



# GoodNewsNotes

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON OFFICE FOR PARISH LIFE

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**World Day of the Sick**  
**Friday, February 11**  
**at 12:10PM**  
**Cathedral of St. Peter**

**Mass for Developmental  
& Intellectual Disabilities  
Awareness**  
**Sunday, February 13**  
**at 10:00AM**  
**Cathedral of St. Peter**

**Mass of Thanksgiving and  
Sending Forth for  
Bishop-Elect Walsh**  
**Tuesday, February 15**  
**at 12:10PM**



**National Marriage Week USA**

MARRIAGE IS WORTH IT! • EVERY FEB 7-14



## Called to the Joy of Love

The week of February 7-14 is a unique time for parishes and couples to focus on marriage and we have a few items to help you support and celebrate marriage. *Don't let this time to strengthen marriage and reach young adults pass you by.*

The observances of **National Marriage Week** (Feb. 7-14) and **World Marriage Day** (Sunday, Feb. 13) are an opportunity to focus on building a culture of life and love that begins with supporting and promoting marriage and the family. Our theme for 2022 is *"Called to the Joy of Love."*

*See page 4 for resources to help your parish observe National Marriage Week!*



## FORMED

### **Unlimited Access to Life-Changing Catholic Content**

A great big thank you to those parishes that joined us for our third of four webinars "Journey into Lent with FORMED." We learned so many great ways to utilize FORMED for Lent. Please reach out if you have any questions about using Formed for the Easter Season.

We are excited to announce our fourth and final webinar with FORMED. Don Walter will join us as the host of "The Mystery of Mary for the Diocese of Scranton." May is the Month of our Lady. This webinar will help you to identify many of the opportunities available to you on FORMED to assist you in drawing your parishioners into her Immaculate Heart. You can make this time of celebrating the Mother of God and our mother a most memorable and fruitful time. Please join us. This webinar will take place on Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at 11:00AM.

Office for Parish Life is pleased to announce that FORMED is offering all parishes in the Diocese of Scranton that do not presently have a FORMED subscription another opportunity to register at a reduced cost for a one-year subscription by as much as \$400.00.

For more information about FORMED, please contact Jacki Douglas Director of Word and Lifelong Faith Formation, Office for Parish Life. [jdouglas@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:jdouglas@dioceseofscranton.org) (570) 207-2213 x-1100

## Rooted in the Cross Retreat

### **Save the Date—April 1-2, 2022**

"Rooted in the Cross" is a retreat for DREs, Lay Ministry Candidates, Youth Ministers and other catechetical leaders. As you work to provide meaningful experiences for the faithful of your parish, it is the desire of the Office for Parish Life to accompany you on your journey. We want to provide you with retreats, resources, workshops, and support to help encourage you as you work to make disciples of Christ. At the retreat we will gather for prayer, reflection and fellowship. More details to follow. For questions, contact Jacki Douglas at [jdouglas@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:jdouglas@dioceseofscranton.org) (570) 207-2213, ext. 1100.

## Remote Networking Meetings

We are excited to continue our Remote Network Meetings for DREs, and Youth Ministers. These meetings will keep with the focus that we began at the onset of the pandemic. We will center on Lifelong Faith Formation through Catechesis, youth ministry and parish life whether virtually or in person. Members of the Office for Parish Life team will be on hand to lead our discus-

sions and to keep all parishes well-informed of upcoming events. We would love to have every parish represented. So we invite each of you to join us every other week at 11:00AM. Our upcoming meeting dates are Wednesdays, February 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. For more information, please contact Jacki Douglas.

## Bishop's Youth Awards

March will be here before we know it and it is time to request your nominations for the Bishop's Youth Awards. Please take the time to carefully consider which **students in your eighth and twelfth grade programs** will best represent the spirit and intent of this award for your parish or school community.

The awards will be celebrated at a host parish in the four different regions of the diocese listed below.

- **Monday, March 28 at 7:00pm**—Eastern Region— St. Matthew Parish, East Stroudsburg
- **Wednesday, March 30 at 7:00pm**—Northern Region— Cathedral of St. Peter, Scranton
- **Monday, April 4 at 7:00pm**—Southern Region— St. Jude Parish, Mountain Top
- **Wednesday, April 6 at 7:00pm**—Western Region— St. Joseph the Worker Parish, Williamsport

Watch your email the week of February 14<sup>th</sup> for the four nomination links to each region for you to nominate your students for this award. Nominations will be due by March 7<sup>th</sup>.

## Family Faith Formation Workshop

### **Build your own family faith formation program with our help.**

Announcing a New Family Faith Formation Program for Diocese of Scranton Parishes:

### **Leading Families Home Through Faith Formation**

Designed for Catechetical Leaders  
Presented by **Tom East**

Join **Tom East** for the second workshop for catechetical leaders and teams to promote the vision and practice of Family Lifelong Faith Formation in the Diocese of Scranton. This workshop will provide instruction for lifelong faith formation, an experience of a faith festival, and all the tools for implementation in your parish.

This second of three workshops is scheduled for **Saturday; February 26, 2022 from 9:00AM-3:00PM** at the **Diocesan Pastoral Center in Scranton**. It is going to be a great day! Watch your email to sign up for the registration link. The cost for the day is \$30. Lunch and all necessary materials will be provided.





"I CALL us to be servant leaders who WORSHIP our God  
and celebrate the Sacraments in union with the universal Church."

# WORSHIP

## Rite of Election

The Rite of Election will be celebrated by Bishop Bambera on **Sunday, March 6, 2022 at 2:30PM** at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton. RCIA Coordinator Information and Enrollment forms are available on the diocesan website under [Parish Life/Worship/Christian Initiation and Sacraments](#), and registration information must be **submitted no later than Friday, February 18.**

## Introduction to the R.C.I.A. Course Weekends

The Permanent Diaconate Formation Program of the Diocese of Scranton is opening its Introduction to the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Course weekends to any parish RCIA Coordinators or parish RCIA team members who would like to deepen their understanding of the Christian Initiation process. The dates of the course weekends are:

- **Friday, February 11 from 7:00PM to 9:30PM and Saturday February, 12 from 8:30AM to 3:00PM**
- **Friday, March 4 from 7:00PM-9:30PM and Saturday, March 5 from 8:30AM to 3:00PM.**

The cost of each weekend is \$12 per participant to cover lunch and refreshments. There are required texts for the course. For more information, or to register, please contact David Baloga at [david-baloga@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:david-baloga@dioceseofscranton.org) or call 570-207-2213 ext. 1158 by **Friday, February 4.**

## World Day of the Sick

Parishes around the diocese are encouraged to offer a Mass for the Sick that includes the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick either on February 11 or a convenient day near it. Resources can be found on the [diocesan website](#) or the [National Association of Catholic Chaplains website](#).

## Online Liturgy Network Meetings

The Office for Parish Life and the Scranton Chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM) is offering monthly online liturgy network meetings. The sessions will give participants the opportunity to share best practices, express concerns, ask questions, and receive updates on diocesan, national and universal liturgical norms. The next online liturgy network meeting will take place on **Monday, February 7 at 6:30PM and will serve as a listening session for the local phase of the Synod on Synodality.** There is no need to register for the meetings as parishes will be sent a link to the monthly meeting along with summary of the liturgical updates. For more information, please contact David Baloga at [david-baloga@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:david-baloga@dioceseofscranton.org) or at 570-207-2213.

## Lent & Easter Liturgical Resource

The Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions (FDLC) has compiled a liturgical resource available in both English and Spanish to assist parishes in preparing liturgies for the Lent and Easter seasons. This resource includes a complete presider's text for the *Rite of Reconciliation of Several Penitents with Individual Confession and Absolution* with readings, sample penances, and music suggestions, as well a liturgical calendar advisory for Lent, Triduum, and the Easter Season, preparation worksheets for the Paschal Triduum and Evening Prayer for Easter Sunday. Just [click here](#) or visit [www.fdlc.org](http://www.fdlc.org).

**PROGRAMA SEMANAL**  
Del Ministerio Hispano de la Diócesis de Scranton

**CRECIENDO & FORTALECIENDO NUESTRA FE CATÓLICA**  
CONOCE, AMA & VIVE TU FE

**SÁBADOS**  
11 AM - 12 PM

**LA MEGA**  
95.3 FM WILKES BARRE  
94.9 FM SCRANTON

DIÓCESIS DE SCRANTON  
MINISTERIO HISPANO

DESCARGA LA APLICACIÓN

Ministerio Hispano - Diócesis de Scranton

**LA MEGA**  
94.9FM - 95.3FM

**CRECIENDO**  
FE CATÓLICA

**Liturgia y Espiritualidad III:**  
Sesiones de Formación Auspiciada por el  
**INSTITUTO NACIONAL HISPANO de LITURGIA**

**4 Sesiones GRATIS**

Para asistir a las sesiones, por favor inscribase haciendo "clic" en el botón del enlace. Será dirigido a un PDF con enlaces de inscripción activos. Hay que inscribirse individualmente para cada sesión ya que son independientes y gratuitas. Les esperamos en nuestras Sesiones de Formación. Para más información: escriba a [liturgia@att.net](mailto:liturgia@att.net)

<b>2 de febrero, 2022</b> 8 PM EST <b>La Cuaresma en el Año Litúrgico: Panorama Histórico</b> Rogelio Zelada <a href="#">HAGA CLIC AQUÍ</a>	<b>9 de febrero, 2022</b> 8 PM EST <b>La Música Litúrgica en el Tiempo de Cuaresma</b> Damaris Thillet Pedro Rubalcava <a href="#">HAGA CLIC AQUÍ</a>
<b>16 de febrero, 2022</b> 8 PM EST <b>Símbolos y Ritos en la Cuaresma: Prácticas pastorales aceptadas y no aceptadas</b> Rev. Heliodoro Lucatero <a href="#">HAGA CLIC AQUÍ</a>	<b>23 de febrero, 2022</b> 8 PM EST <b>La Iniciación Cristiana y la Mistagógia de la Iglesia: Sinodalidad</b> Sylvia Sánchez <a href="#">HAGA CLIC AQUÍ</a>

## Synod on Synodality

The Diocese of Scranton has officially launched the listening phase of the Synod on Synodality. Details, resources (available in both English and Spanish), as well as informational webinars for this three-pronged approach to listening to the many voices of the faithful in the Church of Scranton can be found on the diocesan website at [this link](#). While the synod survey and phone line can be accessed on the diocesan website, **all parishes are highly recommended to offer a parish gathering** that integrates prayer and reflection in discussing the ten themes of the Synod. The diocesan listening phase will adhere to the timeline on the right.

To help prepare pastors, parish life coordinators and parish delegates for this process, the Diocesan Synod Team will offer

a series of webinars, each lasting approximately one hour, and taking place on the following dates and times:

**Friday, February 4, 2022 at 10:00 A.M.**  
**Monday, February 14, 2022 at 12:30 P.M.**

**Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 4:00 P.M.**  
**Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at 6:00 P.M.**

To register for any of these webinars, please [click here](#) or visit the Synod on Synodality page on the diocesan website. You **must** register at least one hour before the scheduled session in order to receive the webinar login information.

As always, the Office for Parish Life is ready to assist you every step of the way in the process. Please contact us at [synod@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:synod@dioceseofscranton.org) for more information, and pray for the fruitfulness of this synodal journey!



## Resources for National Marriage Week

*There are multiple ways in which you can go about strengthening marriages, your own and/or those in your community. Please discern which of the resources below may be meaningful, and share these resources with others!*

### Prayer for Married Couples

#### **RESOURCES FOR COUPLES:**

**Ideas for Couples Celebrating NMW:** This resource offers some ideas for ways in which you can be especially kind and loving toward your spouse, as well as ways in which the two of you might spend some enjoyable time together. Consider aiming to use one of these ideas (or some of your own!) each day during NMW.

**Date Night Materials** (No cost for couples): Set a date night with your spouse and enjoy together these offerings from Witness to Love.

**A Couples' Novena:** This is a beautiful series of prayers your spouse and you can pray together, one each day from February 5th through February 14th.

**Marriage Week Promotional Resources:** This one link will take you to some of the resources offered separately above, as well as an option to engage with a program for continued marriage formation and to information about support for civilly married couples.

#### **RESOURCES FOR PARISHES:**

**Ideas for Pastors & Parishes:** This resource includes the ideas for pastors detailed above, as well as multiple other ways for a parish to celebrate National Marriage Week and World Marriage Day in varied and visible ways.

**A Couples' Novena:** This is a beautiful series of prayers you can post on your social media platforms/website/bulletins, to encourage spouses to pray together (one each day from February 5th through February 14th).

**Date Night Materials** (No cost for Small Groups or Couples): Consider inviting your parish couples to gather for a date night as a small group and enjoy together these offerings from Witness to Love.

**National Marriage Week 2022 Bulletin & Graphic:** This resource offered in English and Spanish includes the NMW graphic and an easy to post bulletin announcement.

**Social Media Graphics:** Attractively packaged quotations about marriage in English and Spanish that are easy to share across social media platforms, etc.

**Marriage Week Promotional Resources:** This resource includes many of those offered separately above, and includes a link to The Witness to Love Parish Promotional Packet. That packet (there is a fee) includes promotional materials you could use in reaching couples in your parish in reference to celebrating Sacramental Marriage.



"I CALL us to be servant leaders who engage in SERVICE to our neighbors near and far and who work for justice and stewardship to hasten the Reign of God."

# SERVICE

## Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation

VLCFF registration for Cycle 2 is open until March 2, 2022! Course dates are March 7-April 10. Enter into Lent through course offerings that will feed your soul and your ministry—available in English and Spanish—with topics such as: Conscience; Evangelization and Discipleship; Images of Jesus; Mary in Scripture and Tradition; Sacraments; Cristología: Imágenes de Jesús; Herramientas para el Discernimiento Espiritual; Jesucristo, Dios y hombre verdadero; Moral Cristiana. For more class listings, or to enroll, visit [vlcff.udayton.edu/](http://vlcff.udayton.edu/).

## Catechetical Virtual Retreat

*Praying Always and All Ways: Using Multiple Intelligences and our gifts for a deeper prayer experience.*

Join us on **Wednesday, March 9 at 11:00AM** for a Catechetical Virtual Retreat led by Erin O'Leary. Scripture tells us to pray without ceasing, however we sometimes struggle to find ways to pray that work for us. In this presentation, we'll explore our unique gifts and multiple intelligences and ways to pray that fit us in order to have a deeper prayer life and build our relationship with God. This includes a personal inventory and practical ideas for ways to pray. For questions, contact Jacki Douglas, Director of Word and Lifelong Faith Formation, Office for Parish Life [jdouglas@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:jdouglas@dioceseofscranton.org) (570) 207-2213, ext. 1100.

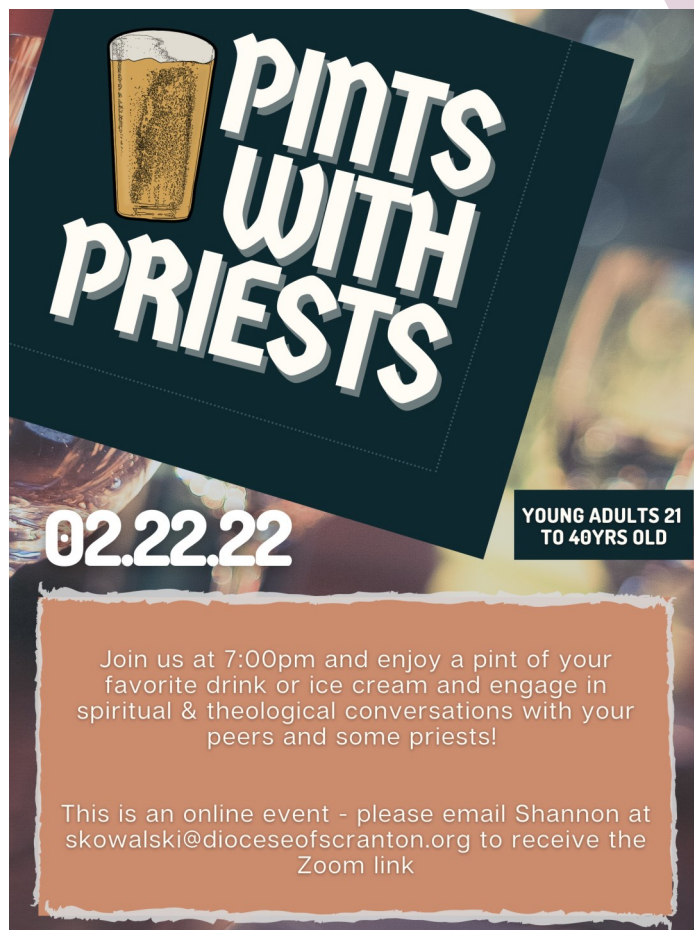
**Our Speaker:** Erin O'Leary, MEd, EdS, is a Hope-filled Catholic working in the Archdiocese of St. Paul/Minneapolis for 30+ years as a Director of Faith Formation, Catholic school teacher and administrator and curriculum developer. She has given presentations and retreats both nationally and locally and was named an NCEA Distinguished Teacher of the Year. She serves as a board member of the Association of Coordinators and Religious Educators in the Twin Cities. Erin currently works at the Church of the Holy Name, Minneapolis, MN where she is Director of Faith Formation and also an educational consultant, presenter and contributing writer for Our Sunday Visitor Publishers.

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

at St. Boniface Parish

**SPEAKER, MUSIC, & RECONCILIATION.**

Thursday, February 10th  
7:00 PM  
326 Washington Blvd  
Williamsport, PA 17701



**PINTS WITH PRIESTS**

**02.22.22**

**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](mailto:skowalski@dioceseofscranton.org) to receive the Zoom link

## WORLD YOUTH DAY PILGRIMAGE




**Young Adults from the Diocese of Scranton will be heading to World Youth Day 2023 in Lisbon!**

- July 28th to August 9th, 2023
- Open to 18-35 Year Olds
- Extended Trip to Barcelona Included

For More Information, Please Contact  
Shannon Kowalski at  
[Skowalski@Dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:Skowalski@Dioceseofscranton.org)

# OPL Month At A Glance

## February 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 Synod Webinar 10AM	5
6	7 Online Liturgy Network 6:30PM	8 Synod Webinar 4PM	9 DRE/YM Remote Networking Meeting 11AM	10	11 Intro. to the RCIA Course 7-9:30PM, DPC	12 Intro. to the RCIA Course 8:30AM-3PM, DPC
NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK 2022						
13	14 Synod Webinar 12:30PM	15 Mass of Thanksgiving and Sending Forth for Bishop-Elect Walsh 12:10PM Cathedral Lay Ministry Formation Synod Listening Session 6:30PM	16	17	18 Rite of Election Registration Deadline	19
NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK 2022						
20	21 Presidents' Day	22	23 DRE/YM Remote Networking Meeting 11AM  Synod Webinar 6PM	24	25	26 Family Faith Formation Workshop with Tom East 9AM-3PM, DPC
27	28	 <p>LOOK FOR DIOCESE OF SCRANTON LENT 2022 RESOURCES COMING SOON!</p> <h2>ROOTED IN CHRIST</h2>				

### OPL TEAM MEMBERS

Diocesan Secretary for Parish Life: **Mary Hallman**

Director for WORD and Lifelong Faith Formation: **Jacki Douglas**

Director for WORSHIP: **David Baloga**

Director for SERVICE and Mission: **Shannon Kowalski**

Coordinator for Pilgrimages: **Fr. Andrew Hvozdivic**

Director for COMMUNITY and Family Development: **Jen Housel**

Coordinator for Ecumenical/Interfaith Relations: **Msgr. Vincent Grimalia**

Coordinator for Lay Ministry Formation: **Kitty Scanlan**

Coordinator for Hispanic Ministry: **José Flores**

Consultant for Pastoral Council Development: **Ann Marie Cawley**

Diocesan Pastoral Center Manager: **Kitty Scanlan**

Administrative Assistant: **Jennifer Andres**



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