



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

November 4, 2021

Accompany, pray for people experiencing depression, pope says



Deacon Ed Shoener from the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton, president of the Association of Catholic Mental Health Ministers, is working with the Vatican to share Pope Francis' message

People experiencing depression often need someone to talk to, and they can benefit from psychological counseling and reading what Jesus has to say, Pope Francis said.

"Let us pray that people who suffer from depression or burnout will find support and a light that opens them up to life," the pope said.

In a video message released by the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network Nov. 3, the pope offered his prayer intention for the month of November, which

he dedicated to people experiencing depression. November and the start of shorter and colder days for the Northern Hemisphere sometimes trigger "seasonal affective disorder" and depressive symptoms, according to many medical experts.

The Pope's message is shared by the Association of Catholic Mental Health Ministers, a lay association of the Christian faithful founded in the United States, whose members are called to be a healing presence in the lives of people with mental illness.

Its president, Deacon Ed Shoener, a permanent deacon at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton, explained the need to respond to Pope Francis' call.

"Our mission is to support the growth of mental health ministry in the Church. Pope Francis has said that we need to fully overcome the stigma with which mental illness has often been branded in order to ensure that a culture of community prevails over the mentality of rejection. We are committed to following the Pope's call to build a community of warmth and affection where people who live with depression and other mental health challenges can find hope and healing," Deacon Shoener explained.

[Read the Full Story and Watch the Pope's Video](#)

Julibee Mass for Men & Women Religious to take place Sunday

Jubilee Mass for Women and Men Religious

Sunday, November 7, 2021, at 12:15 p.m.
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton



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



CTV: CATHOLIC TELEVISION WILL PROVIDE LIVE COVERAGE OF THE MASS

The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will serve as principal celebrant and homilist for the Jubilee Mass for Men & Women Religious on Sunday, Nov. 7, 2021.

The Mass will be celebrated at 12:15 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton. Everyone is invited to attend.

Religious men and women celebrating 25, 50, 60, 70, 75 and 80 years will be recognized at the Jubilee celebration.

The Reverend Leonard A. Martin, S.J., pastor, Saint Mary Byzantine Catholic Church, Scranton and administrator, Saint John Byzantine Catholic Church, Scranton, will concelebrate the Mass.

Following the homily, the men and women religious in attendance will renew their vows followed by the singing of the "Salve Regina."

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, Jubilarians from both 2020 and 2021 will be recognized at this weekend's Mass.

CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton will provide live coverage of the Mass.

[For More Information & To See a List of the 2020-2021 Jubilarians](#)

**Young adults to gather for annual Leave a
Mark Mass on Nov. 7**



Young adults from across the Diocese of Scranton are expected to gather together with Bishop Joseph C. Bambera on Sunday, Nov. 7, to kick off National Vocation Awareness Week.

The Diocese of Scranton's annual Leave a Mark Mass will be held on Sunday at 5 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

All of the liturgical ministries will be led by young adults from across the diocese.

Following Mass, a social will take place at the Diocesan Pastoral Center which will feature food trucks, live music and much more.

All young adults, ages 18-40, are welcome to join this weekend!

[For More Information on the Leave a Mark Mass](#)

**Catholic Social Services & Friends of the Poor
begin "Christmas Gifts for Kids" registration**

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR KIDS REGISTRATION

SPONSORED BY:



DATES: MONDAY, NOV. 1ST - FRIDAY, NOV. 19TH

HOW: ONLINE VIA GOOGLE FORMS
[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/5QGGLJJO9IC9CHDZ7](https://forms.gle/5QGGLJJO9IC9CHDZ7)

NOTE: PARENTS MUST UPLOAD PROOF OF ADDRESS, AND AN INSURANCE CARD, REPORT CARD, BIRTH CERTIFICATE, OR SOME PROOF OF ID FOR EACH CHILD.

★ IF YOU DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO A COMPUTER OR SMART PHONE - CALL KARA GNALL AT 570-207-2283 EXT. 2110 FOR ASSISTANCE.



Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton and Friends of the Poor are once again partnering with the Marine Corps Reserve to present the Toys for Tots Program for Lackawanna County children this Christmas!

The sign-up period is now underway until Friday, Nov. 19.

Parents in need of assistance this holiday season must upload proof of address and other information as part of the registration process.

The toys will all be distributed from LCBC Church, 933 Scranton Carbondale Highway, Dickson City, on Dec. 14 and 15, 2021.

[Register Now for the Gifts for Kids Program](#)

Tombs of fallen soldiers are crying for peace, pope says on All Souls' feast



The tombstones of soldiers killed in war cry out to people today to end all wars and to stop the production of weapons, Pope Francis said.

“I am sure that all of those who went with goodwill (to war), called by their country to defend it, are with the Lord,” he said, celebrating Mass on the feast of All Souls, Nov. 2, at the French Military Cemetery in Rome.

“But we, who are journeying (on earth), are we fighting enough so there will be no more wars, so there will be no more domestic economies fortified by the arms industry?” he asked.

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

Bishops: Bill would help many but its funding of abortion is 'unacceptable'



The proposed Build Back Better Act has much-needed provisions “uplifting the common good,” but “it is completely unacceptable” the current House version of the bill “expands taxpayer funding of abortion,” the chairmen of six committees of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops said Nov. 3.

“We have been consistent in our position and reiterate that it would be a calamity if the important and life-affirming provisions in this bill were accompanied by provisions facilitating and funding the destruction of unborn human life,” they wrote in a joint letter to all members of the House and Senate.

The six prelates commended “the bipartisan efforts that led to the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act,” which will create millions of jobs, improve global competitiveness and provide new funds for roads, bridges, the electric grid and other major projects.

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

Support the 2021 Diocesan Annual Appeal

SUPPORT PARISH LIFE INITIATIVES

"Our primary goal is to share the Gospel, evangelize and share our faith and bring people back to the Church if they are not there"

— Jose Flores
Coordinator for Hispanic Ministry
Diocese of Scranton



The Diocesan Annual Appeal supports the Office for Parish Life, which works directly with parishes to provide training and support services to guide the faithful. This summer, the office launched a new weekly radio program in Spanish to share the Gospel message with the Hispanic community.

Donate now at: annualappeal.org



GIFTS OF ANY AMOUNT ARE APPRECIATED

Diocese of Scranton
2021 DIOCESAN
ANNUAL APPEAL



**RISING TOGETHER
IN CHRIST**

Donate Now to the 2021 Diocesan Annual Appeal

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