



# The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

October 27, 2022

## Enlarge the tent: Synod document sees desire for greater inclusion

*Vatican releases key document to guide next stage of discussions*



For a synodal Church

communion | participation | mission



Around the world, listening sessions for the Synod of Bishops gave many participants a sense of finally being listened to, but they also raised questions about how to promote greater inclusion in the Catholic Church while staying true to church teaching.

Two of the issues raised most often in reports sent to the Vatican were the need to respect and value the contributions women make to the church and the need to face "the impact of a lack of trust and credibility resulting from the abuse crisis," according to the working document for the synod's continental stage.

Titled "Enlarge the Space of Your Tent" - the Lord's command to the people of Israel in the Book of Isaiah - the document said, "This is how many reports envision the church: an expansive, but not homogeneous dwelling, capable of sheltering all, but open, letting in and out, and moving toward embracing the Father and all of humanity."

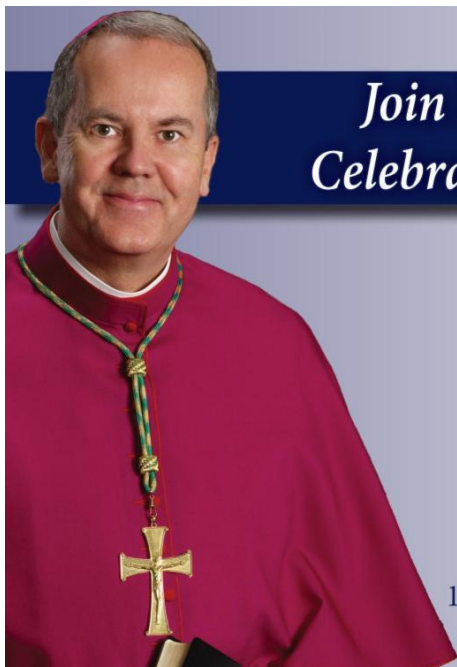
The document released Oct. 27 is the result of a group reflection on the syntheses of synod discussions submitted by 112 of the world's 114 bishops' conference, all 15 Eastern churches, 17 of the 23 dicasteries of the Roman Curia, the men's and women's international unions of superiors general, dozens of Catholic associations and more than 1,000 individuals, it said.

[Read More from Catholic News Service](#)

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## **Bishop to celebrate Masses at churches of Saint Michael Parish in Northern Tier**





## *Join Bishop Bambera for the Celebration of Mass this weekend*

### **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29**

4 p.m. – Saint Michael Church, Canton

### **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30**

8 a.m. – Saint Aloysius Church, Ralston

9:30 a.m. – Saint Michael Church, Canton

11:15 a.m. – Saint John Nepomucene Church, Troy

During our recent listening sessions for the Synod on Synodality, people expressed a greater desire to know when Bishop Bambera will be celebrating Mass in their community.

While the Bishop's public schedule is printed in *The Catholic Light* newspaper and available on the Diocesan website, we wanted to let parishioners in the Northern Tier know that he will be celebrating Masses this weekend at Saint Michael Parish and its parishes in Canton, Ralston and Troy.

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## **Faithful gather for Rosary Rallies around the Diocese**





Catholics throughout the Diocese of Scranton united with faith communities around the nation this month as part of the "America Needs Fatima" Rosary Crusade.

On Oct. 15, one of the many locations where a Rosary Rally was held was the Weis Parking Lot in Mountain Top.

People gathered to pray the Rosary and seek the Blessed Mother's intercession on behalf of the United States.

"It is great to see a public declaration of the Rosary. A lot of times we just do it within our churches or small groups but it's nice to do it in public so more people can see us," Dave Jaques, parishioner of Saint Jude Parish, said. "During the course of this rally, we actually had a couple of people who were coming out of the store and stopped in, stood in the back row, and joined us while we were in progress."

"We need to pray as groups to appeal to our Blessed Mother to ask her to help and protect us and to keep us," Marie Nelson, parishioner of Saint Jude Parish, added.

Watch a video of the Rosary Rally by clicking the above link.

[Watch Highlights from the Rosary Rally Held on Oct. 15 in Mountain Top](#)



## **Susquehanna County church holding "Baby Shower" during Respect Life Month**



October is Respect Life Month and many parishes make a special effort to support pregnant mothers and their newborn babies.

At Saint Lawrence Church in Great Bend, Susquehanna County, which is part of Most Holy Trinity Parish, parishioners have been holding a baby shower this month.

The faithful have been collecting diapers, wipes, sheets, clothing and other essentials to donate to Care Net Pregnancy Center of NEPA.

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**Are you ready to #Leave a Mark?  
Young people needed for Mass on Nov. 6**





**A gathering of young adults  
(18-40) with Bishop Bambera**

**11/6/22**

5:00PM Mass

Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton

Social to follow: Diocesan Pastoral Center  
330 Wyoming Ave. Scranton, Pa. 18503

**Food trucks, music, corn hole, and more!**

For more information, visit [dioceseofscranton.org](http://dioceseofscranton.org) or call 570-207-1452.



Young people from around the Diocese of Scranton will come together on Sunday, Nov. 6 for the annual #Leave a Mark Mass, which will celebrate its seventh anniversary in 2022.

The Mass will be held at 5:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton and there will be a reception featuring live music and a food truck immediately afterward.

The idea for the #Leave a Mark Mass came after Pope Francis spoke to pilgrims at World Youth Day 2016 in Poland.

The Pope said, “Dear young people, we didn’t come into this world to ‘vegetate,’ to take it easy, to make our lives a comfortable sofa to fall asleep on. No, we came for another reason: to leave a mark. It is very sad to pass through life without leaving a mark.”

The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will serve as principal celebrant of the Mass. Father Jeff Tudgay, Pastor, Cathedral of Saint Peter, will serve as homilist.

[For More Information About #Leave a Mark 2022](#)

## **Tell Congress to prioritize policies that support women, children and families**



UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF  
CATHOLIC BISHOPS

As Catholics in a post-*Roe* world, we continue to respond to our call to build a culture of life that supports the dignity of every person at every stage. We call on our lawmakers to do the same.

Encourage your members of Congress to pass legislation that advances the health, safety, and flourishing of women, children, and families.



Passage of bills such as the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act and the PUMP for Nursing Mothers Act and support for the Child Tax Credit, paid family leave, pregnancy resource centers, child care and pre-kindergarten programs, housing, nutrition, maternal and child health, adoption, healthy relationships, environmental protections, inclusion of immigrant families in social programs, and the end of marriage penalties will help build an authentically life-affirming society.

We encourage you to add your own personal story about why more policies that support women, children, and families are needed.

[Take Action Now: Send an Email to Your U.S. Senator/U.S. Representative in Seconds!](#)

## **Pornography weakens the soul, Pope Francis tells young priests, seminarians**



After telling a funny story about receiving a cellphone decades ago that was “as big as a shoe,” Pope Francis went on to encourage young priests and seminarians to use technology and social media, but to avoid pornography at all costs.

Responding Oct. 24 to questions from priests and seminarians studying in Rome, Pope Francis said he wanted to speak plainly about a danger technology has put in everyone’s reach: digital pornography.



“I am not going to say, ‘Raise your hand if you have had at least one experience of this,’” the pope said. But “it is a vice that so many people have, so many laymen, so many laywomen, and even priests and nuns. The devil enters from there.”

Pope Francis said he was not talking only about “criminal” forms of porn like child pornography, but of “the somewhat ‘normal’ pornography. Dear brothers, be careful of this. The pure heart, the heart that receives Jesus every day, cannot receive this pornographic information.”

[Read More from Catholic News Service](#)

## **U.S. Bishop says Biden is 'gravely wrong' in pledge to codify Roe**





Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore said President Joe Biden's was "gravely wrong" in his recent comments pledging to make it a top priority to codify a national right to abortion.

The archbishop, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, said the president's remarks, given during an Oct. 18 speech hosted by the Democratic National Committee, demonstrated how he continues "to seek every possible avenue to facilitate abortion, instead of using his power to increase support and care to mothers in challenging situations."

"This single-minded extremism must end," Archbishop Lori said in an Oct. 25 statement, adding that the U.S. bishops "implore President Biden to recognize the humanity in preborn children and the genuine life-giving care needed by women in this country."

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

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**Support the 2022 Diocesan Annual Appeal!**



*"It takes resources and effort to be able to do **Catholic Media** around the Diocese. **It is very important** because when people see it, it brings us together."*

- Rev. Daniel A. Toomey  
Pastor, Epiphany Parish, Sayre



The **Diocesan Office of Communications** utilizes all forms of media to spread the Good News of the Catholic Church. Using the internet, Catholic Television, *The Catholic Light* Newspaper, radio and social media, the office seeks to reach out to all people to evangelize and generate a greater understanding of church teaching.



**GIFTS OF ALL SIZES ARE NEEDED AND APPRECIATED!**

[Click Here to Make a Safe & Secure Online Donation to the 2022 Diocesan Annual Appeal](#)

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