



# *The Catholic Light*

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

## Weekly E-Newsletter

May 5, 2022

### Leaked draft of Supreme Court opinion indicates overturn of Roe decision



The Supreme Court appears set to overturn its *Roe v. Wade* decision, which legalized abortion for nearly 50 years, according to a leaked initial draft of a court opinion obtained by Politico and published online the evening of May 2.

Just minutes after the leak was published, reactions were fast and furious on social media, and barricades were erected around the Supreme Court.

Many people gathered at the court in protest and some, including students from The Catholic University of America, were there to pray the rosary.

The draft opinion, written by Justice Samuel Alito, said Roe “was egregiously wrong from the start” and that “Roe and Casey must be overruled.” Casey v. Planned Parenthood is the 1992 decision that affirmed Roe.

Alito’s opinion said the court’s 1973 Roe decision had exceptionally weak reasoning “and the decision has had damaging consequences. And far from bringing about a national settlement of the abortion issue, Roe and Casey have enflamed debate and deepened division,” he wrote.

He also said abortion policies should be determined on the state level.

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

## Pro-life advocacy groups plan next steps after abortion opinion leak



Although many pro-life groups immediately reacted positively to the news that the majority of Supreme Court justices seem set to overturn the court's Roe v. Wade decision, some tempered their reaction with a continued call for more advocacy while others kept a wait-and-see approach until the court issues its opinion in the weeks ahead.

Some Catholic bishops likewise kept their response in check, but acknowledged the work done on the grassroots level by pro-life activists.

Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, said in a May 4 statement that the leaked opinion draft "reminds us of the urgent need for prayer and action at this pivotal moment in our country."

"As we await the court's decision, we urge everyone to intensify their prayer and fasting that the final decision of the court will bring about the reversal of Roe and Casey," he said, referring to the court's 1992 decision that affirmed Roe.

"We hope and pray for a change in our laws and stand ready to help all pregnant women in need in each of our communities," he added.

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

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## **Diocese of Scranton to celebrate annual Mother's Day Adoption Mass on Sunday**

# MOTHER'S DAY ADOPTION MASS

**Sunday, May 8 at 10:00 a.m.  
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton**



CTV: Catholic Television will broadcast the Mass live and provide a livestream on the Diocese of Scranton website.

The Diocese of Scranton will celebrate its annual Mother's Day Adoption Mass on Sunday, May 8, at 10:00 a.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton. This liturgy prayerfully recognizes all mothers, with a special emphasis on adoptive and foster mothers. Bishop Joseph C. Bambera is scheduled to be the principal celebrant and homilist.

The Mother's Day Adoption Mass is open to the public and all faithful are invited to attend.

CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton will broadcast the Mass live. A livestream will also be provided on the Diocese of Scranton website, YouTube channel and across all Diocesan social media platforms.

Pope Francis has said that humanity is "built on mothers" and that their love is a cure for a world, which is so often divided and filled with bitterness.



On May 8, please join us for the Mother's Day Adoption Mass as we pray for mothers, near and far, including Mary, Mother of the Church.

[For More Information on the Mother's Day Adoption Mass](#)

## **World Day of Prayer for Vocations is Sunday** *Vatican releases Pope's annual message*



The Christian vocation is for all members of the church to work together and show that one human family united in love is not a utopia but is the reason God created humanity, Pope Francis said.

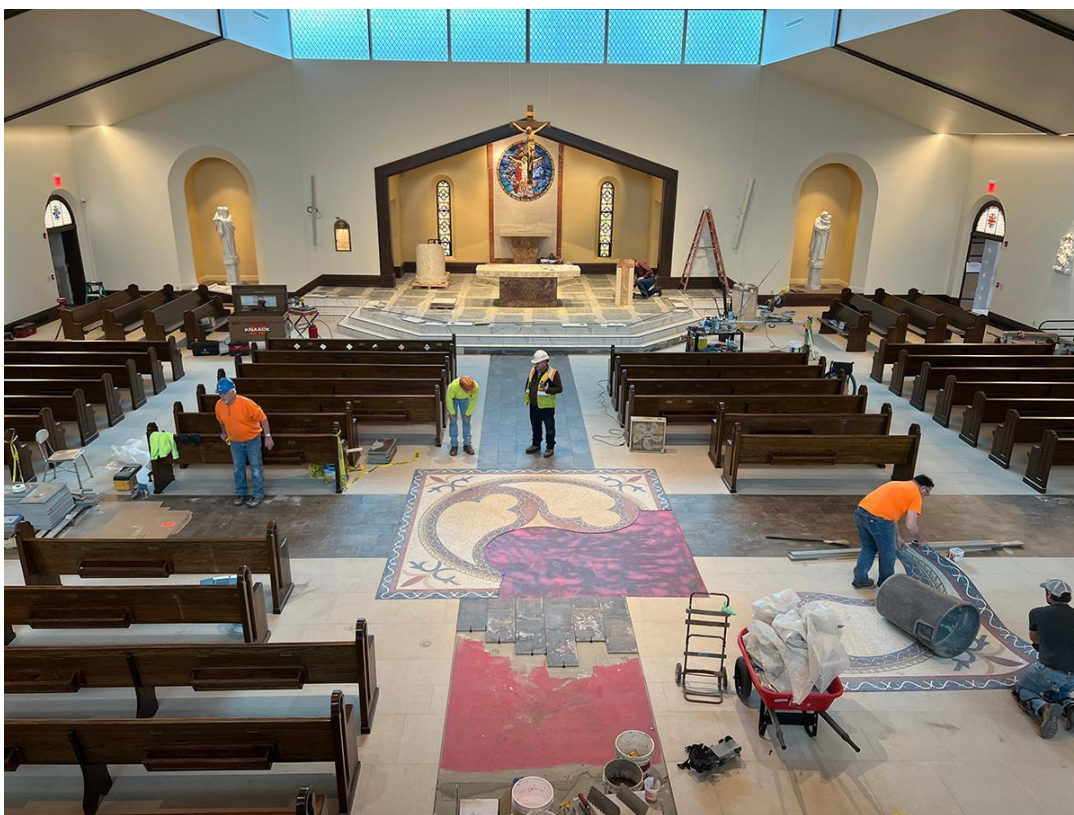
“When we speak of ‘vocation,’ then, it is not just about choosing this or that way of life, devoting one’s life to a certain ministry or being attracted by the charism of a religious family, movement or ecclesial community,” he wrote in his message for the 2022 World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

“It is about making God’s dream come true, the great vision of fraternity that Jesus cherished when he prayed to the Father ‘that they may all be one,’” he wrote.

The day of prayer will be observed May 8 at the Vatican and in many dioceses around the world.

[Read More on the Pope's Message for World Day of Prayer for Vocations](#)

## **Most Holy Trinity Parish, Cresco, to hold Dedication Mass for new church on May 15**



The wait is over! After years of planning and fundraising, parishioners of Most Holy Trinity Parish in Cresco will hold a Dedication Mass for their new church building on Sunday, May 15 at 2 p.m.

The principal celebrant for the Mass will be the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton.

The community is invited and welcome to attend the Dedication Mass. Everyone is invited to stay after Mass for refreshments in the narthex.

[Learn More about Most Holy Trinity Parish in Cresco](#)

## **Slovak boys choir to visit Kingston and Scranton May 11-12**



For the first time since 2014, the acclaimed Bratislava Boys Choir from Bratislava, Slovakia will return to Northeastern Pennsylvania for concerts in Kingston and Scranton.

The first performance is scheduled for St. Ignatius Church, 339 N. Maple Ave., Kingston on Wednesday, May 11 at 7:00 p.m. A second will be held at St. Peter's Cathedral, 315 Wyoming Ave., Scranton on Thursday, May 12 at 7:00 p.m. Both concerts are free and open to the public. Donations will be accepted.

While in Northeastern Pennsylvania, the boys – ranging in age from ten to eighteen – will experience local history and culture as they spend two nights with host families and enjoy visits to Steamtown and the Lackawanna Coal Mine Tour.

Founded by Dr. Magdaléna Rovňáková in 1982, the Bratislava Boys Choir is part of a private music school enrolling about ninety students ages seven through twenty-eight. The choir's repertoire features a wide variety of both sacred and secular works including Gregorian chant, Renaissance polyphony, concert Masses, arrangements of folk songs, and works by contemporary composers. The widely traveled choir has collaborated with the Slovak Philharmonic, the Vienna Symphony, and the Slovak Radio Symphony Orchestra in addition to recording seven compact discs. The boys have been featured in the soundtracks of several films.

The Bratislava Boys Choir's visit to Northeastern Pennsylvania is presented by the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania in cooperation with World Artists Experiences and the Embassy of Slovakia.

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

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**Diocese of Scranton Wedding Anniversary  
Mass to take place on June 26**





Married couples who are celebrating milestone anniversary years are invited to attend the Diocese of Scranton's annual Wedding Anniversary Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton on June 26, 2022.

The Mass begins at 2:30 p.m. and attendance will require advance reservation. There will be a reception for couples following the Mass.

If your 25th or 50th Wedding Anniversary has occurred or will occur in 2022, please register for the celebration on the Diocese of Scranton website. The registration deadline is Sunday, May 29, 2022.

For questions or concerns, or if there are issues registering online, please reach out to Jen Housel, Director for Community and Family Development, at [jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org), 570-207-2213 x 1104.

The Mass will air live on CTV and the Diocesan social media platforms. Family members and those anniversary couples not attending in-person are invited to participate in the Mass from home.

Considering the stresses of the COVID-19 pandemic, this is a valuable opportunity for all married couples to pause and reflect upon the beauty of the vocation of marriage in our lives and in the life of our church.

**[For More Information or to Register for the Wedding Anniversary Mass](#)**

## Like Mary, take risks to build better world, pope tells young people



Pope Francis encouraged young men and women to look to Mary as a model of courage in listening and fulfilling God's will.

"She was courageous and determined to say 'yes' to the Lord. You young people, who want to build something new, a better world, follow her example, take risks," the pope said.

In a video message released by the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network May 3, the pope offered his prayer intention for the month of May, which he dedicated to young people. At the start of each month, the network posts a short video of the pope offering his specific prayer intention.

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

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