



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

October 21, 2021

Bishop Bambera celebrates Mass to begin synod process



Calling the moment “historic,” Bishop Joseph C. Bambera celebrated an opening Mass for the 2023 Synod of Bishops locally on Oct. 17 at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

“We join with dioceses from around the world at Pope Francis’ request to begin a process of reflection, a process of dialogue and a process of discernment, as we as a local Church, contribute our perspective, our thoughts, our hopes, our dreams, our prayers, to a worldwide Synod of Bishops that will convene in Rome in 2023,” Bishop Bambera said.

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

[Read Bishop Bambera's Full Homily from the Synod Opening Mass Held on Oct. 17](#)

Homilist announced for World Mission Sunday Mass at Cathedral Oct. 31

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY MASS

Sunday, October 31, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton



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

Homilist: Reverend Stephen A. Asomah, Parochial Vicar,
Our Lady of the Snows Parish, Clarks Summit



CTV: CATHOLIC TELEVISION WILL PROVIDE LIVE COVERAGE OF THE MASS

Parishioners in the Diocese of Scranton are invited to participate in a Pontifical Mass in celebration of World Mission Sunday on Sunday, Oct. 31, 2021, at 12:15 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter.

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.

Father Stephen was born and raised in Ghana, West Africa. Desiring to be a priest, he attended St. James Seminary High School and continued his seminary formation in St. Paul's Major Seminary, Sowotuum, Accra, for spirituality and philosophy and St. Peter's Regional Seminary, Pedu, Cape Coast, for theological studies. He was ordained on July 12, 2008. Prior to moving to the Diocese of Scranton in 2020, Father Stephen served in the Archdiocese of New York as a missionary from 2012-2019.

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

Kidnapping in Haiti prompts worries about other church workers' safety



As Christian missionaries and family members, some as young as 8 months old, were still being held for ransom in Haiti by a gang notorious for group kidnappings, other charities and religious groups examined how they can remain safe while delivering humanitarian aid.

Seventeen members of Christian Aid Ministries, based in Millersburg, Ohio, were kidnapped Oct. 16. The 400 Mawozo, which is considered in control of Croix-des-Bouquets and the surrounding area where the abductions occurred, claimed credit for the kidnapping and is demanding a \$17 million ransom — \$1 million per person.

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

Early bird discount period for 2021 Catholic Men's Conference ends today

CALLED TO FATHERHOOD

6th Annual Diocese of Scranton

Be a Man Catholic Men's Conference

St. Joseph was called by God to be an earthly father to His Divine Son, Jesus Christ and husband to the Blessed Mother Mary. He is our example of earthly fatherhood as **leader, protector and provider** for the Holy Family. As Joseph met the challenges of fatherhood in his day, we must meet them in ours.



We challenge **all men**, regardless of their state, whether they are **single, married or clergy** to explore how they can be good fathers in this increasingly fatherless society, to be the fathers that God has called us all to be.



Bishop
Joseph
Bambera

Adoration, Reconciliation, Mass, Exhibitors

**October 30
2021**

**NEW
LOCATION**

The Woodlands Resort

1073 Highway 315, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702
www.thewoodlandsresort.com
(570) 824-9831

Saturday, 8 am - 3:00 pm

\$40 (Early Bird \$30 until 10-21-21), Student \$15,
Priest/Deacon FREE Morning coffee & box lunch included



Karl Keating

Karl Keating, founder of Catholic Answers, has worked as a Catholic apologist for forty years and is the author of sixteen books, including the best-selling *Catholicism and Fundamentalism* and *Debating Catholicism*. His most recent book is *Sun, Storm, and Solitude: Discovering Hidden Italy on the Cammino di San Benedetto*.



Fr. Glenn
Sudano

Fr. Glenn Sudano, CFR, is a dynamic speaker and well known, gifted Spiritual Director. He is one of the eight founding members of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, founded in the spring of 1987. The apostolic mission of the Community is to save the materially poor, especially the destitute and homeless.



Jim O'Day

Jim O'Day is the director of Integrity Restored. He has been actively involved in men's ministry as one of the founders of the Catholic Men's Conferences in Connecticut and Georgia as well as a speaker at national and regional Catholic Men's events. Jim is an active and engaged Catholic, husband, father and grandfather. He teaches self-defense in his spare time and coaches lacrosse.

**Register
Online:**

www.BeACatholicMan.com

Questions - Contact Mike Kilmer 570-746-0100 michaelkilmer71@gmail.com

The 2021 Catholic Men's Conference will take place on Saturday, Oct. 30, at the Woodlands Inn & Resort in Plains Township.

All men, no matter if they are single or married, will explore how they can be good fathers in this increasingly fatherless society and learn ways to be the fathers that God has called us all to be.

The conference will feature talks from Karl Keating, Father Glenn Sudano, CFR, and Jim O'Day along with Mass celebrated by Bishop Bambera and opportunities for Reconciliation, Adoration and much more.

An early bird discount of \$30 for tickets ends on Oct. 21 but registrations will still be accepted up until the time of the conference.

[Click Here For More Information or to Register Now For the Catholic Men's Conference](#)

Diocesan Annual Appeal supports parish projects through Social Justice Grants



The Diocese of Scranton is thankful to all the parishioners who returned their pledge envelopes for the 2021 Diocesan Annual Appeal last weekend as part of In-Pew Commitment Weekend.

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 above video highlights several parishes which receive Social Justice Grant funding for important community projects from the Diocesan Annual Appeal.

Freedom comes from serving others, pope says at audience



Pope Francis had a special guest help him illustrate the meaning of Christian freedom: a young boy wandered onto the stage during the pope's general audience and made himself at home.

At his audience Oct. 20, the pope was continuing his series of talks on St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians and planned to reflect on the freedom that comes from serving and loving others.

As the Bible passage was being read, 10-year-old Paolo walked onto the stage and right up to Pope Francis, who shook his hand.

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

Bishops call attacks on U.S. Catholic sites 'acts of hate' that must stop



The Oct. 10 vandalization of Denver's cathedral basilica that resulted in satanic and other "hateful graffiti" being scrawled on its doors and at least one statue brought to 100 the number of incidents of arson, vandalism and other destruction that have taken place at Catholic sites across the United States since May 2020.

That month the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee for Religious Liberty began tracking such incidents, according to an Oct. 14 USCCB news release.

[Read the Full Story](#)

Follow Us



Diocese of Scranton
300 Wyoming Avenue,

Scranton, PA 18503-1279
(570) 207-2238
www.dioceseofscranton.org