



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

November 25, 2021

Happy Thanksgiving!



Thanksgiving is the perfect moment
on the calendar to remind us to
return to a thankful posture.

Bishop Bambera's Video Reflection for the First Sunday of Advent



The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will once again provide video reflections each week during the Season of Advent 2021.

The liturgical year begins with the season of Advent and includes the four Sundays before Christmas. While in the secular world, the preparation may be more focused on decorating and shopping before Christmas, as Catholics we are called to focus our attention on waiting, conversion and hope.

The first weeks of Advent are marked by preparing for the second coming of Christ, while also recognizing His presence among us even now.

Diocese of Scranton delegates to NCYC told to 'keep the fire alive'



INDIANAPOLIS – While things may have looked different at this year’s National Catholic Youth Conference, the spirit of the event was unchanged.

Eight-five young adults and chaperones from the Diocese of Scranton participated in this year’s event, traveling together by bus to the Indiana Convention Center and Lucas Oil Stadium for the Nov. 18-20 conference.

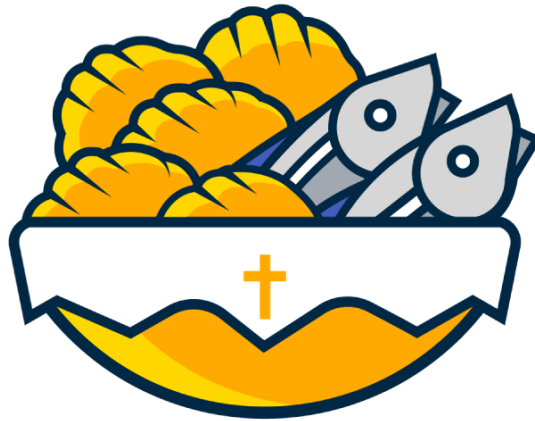
“It was fun that we all got to be together and get to meet new friends and hear all the speakers and go to Mass,” Lucas Bower, 15, Saint Joseph the Worker Parish in Williamsport, said. “Adoration was really neat. Everyone was quiet. Inside the whole stadium you could hear a pin drop.”

“Originally, I didn’t really know what I was getting myself into,” Olivia DeScipio, 15, Saint Eulalia Parish in Roaring Brook Township, admitted. “My older brother went and he said he had such an amazing experience. I was always on board with going once I got into high school but after this weekend, I really realize how big of an event this is and how amazing it was to be in such an accepting community of Catholics.”

This year, nearly 11,000 young adults from across the country participated in NCYC. Organizers decided to limit registrations to only half of the normal 20,000 because of COVID-19 concerns.

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

**Next Tuesday is #Giving Tuesday!
Join the #iGiveCatholic generosity challenge**



#iGIVECATHOLIC

For the first time this year, the Diocese of Scranton is participating in the nationwide #iGiveCatholic movement in conjunction with Giving Tuesday.

More than 40 dioceses across the country are participating and this year the Diocese of Scranton has joined to help spur giving for the many ministries and programs supported by the Diocesan Annual Appeal.

Donors have the opportunity to win prizes if they donate at least \$20 during the #iGiveCatholic giving period which started on Nov. 15. Donations will be accepted for the #iGiveCatholic campaign until Nov. 30.

[Visit the Diocese of Scranton's #iGiveCatholic Giving Page](#)

[Read More About #iGiveCatholic and the Raffle Prizes that are being given away](#)

Collection for Religious Retirement Fund Dec. 11-12 in Diocese of Scranton



The Diocese of Scranton will hold the Retirement Fund for Religious collection Dec. 11-12. The parish-based appeal is coordinated by the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) in Washington, D.C. Proceeds help religious communities across the country to care for aging members.

Last year, the Diocese of Scranton donated \$50,029.74 to the collection. In 2021, the Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary received financial support made possible by the Retirement Fund for Religious.

“I am continually heartened by the generosity of U.S. Catholics,” said NRRO Executive Director Sister Stephanie Still, a member of the Sisters of the Presentation of San Francisco. “Even in difficult times, they find a way to give back to those who have tirelessly served our Church and our world.”

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

Advent during pandemic remains a season of compassion, pope says



With Advent coming during an ongoing pandemic, Christians are called to hold on to hope and foster a season of compassion and tenderness, Pope Francis said.

During Advent this year, too, “its lights will be dimmed by the consequences of the pandemic, which still weighs heavily on our time,” he said Nov. 22. “All the more reason why we are called to question ourselves and not to lose hope.”

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

The lonely can find an 'ally' in St. Joseph, pope says at audience



As the guardian of Jesus and Mary, St. Joseph’s reassuring presence is an example for Christians who are called to care for the lonely and those who struggle in their lives, Pope Francis said.

In a society where relationships are constantly in flux, St. Joseph’s life and example give “a clear indication of the importance of human bonds,” the pope said during his weekly general audience Nov. 24.

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