



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

February 17, 2022

Blessed and Sent Forth

Hundreds attend Mass of Thanksgiving for Bishop-elect Walsh



Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, served as principal celebrant of the Mass of Thanksgiving and Sending Forth for Bishop-elect Jeffery J. Walsh on Tuesday, Feb. 15, at 12:10 p.m. in the Cathedral of Saint Peter.

Dozens of the future bishop's brother priests from the Diocese of Scranton concelebrated the joy-filled Eucharistic liturgy, which saw the venerable cathedral filled with family, friends, religious and lay faithful who were in attendance to offer prayerful best wishes for Bishop-elect Walsh prior to

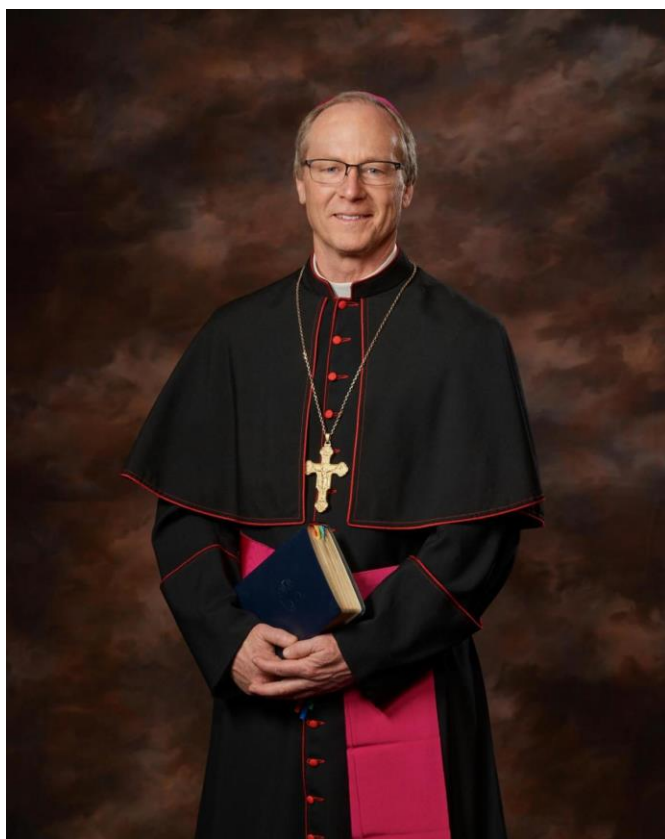
his embarking on a new chapter in his life of service to the People of God — as the new bishop of the Diocese of Gaylord, Mich.

The episcopal ordination and installation of Bishop Walsh as the sixth prelate to serve the faithful of Gaylord will take place on Friday, March 4, at 2 p.m. in the diocesan Cathedral of Saint Mary.

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

[View an Online Photo Album from the Mass of Thanksgiving and Sending Forth](#)

Rooted in faith, future bishop remains down to earth



Having travelled all over the world to help the less fortunate on mission trips, Father Jeffrey J. Walsh is now preparing to travel to Michigan for what is arguably his biggest mission yet.

On Friday, March 4, 2022, Bishop-elect Walsh will be ordained and installed as the Sixth Bishop of the Diocese of Gaylord. The Most Reverend Allen H. Vigneron, Archbishop of Detroit, will serve as the principal consecrator. The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, and the Most Reverend Walter A. Hurley, Apostolic Administrator of Gaylord, will serve as co-consecrators.

The Episcopal Ordination and Installation will take place at 2 p.m. at Saint Mary, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral, Gaylord.

Even though it has been nearly two months since the appointment was announced, Bishop-elect Walsh still feels a sense of amazement.

“I understand it as something that is necessary for my salvation, that God must see it as a way I need to follow in order to get to heaven but I also see it as a great challenge,” Bishop-elect Walsh said in a recent interview with *The Catholic Light*.

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

**Family of Bishop-elect Walsh supported him
on the path to priesthood**



Both Jerome and Nancy Walsh had the same reaction when their son, Bishop-elect Jeffrey J. Walsh, broke the news over a tray of pizza that Pope Francis had appointed him to be the Sixth Bishop of the Diocese of Gaylord.

“I was shocked that night. We’re still in shock. I just can’t believe it’s real but it is. We’re sort of adjusting to it. The more it sinks in, the more it is real,” Jerome Walsh said.

“It is just overwhelming and very humbling,” Nancy Walsh added. “We’re very thankful.”

The road to the episcopacy emanates from the path to the priesthood.

Since his appointment became public in late December, Bishop-elect Walsh has consistently cited his parents and grandparents as the most significant formators in his life.

“I never thought he’d become a bishop,” his mother said with a laugh and a smile. “I was very happy to be the mother of a priest.”

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

Brother priests agree Bishop-elect's unique gifts equip him well to lead Michigan See



As Bishop-elect Jeffrey J. Walsh prepares to leave the Diocese of Scranton to minister to the faithful in the Diocese of Gaylord, his brother priests, many who have served alongside him for 27 years are reflecting on his many gifts and talents.

“Father Walsh is truly a servant leader. He understands that to serve is to lead and to lead is to serve and he will do it well,” Monsignor Joseph G. Quinn, pastor, Saint John Neumann Parish and Saint Paul of the Cross Parish, said.

“He’s a very gifted priest and there’s a quality of holiness that is really significant in his life and that permeates when he has conversations with people,” Father Thomas M. Muldowney, pastor, Saint Catherine of Siena Parish, said.

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

Everyone is invited to take and share the Diocese of Scranton's online survey for the Synod on Synodality



We Are Listening!

Take the Diocese of Scranton's Online Survey for the Synod on Synodality
at dioceseofscranton.org

(Available in both English and Spanish)

*We invite you to share your joys, sorrows,
hopes and dreams for our church*



By calling for the 2023 Synod on Synodality, Pope Francis is inviting the Church to gather and to listen to each and every Catholic to find the Church's path forward at this time in our history. This is a moment for the voice of God's people to be heard to give voice to the direction of the Church.

Pope Francis is providing the opportunity for this ancient and tested model to find relevance in light of today's challenges and opportunities.

The Holy Father seeks to hear every voice. Prayerfully consider participating either in your parish's in-person consultation session or through the Diocese of Scranton's online survey.

[Click Here to Take the Diocese of Scranton's Survey for the Synod on Synodality](https://dioceseofscranton.org)

Diocese of Scranton announces new Catholic Social Services leader



The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, has announced that Joe Mahoney has been named Diocesan Secretary for Catholic Human Services and Chief Executive Officer of Catholic Social Services. Mahoney began his new position on Jan. 31, 2022, and this marks the fourth Catholic Social Services agency for which he has worked.

Mahoney joins the Diocese after most recently serving as Chief Operating Officer of the Pueblo Housing Authority in Colorado. Prior to that position, Mahoney spent ten years as the Executive Director of Catholic Charities of Pueblo. During his tenure, Mahoney focused on early childhood education, homelessness prevention, workforce readiness and immigration services. From 2011 to 2014, Mahoney was also elected to serve on the Executive Committee of the Catholic Charities Council of Diocesan Directors.

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

Bishop Bambera appoints Mary Hallman as Diocesan Secretary for Parish Life



The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, has announced that Mary Hallman has been named Diocesan Secretary for Parish Life. Hallman was selected from a number of highly qualified candidates following an extensive nationwide search process. She began her new position on Jan. 3, 2022.

Hallman joins the Diocese after most recently serving as Director of Evangelization in the Diocese of Syracuse for eight years. In that position, she worked closely with both clergy and lay leaders, forming relationships and building trust, in an effort to create vibrant parishes and form disciples of Jesus Christ. Through her experiences in that position, Hallman is keenly aware of the many obstacles that parishes face and has been successful in collaboratively implementing innovative solutions.

Prior to her work at the diocesan level, Hallman also served for five years in parish ministry as Director of Evangelization & Catechesis at Saint Charles/Saint Ann Parish in Syracuse. During that time, she assisted in implementing a parish strategy for conversion and discipleship that was inclusive of adults, children and youth.

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

Community groups participate in Disabilities Awareness Mass



Community groups and organizations that assist individuals with special needs came together on Feb. 13 at the Cathedral of Saint Peter to celebrate a Mass for Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities Awareness.


The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, served as principal celebrant and homilist.

The Order of Alhambra, which has a local caravan, Alhamar No. 4, had several members attend the Mass.

“We can’t forget people that are God’s special children. They may be overlooked but we always want to remember them in our hearts and this is a wonderful opportunity to do that,” Ada Magni, Deputy Supreme Director and Scribe of the Exchequer, said.

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

**Join our monthly "Pints with Priests"
on Feb. 22**



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 to receive the Zoom link

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