



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

July 14, 2022

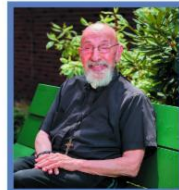
**Diocesan Annual Appeal meets \$4.5
million goal for 2021 campaign**

16,670
households were
served by four
Catholic Social Services
food pantries



12,867
nights of Emergency
Shelter were provided
to those in need

61 homeless
Veterans
were provided assistance
at St. Francis Commons,
Scranton; and **26**
secured permanent
housing



Donations helped
care for more
than **100**
ill or retired priests

19 schools received
need-based scholarships and
operating funds in support
of more than **4,300** students



189
couples prepared
for the holy
sacrament
of marriage

The Parish Life staff was
able to offer **116**
parishes
a variety
of faith formation
programs



Interested viewers
accessed the Diocesan
webpages approximately
750,000
times

Our Facebook
posts reached over
182,000
individuals last year



9 seminarians are
currently studying
to be priests in the
Diocese

With sincere thanks to the more than 20,000 supporters of the Diocesan Annual Appeal, the Diocese of Scranton joyfully announces that the \$4.5 million goal for 2021 has been surpassed.

This is the first time since 2018 that the diocese has reached its fundraising goal. More than half of parishes, 57 in total, reached their goals as well.

“This overwhelming support for the Annual Appeal, its ministries and programs, is an expression of our parishioners’ belief in sharing God’s mercy and love,” the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of

Scranton, said. “I am continually uplifted by the depth of their faith and generosity.”

Appeal funds help the Diocese of Scranton provide valuable services to the most vulnerable in our community, while simultaneously spreading the good news of the Church.

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

Solemn Novena to Saint Ann begins Sunday in West Scranton



Not unlike the rest of the world, the 2022 Solemn Novena to Saint Ann is slowly but surely returning to resemble its venerable self when COVID-19 was unheard of.

The 98th annual Solemn Novena at the Basilica of the National Shrine of Saint Ann in West Scranton, honoring of the mother of the Blessed Virgin

Mary, will begin on Sunday, July 17, and continue for nine days, culminating with the celebration of the Feast of Saint Ann on Tuesday, July 26.

Very Rev. Richard Burke, director of the Saint Ann National Shrine Basilica, announces the guest preacher for this year's Novena will be Passionist Father Paul Fagan.

Since the outbreak of the global pandemic two years ago, Saint Ann's Novena continued to be offered to devotees of the grandmother of Jesus, although in a mitigated, shortened manner.

"Last year we were able to be a little more expansive," Father Richard said. "This year we are moving far ahead toward normalcy."

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

Bradford County parish holds Eucharistic Procession in Sayre park



As dioceses around the country begin a multi-year National Eucharistic Revival, parishioners of Epiphany Parish wasted no time in putting their faith on full display.

On Saturday, June 25, 2022, more than 100 people participated in a Eucharistic Procession that began inside the Bradford County church and went down Elmer Avenue to Howard Elmer Park where three altars were set up to honor the Blessed Mother Mary, Saint Joseph and the Precious Blood of Jesus.

“When we first talked about doing this, we were all very excited that we were going to have the opportunity to present this to the community, to walk outdoors with our Lord in the monstrance and share that experience with people in the community,” parishioner Kate Gabb said.

“It is a wonderful thing, as far as letting the community see that Jesus is real. That is what we celebrate in Corpus Christi, His real presence in the Blessed Sacrament,” parishioner Patricia Reid added.

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

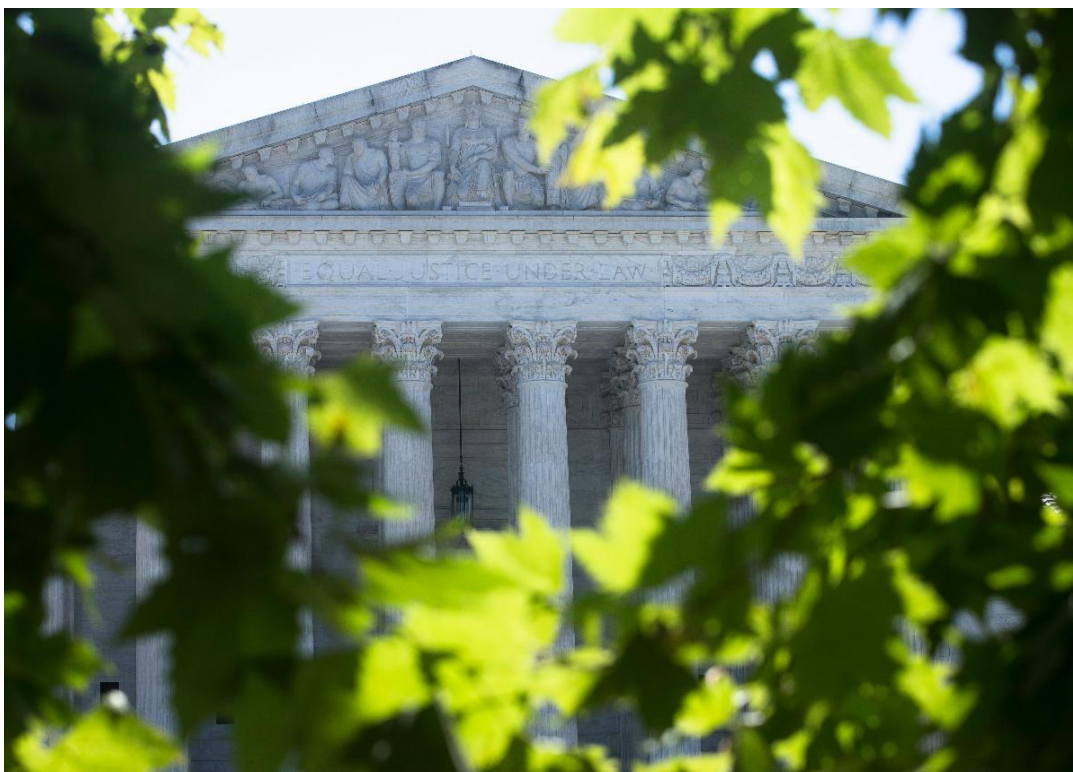
Scranton parish holds ministry fair to introduce parishioners to volunteer opportunities



On Sunday, July 10, 2022, members of the *Mary, Mother of God Parish* Community in Scranton gathered on the Rectory lawn to celebrate “Glad to Be...MMOG.”

The Family Picnic was a time to enjoy some great food and fellowship, but as you’ll see in the above video, it was also a chance for parishioners to learn more about the various ministry opportunities the parish offers.

Archbishop calls Biden's order on abortion 'deeply disturbing, tragic'



The U.S. bishops' pro-life chairman said it is "deeply disturbing and tragic" that President Joe Biden has chosen to use his power as the nation's chief executive "to promote and facilitate abortion in our country" than support resources for pregnant women in need.

Biden is "seeking every possible avenue to deny unborn children their most basic human and civil right, the right to life," said Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities.

"Rather than using the power of the executive branch to increase support and care to mothers and babies, the president's executive order seeks only to facilitate the destruction of defenseless, voiceless human beings," he said in a July 9 statement.

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

Diocese of Scranton's Annual Mass of Remembrance to be held July 28



The Diocese of Scranton's annual Mass of Remembrance will take place on Thursday, July 28, 2022 at 7 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

This Mass is offered for family and friends of those who have died in tragedy, especially through murder, suicide, accident and from COVID-19.

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

To register the name of your loved one for this liturgy by July 22, please contact the Office for Parish Life at (570) 207-2213, or use the online registration form in the link below.

[To Register the Name of Your Loved One for the Annual Mass of Remembrance](#)

Pope encourages Catholic-Pentecostal dialogue



The more Catholics and Pentecostals understand each other and bear witness to Jesus' call for his disciples to be one, the more effective they can be in sharing the Gospel, Pope Francis said.

Marking the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Commission for Catholic-Pentecostal Dialogue July 12, the pope said that through dialogue and reflection commission members have built "bonds of friendship, solidarity and mutual understanding between Catholics and Pentecostals."

"It is my hope that this important anniversary will strengthen these bonds and renew your zeal to proclaim, as missionary disciples, the joy of the Gospel in the ecclesial community and in society as a whole," the pope said in his message.

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

Summer picnics and festivals are underway!



Parishes across the 11 counties of the Diocese of Scranton are busy holding 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](#)

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