



GoodNewsNotes

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON OFFICE FOR PARISH LIFE

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**Pontifical Mass for
World Mission Sunday
Sunday, October 23
at 12:15PM
Cathedral of Saint Peter**

Read the Bible Like Never Before

OCTOBER 16

10:00AM Mass
Cathedral of St. Peter
315 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton PA

11:00AM Brunch & Presentation
Diocesan Pastoral Center
330 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton PA

SONJA CORBITT
The Bible Study Evangelista

\$15/PERSON \$25/COUPLE

REGISTER ONLINE
dioceseofscranton.org

For information, contact Mary Hallman (570) 203-2213

Sonja Corbitt is a vital Catholic voice – a best-selling author, speaker, and broadcaster – who produces high-impact, award-winning multimedia Bible studies. A Carolina native who was raised as a Southern Baptist, Corbitt converted to Catholicism and served as director of religious education at St. John Vianney Catholic Church in Gallatin, Tennessee, and as executive director of Risen Radio in Lebanon, Tennessee.

"Sacred Scripture is set up as a kind of lantern for us in the night of this life."
St. Gregory the Great



Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation

Looking to learn more about your faith, or gain enrichment for your parish ministry? Members of the faithful across the Diocese of Scranton are invited to consider taking a course through the University of Dayton's Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation! Registration for Cycle 7 of the Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation from October 24 through November 27 is now open until October 19. Consider enriching your faith and ministry through study with courses found at [this link](#) available in English and Spanish.

Rachel's Vineyard Post-Abortion Healing

November 4-6, 2022

This weekend retreat provides a compassionate and confidential opportunity to those suffering from the impact of abortion to encounter our God of Mercy on a journey of spiritual and psychological healing. To learn more, please visit www.rachelsvineyard.org or contact denisemengaklcsw@gmail.com, or at 570-239-6173.

Night of Hope and Healing

Our Diocesan Rachel's Vineyard Post-Abortion Healing Ministry Team will host a "Night of Hope and Healing" on **Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 7:00P.M.** at St. Faustina Kowalska Parish, Nanticoke.

Speakers who have personally encountered God in their healing journey from pregnancy loss through abortion, stillbirth, and miscarriage share messages of hope and reconciliation. Music and prayer conclude with an opportunity to write your child's name in the Book of Life. For information or to register, please contact denisemengaklcsw@gmail.com or call 570-239-6173.

Vision 2030 – Preparing for the Future

A lot has changed in the Diocese of Scranton during its more than 150-year history. The challenges and opportunities we face are not unique, but they are becoming more urgent by the day. Many other dioceses are responding to similar circumstances, particularly in the northeastern part of the country. Many times the resources of a parish, or the diocese itself, are utilized to maintain the "status quo." This process is truly about working to strengthen all aspects of parish life, with the emphasis on "mission" over "maintenance." We all have a responsibility to make the best use of the resources that God has given to us to fulfill the mission of the Church. By working together, we hope to strengthen the most vibrant expressions of parish life and to embrace the unavoidable changes that require us to respond in new ways.

4 Priorities that Drive Change:

1. **Fewer Parishioners Supporting the Mission of the Church**—Long before the COVID-19 pandemic impacted parishes, regular weekend Mass attendance had been on the decline. The total number of parishioners who were registered in all parishes of the Diocese of Scranton dropped by more than 16% between 2014 and 2020. The total number of Baptisms, First Communions and Confirmations also dropped during this time. Changing demographics, generational differences, and the consequences of prior reconfiguration and the clergy abuse crisis contribute to the diminishing number of people in our parishes.
2. **Financial Challenges**—Parishes are more expensive to maintain now than they were in the past. With a fewer number of parishioners supporting the mission of the church overall, some parish offertories are not able to keep up with current realities.
3. **Parish Infrastructure Needs**—Many parish buildings were built in a different era and there are countless facilities with deferred maintenance needs and no planned funding stream for necessary repairs. The Diocese of Scranton must continue to evaluate where and how to best invest resources not only a particular parish-level, but also the deanery and diocesan levels.
4. **Diminishing Number of Ordained Priests**—Over the coming decade and beyond, the Diocese of Scranton faces a decreasing number of priests. A fewer number of priests will represent a significant challenge to the entire diocese. In 2003, the Diocese of Scranton had more than 200 active priests. In 2021, there were 97 diocesan priests active in the Diocese and 16 of those priests are expected to reach retirement age by 2025 and 19 additional priests are projected for retirement between 2025-2030.

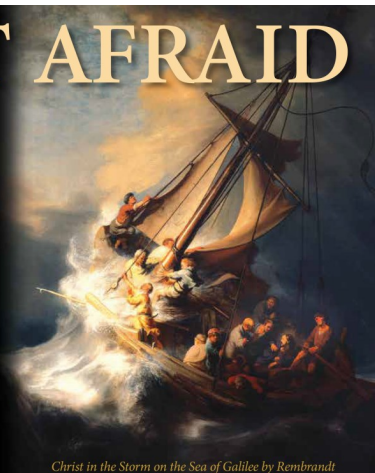
BE NOT AFRAID

7th Annual Diocese of Scranton

Be a Catholic Man Conference

Holy Redeemer High School
159 South Pennsylvania Ave.
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701

Sat., 8 AM - 3:00 PM
Oct. 8, 2022



Christ in the Storm on the Sea of Galilee by Rembrandt



Information &
Online Registration:

BeACatholicMan.com

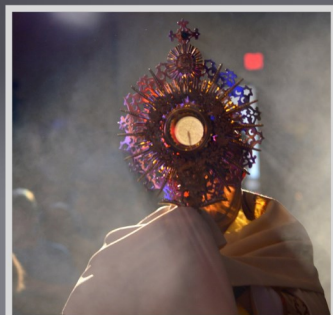
Contact: Mike Kilmer 570-746-0100 michaelkilmer71@gmail.com
\$40 (Early Bird \$30 until 9/9/22), Student \$15, Priest/Deacon FREE Morning coffee & box lunch included

"I CALL us to be servant leaders who WORSHIP our God and celebrate the Sacraments in union with the universal Church."

WORSHIP

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Sponsored by the Diocesan Offices for Parish Life and Vocations



Thursday, October 6th
7:00 PM

St. Maria Goretti Church
42 Redwood Drive - Laflin

SPEAKER,
RECONCILIATION,
AND SOCIAL.

LIVE MUSIC BY JOEL KANKIEWICZ



Online Liturgy Network Meeting

The next online liturgy network meeting will take place on **Tuesday, October 11 at 6:30PM**. Here is [the link](#) for the next meeting. For more information, please contact David Baloga at david-baloga@dioceseofscranton.org or at 570-207-2213.

Extraordinary Minister of Communion Training Session

There is one more opportunity for Extraordinary Minister of Communion training provided by the Office for Parish Life this fall: **Saturday, October 15 from 9:00AM to 2:30PM** at the Diocesan Pastoral Center in Scranton. Please [click here](#) and complete the online form or call 570-207-2213 to register.



Don't forget, you can always use the [Diocesan Liturgical Ministry Resource](#) to offer formation for your new liturgical ministers, or contact David Baloga at 570-207-2213 or at david-baloga@dioceseofscranton.org to have a training session offered in your parish.

FDLC Webinars on the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

The Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions is excited to announce our upcoming FREE series on the *Order of Christian Initiation of Adults* (OCIA) September

2022 – February 2023! Topics will cover different aspects of the Christian Initiation process such as recovering the vision, canonical issues, preaching the rites, and many more!

All webinars will be offered in both English and Spanish. Join us live or by viewing the recording! We are fortunate to be able to have assembled an incredibly talented team of presenters who are ready to assist you in your parish or diocesan ministry as we journey together through the OCIA! Visit www.fdlc.org/ociawebinars to register or to learn more.

Revised Order of Penance

The revised translation for the **Order of Penance** was approved by the Bishops of the United States on June 17, 2021. It was confirmed by the Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments on April 25, 2022.

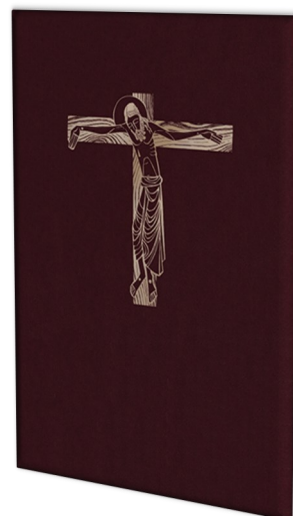
Archbishop Jose' Gomez, president of the USCCB, has issued a Decree of Publication. The rite may be used in the liturgy as of Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023. Its use is obligatory in the dioceses of the United States on April 16, 2023 – The Second Sunday of Easter/Divine Mercy Sunday.

Four publishers will produce ritual editions – Catholic Book Publishing (www.catholicbookpublishing.com), Liturgy Training Publications (www.ltp.org), Magnificat (www.magnificat.com), and Midwest Theological Forum (www.theologicalforum.org). Pre-sales began October 1, 2022.

Revised Order of Penance Webinar

The Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions (FDLC) and the Bishops' Committee on Divine Worship Secretariat are co-sponsoring a **webinar on the revised Order of Penance on Tuesday, October 25 at 1:00 PM**. If you can't watch at that time, not to worry -- like all FDLC webinars, all registered persons will receive a link to the recording. Please join the over 480 people who are already registered! — <https://fdlc.org/2022/07/may-god-grant-you-pardon-and-peace-webinar-on-the-revised-order-of-penance>

The presenters will be Father Andrew Menke, Executive Director of the BCDW Secretariat and Father Rob Spaulding of the Diocese of Cheyenne.



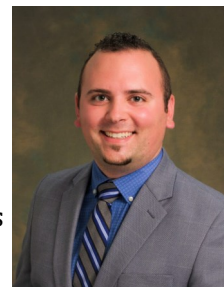
COMMUNITY

"I CALL us to be servant leaders who build COMMUNITY through hospitality, respect, inclusion and holiness."

We Welcome Two New Members to the OPL Team!

It is with great pleasure that we announce two staff members who are joining the Office for Parish Life team. As you know, several members of the OPL team left their positions in recent months to pursue new opportunities, which has allowed us the ability to restructure roles and responsibilities (and give the positions new titles) before finding qualified candidates. We are confident that the Office for Parish Life will continue to serve you, your staff, and your parishioners through the challenges and opportunities that face our local Church, including the Vision 2030 planning process.

Dominick Costantino joined the Diocesan Office for Parish Life as *Manager of Parish Renewal* on August 16th. This position will help to coordinate pastoral planning initiatives in the Diocese of Scranton and will act as a liaison between all those involved in the ongoing Vision 2030 planning process, including clergy, parish councils, facilitators and diocesan departments. The Manager of Parish Renewal will also help gather and analyze data that will be used to inform the pastoral planning process. Since 2015, Dominick has been working in our Vocations Office as Program Coordinator. During his time in that position, he helped to organize many events including discernment retreats, Quo Vadis Days and the annual Leave a Mark Mass. A resident of West Wyoming, Dominick is looking forward to bringing his already established relationships in our diocese to the Office for Parish Life and making sure pastoral planning efforts continue in an organized fashion. Until a new Vocation Program Coordinator is hired, Dominick will also continue to assist Father Alex Roche, Diocesan Vocations Director, as needed.



Marianne Guarnieri joined the Diocesan Office for Parish Life as *Director of Discipleship* on September 26. This position will expand on the roles and responsibilities that Jacki Douglas previously held as Director of Word and Lifelong Faith Formation. In addition to working with religious education programs, this position will also work with parishes to become missionary outposts that form disciples and send them on mission. While the Director of Discipleship will continue to identify best practices for catechetical formation in parishes and implement plans for forming families of faith, catechetical leaders and catechists, this position will offer support to priests/parishes regarding evangelistic efforts. Marianne is a Pittston native who attended Sacred Heart Elementary School in Wilkes-Barre, Bishop O'Reilly High School in Kingston and Misericordia University in Dallas. She has a Master's degree in Catechetics from Franciscan University of Steubenville as well as a Master's degree in Not-for-profit organizations from Misericordia University. Since 2019, Marianne has served as Director of Campus Ministry at the College of William and Mary in Virginia. In that role, she has planned and directed many faith-based programs and activities and attended to the spiritual and moral growth of students.



World Mission Sunday—October 23rd

Every year, something special happens on the next-to-last Sunday of October. World Mission Sunday joins all Catholics of the world into one community of faith. At Mass that Sunday, we recommit ourselves to our common vocation, through Baptism to be missionaries, through prayer, participation in the Eucharist, and by giving generously to the collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

In 1926, Pope Pius XI instituted World Mission Sunday for the whole Church with the first worldwide World Mission Sunday collection taking place in October 1927. Pope Francis' message for World Mission Sunday this year reflects on the theme: "You shall be my witnesses" (Acts 1:8). He reminds us that the Church is missionary in nature and that we are called at Baptism to share in this mission together. The Holy Father exclaims, "Would that all of us in the Church were what we already are by virtue of baptism: prophets, witnesses, missionaries of the Lord, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to the ends of the earth!"

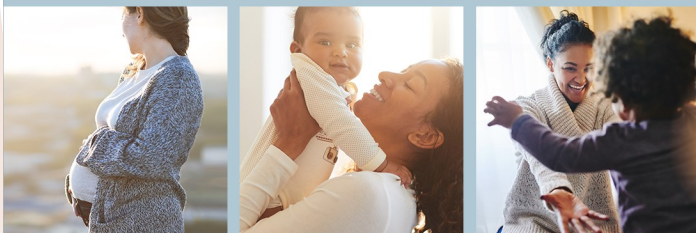
On World Mission Sunday, we join our Holy Father in supporting his missions. As we pray and respond here at home, we share in those celebrations taking place in every parish and school throughout the world. Together, through our prayers and financial support, we bring the Lord's mercy and concrete help to the most vulnerable communities in the Pope's missions.

In a world where so much divides us, World Mission Sunday rejoices in our unity as missionaries by our Baptism, as it offers each one of us an opportunity to support the life-giving presence of the Church among the poor and marginalized in more than 1,100 mission dioceses.

"I CALL us to be servant leaders who engage in SERVICE to our neighbors near and far and who work for justice and stewardship to hasten the Reign of God."

SERVICE

respect life



called to serve moms in need

Respect Life Month 2022: Called to Serve Moms in Need

Every October, we celebrate Respect Life Month. We consider more deeply why *every* human life is valuable and reflect on how to build a culture that protects life from conception to natural death.

The 2022 Respect Life Month resources from the USCCB are to designed assist Catholics understand, value, and become engaged with building a culture that cherishes every human life.

A variety of materials are available to order in print or to download online. Visit respectlife.org/respect-life-month/

Save the Date for Leave a Mark 2022!



On Sunday, November 6, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will celebrate the annual Leave a Mark Mass which is celebrating its 7th anniversary in 2022. The idea for the Mass came after Pope Francis spoke to pilgrims at World Youth Day 2016 in Poland. "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," the Holy Father said in 2016. "No, we came for another reason: to leave a mark. It is very sad to pass through life without leaving a mark."

For the past few years, hundreds of young people have gathered in the Cathedral of Saint Peter with Bishop Bambera to kickoff National Vocation Awareness Week in the Diocese of Scranton. Bishop Bambera is inviting the young church of the Diocese of Scranton to gather once again this year in the Cathedral of Saint Peter on **Sunday, November 6, 2022, for a special Mass at 5:00PM.** Fr. Ryan Glenn, Assistant Pastor at St. Matthew's in East Stroudsburg will be the homilist. A reception featuring live music and food truck will follow.

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON
YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

THEOLOGY ON TAP

A Young Adult Speaker Series for 21-40 year olds

Thursday, October 20th 7:00pm
Sabatini's Bottleshop - Exeter
\$8 Cover Charge

Transubstantiation Trivia:
A Communal Exploration
of the Eucharist

Guest Host:
Tom Dzwonczyk

Seminarian of the
Diocese of Scranton

Tom is completing a pastoral year
at St. Jude's in Mountain Top.
In his free time, Tom enjoys
skiing, golf, and studying
St. Thomas Aquinas

PROGRAMA SEMANAL
Del Ministerio Hispano de la Diócesis de Scranton

CRECIENDO & FORTALECIENDO
NUESTRA FE CATÓLICA
CONOCE, AMA & VIVE TU FE

SÁBADOS
11 AM - 12 PM

LA MEGA
95.3 FM WILKES BARRE
94.9 FM SCRANTON



DESCARGA LA APLICACIÓN



Ministerio Hispano - Diócesis de Scranton



OPL Month-At-A-Glance

October 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Respect Life Sunday	3	4	5	6 Eucharistic Adoration 7PM St. Maria Goretti, Laflin	7	8 Men's Conference 8AM-3PM Holy Redeemer H.S. Wilkes-Barre
9	10 Columbus Day <i>Diocesan Offices Closed</i>	11 Online Liturgy Network 6:30PM	12	13	14	15 Extraordinary Minister of Communion Training 9AM-2:30PM DPC, Scranton
16 Read the Bible Like Never Before 11AM DPC, Scranton	17	18 Night of Hope and Healing 7PM St. Faustina, Nanticoke	19 Last Day to Register for VLCFF Cycle 7	20 Theology on Tap 7PM, Sabatini's Bottleshop, Exeter	21	22
23 World Mission Sunday	24 VLCFF Cycle 7 begins	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Halloween	Solemnity of All Saints (Holy Day of Obligation)—Tuesday, November 1, 2022 <i>Leave a Mark Mass—Sunday, November 6, 2022 at 5:00PM at the Cathedral of St. Peter, Scranton</i>				

OPL TEAM MEMBERS

Diocesan Secretary for Parish Life: **Mary Hallman**

Director of Discipleship: **Marianne Guarnieri**

Director for WORSHIP: **David Baloga**

Director for SERVICE and Mission: **Shannon Kowalski**

Coordinator for Pilgrimages: **Fr. Andrew Hvozdovic**

Director for COMMUNITY and Family Development:

Coordinator for Ecumenical/Interfaith Relations: **Msgr. Vincent Grimalia**

Coordinator for Lay Ministry Formation: **Kitty Scanlan**

Coordinator for Hispanic Ministry: **José Flores**

Consultant for Pastoral Council Development: **Ann Marie Cawley**

Manager of Parish Renewal: **Dominick Costantino**

Diocesan Pastoral Center Manager: **Kitty Scanlan**

Administrative Assistant: **Jennifer Andres**



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