



# ***The Catholic Light***

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

**Weekly E-Newsletter**

**November 24, 2022**

## **Happy Thanksgiving!**



Thanksgiving is the perfect moment  
on the calendar to remind us to  
return to a thankful posture.

## **Catholic Social Services distributes 450 turkeys to Carbondale community before Thanksgiving**



On the Sunday before Thanksgiving – when the temperature didn’t climb much higher than 20 degrees – staff and volunteers from Catholic Social Services were bundled up outdoors serving the community.

In just three hours on Nov. 20, 2022, they distributed 450 turkeys, along with all the trimmings, to people in need in the community of Carbondale. This year, staff went through 150 more turkeys at its food distribution than in 2021.

“There is a great need right now in our area for food,” Kara Gnall, Catholic Social Services Carbondale Office Supervisor, said. “We service about 700 families a month in our food pantry alone.”



Special food distributions, like the one Nov. 20 outside Carbondale Area High School, help to give a 'hand up' to those needing assistance.

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

## **Friends of the Poor distribute Thanksgiving meals to the elderly & homebound**



The Friends of the Poor, helped by hundreds of volunteers, held its 46th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner for Adults & Elderly Tuesday afternoon in downtown Scranton.

The meals were served take-out style outside the Scranton Cultural Center from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Organizers handed out 3,500 meals throughout the day.

On Wednesday, volunteers were back at it, handing out turkeys and food baskets with all the trimmings as part of the Family to Family Food Basket Program.

## **Advent begins this weekend**

***Bishop Bambara to offer video reflections once again this year***

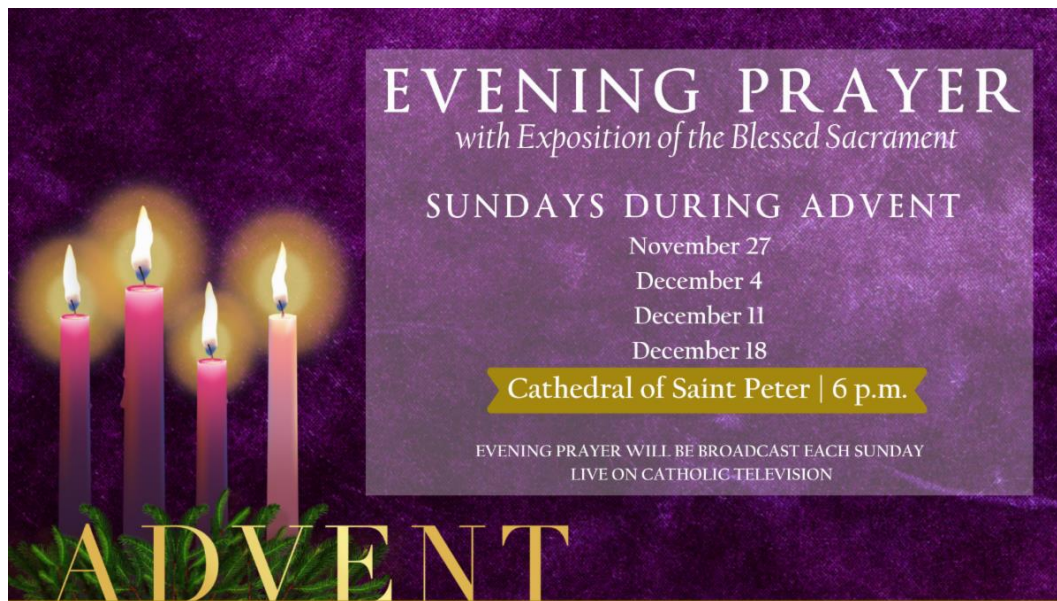


Beginning the Church's liturgical year, Advent is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas.

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus' promise to come back. But the scripture readings during Advent tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation.

Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Lk 21:34-36). Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.

**Catholic Television to broadcast Evening  
Prayer from the Cathedral of Saint Peter on  
Sundays During Advent**



**Eight men to be ordained Deacons this  
Saturday**



## ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE

Saturday, November 26 · 10:00 a.m.

Live on CTV: Catholic Television and with livestream on Diocese of Scranton website and social media



Mr. John F. Bankus



Mr. John F. Bubb



Mr. Martin J. Castaldi, Sr.



Mr. Matthew R. Eisley



Mr. Thomas A. Kostic



Mr. Steven J. Miller



Mr. Nicholas M. Rocco



Mr. Frank H. Zeranski

The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will ordain eight men as permanent deacons for the Diocese of Scranton at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 26, 2022, at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

The newly ordained deacons will join the ranks of clergy who minister to the faithful in parishes and other settings throughout the Diocese.

During the Mass of Ordination, Bishop Bambera will ordain the following men to serve permanently in the Order of Deacon: John F. Bankus, John F. Bubb, Martin J. Castaldi, Matthew R. Eisley, Thomas A. Kostic, Steven J. Miller, Nicholas M. Rocco, and Frank H. Zeranski.

[Click Here For More Information About the Ordination Mass & Read Short Bios of the Deacon Candidates](#)

**Pope suspends Caritas Internationalis officers, appoints administrator**





Pope Francis has suspended the secretary-general and other top officers of Caritas Internationalis, appointing a temporary administrator to oversee improved management policies and to prepare for the election of new officers in May.

Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, whose second term as Caritas president was to end in May, also loses his position, although he is to assist the temporary administrator in preparing for the future by taking “special care of relations with the local churches and the member organizations,” said the papal decree published Nov. 22.

Caritas Internationalis is the umbrella organization for 162 official Catholic charities working in more than 200 countries; it includes the U.S. bishops’ Catholic Relief Services and Catholic Charities USA, the Canadian bishops’ Development and Peace and the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development of the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales.

Pope Francis appointed Pier Francesco Pinelli, a business management consultant, to oversee the Vatican-based offices of the general secretariat.

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

## Catholic leaders respond to shooting at Colorado nightclub



Catholic leaders have condemned the Nov. 19 attack on an LGBTQ nightclub in Colorado Springs, Colorado, that killed at least five people and injured at least 25.

Seven of those wounded were in critical condition.

The church leaders – the archbishop of Denver, leaders of religious orders and congregations, and a Catholic outreach group to members of the LGBTQ community – also prayed for those impacted by the attack and urged for an end to hate crimes and use of language that condemns those in the LGBTQ community.

The suspected gunman, 22-year-old Anderson Lee Aldrich, faced murder and hate crime charges Nov. 21, a law enforcement official told The Associated Press, adding that the suspect used an AR-15-style semiautomatic weapon in the attack at Club Q before he was subdued by people at the club.

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



## Catholic advocates call COP27 deal on loss and damage 'real breakthrough'



A historic, late-hour deal reached at the U.N. climate change summit to establish a “loss and damage” fund for countries vulnerable to the devastating impacts of a warming world represented “a real breakthrough,” said representatives of Catholic and other religious groups.

Saying the establishment of the fund was an answer to their prayers, the faith-based voices recognized the step as a sign of progress in response to global warming, despite negotiations falling short in other areas.

They cautioned, however, that the new fund will fail to aid communities already suffering from extreme heat and storms if the plan follows the path of past pledges that have not yet been delivered, including the elimination of heat-trapping greenhouse gas emissions and financing climate mitigation and adaptation efforts.

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

## Help the Diocesan Annual Appeal on GIVING TUESDAY, Nov. 29!

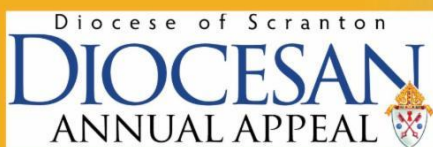
***"It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord"***

**- Psalm 92:1a**



Thanksgiving is at the heart of Christian Life. It is a time when we give thanks for all God's gifts and blessings!

Thank you for your generous gifts to the 2022 Diocesan Annual Appeal. During this time, let us remember to pray for those who are hurting, lonely or in need of assistance.



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

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