUISE

* Pre Night in Stockholm

JULY 8-17, 2022

Departing from: Stockholm, Sweden

Ports of Call: St. Petersburg, Russian Federation • Helsinki,
Finland • Tallinn, Estonia • Visby, Gotland, Sweden
From \$1999.00*air included.

SERENADE OF THE SEAS

PACIFIC COASTAL CRUISE

September 25-October 2, 2022

Departing from: Vancouver, British Columbia

Ports of Call: Victoria, British Columbia • Astoria,
Oregon • San Francisco, California • San Pedro (Los
Angeles), California From \$1295.00* air included!

Highlighted Tours! VERMONT COUNTRY CHRISTMAS

December 9-12, 2021

The famous Wassel Weekend!

Bus tour with multiple departure cities!

CANADIAN ROCKIES ON THE ROCKY MOUNTAINEER TRAIN!

Journey through the Clouds on the Rocky
Mountaineer Vancouver -Kamloops-
Jasper Lake Louise - Banff - Calgary

August 5- 13, 2022

\$3895.00 per person

OUR EUROPE 2022 HIGHLIGHTED TOURS!

SPAIN & PORTUGAL DELUXE TOUR

April 1-11, 2022

Highlights: Madrid, Granada, the Alhambra, Seville,
Portuguese Riviera, Lisbon, Fatima, Oporto
and much more!

\$3195.00 per person*air included!

ENGLAND, SCOTLAND AND WALES WITH THREE NIGHTS LONDON!

May 8-17, 2022

\$3495.00 per person

GERMANY, AUSTRIA & SWITZERLAND

with Oktoberfest & Oberammergau

September 17-29, 2022

\$4695.00 per person

BOOK NOW FOR THESE AMAZING PRICES!

ALL CAN INCREASE AT ANY TIME!

JEWEL OF THE SEAS

**9 NIGHT ITALY, GREECE & FRANCE
CRUISE WITH PRE NIGHT IN ATHENS!**

September 26-October 6, 2022

Departing from: Piraeus (Athens), Greece

Ports of Call: Santorini (Thira), Greece • Katakolon
(Olympia), Greece • Catania, Sicily, Italy • Salerno
(Naples), Italy • Ajaccio, Corsica, France • Palma
De Mallorca, Balearic Islands • Valencia, Spain •

Ibiza, Balearic Islands • Tarragona, Spain

From \$2895.00 *air included!

MCDADDE - CHICHILLA APARTMENTS

230 Lackawanna Avenue, Olyphant, PA 18447

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

- 62 or older, handicapped or disabled
- Apartments designed for the mobility handicapped

Rent based on 30% of your income.

Includes all utilities except cable and telephone.

Telephone: (570) 489-4756

- CLOSE TO ALL AMENITIES •



ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES WANTED

1 ITEM OR COMPLETE ESTATES

Post Cards	Guns	Sewing
Books	Sporting Items	Machines
Military	Glassware	Light
Mining Items	Toys	Fixtures
Tools	Clocks	Magazines

570-430-2370



Buying Antiques and Estates, Furniture, Wicker, Toys, Linens, Quilts, Old Sewing Machines, Old Light Fixtures and Lamps, Railroad and Mining Items, Bookcases, Bedroom and Dining Rooms, French Doors, Radios, Books, Cedar Chests, Anything Old

OUR 40th YEAR • 570-343-5628

S&K ANTIQUES

We buy old Christmas & Halloween items, as well as old toys, old advertising, military, mining & railroad items, musical instruments, sewing machines, watches, jewelry & more.

WE BUY ANYTHING OLD!

570-954-4023 • FREE APPRAISALS

Loving Memories
Monument Care, LLC
570-346-1828



Before



After

Senior's & Veteran's Discounts!

Making sure your loved one's memory is never forgotten.
Same day service, weather prevailing.

Notice Regarding Reporting Sexual Abuse of a Minor

It is the policy of the Diocese of Scranton to report any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to law enforcement. If you are a victim of sexual abuse committed by a priest, deacon, religious or lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton, you are encouraged to immediately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, including child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law enforcement.

It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. To this end, the Diocese is equally committed to adhering to the norms of the *Code of Canon Law* and to upholding the tenets of the USCCB *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, which includes supporting victims of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being. As such, information regarding an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor should also be reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator, Mary Beth Pacuska at (570) 862-7551.

Aviso al Respeto de Reportar el Abuso Sexual de Un Menor de Edad

Es la norma de la Diócesis de Scranton reportar cualquier alegación de abuso sexual de un menor de edad a las autoridades. Si usted es una víctima de abuso sexual cometido por un sacerdote, diácono, religioso o empleado laico, o voluntario de la Diócesis de Scranton, usted está obligado a reportar el asunto inmediatamente a las autoridades de la ley.

Si algún sacerdote, diácono, religioso, empleado laico o voluntario de la Diócesis de Scranton tiene sospecha de que un menor de edad ha sido sujeto a cualquier forma de abuso, incluyendo abuso sexual de menor de edad, el asunto será reportado a las autoridades de la ley.

Es la norma de la Diócesis defender todas las regulaciones civiles y del estado. Al fin de que la Diócesis esté comprometida igualmente a defender las normas del Código de Derecho Canónico y defender los principios de la Carta Para la Protección de Niños y Jóvenes (Conferencia de los Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos), lo cual incluye apoyar a las víctimas de abuso sexual en pos del bienestar emocional y espiritual.

Por eso, información respecto a una alegación del asunto sexual de un menor de edad, debe ser reportada a la Coordinadora Diocesana de Asistencia para Las Víctimas, Mary Beth Pacuska, a (570) 862-7551.

Classifieds • Classifieds • Classifieds • Classifieds • Classifieds

COUNSELING SERVICES

Patrick F. Cioni, M.S., M.A., L.P.C.
 Individual & Marriage Counseling. Most Insurances Accepted. **570-343-0234.**

WANTED TO BUY

Old books, postcards, cigarette lighters, mining & railroad items, match box toys, all antiques & anything old. **570-430-2370.**

HAULING

WEDOCLEANOUTS.com

Attics to Basements. You Call - We Haul. Junk Removal - No job too large or small. 1 item or entire estate. Cheaper than a dumpster. Senior citizen and Veteran discounts. Free estimates. Insured. PA license #112108 **570-687-7687**

MOLD REMOVAL & CLEANUP

TekPure Environmental LLC
 Professional mold remediation. Comprehensive site evaluations. Sampling/testing. Skilled personnel. Insured. PA license #140395
570-446-5700 www.TekPure.com

WANTED TO BUY

Buying Antiques and furniture. If you are settling an estate, or have any: Gold; Silver; Coins; Mining or RR items; Old Sewing Machines; Bookcases; B/R or D/R Furniture - **ANYTHING OLD**, please give us a call. We have been in the estate furniture business since 1972 (*no other antique dealer in this valley has been in business longer*) and we do it full time. **Complete Estate Cleanup Service-Keystone Antiques, Paul L. Cicon. 570-498-6068.**

SEEKING CAREGIVER

Seeking non-medical live-in or part-time care for elderly female. Light housekeeping, light meal preparation, errands, transportation to appointments. Live-in will be provided with their own bedroom, sitting room & bath. **Call 570-840-0185.**

HELP WANTED

Pennsylvanians for Human Life-Scranton Chapter, located in downtown Scranton, is looking for a part-time office employee with computer skills to work approximately ten hours per week. **Contact Patrick at 570-587-5567 or 570-343-5099**

Advertise in The Catholic Light
570-207-2229

Eileen-Manley@DioceseofScranton.org

Parish Fall Festival Listings

Saints Anthony & Rocco Parish “Take-Out Food Festival” in Dunmore — OCT. 14. Italian food festival is take-out only from 5 to 7 p.m. on the parish grounds of Saint Rocco Church, 122 Kurtz St., Bunker Hill section of Dunmore. Menu offerings include pizza frita, hot or sweet sausage & pepper sandwiches, and pasta & meatballs. Tables will be available for outdoor dining. Drive-up orders accepted until food items are sold out.

Saint Aloysius Church “Fall Food Festival, Flea Market & Craft Fair” in Wilkes-Barre — Oct. 16, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Event will be held on the grounds of Saint Aloysius Church, Barney & Division streets, Wilkes-Barre. Food sale begins at 11 a.m.; includes homemade festival foods, potato pancakes and bake sale. Flea market/craft fair vendor rental space is available for the day for \$25. For more information, contact the parish office at (570) 823-3791 ext. 2, or visit: www.stalschurchwb.com to download forms.

Saint John Neumann Parish “Fall Festival” in Scranton — Oct. 16 & 17. Event will be held on Saturday, 3 to 8 p.m., and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., on the parish grounds of Nativity of Our Lord Church, 633 Orchard St., South Scranton. Festival menu items include pulled pork sandwiches, potato pancakes and Hispanic foods; event also features bountiful theme gift baskets, white elephant sale and bake sale.

Saint Joseph Marello Parish “Oktoberfest” in Pittston — Oct. 16 & 17. Inaugural Oktoberfest event held on Saturday, from 5 to 9 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m., on the parish grounds of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 237 William St., Pittston. Weekend festival features Oktoberfest specialties, including bratwurst, sauerkraut, pretzels and a selection of beers; traditional food favorites include porketta, clams, clam chowder, hot dogs, chicken, fries, and pizza frita. Festival also offers live musical entertainment, picnic activities, children’s games and bountiful flea market in the parish hall. Flea market items accepted; call the parish office at (570) 654-6902 for more information.

Care for when every moment matters.



Since 2015, more than 2,000 families have trusted our compassionate team to care for their loved ones. We will be here for you when it matters most with the highest quality care for your loved one, and the support and guidance you need. We now offer:

- Community-based palliative care
- Home-based hospice care
- Inpatient and respite care at our Hospice Centers

Call us 24/7 for support at 570.341.4320 or explore our programs at alliedservices.org



AlliedServices
INTEGRATED HEALTH SYSTEM

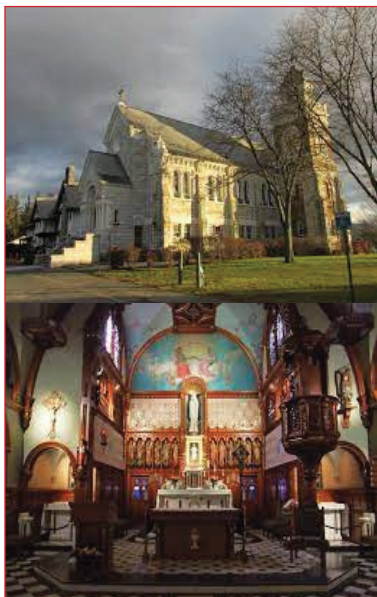
HOSPICE &
PALLIATIVE
CARE

Hospice Center Scranton, 511 Morgan Highway, Scranton
Hospice Center Wilkes-Barre, 200 S. Meade St, Wilkes-Barre



*Join us for a trip to the
Divine Mercy Shrine,
Stockbridge, Mass.*

*Presentation by Father Chris Alar
Saturday, November 6
Bus Departure 7:00am
from Dickson City Return 7:00pm
\$80
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner included.
sign up at cwcnepa.com*



FR. BERT KOZEN AND THE PARISHIONERS OF
ST. LUKE'S CHURCH
 Invite You To Attend Their Annual

Family Style Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner

- SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24 -

In the Parish Hall - 118 Kendall Avenue, Jersey Shore, 17740
 Meal will be served from 11:30am - 5:00pm. Takeouts available.

**DINNER CONSISTS OF PORK, SAUERKRAUT,
 KNOCKWURSTS, MASHED POTATOES, DUMPLINGS,
 DRINKS AND PIE FOR DESSERT.**

Adults \$10.00 • Children 6-12 \$5.00
 Children 5 and under FREE

DIR: From Route 15 in South Williamsport, take Route 654 West to Bastress. (10 miles)



BEDWICK'S Pharmacy & Gifts RELIGIOUS ITEMS FOR EVERYDAY & SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Patron Saint Medals, Statues, & Prayer Cards
 Rosaries, Scapulars, Bracelets, Lapel Pins, & Auto Visor Clips
 Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, & Irish Items
 St. Joseph the Homeseller Kits, Last Suppers, & Crucifixes

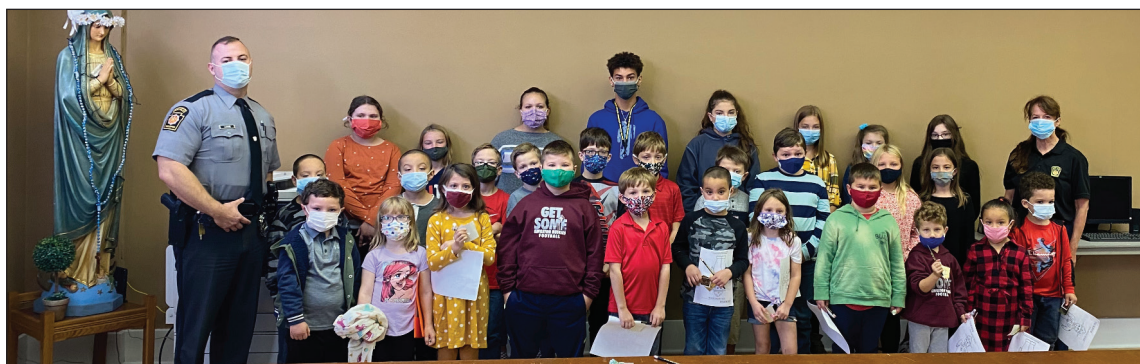
- Browse our beautiful, diverse, & extensive selection of religious items -

Hours: Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri: 9 a.m.-6 p.m. • Thurs: 1 p.m.-6 p.m. Sat: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Fall Seasonal Gifts and Home Decor - 25% off with ad!

452 Hazle Street - Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702 - 570-823-3818

Wilkes-Barre CCD classes host State Trooper presentation



Looking for the Perfect Monument?

**Stop by to see why we are the
 preferred memorial provider.**

SELECTION

• Tri-state area's largest • Over 400 memorials
 on display • More than 25 color choices

QUALIFICATION

• Family owned and operated for over 130
 years • Recommended by more than 15
 funeral homes • Superior workmanship

PRICE

• Buy direct from the manufacturer
• NO MIDDLEMAN!

*Serving All
 Catholic
 Cemeteries in
 NE PA*

*The clear choice
 for all your
 memorial needs*



Martin Caufield Memorial Works

249 Sunrise Ave., Honesdale, PA 18431

1-800-824-5293 • 570-253-3300 • FAX: 570-253-3360

www.martinaufieldmemorialworks.com
 mcmwphil@ptd.net

Full Service Granite Company Since 1877

Members of the Pennsylvania State Police conducted a "Stranger Danger" safe environment children's program on Sept. 26 for students in the Pre-Kindergarten through 8th grade religious education classes at Our Lady of Hope Parish in Wilkes-Barre. Pictured with the parish CCD students are, far left, State Trooper Nicolas Lakkis of Troop N in Bloomsburg, who is the son of Our Lady of Hope DRE Diane Lakkis, and, far right, Master Trooper Deanna Piekanski of Troop P in Wilkes-Barre.

Missionary Living Rosary in Jessup



Students in the faith formation program at Queen of Angels Parish in Jessup celebrated the "Year of the Family" by participating in a Missionary Living Rosary on Oct. 3 at Saint Michael Church, Jessup. Queen of Angels pastor Father Gerard McGlone is shown with the parish children who represented the five mission territories throughout the world for the Living Rosary: Africa (green), The Americas (red), Europe (white), Pacific Islands (blue), and Asia (yellow).

Deacon's ministry with suicide focus of Oct. 19 webinar

SCRANTON — *Responding to Suicide: A Pastoral Handbook for Catholic Leaders*, widely attributed to Deacon Ed Shoener of the Cathedral of Saint Peter Parish, has been named Resource of the Year by the Association of Catholic Publishers.

The Diocesan Office for Parish Life will sponsor a webinar focusing on the topic on Tuesday, Oct. 19, at 7 p.m., when Deacon Ed will share information about the published work and his companion book, *When A Loved One Dies by Suicide*.

One of the founders of the Association of Catholic Mental Health Ministers, the cathedral deacon will reflect on the spiritual

insights he has gained after losing a loved one to suicide and discuss the support that pastoral leaders can provide to individuals and communities who are affected by suicide.

The presentation by Deacon Shoener, who also facilitates a parish grief support group through the Cathedral Parish of Saint Peter, will offer a unique learning opportunity for those involved in parish grief and bereavement ministry, or for anyone interested in learning more.

To register to attend this one hour webinar, or for additional details, contact Jen Housel at jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org or (570) 207-2213 ext. 1104.

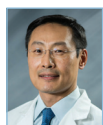
Celebrating Over 30 Years of Service to Patients Team Approach to Care



Michael J.
 Baccoli, M.D.



Lucian P.
 Bednarz, M.D.



Joseph J. Chun,
 D.O.



Christopher
 Connor, D.O.



Stella M. Ferker,
 M.D.



Kenneth W.
 Gentilezza, M.D.



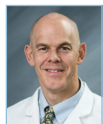
Paul W.
 Horchos, D.O.



Elizabeth Karazim-
 Horchos, D.O.



Michael Kim,
 D.O., MA



John A. Kline
 Jr., M.D.



Enid Melendez-
 Pacheco, M.D.



Scott Naftulin,
 D.O.



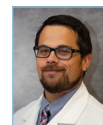
Sheryl Lynn
 Oleski, D.O.



Vinit K. Pande,
 M.D.



William R. Prebola
 Jr., M.D.



Paul Stoko, MD



Samuel A.
 Valenti Jr., M.D.



Ralf W.
 Vandersluis, M.D.



Kelly E.
 Williams, D.O.



Michael D.
 Wolk, M.D.

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

Northeast Rehab
 Spine • Sports • Neuro • Pain

5 Morgan Hwy, Suite 4, Scranton (570) 344-3788

150 Mundy Street, Wilkes-Barre (570) 824-0930

3400 Bath Pike, 4th Floor, Suite 400, Bethlehem (610) 954-9400

www.nerehab.com

IHM Sisters to continue series of virtual prayer evenings

SCRANTON — The Immaculate Heart of Mary Sisters will continue their monthly “Evenings of Prayer with the Sisters of IHM” on Wednesday, Nov. 10.

The ongoing series of prayer devotions celebrates a specific theme each month relating to IHM history and the religious community’s charism.

Due to the ongoing

coronavirus pandemic, the Evenings of Prayer are offered on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. via videostreaming. Participants may access the devotions at: <https://video.ihm.com/channel/ihm-tv>.

The November prayer service will feature the “Founders Day IHM Associate Commissioning.”

For more information, contact the IHM Sisters in Scranton at (570) 346-5404 or communications@sistersofihm.org.

Pittston parish hosting 64th Saint Jude Novena

PITTSTON — Our Lady of the Eucharist Parish will host its 64th Annual Novena to Saint Jude, patron saint of hopeless cases and things despaired of, at Saint Mary, Help of Christians Church, 535 N. Main St., Pittston, beginning Tuesday, Oct. 19, and concluding on the Feast of Saint Jude, Thursday, Oct. 28.

Mass, homily, Novena prayers and veneration of the relic of Saint Jude will be held Monday through Friday at noon and 7 p.m. Saturday devotions are offered at noon and 4 p.m.; Sundays at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.

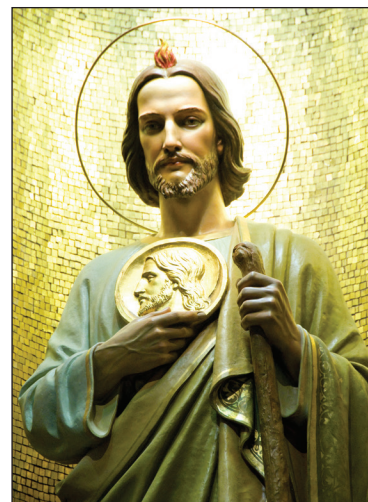
Recitation of the Rosary and Confessions precede all Novena devotions, except on Sunday.

Scheduled Novena homilists are as follows:

Tuesday, Oct. 19, noon and 7 p.m., Father Mark DeCelles; Wednesday, Oct. 20, noon and 7 p.m., Father Seth Wasnock.

Thursday, Oct. 21, noon and 7 p.m., Father Brian Van Fossen; Friday, Oct. 22, noon, Father James Alco, and 7 p.m., Saint Joseph Oblate Father Paul McDonnell, Sacramental Minister for Our Lady of the Eucharist Parish.

Saturday, Oct. 23, noon, Father Thomas Maloney, pastor



emeritus; and 4 p.m., Father McDonnell; Sunday, Oct. 24, 11 a.m., Father McDonnell, and 5 p.m., Father Maloney.

Monday, Oct. 25, noon and 7 p.m., Father Alex Roche; Tuesday, Oct. 26, noon and 7 p.m., Father Michael Bryant.

Wednesday, Oct. 27, noon and 7 p.m., Father Jeffrey Walsh.

On the Feast of Saint Jude, Thursday, Oct. 28, Father Gerald Shantillo, Vicar General of the Scranton Diocese, will celebrate the Novena’s closing liturgies at noon and 7 p.m.

For more information, contact the parish office at (570) 654-0263.

Organ rededication recital set for Oct. 24 in Pittston

PITTSTON — Mark Laubach, organist and choirmaster at Saint Stephen’s Episcopal Church in Wilkes-Barre and Professor of Organ at Marywood University, Scranton, will present a Rededication Recital on Sunday, Oct. 24, at 3 p.m. for the 1920s Kilgen pipe organ at Saint John the Evangelist Parish, 35 William St., Pittston.

The instrument was cleaned and refurbished in early 2020 by the Peragallo Pipe Organ

Company of Paterson, N.J., and the Trivo Reed Company of Hagerstown, Md. It was reinstalled at Saint John’s in late spring 2020 and played for the first time at Mass on July 18, 2020.

The restoration project also helped to improve the tuning of the instrument and blended the sounds of the original Kilgen pipework with the pipe ranks added to the organ in 1983. Minor tonal changes were made during the 2020 refurbishment.

For All Your Printing & Copying Needs



27 Stauffer Industrial Park • Taylor, PA 18517
570-343-0414 or 570-562-2738

1-888-4-ALL-PRINT
www.pdqprint.com



516 St. Mary's Villa Road
Elmhurst Township, PA
570.842.7621

We are the only Catholic based facility in the area.

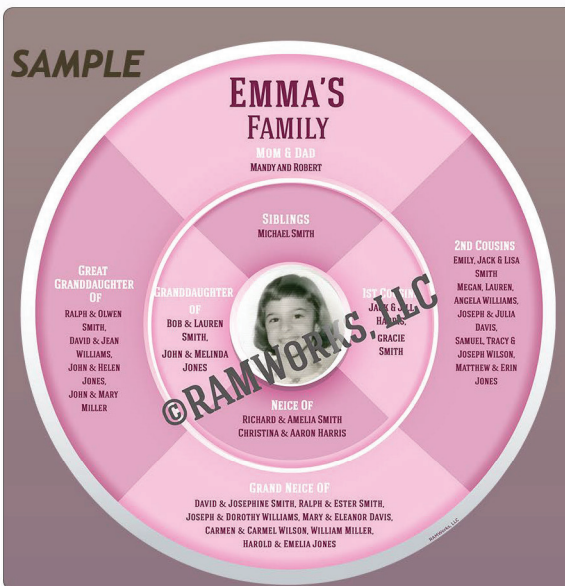
Our Director of Mission and Spiritual Care conducts weekly rosary groups and communion services in addition to visiting with residents and assisting with numerous mission-related activities.

Our chaplains celebrate Mass 4 times a week as well as on special feast days.



Unique Designs by RAMWorks, LLC

FAMILY ANCESTRY WHEEL



»» Imagine *YOUR* family tree at a glance

»» Unique gift for any occasion

»» Available in multiple colors



»» ORDER YOURS TODAY ««

Go to FAMILYTREEWHEEL.COM or Call 570-445-7997 and leave a message



A Different Kind of Lawyer

Real Estate
Living Wills
Estate Planning & Administration
Municipal Law

JONATHAN A. SPOHRER

Attorney at Law

279 Pierce Street, Kingston
570.287.1156

Enthronement Mass planned for Christ the King feast

PITTSTON — The Diocesan Enthronement Guild of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary will host a special Mass of Enthronement to celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King on Sunday, Nov. 21.

The Mass commemorating the annual feast day that marks the end of the Church's liturgical year will be celebrated at 7 p.m. in the chapel of the Oblates of Saint Joseph Seminary, Route 315, Laflin.

Father Dan Toomey, spiritual moderator of the Enthronement Guild, will serve as principal celebrant for the liturgy. Saint



Father Dan Toomey

Joseph Oblate Father Joseph Sibilano, who resides at the seminary, will concelebrate.

Music ministry for the liturgical celebration will be

provided by Ernie Pappa and Sacred Heart Singers Vanessa James and Robert Zito.

Recitation of the Rosary will be offered prior to the Mass, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The Enthronement of the Sacred Heart apostolate enables families and individuals to

consecrate their homes to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Homes that have been enthroned become an extension of the liturgy, whereby faithful can follow up their Eucharistic devotion in church with prayerful devotion in their own private settings.

Anyone interested in enthroning their home and family to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary may register to receive an Enthronement packet by contacting Maria Pappa, coordinator of the Enthronement Guild, at (570) 241-8171. Enthronement renewals are also available.

All are welcome to attend the Christ the King celebration.

LOOKING FOR A CD ALTERNATIVE?

6 Year Fixed Annuity
6 Year Term

3.15%

\$5000 Minimum
Tax Deferred

Surrender Charge (Yr1-6%, Yr2-5%, Yr3-4%
Yr4-3%, Yr5-2%, Yr6-1%)
Form Nos. AA-09, ASQ-1

Park 2 Annuity
2 Year Term

2.25%

\$1000 Minimum
Tax Deferred

Surrender Charges (Yr1-6%, Yr2-5%)
10% Free Withdrawal per Year
Form Nos. AA-09, ASQ-1, 12012010

Plans provide full withdrawal at the end of the stated term.
Rates are subject to change. Annuity contracts issued by First Catholic Slovak Union, a fraternal benefit society founded in Cleveland, OH in 1890. Not available in all states. Not FDIC or NCUSIF Insured.



"FOR GOD
& NATION"

**FIRST
CATHOLIC
SLOVAK
UNION**

Michael J. Ricci, CRPC
P.O. Box 100, Olyphant, PA 18447
800-324-2890

Marian Devotion Rosary prayer services listed

Marian Devotion Ministries in the Diocese of Scranton, dedicated to promoting prayerful devotion to Jesus and Mary through recitation of the Rosary, continues its "Fatima Journey for 2021."

The Fatima Journey began on May 15 to commemorate the 104th anniversary of the First Apparition of Fatima in Portugal in 1917, and will continue with monthly Rosary rallies until Oct. 16, in celebration of the last Marian apparition at Fatima that year.

Prayer rallies and Rosary Evenings are hosted throughout the Diocese and include the Rosary with chanted scriptural mysteries, Fatima prayers and hymns.

Upcoming Marian Devotion events are scheduled as follows:

Third Monday of the Month Rosary — Oct. 18, from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Oblates of Saint Joseph Chapel, Route 315, Laflin.

Marian Day of Reflection: "Behold Your Mother!" — Oct. 23, hosted by the Legion of Mary at Saint Patrick Parish in Milford. Retreat day on the Blessed Mother begins at 9:30 a.m. and includes lunch at 1 p.m. Event offers celebration of Mass, Eucharistic exposition and benediction, talk on devotion to Mary, sung Scriptural Rosary and private meditation. Music will be provided by Ernie Pappa.

To host an event or for more information, contact Ernie Pappa at (570) 241-8171 or email: singtomary@aol.com.

St. John Neumann Parish Fall Festival

at Nativity Church Grounds
633 Orchard St., Scranton

Saturday, Oct. 16

3 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 17

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.



Baskets Galore!



White Elephant!



Bake Sale!

Pulled Pork
Sandwiches!



Potato Pancakes!



Hispanic
Foods!



Blue Army Reparation Vigil

The next monthly First Friday Reparation Vigil, dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary and sponsored by the Blue Army, will be held **November 5** at Saint Joseph's Oblate Seminary, 1880 Highway 315, Laflin (Pittston).

Devotions begin Friday evening at 8 p.m. with recitation of the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary, during which time confessions are heard. Mass of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is celebrated at 8:55 p.m., followed by benediction, litany and consecration to the Sacred Heart.



The vigil continues with the crowning of the Blue Army Pilgrim Virgin Statue, the Blue Army Pledge, Fatima prayers and Marian hymns, followed by litany and consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The vigil concludes with scapular enrollment at 10:15 p.m.

Catholic Happenings Around the Diocese

Final "40 Days for Life" Pro-Life Rosary Gathering — OCT. 14-29, offered for the special intentions of ending abortion and closure of the Planned Parenthood location in Wilkes-Barre; Rosary is prayed each weekday, Monday thru Friday, at 10 a.m. in front of the offices of Planned Parenthood, 101 North Main St., Wilkes-Barre. The pro-life campaign draws attention to the evil of abortion through prayer & fasting, constant vigil, and community outreach. For more information, visit: www.40daysforlife.com.

Parish Breakfast Buffet — OCT. 17, hosted by St. Eulalia Parish, 214 Blue Shutters Road, Roaring Brook Township; serving from 8:30 to noon in the parish hall. Buffet includes pancakes, breakfast eggs, sausage, coffee and juice. For more information, call (570) 842-7656.

Weekly Bingo — OCT. 18, hosted by Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Dickson City; bingo games held every Monday evening in St. Mary's Visitation parish center, 625 Dundaff St., Dickson City, with doors opening at 5 p.m. Early bird games begin at 6:20 p.m. For more information, call the parish office (570) 489-2091.

Weekly Bereavement Support Group Sessions — OCT. 18-NOV. 15, sponsored by St. Vincent Parish in Milford; series of weekly support meetings addressing the grief process held on Mondays from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the parish hall of St. John Neumann, 705 Route 739, Lords Valley. All are welcome. Registration required; contact the parish office (570) 686-4545 or stvgriefgroup@att.net.

Pasta Dinner — OCT. 20, hosted by St. Joseph Melkite Greek-Catholic Church, Cabrini Ave., (off lower Jackson St.), West Scranton; take-out and curbside pickup service provided from 4 to 6 p.m. Dinner cost: adults, \$9; children (ages 5-11), \$4. For advance orders, contact the church at (570) 343-6092 or melkite.scranton@gmail.com. Tickets available on the day of the event.

Craft Fair & Home Showcase — OCT. 24, sponsored by the Parent Club of Holy Cross High School in Dunmore; opens at 10 a.m. at the school, 501 East Drinker St. Annual event features

Parish program to focus on farmers, food crisis

WILLIAMSPORT — Saint Joseph the Worker Parish, 702 West Fourth St., Williamsport, invites the public to a presentation the parish is hosting regarding the plight of local and regional farmers and the ongoing crisis of food insecurity.

The program, including conversation on the topics, will be held at Saint Joseph the Worker Parish Hall on Thursday, Oct. 21, at 6:45 p.m.

Presenters will include Brenda Cochran and Walter Barnes, both of Tioga County; Carol Sides, Lycoming County; and Barb Troester, Union County.

more than 80 vendors showcasing handmade arts & crafts; also includes a basket raffle and homemade foods for sale. General admission: \$3 per person; \$2 for seniors and students (ages 12 & older). All proceeds benefit student programs and local charities. For more information, contact Renee Hanna at (570) 614-3727.

Parish Raffle Fundraiser — OCT. 27, sponsored by the Christian Women of Our Lady of Hope Parish, 40 Park Ave., Wilkes-Barre; proceeds benefit the youth of the parish. Drawing of 22 raffle prizes at the October meeting of the Christian Women includes a handmade quilt and two handmade afghans, fall basket decoration and gift cards from area restaurants and businesses. Ticket donation: \$2 each. To purchase raffle tickets, contact Sue Cosgrove at (570) 824-0282, or Monica Jendrzewski at (570) 704-6404.

Drive-Thru Rigatoni & Meatball Dinner — OCT. 31, sponsored by Queen of Angels Parish in Jessup; sale is drive-thru/pick-up only from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Parish Pastoral Center (Church Street ramp entrance). Dinner cost: adults, \$10; children (ages 12 & younger), \$5. Tickets available before all weekend Masses and at the parish office (570) 489-2252.

Election Day Take-Out Pasta & Meatball Dinner — NOV. 2, sponsored by St. John Bosco Church, Conyngham; take-out sales only from 3 to 7 p.m. in the parish center. Cost: adults, \$10; children (ages 10 and under), \$5. Tickets available from the parish office, following weekend Masses and at the door.

Take-Out Roast Beef Dinner — NOV. 7, hosted by Mary, Mother of God Parish in North Scranton; dinner is take-out only from noon to 4 p.m. at nearby Stirna's Restaurant, 120

W. Market St., North Scranton. Dinner cost: \$11, in advance; \$13, at the door. For advance tickets, contact the parish office at 316 William St., Scranton, or call (570) 342-4881.

NJC INVESTMENTS

Helping to take the mystery out of your financial future

Nicholas J. Colarossi, CRC®

College Planning • Retirement Planning
www.njcinvestments.com • **570-586-5030**

Securities offered through Leigh Baldwin & Co., LLC. Member FINRA/SIPC



Mercy Center Personal Care & Skilled Nursing

301 Lake Street
Dallas, PA 18612

Caring... Compassion... Family...

Short-term, permanent, and
respite admissions. Open to the public.

Be a Part of a Family... the Mercy Family



(570) 675-2131 www.mcnu.org
Located on Misericordia University Campus
Sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy

AMA WATERWAYS PARIS AND NORMANDY RIVER CRUISE



Rev. Thomas Muldowney

7-Day River Cruise plus 1 Night in Paris

PLAN TO JOIN REV. THOMAS MULDOWNEY AS WE
CRUISE THE SEINE RIVER FROM PARIS TO NORMANDY.

THIS IS A PEAK SUMMER DATE! SPECIAL CHARTER.

Rates including Pre-Night in Paris, Airfare & 7-Night River Cruise.
((\$2500 PP Lower than our Competition!!!))

\$4,995_{pp/dble occ.} • August 9-18, 2022

ONLY 30 SPOTS OPEN - CALL FOR A COLOR BROCHURE!

FOR RESERVATIONS & INFORMATION CALL:

TRAVELWORLD

435 GREEN RIDGE STREET, SCRANTON, PA 18508
601 MARKET STREET, KINGSTON, PA 18704

(570) 342-5790 • (570) 288-9311

AMA Waterways Get-Together & Presentation

TUESDAY-OCT 19TH at 6:30 PM at

La Buona Vita, 200 Reilly Street in Dunmore

RSVP to TravelWorld at 570-342-5790

• Refreshments will be served •

THIS WEEKEND IS IN-PEW COMMITMENT WEEKEND

Thank you for placing your mailed pledge envelope in the offertory collection. Your generosity will reach thousands of our friends and neighbors in need who depend on your support.

"At one point in time, I was living in my car for about three months. I ended up going to Saint Anthony's Haven and they asked me if I was a veteran. From that point on, I was taken care of...I'm very optimistic now. I've got a lot of things going for me."

James Judge

Catholic Social Services Permanent Supportive Housing Client



Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton has been a lifeline to many during the pandemic. With numerous food pantries, shelters, kitchens and assistance programs, the agency has met the needs of tens-of-thousands of families, children and seniors during the pandemic. James Judge, a U.S. Navy veteran, is currently receiving help through Catholic Social Services' permanent supportive housing program.

Donate now at: annualappeal.org

GIFTS OF ANY AMOUNT ARE APPRECIATED



Diocese of Scranton
2021 DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL
RISING TOGETHER IN CHRIST

Catholic Men's Conference Oct. 30 at The Woodlands in Plains Township

The sixth "Be A Catholic Man" Catholic Men's Conference in the Diocese of Scranton is set for Saturday, Oct. 30, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at its new location of The Woodlands Inn & Resort, 1073 Highway 315, Plains Township.

"Called to Fatherhood" is the theme for this year's conference, dedicated to the patronage of Saint Joseph and his example of earthly fatherhood as provider and protector of the Holy Family.

National Catholic speakers scheduled for the event will challenge all men to live virtuous lives in a secular world.

The day's program will also include the Rosary, Eucharistic adoration, sacramental confessions, and closing Mass celebrated by Bishop Joseph C. Bambera. Morning coffee and a box lunch will be provided.

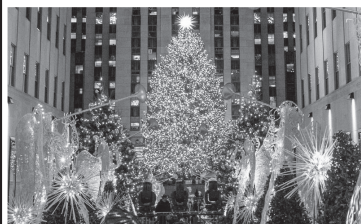
Early registration fee is \$30, until Oct. 21; \$40 after Oct. 21. Cost for students is \$15, and clergy (priests/deacons) may attend free of charge.

Online registration is available at: www.BeACatholicMan.com. For more information, contact Michael Kilmer at (570) 746-0100 or michaelkilmer71@gmail.com.

NEW YORK CITY SHOPPER'S SPECIAL

1-DAY TRIPS • \$49^{pp}

Saturday, Dec. 4 — **OR** — Saturday, Dec. 11



Depart WB • 7:00 AM
Depart SCR • 7:30 AM
Depart NYC • 7:00 PM

*Enjoy Christmas
Time in NYC!!*

435 Green Ridge Street
Scranton, Pa. 18509
570-342-5790

All Arrangements by:
TRAVELWORLD
www.asktravelworld.com

601 Market Street
Kingston, Pa. 18704
570-288-9311

The Catholic Light

MAILING LABEL - Please be sure to enclose this label with any address changes and mail to The Catholic Light, 330 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, PA 18503

Memento Mortuos LLC
Memorial Maintenance
Headstone cleaning
Planting Service
Mulch, Stone
Plot Seeding
Lighting
570-519-8200
Nepa Cemetery Care.com

WANTED WWII MILITARY SOUVENIRS

Paying **CASH** on the spot
for U.S./German/Japanese:

Medals, Uniforms, Helmets, Hats, Armbands, Flags,
Daggers, Swords, Bayonets, Knives, Pistols, Rifles,
Equipment, Pictures, Letters, Currency, Coins, etc...

Contact Sam at (570) 814-8287
Please leave a message if I'm unavailable.

(I am a private collector not a dealer and would be honored to purchase your military souvenirs to display in my collection.)