



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

July 28, 2022

**Natural Family Planning Awareness Week
is underway**



Marriage, children, and family go together!

#NFPweek 

Natural Family Planning Awareness Week began on July 24 and will run through July 30. The theme of this year's celebration is "Called to the Joy of Love!"

This time period highlights the anniversary of the papal encyclical *Humanae Vitae* which articulates Catholic beliefs about human sexuality, conjugal love and responsible parenthood.

Natural Family Planning methods make use of fertility education. Natural Family Planning education teaches husbands and wives about their fertile time and NFP methods can be used to either attempt a pregnancy or to

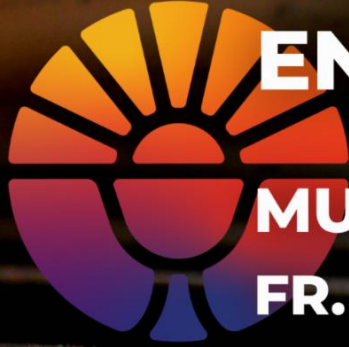
avoid one. Natural Family Planning methods help the wife to recognize her unique signs of fertility which she can observe on a daily basis.

During Natural Family Planning Awareness Week, take the time to learn, reflect and pray about God's marvelous plan for men, women and Holy Matrimony.

[For More Information about Natural Family Planning Week 2022](#)

**Public invited to "Encountering Christ:
Music & Meditation" in August**

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON
NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL



ENCOUNTERING CHRIST: MUSIC & MEDITATION WITH FR. RICKY MANALO, CSP

CONCERT

FRI., AUG. 26--7PM

"Tune, Text, and Theology: Singing Our Praises to God"

PRESENTATION

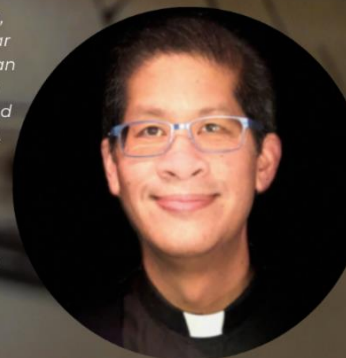
SAT., AUG. 27--9AM-NOON

"A Eucharist of Encountering: Crossing Thresholds, Becoming Transformed"

CHURCH OF SAINT GREGORY

330 NORTH ABINGTON RD., CLARKS GREEN, PA

Rev. Ricky Manalo, CSP, Ph.D., is a Paulist priest, composer (OCP), theologian, and author. He is the 2020 Distinguished Catholic Music Composer of the Year Award by the Association of Catholic Publishers and the 2018 Pastoral Musician of the Year Award by the National Association of Pastoral Musicians. He is a theological consultant for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and the author several books. Fr. Manalo regularly travels throughout the world, giving a variety of presentations, from academic lectures, keynotes, and pastoral workshops, to preaching, presiding, and giving concerts.



A FREE-WILL OFFERING WILL BE ACCEPTED.

**TO MAKE A RESERVATION,
PLEASE CALL 570-207-2213, OR VISIT
WWW.DIOCESEOFSCRANTON.ORG.**

The Diocese of Scranton is pleased to welcome Fr. Ricky Manalo, CSP, Ph.D., a Paulist priest, composer, theologian and author for a two-part event for our local observance of the National Eucharistic Revival entitled, "Encountering Christ: Music & Meditation."

On Friday, Aug. 26, Fr. Manalo will offer a concert titled, "Tune, Text and Theology: Singing Our Praises to God" at 7 p.m. at the Church of Saint Gregory in Clarks Green.

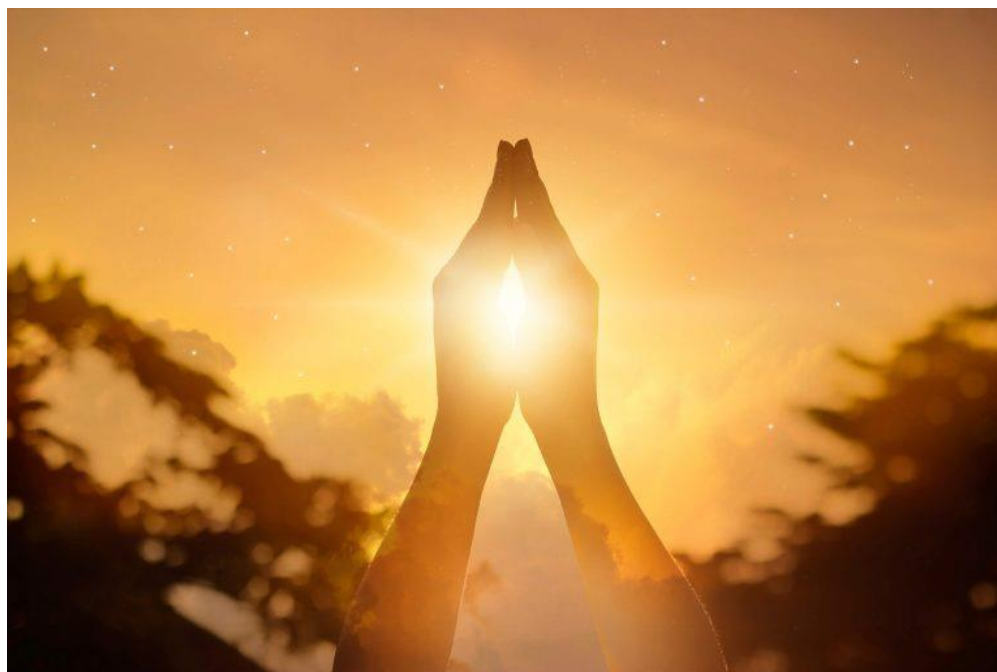
The following day, he will be offering a presentation titled, "A Eucharist of Encountering: Crossing Thresholds, Becoming Transformed," from 9 a.m. until Noon at the Church of Saint Gregory in Clarks Green.

As part of the National Eucharistic Revival, everyone is invited to these special opportunities to set a foundation for understanding of how we come to encounter Christ in the Sacred meal, in one another and in the world around us.

There is no charge for the events, but a free-will offering will be accepted.

[For More Information or to Make a Reservation for the Events](#)

Diocese of Scranton's Annual Mass of Remembrance to be held tonight



The Diocese of Scranton's annual Mass of Remembrance will take place this evening 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.

CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton will provide a live broadcast of the Mass for anyone who is not able to attend in-person. In addition to being broadcast live on CTV, a livestream will also be provided on the Diocese of Scranton website and across all Diocesan social media platforms.

Bishop Bambera celebrates Closing Mass for annual Solemn Novena to Saint Ann



The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, served as principal celebrant of the Closing Mass for the Annual Solemn Novena to Saint Ann on Tuesday, July 26, 2022.

Over the course of the Novena, thousands of people filled the grounds of the Basilica to Saint Ann to celebrate their faith and give thanks to God. This year's Novena preacher was Passionist Father Paul Fagan.

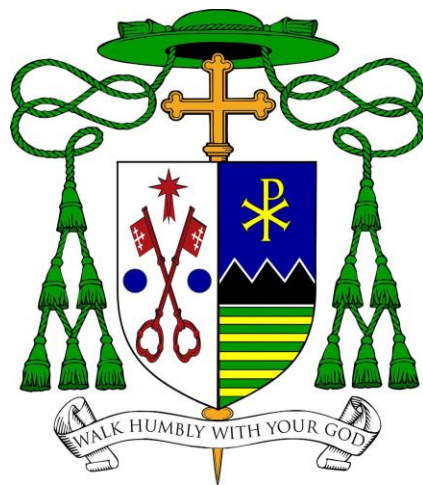
"Perhaps this year more than ever, as life seems to have returned to a degree of normalcy, I'm struck by the degree to which our experiences during these days of the novena emerge not only from God's gift of faith but also from the blessings we've received from our relationships – our relationships with family and friends," Bishop Bambera said during his homily. "They too help to make these days meaningful, don't they?"

Bishop Bambera urged those in attendance to open their ears and listen to the voice of God and see God walking with them even when they are hurting.

"See in this great assembly of believers – in each life represented here and in every faith-filled prayer that is offered – the countless numbers of ways in which God is present in our midst today, enabling us to embrace today and especially tomorrow with hope."

[Read Bishop Bambera's Homily from the Closing Mass of the Solemn Novena in Honor of Saint Ann](#)

Bishop Bambera announces clergy assignments



On Monday, July 25, 2022, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, announced clergy assignments for the Diocese of Scranton.

To view the clerical appointments, click the link below.

[To View the July 25, 2022 Clergy Appointments](#)

'I am sorry': Canadian Indigenous react to papal apology



The words "I am sorry" are powerful.

For Tammy Ward of the Samson First Nation, those words from Pope Francis brought tears as she listened on the Muskwa, or Bear Park, Powwow Grounds.

"It's just very powerful," Ward told The Catholic Register, Toronto-based newspaper, after Pope Francis finished delivering his historic apology on Indigenous land for the Catholic Church's role in residential schools and other wrongs done on the church's behalf. "For me, it's the healing."

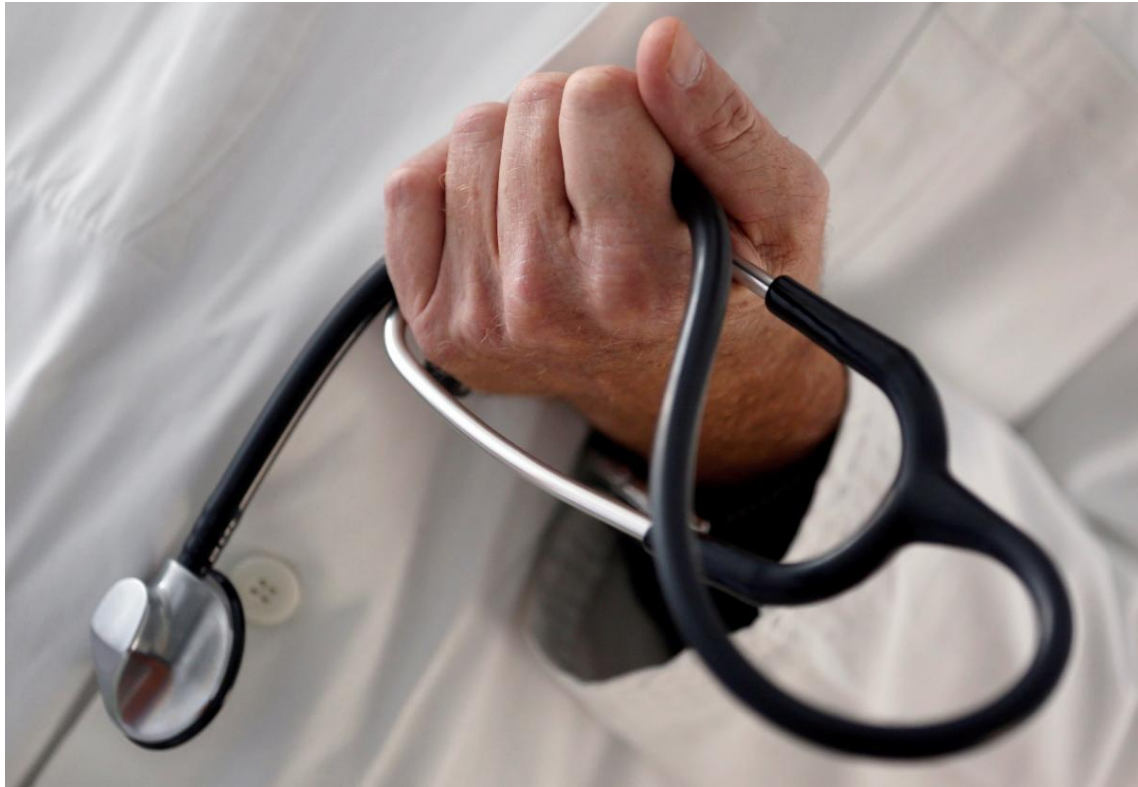
Ward leaned into her 21-year-old daughter, Alea Foureyes, for comfort as Pope Francis confessed the sins Catholics committed against Indigenous Canadians in residential schools.

"In the face of this deplorable evil, the church kneels before God and implores His forgiveness for the sins of her children," Pope Francis said, invoking St. John Paul II's 1998 bull, "Incarnationis Mysterium." "I myself wish to reaffirm this, with shame and unambiguously. I humbly beg forgiveness for the evil committed by so many Christians against the Indigenous peoples."

Pope Francis delivered his apology on the treaty land of the Ermineskin and Samson Cree Nations, the Louis Bull Tribe and the Montana First Nation, as part of his "penitential pilgrimage" to Canada. The site was near one of Canada's largest residential schools.

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

Bishops say HHS proposal violates religious freedom, 'is bad medicine'



The chairmen of four U.S. bishops committees said July 27 that proposed regulations from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on abortion, transgender services and other procedures threaten the Catholic Church’s ability “to carry out our healing ministries” and others’ ability “to practice medicine.”

They called the proposed regulations — a 308-page document released July 25 by HHS — “a violation of religious freedom and bad medicine.”

“They mandate health care workers to perform life-altering surgeries to remove perfectly healthy body parts,” the bishops said. “Assurances that HHS will honor religious freedom laws offer little comfort when HHS is actively fighting court rulings that declared HHS violated religious freedom laws the last time they tried to impose such a mandate.”

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

Summer picnics and festivals are underway!

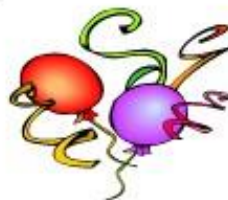


St. Patrick's
Parish Social
Sunday, July 31, 2022

Food Trucks - Basket Raffle
Quilt Raffle - Instant Bingo
Music

Immediately following the
11:00 am Mass
on Sunday at:

St. Patrick's Church
1403 Jackson St.
West Scranton



Parishes across the 11 counties of the Diocese of Scranton are busy holding parish festivals, bazaars and other 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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