



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

October 28, 2021

Diocese of Scranton releases statement on arrest of Diocesan priest

SCRANTON (October 23, 2021) – On Friday evening, October 22, 2021, the Diocese of Scranton learned that Father Gregory F. Loughney, pastor, Most Holy Trinity Parish, Cresco, was arrested by members of the Pocono Mountain Regional Police Department. Four criminal charges – all connected to alleged inappropriate contact with a minor– were filed against Father Loughney on the morning of Saturday, October 23, 2021.

Under its longstanding zero-tolerance policy, the Diocese of Scranton immediately removed Father Loughney from active ministry pending the outcome of the investigation. The Diocese of Scranton will cooperate fully with law enforcement officials in their investigation.

Diocesan policy also involves notifying parishes, schools and other diocesan facilities where Father Loughney ministered to alert them of the charges.

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera is asking for prayers for all people who have been affected by this situation.

“Learning the details of the behavior with which Father Loughney has been charged is extremely upsetting,” Bishop Bambera said. “In no way is this alleged behavior to be tolerated in the life and ministry of a priest.”

Anyone who might have relevant information is urged to call the Pocono Mountain Regional Police Department at (570) 895-2400, the Monroe County District Attorney’s Office at (570) 517-3052, or any local law enforcement agency.

The Faithful of Most Holy Trinity Parish should be assured that the Diocese of Scranton will provide for the celebration of Mass and the sacraments and all other pastoral needs.

[Read the Diocese of Scranton's Statement in Spanish](#)

Faithful in Wyoming County gather for Rosary Rally



The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary.

Catholics throughout the Diocese of Scranton united with faith communities around the nation on Saturday, Oct. 16, to lend their prayerful pleas as part of this year's "America Needs Fatima" Rosary Crusade.

In the above video, we take you to the Rosary Rally held at Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Tunkhannock, Wyoming County.

World Mission Sunday Mass to take place this weekend

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](#)

Milford parish dedicates new memorial garden



Bright sunshine reflected the joyous spirit of all in attendance recently as Saint Patrick's Church in Milford dedicated the Father Gerald T. Mullally Memorial Garden, featuring a beautiful new statue of Madonna Della Strada (Our Lady of the Streets).

The memorial garden celebrates the life of the late, beloved pastor who led the parish for 23 years. The garden, which includes benches and raised beds for seasonal plantings, was envisioned as a place where people can gather before Mass and at other times for quiet reflection and sharing. Included are plaques featuring excerpts from some of Father Mullally's memorable homilies.

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

**U.S. Catholic Church to observe National
Vocation Awareness Week Nov. 7-13**



Bishop James F. Checchio of Metuchen, New Jersey, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations, is encouraging dioceses to use National Vocation Awareness Week, Nov. 7-13, as a time to foster vocations in their local faith communities.

“Studies of those recently ordained and religiously professed consistently show that the encouragement of the parish priest is the most influential factor in vocational discernment,” Bishop Checchio said in an Oct. 20 statement about the upcoming weeklong observance.

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

Bishops urge Senate to include pro-life provisions in appropriations bills



The chairmen of the U.S. bishops' pro-life and religious liberty committees urged U.S. Senate leaders Oct. 22 to include the Hyde and Weldon amendments and “other long-standing, bipartisan pro-life provisions” in appropriations bills being advanced in the chamber.

By eliminating these provisions, “the Senate is staking out an extreme position of forcing taxpayers to pay for the taking of innocent unborn human life and forcing health care providers to participate in this injustice” against their deeply-held beliefs, the prelates said in a joint statement.

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

Pope may go to Canada as part of reconciliation process, Vatican says



Pope Francis is willing to travel to Canada as part of “the long-standing pastoral process of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples,” the Vatican press office said.

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops has invited the pope to visit the country, the press office said Oct. 27, although no date or time frame for the trip was mentioned.

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

**Join us for Eucharistic Adoration this evening
at Saint Jude Parish in Mountain Top**



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

Sponsored by the Diocesan Offices for Parish Life and Vocations

Follow Us



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