



# **The Catholic Light**

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

## **Weekly E-Newsletter**

**June 9, 2022**

### **Priest Jubilarians honored at Cathedral Mass**



Pictured at the 2022 Mass for Priest Jubilarians are, from left: Rev. John V. Polednak, V.E., Episcopal Vicar for Clergy; Rev. Connell A. McHugh, celebrating 50 years of priesthood; Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton; Monsignor William P. Ward, celebrating 65 years of priesthood; Rev. Joseph R. Kakareka, celebrating 50 years of priesthood; and Rev. Gerald W. Shantillo, S.T.L., V.G., Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia.

Several priests who are celebrating milestone anniversaries of their ordination year were honored and recognized during the 2022 Mass for

Priest Jubilarians on Thursday, June 9, 2022, at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, served as principal celebrant and homilist. During the Mass, the bishop recognized his brothers who have served the Diocese of Scranton for 65 years and 50 years respectively.

Being honored for 65 years of service are Reverend Michael J. Rafferty and Monsignor William P. Ward.

Being honored for 50 years of service are Reverend William J. Karle, Reverend Connell A. McHugh and Reverend Joseph R. Kakareka.

"Today, the Church of Scranton has the privilege of honoring a group of men who have sought to witness in their lives the life and love of Jesus Christ," the bishop said. "Teaching us to pray, celebrating the Eucharist, proclaiming the Gospel, administering sacraments and walking in countless numbers of ways with the people who God entrusted to their care, these are the merciful works that enabled these priests to speak to us in both word and deed."

The 2022 Mass for Priest Jubilarians was broadcast live by CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton and is available for viewing on the Diocese of Scranton website and Diocese of Scranton YouTube channel.

[Watch the Mass for Priest Jubilarians from the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton](#)

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**Dioceses nationwide, including Scranton,  
to launch National Eucharistic Revival on  
Sunday, June 19**



# NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival

At their November 2021 General Assembly, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops voted to move forward with plans for a National Eucharistic Revival to renew the Church by enkindling a living relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist.

The multi-year Eucharistic Revival begins on Sunday, June 19, 2022, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi), and culminates with the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis, July 17-21, 2024.

The Diocese of Scranton will begin its local observance of the Eucharistic Revival with a Pontifical Mass followed by a Eucharistic Procession celebrated by Bishop Bambera on Sunday, June 19, 2022 at 12:15 P.M. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton.

The public is welcome to attend the Mass and participate in the Procession that will take place directly outside the Cathedral of Saint Peter.

[For More Information and Resources on the National Eucharistic Revival](#)

## **Planning begins for 2023 World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal**



Calling all young adults!

The Diocese of Scranton is planning a pilgrimage to World Youth Day 2023 in Lisbon, Portugal.

Young Adults ages 18-35 are invited to journey with us for this gathering of young people from all over the world with the Pope. World Youth Day is also a pilgrimage, a celebration of youth, an expression of the universal Church and an intense moment of evangelization for the youth world.

Our trip package includes flights, ground transportation, most meals, WYD events in Lisbon, a day in Fatima and a visit to the Chapel of the Apparitions, 2 days in Barcelona, and a tour of Montserrat Monastery. Shorter trip packages are also available.

For more information, contact Shannon Kowalski at [skowalski@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:skowalski@dioceseofscranton.org) or (570) 207-2213.

[For More Information from The Catholic Light](#)

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## **World Refugee Day 2022 to be celebrated June 18 in Scranton**

# WORLD REFUGEE DAY 2022

*WHOEVER. WHEREVER. WHENEVER.*  
EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO SEEK SAFETY.



**SATURDAY**

**JUNE 18, 2022**

**11 AM - 2 PM**

***New location:***

**YMS of R Grove**

**1000 Kane St., Scranton, PA 18505**

## COME CELEBRATE

World Refugee Day honors the strength, resilience, and courage of millions of refugees throughout the world. Everyone is welcome to come to this free event to share in the rich cultural heritage of the refugee communities in Northeast Pennsylvania.

**Free Family Event - Cultural Music & Dance - Giveaways  
Games & Activities for Kids - Light Refreshments**

Questions? Contact contact Tim at 484-645-8067 or email [community@scranton.edu](mailto:community@scranton.edu)



**Celebrate and honor World Refugee Day!**

On Saturday, June 18, everyone is invited to join local Scranton refugee communities for a time of sharing, learning, fellowship and celebration that honors global refugees from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The event, to be held at YMS of R Park in South Scranton, 1000 Kane Street, will include cultural songs and music, refreshments, games and activities for kids.



World Refugee Day is an annual international day, designated by the United Nations, to celebrate the strength and courage of people who have been forced to flee their home countries to escape conflict or persecution.

[For More Information on World Refugee Day 2022](#)

## **Brutal attack on worshippers in Nigeria is called attack on 'entire church'**



The brutal attack on people at a Catholic church in Nigeria on Pentecost Sunday is “an attack on the entire church,” said a U.S. official of Aid to the Church in Need, an international Catholic charity.

According to the Reuters news agency, gunmen fired at people inside and outside St. Francis Xavier Church in Owo, located in the southwestern state of Ondo. At least 50 people were reportedly killed during Mass June 5. Dozens more were injured and rushed to nearby hospitals.

“We extend our prayers for the victims, the wounded, their families and the entire Catholic community of Owo,” said George Marlin, chairman of the board of Aid to the Church in Need/USA, which is based in New York. “We stand with the Diocese of Ondo to help treat the wounded and those traumatized by this horrible tragedy.”

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

## Pope says he's still considering possible trip to Ukraine



Sitting in a wheelchair in the courtyard of the Apostolic Palace, Pope Francis allowed himself to be grilled by a group of youngsters, including one who asked when he would go to Ukraine “to save all the children who are suffering there.”

“I want to go to Ukraine, but I must wait for the moment, you know,” Pope Francis responded to Sachar, a boy from Ukraine now living in Rome.

“I have to look for the right time to do it,” the pope said June 4, explaining that he would not want to do something “that could do more harm to the whole world than good.”

The pope added that within the next week, he would be meeting with representatives of the Ukrainian government “who are coming to talk about a possible visit of mine there. Let’s see what happens.”

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

## **'Life and Dignity for All' is theme of USCCB's Religious Freedom Week**



“Life and Dignity for All” is the theme of this year’s Religious Freedom Week of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The observance opens June 22, the feast day of Sts. Thomas More and John Fisher, both English martyrs who fought religious persecution. The week ends June 29, the feast of Sts. Peter and Paul, and includes the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, which is June 24.

“This year, as we approach the Supreme Court’s decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*,” the USCCB “is especially mindful of the debates around our country about abortion,” said a news release about Religious Freedom Week. “The Catholic Church plays a crucial role in bearing witness to the Gospel of life and serving all who will be affected by these discussions and their outcomes.”



The *Dobbs* case involves a Mississippi law banning abortion after the 15th week of pregnancy. An initial draft of a Supreme Court opinion in the case that was leaked May 2 indicated the high court is set to overturn its *Roe v. Wade* decision, which 50 years ago legalized abortion nationwide.

[For More Information on Religious Freedom Week 2022](#)

## Summer picnics, bazaars, festivals and events page returns to the Diocese of Scranton website

Mary, Mother of God Parish

*Block Party*

**HOLY ROSARY CENTER**

*Ethnic Foods ♦ Games ♦ Raffle Baskets ♦ Wine & Spirits*

★ Friday & Saturday • June 17 & 18 ★

★ Fri. 6 pm-11pm • Sat. 5pm-11pm ★

★ Fri: 6-7pm Veterans Ceremony; 7-11pm Music by Picture Perfect ★

Sat: 5-6:30pm Music by Jim Cerminaro; 7-11pm Music by The Chatter

CORNER OF WAYNE & WEST MARKET STS., NORTH SCRANTON

*Rev. Cyril D. Edwards Invites All To Attend!*

Parishes across the 11 counties of the Diocese of Scranton are busy preparing for parish festivals, bazaars and other popular summertime events.

To help parishes publicize their events, the Diocese of Scranton has once again established a dedicated landing page on the Diocesan website to help promote events around the region.

Whether you are looking for delicious ethnic food - or simply crave the community and fellowship that these summertime events bring - this is the perfect place for you to check out all of the fun that is being planned.

The listing is constantly updated as parishes provide information to the Diocese of Scranton Communications Office.

[Visit the 2022 Summer Picnics, Festivals, Bazaars and Events Page](#)

Follow Us



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