



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

May 26, 2022

Church presence in Uvalde, Texas, gives strength, love, archbishop says



When news broke of the May 24 school shooting in Uvalde, Texas, San Antonio Archbishop Gustavo García-Siller was in a meeting with about 150 archdiocesan priests.

The meeting was rescheduled and several priests left right away to be with people in the Texas town about 100 miles west of San Antonio and close to Mexico's border.

The archbishop also went directly to Uvalde where a teenager had killed 19 students and two elementary school teachers at Robb Elementary School before he was shot and killed by police.

Archbishop García-Siller's first stop was the hospital to meet with families of those wounded in the shooting, followed by a visit to the town's civic center where families awaited news of their loved ones. He then celebrated Mass at Sacred Heart Church in Uvalde and spoke with family members and then reporters after Mass before heading home around midnight.

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

Statement of Bishop Joseph C. Bambera on School Shooting in Uvalde, Texas



On Tuesday evening, May 24, 2022, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, released the following statement on the School Shooting in Uvalde, Texas:

“My heart aches for all of those impacted by today’s senseless school shooting in Uvalde, Texas, especially the young, innocent victims, as well as their parents, families and the entire community. The only way to describe what manifested itself today at Robb Elementary School is unspeakable evil.

“There are far too many families in our nation who have sent their children off to school in the morning yet they never return home in the afternoon.

“I ask all people in the Diocese of Scranton to join me in prayer as we mourn the victims of this terrible tragedy. I ask that we pray also for the wisdom and courage to discover ways to end such senseless violence that has enveloped our land. May the love of Jesus comfort all those who are suffering and in pain.”

[Read or Share Bishop Bambera's Statement from the Diocese of Scranton website](#)

Bishops push gun control; some call mass shootings 'pressing life issue'



Several U.S. bishops spoke out against the easy accessibility to guns in the country following a May 24 rampage that left at least 19 children and two of their elementary school teachers dead in Uvalde, Texas.

“Don’t tell me that guns aren’t the problem, people are. I’m sick of hearing it,” Bishop Daniel E. Flores of Brownsville, Texas, tweeted May 25. “The darkness first takes our children who then kill our children, using the guns that are easier to obtain than aspirin. We sacralize death’s instruments and then are surprised that death uses them.”

The comments came hours after Texas authorities said an 18-year-old with two assault weapons evaded police after crashing his truck near an elementary school close to the U.S-Mexico border and entered the school building at around noon armed with what seemed to be a rifle.

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

Pope prays for Texas shooting victims, calls for stricter gun laws



Saying his heart was broken at the news of at least 19 children and two adults being shot and killed at a Texas elementary school, Pope Francis said it was time to say “Enough!” and enact stricter laws on gun sales.

At the end of his weekly general audience May 25, with thousands of people gathered in St. Peter’s Square, the pope prayed publicly for the victims of the shooting the day before at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas.

“With a heart shattered over the massacre at the elementary school in Texas, I pray for the children and adults who were killed and for their families,” the pope told the crowd.

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

Prior to Diaconate Ordination Mass, seminarian Michael Boris featured in St. Mary's Seminary "Profiles in Ministry" series



Seminarian Michael Boris, of Dallas, will be ordained as a Transitional Deacon in the Diocese of Scranton on Saturday, May 28, at 10 a.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

All are invited to attend this important event. The Ordination Mass will also be broadcast live on CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton and livestream on the Diocese of Scranton website and social media platforms.

St. Mary's Seminary & University is featuring Boris in its new "Profiles in Ministry" video series.

We invite you to watch the above video and continue to pray for Michael during these days leading up to his Ordination Mass!

[Read More About the Diaconate Ordination Mass for Michael Boris](#)

Celebrate Generosity and 'Vote' Diocese of Scranton on NEPA Gives Day, June 3



WHAT: Northeastern PA's largest regional Day of Giving and Charitable Challenge!

WHO: Our Diocese is on the local leaderboards for the third year in a row and needs YOUR help to hold on to our consecutive bonus prizes for *Most Dollars Raised* and *Most Donors to a Large Nonprofit*.

HOW: Visit <https://www.nepagives.org/organizations/diocese-of-scranton> between **midnight and 11:59 p.m. on June 3** to make a secure gift of any size.

PLEASE ADD YOUR NAME TO OUR DIGITAL DONOR WALL BY "VOTING" FOR OUR DIOCESE on JUNE 3!

Don't donate online? Email Sandra-Snyder@dioceseofscranton.org or call 570-591-5004 to make your gift by phone.

Or send a check to arrive **BEFORE JUNE 3** to:
Diocese of Scranton/NEPA Gives
Attn: Sandra Snyder
300 Wyoming Ave.
Scranton, PA 18503



What do frozen hot chocolate, drones and kindergarten art have in common?

All three – and much more – will be featured at our first-ever First Friday fun rally and cause fair at the Diocesan Pastoral Center from 5 until 8 p.m. on Friday June 3.

Picture a telethon-turned-webathon with lots of in-person engagement. The event will include musical performances, comedy, games and a host of demonstrations, displays, exhibits, prizes and giveaways.

The fun is all part of NEPA Gives, the one-day online giving extravaganza and challenge spearheaded by five of the region's charitable foundations. The Diocese is participating for the third year in a row and hoping once again to top the leaderboards and secure some of the thousands of dollars in bonus prizes.

For 24 hours – from 12:00 a.m. to 11:59:59 p.m. – on June 3, donors may make secure donations to the Diocese through the nepagives.org website, which features about 200 other nonprofit organizations.

The cause fair will highlight Catholic schools, Diocesan youth ministry, Saint Francis Kitchen and Saint Francis Commons.

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

**Diocese of Scranton parishes to participate in
Catholic Communication Campaign collection
this weekend, May 28-29**



Parishes in the Diocese of Scranton will conduct a second collection on the weekend of May 28-29 for the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC).

Fifty percent of the funds collected remain in the Diocese to support local communications projects. Funding collected during the campaign help to support *The Catholic Light* newspaper and CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton which provides Daily livestream and broadcast Masses from the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton, as well as numerous other special events and programs.

The other half support the collective communication work of the bishops of the United States as well as other national projects in the United States and around the world.

[Read More About the Catholic Communication Campaign Collection](#)

**Pope calls for united efforts in care for
creation during Laudato Si' Week**



Pope Francis encouraged Catholics to work together in taking care of creation.

After he led the recitation of the “Regina Coeli” prayer with visitors in St. Peter’s Square May 22, the pope invited everyone to take part in “Laudato Si’ Week,” which runs May 22-29.

The special week is an opportunity “to listen ever more attentively to the cry of the earth, which urges us to act together in taking care of our common home,” he said. He thanked the Vatican office promoting the initiative, the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, and other organizations taking part.

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

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