

# Catholic Schools collect more than \$16,000 to help families in Ukraine

Like many people, the students, staff and administration of the Diocese of Scranton Catholic School System have been touched by the stories of the Ukrainian people who have been forced to flee their homes.

In addition to offering daily prayers, our school communities have honored them by spending time in Eucharistic Adoration, saying the Rosary with their safety in mind and creating posters of support to act as a reminder of their struggles.

“Students at Saint Clare/Saint Paul School were happy to lend a helping hand to their Ukrainian brothers and sisters, because they feel a deep sense of connection to the families, families just like theirs, that are caught in a terrible situation that is beyond their control,” principal Kara Ware said.

Students in several Diocesan Catholic Schools, including Saint Clare/Saint Paul School, also made a difference by participating in school “Dress Down Days for Ukraine.” This most recent campaign has collected more than \$16,000, which will go to help the people most in need.

Students were happy to participate.

“Because Ukraine is in a war and people need help over there, I feel like it is the right thing to do,” Saint Clare/Saint Paul first grader Anthony Donato said.

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**Holy Rosary School in Duryea**



**Saint Clare/Saint Paul School in Scranton**



**Holy Family Academy in Hazleton**



**Saint Mary of Mount Carmel School in Dunmore**



**All Saints Academy in Scranton**



**Our Lady of Peace School in Clarks Green**



# Where to give to help Ukraine

Various Catholic agencies are collecting donations to aid with the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine, as people flee to escape Russian bombing and shelling. Here are some places to donate. This list is not exhaustive.

## ***Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton***

Catholic Social Services in Hazleton, 200 W. Chapel Street, is serving as a collection drop-off site for material donations to help our brothers and sisters impacted by the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. The items will be passed along to one or more organizations in Philadelphia that are providing assistance to those in need.

In conjunction with the group, “City of Hazleton Outreach to Ukraine,” Catholic Social Services is accepting nonperishable items, including dry rations, such as freeze-dried or dehydrated foods, granola or energy bars, and other non-liquid items. Baby food is also needed, but it must be in pouches and not jars.

Medical supplies and personal hygiene items, including new underwear, thermals, bras, socks, diapers, wipes, blankets, linens, pain relievers, and medical aids, such as crutches, canes, wheelchairs, walkers, are being accepted.

Donations can be made weekdays (Monday-Friday) between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

In addition to Catholic Social Services, which is a member agency of the Greater Hazleton United Way, other collection sites include Hazleton City Hall, Northeast Counseling Services and the Lackawanna College Campus.

## ***International Caritas Confederation***

The international Caritas confederation is collecting funds to help Caritas Ukraine. In the United States, that is through Catholic Relief Services: <https://bit.ly/3LWtOKa>. Internationally, you can donate through <https://www.caritas.org/>.

## ***Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia***

The Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia, led by Archbishop Borys Gudziak, who shepherds ten Ukrainian Catholic parishes in the territory of the Diocese of Scranton, recently established an online donation page for Ukrainian War Victims and the Humanitarian Crisis, which can be found at <https://ukrarcheparchy.us/donate>.

## ***Pontifical Agencies***

Two pontifical agencies are taking donations for Ukraine: Catholic Near East Welfare Association, <https://cnewa.org/campaigns/ukraine/>, and Aid to the Church in Need, <https://www.churchinneed.org/>.

## ***Knights of Columbus***

The Knights of Columbus launched the Ukraine Solidarity Fund, and donations can be made at [kofc.org/secure/en/donate/ukraine.html](https://kofc.org/secure/en/donate/ukraine.html). On Feb. 25, the Knights of Columbus announced a commitment of \$1 million for immediate distribution to support Ukrainian refugees and will match all funds raised up to an additional \$500,000. The relief funding will be used to provide shelter, food, medical supplies, clothing and religious goods, as well as other humanitarian needs as identified, both directly in Ukraine and through refugee sites in Poland.



**Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Dickson City is one of several parishes showing its support for the people of Ukraine by displaying blue and yellow lights.**

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“The Ukrainian people need food and shelter, this money can help them buy what they need,” third grader Jack Kennedy added.

“It is truly amazing to see the support that our schools have provided to Ukraine, both financially and spiritually. We all continue to pray for an end to this senseless war and hope this support from our schools provides the intended relief,” Catholic Schools Superintendent Kristen Donohue said of the efforts being made.



**La Salle Academy in Jessup**



**Holy Cross High School in Dunmore**



## ASH WEDNESDAY

The Diocese of Scranton Catholic Schools spend the 40 days of Lent with students strengthening their faith through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. It all begins with Ash Wednesday where students receive the tangible symbol of the beginning of Lent during the school day.



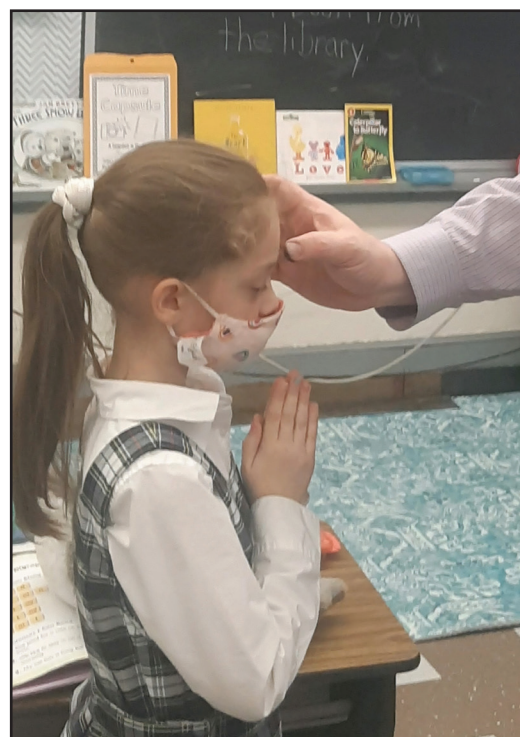
Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School in East Stroudsburg



Holy Redeemer High School  
in Wilkes-Barre



Saint John Neumann Elementary School in Williamsport



Saint Nicholas/Saint Mary School  
in Wilkes-Barre



Epiphany School in Sayre



Notre Dame Elementary School in East Stroudsburg



# LENTEN ACTIVITIES

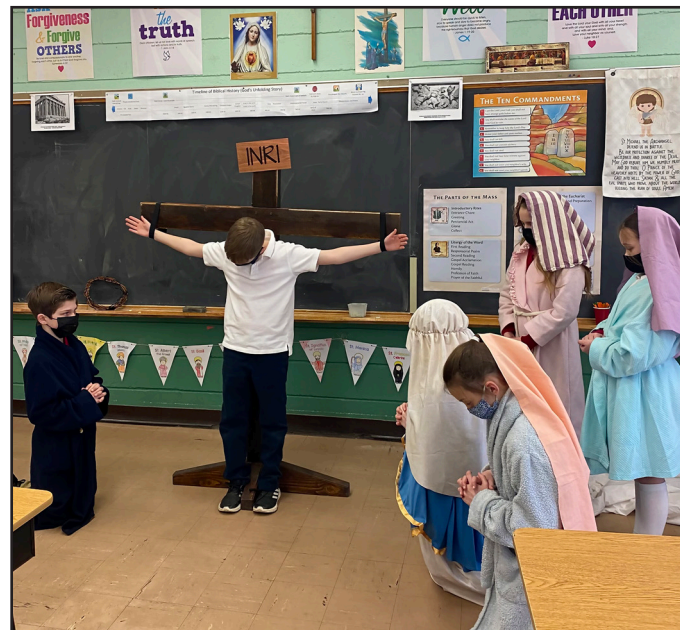
Our students are learning that spiritual growth during Lent can take many forms. Some students participated in the “The Jared Box Project”, by delivering 81 boxes of “smiles” to children who are in local hospitals. Other students collected items for the guests at “House of Hope”, part of the Sojourner Truth Ministries in Williamsport. Blessing Bags were filled with socks, crackers, tissues, tooth brushes and paste and delivered personally by students. At another school, students are preparing for their annual Living Stations presentation.



Good Shepherd Academy in Kingston

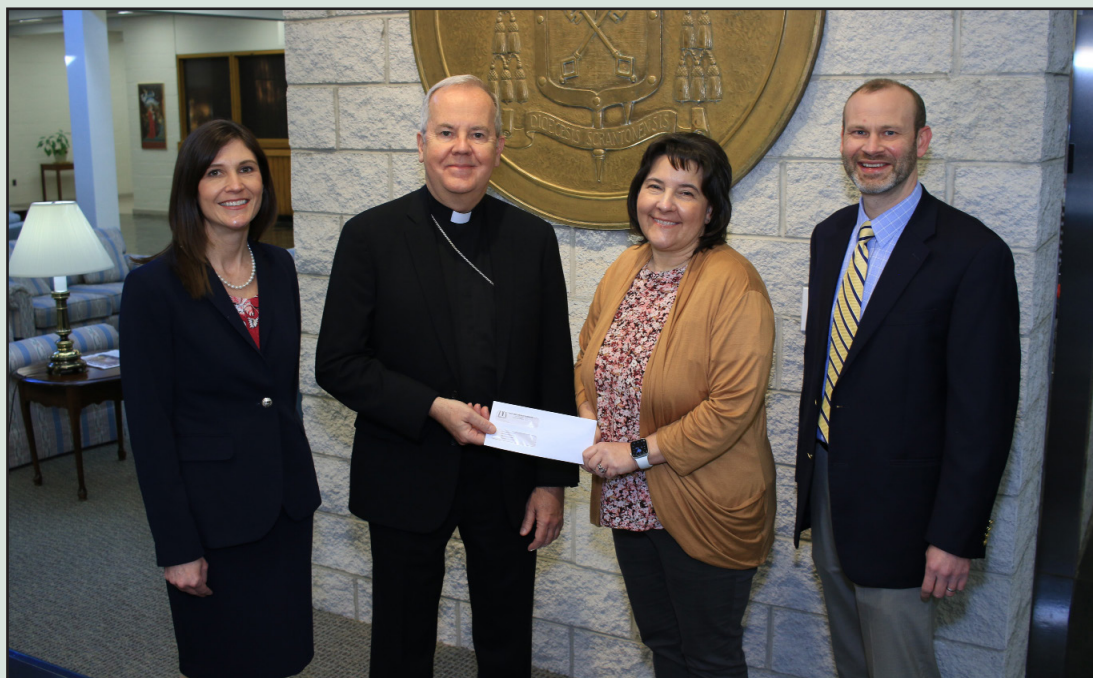


Saint John Neumann High School in Williamsport



Saint Agnes School in Towanda

## Mueller Family McDonalds donate \$10,000 to Diocese of Scranton Scholarship Foundation



Pictured at the check presentation on Feb. 28, 2022, are, from left: Kristen Donohue, Superintendent of Catholic Schools; the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton; Christina Curran, Mueller Family McDonalds; and Jason Morrison, Diocesan Secretary of Catholic Education/Chief Executive Officer. (Photo/Dan Gallagher)

SCRANTON – Christina Curran of the Mueller Family McDonalds presented a \$10,000 check to the Diocese of Scranton Scholarship Foundation on Feb. 28, 2022.

The donation was a result of the fifth annual Fry Fundraiser that kicked off National Catholic Schools Week January 31, 2022 and ended February 20, 2022. All sixteen Mueller Family McDonald's participated by donating a portion of every large order of french fries sold during that period.

“We are so grateful to the Mueller family for their generosity and continued commitment to supporting families in need. The Diocese of Scranton Scholarship Foundation helps students in our 19 schools experience a Catholic Education and achieve their God-given potential in an academically excellent, safe, and spiritual environment,” Jason Morrison, Diocesan Secretary of Catholic Education/Chief Executive Officer, said.

With restaurants located in Scranton, Wilkes-Barre, Shavertown, Mountain Top, Old Forge, Clarks Summit, Dickson City, Eynon, Carbondale, Tunkhannock, Honesdale, Allentown and Bethlehem, the Mueller Family McDonalds restaurants are deeply invested in their communities.