



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

January 20, 2022

Diocesan schools plan 'Catholic Schools Week 2022' celebrations



**Catholic Schools
Week 2022**
January 30–February 5

www.NCEA.org/csw
#CSW22

As has been a tradition for nearly 50 years, the Diocese of Scranton looks forward to joining with Catholic schools across the country to celebrate Catholic Schools Week this month.

Customarily observed during the last week of January, the 2022 edition of Catholic Schools Week will be celebrated Jan. 30-Feb. 5. Each of the 19 schools in the Scranton Diocesan education system is planning numerous activities for students, families, parishioners and community members to mark this year's celebration.

Schools typically celebrate the weeklong observance with liturgies, open houses and other programs and events focusing on the value of Catholic education, which benefits not only young people but churches, communities and the nation itself.

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

Cathedral Prayer Service helps highlight Week of Prayer for Christian Unity



This week, Jan. 18-25, is the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. An Ecumenical Celebration of the Word of God, held Wednesday, Jan. 19 at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton, was an event that helped bring attention to this important weeklong observance.

Joining the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, as presenters at the Prayer Service were Rev. Rebecca Barnes, Pastor, Saint Luke's Episcopal Church, Scranton, and President of the Scranton Area Ministerium; Rev. Bonnie Bates, Conference Minister, Penn Northeast Conference United Church of Christ, Palmerton; Monsignor Vincent J. Grimalia, Coordinator for Ecumenism and Interfaith Relations, Diocese of Scranton and Coordinator of the Ecumenical Celebration; Most Reverend Anthony Mikovsky, Prime Bishop, Polish National Catholic Church, Scranton; Rev. Rebecca Tanner, Presbyterian Church, USA; and Pastor Dave Twiss, Assemblies of God Lead Pastor, Green Ridge Assembly of God Church, Scranton, Presbyterian, North East Section of the Pennsylvania Delaware Ministry Network of the Assemblies of God.

During his sermon, Bishop Bambera said he hoped the prayer service causes people to recognize the importance of making Jesus' prayer for unity their own.

"May we come to understand that we do so best when we first seek to live in unity with one another and so become credible witnesses of Jesus, whose light still shines brightly in our world with the power to bind us together in peace," Bishop Bambera said.

[Read Bishop Bambera's Sermon from the Ecumenical Service of Prayer on January 19](#)

[Watch the CTV Broadcast of the Prayer Service](#)

Bishop to celebrate Mass for World Day of the Sick Feb. 11



World Day of the Sick Mass

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2022

12:10 P.M.

CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PETER

Principal Celebrant

**Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera
Bishop of Scranton**

CTV: Catholic Television will broadcast the Mass live

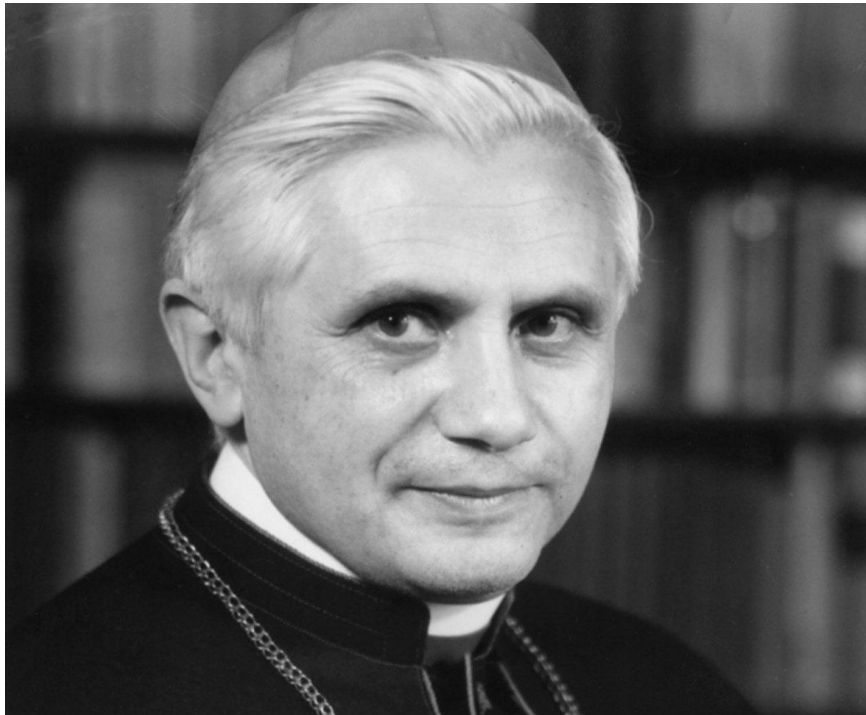
Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will celebrate Mass for the 30th World Day of the Sick on Friday, Feb. 11, 2022, at 12:10 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

The annual Mass is an opportunity to devote special attention to the sick and to those who provide them with assistance and care both in health care institutions and within families and communities.

This year, the faithful will once again pray in a particular way for those who have suffered – and continue to suffer – the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Mass is a special time to pray for healing and recovery of those sickened by the virus and for the medical community that has been on the frontlines of battling the coronavirus.

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

Munich abuse report incriminates retired pope; Vatican to study document



A law firm's report on how abuse cases were handled in the Archdiocese of Munich and Freising incriminated retired Pope Benedict XVI, with lawyers accusing him of misconduct in four cases during his tenure as Munich archbishop.

Lawyer Martin Pusch of the law firm Westpfahl Spilker Wastl said the retired pope had denied wrongdoing in all cases, reported the German Catholic news agency KNA.

Pusch expressed doubt about Pope Benedict's claim of ignorance in some cases, saying this was, at times, "hardly reconcilable" with the files.

At the Vatican, Matteo Bruni, director of the Vatican press office, said, "The Holy See believes it has an obligation to give serious attention to the

document” on cases of abuse in the Archdiocese of Munich and Freising, but it has not yet had a chance to study it.

“In the coming days, following its publication, the Holy See will review it and will be able to properly examine its details. Reiterating its sense of shame and remorse for the abuse of minors committed by clerics, the Holy See assures its closeness to all victims and confirms the path taken to protect the youngest, ensuring safe environments for them,” Bruni said.

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

Synodality and ecumenism require walking together, say cardinals



All Christians are invited to pray for unity and continue to journey together, said Cardinals Mario Grech, general secretary of the Synod of the Bishops, and Cardinal Kurt Koch, president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity.

Toward that end, the two offices came together to offer a prayer, which could be added to the other intentions during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Jan. 18-25.

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

People's mistakes and sins do not frighten God, pope says at audience



God is not frightened by people's sins, mistakes or failures, Pope Francis said.

What God is afraid of is "the closure of our hearts – this, yes, this makes him suffer – he is frightened by our lack of faith in his love," the pope said Jan. 19 during his weekly general audience.

Everybody must "square accounts" with what they have done, but "settling the accounts with God is a beautiful thing because we start talking and he embraces us" with tenderness, the pope said.

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

Pope receives proposal to declare St. Irenaeus a Doctor of the Church



Pope Francis received a formal recommendation to declare St. Irenaeus of Lyon a doctor of the church, the Vatican said.

During a meeting with Pope Francis Jan. 20, Cardinal Marcello Semeraro, prefect of the Congregation for Saints' Causes, asked the pope to "accept the affirmative opinion" of the cardinals and bishops who are congregation members to confer the title on the second-century theologian known for his defense of orthodoxy amid the rise of gnostic sects.

Once declared, St. Irenaeus would be the second doctor of the church named by Pope Francis after St. Gregory of Narek, who was given the designation in 2015. He would bring the total number of doctors of the church to 37.

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

Pints with Priests to be held virtually Jan. 25



PINTS WITH PRIESTS

01.25.22

YOUNG ADULTS 21
TO 40YRS OLD

Join us at 7:00pm and enjoy a pint of your favorite drink or ice cream and engage in spiritual & theological conversations with your peers and some priests!

This is an online event - please email Shannon at skowalski@dioceseofscranton.org to receive the Zoom link

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