



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

January 26, 2023

National Catholic Schools Week begins Jan. 29

Many Catholic Schools to hold open houses to kick-off festivities



National Catholic Schools Week will be celebrated across the country Jan. 29 -Feb. 4 this year with the theme: “*Catholic Schools: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.*”

All 19 Catholic schools in the Diocese of Scranton will observe the annual weeklong celebration with Masses, various activities for students and families, and service projects for parishioners and community members.

The goal of National Catholic Schools Week is to highlight the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to Church, local communities and the nation.

“Catholic schools continue to have a tremendously positive impact on our students’ growth academically, spiritually, and socially, as well as a strong and lasting presence in our communities through service and prayer,” Kristen Donohue, Diocesan Secretary of Catholic Education/ Superintendent of Catholic Schools, said.

There are currently 4,420 students enrolled in the Diocese’s four high schools or 15 elementary schools.

Several Diocesan schools will kick-off National Catholic Schools Week by holding open houses on Sunday, Jan. 29, 2023. Others will hold open houses in March or are encouraging private tours. The full schedule of open houses is included in the table below:

Bradford County

School & Town	Grades	Day/Date	Time
Epiphany School Sayre	PK - 6	Sunday, January 29th	12 - 2 pm
St. Agnes School Towanda	PK - 6	Sunday, January 29th	10 - 11:30 am

Lackawanna County

School & Town	Grades	Day/Date	Time
Holy Cross High School Dunmore	9 - 12 & Individualized Instruction Program	Call 570-346-7541 for a private tour	
All Saints Academy Scranton	PK - 8 & Individualized Instruction Program	Sunday, March 19th	1 - 3 pm
La Salle Academy Jessup	PK - 8	Sunday, March 19th	1 - 3 pm
Our Lady of Peace School Clarks Green	PK - 8	Sunday, March 19th	12 - 2 pm
St. Clare/St. Paul School Scranton	PK - 8	Sunday, March 12th	11 am - 1 pm
St. Mary of Mount Carmel School Dunmore	PK - 8	Sunday, March 19th	12:30 - 2:30 pm

Luzerne County

School & Town	Grades	Day/Date	Time
Holy Redeemer High School Wilkes-Barre	9 - 12 & Individualized Instruction Program	Call 570-829-2424 for a private tour	
Good Shepherd Academy Kingston	PK - 8 & Individualized Instruction Program	Sunday, January 29th	1:30 - 3 pm
Holy Family Academy Hazleton	PK - 8	Sunday, January 29th	1 - 3 pm
Holy Rosary School Duryea	PK - 8	Sunday, January 29th	12 - 2 pm
St. Jude School Mountain Top	PK - 8	Sunday, January 29th	12 - 2 pm
St. Nicholas/St. Mary School Wilkes-Barre	PK - 8	Sunday, January 29th	1 - 3 pm
Wyoming Area Catholic School Exeter	PK - 8	Sunday, January 29th	12 - 2 pm

Lycoming County

School & Town	Grades	Day/Date	Time
St. John Neumann Jr./Sr. High School Williamsport	6 - 12	March 2023	TBA
St. John Neumann Elementary School Williamsport	PK - 5	March 2023	TBA

Monroe County

School & Town	Grades	Day/Date	Time
Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School East Stroudsburg	7 - 12	Sunday, January 29th	1 - 3 pm
Notre Dame Elementary School East Stroudsburg	PK - 6	Sunday, January 29th	1 - 3 pm

[Learn More about Catholic Schools Week 2023](#)

**Bishop Bambera to celebrate Mass for
World Day of the Sick on Feb. 10**



World Day of the Sick Mass

FRIDAY, FEB. 10, 2023

12:10 P.M.

CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PETER,
SCRANTON

Principal Celebrant: Bishop Joseph C. Bambera

**CTV: CATHOLIC TELEVISION TO BROADCAST MASS LIVE
AND LIVESTREAM ON DIOCESAN WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA**

The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will celebrate Mass for the 31st World Day of the Sick on Friday, Feb. 10, 2023, at 12:10 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

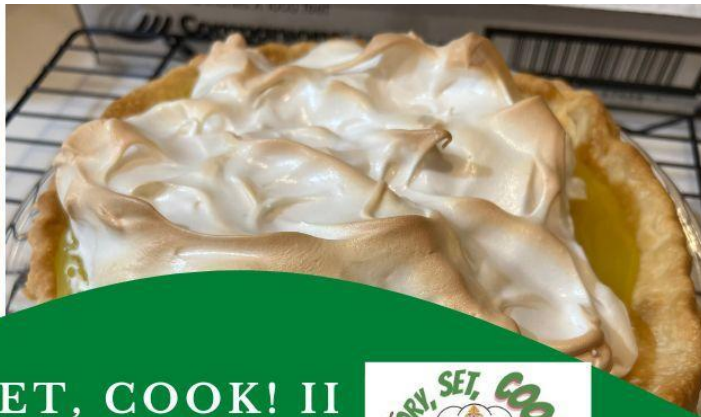
The commemoration of the World Day of the Sick not only provides an opportunity to devote special attention to those who are ill, but is also a celebration of God's works of mercy, especially through those who work tirelessly in the healthcare field.

The World Day of the Sick Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter will feature the Liturgy of the Anointing. Any infirmed person who wishes to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be invited to approach the bishop/priest with their hands open and palms facing up. The bishop/priest will anoint both the forehead and hands of the sick person.

CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton will provide a live broadcast of the Mass. It will also be livestream on the Diocese of Scranton website and YouTube channel and links for the Mass will be provided on all Diocesan social media platforms.

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

In two weeks, Rectory, Set, Cook! II raises more than \$100,000 thanks to 1,000 donors



RECTORY, SET, COOK! II

\$107,000 Raised to Date

Nearly 1,100 Donors

VIEW ALL THE VIDEOS AND VOTE:

dioceseofscranton.org



The Rectory, Set, Cook! II culinary competition featuring pastor chefs from around the Diocese of Scranton is heating up.

Two weeks after its launch, the "fun"draiser has already raised more than \$107,000 from nearly 1,100 donors. More than two dozen priests filmed themselves cooking in their rectories for this virtual fundraiser which was established to support anti-hunger programs of Catholic Social Services.

People can vote for their favorite recipe (or video) by making a \$10 donation on a secure website. The pastor with the most votes will be named this year's "top pastor chef" when the competition closes on Feb. 21 (Fat Tuesday).

There are still **FOUR MORE WEEKS** to support this effort. Half of all of the voting dollars will benefit Catholic Social Services and the other half will stay with the parish of the participating pastor.

[View All of this year's Rectory, Set, Cook! videos and Vote For Your Favorite](#)

"We Are Not Yet Done": March for Life Holds First National Event After Overturn of *Roe v. Wade*



Tens of thousands of pro-life advocates descended upon the nation's capital for the 50th March for Life Jan. 20 – the first national march since the overturn of the U.S. Supreme Court's 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision that initially prompted the annual demonstration.

Standing on the event stage at the National Mall, with the U.S. Capitol visible in the background, Jeanne Mancini, March for Life president, told attendees at a rally prior to the march that "the country and world changed" when *Roe* was reversed in June 2022. But she said the annual March for Life would continue in Washington until abortion is "unthinkable."

“While the March began as a response to Roe, we don’t end as a response to Roe being overturned,” Mancini said. “Why? Because we are not yet done.”

The march took place on a sunny and unseasonably warm day in Washington. A headcount of attendees was not immediately available, as the National Park Service does not release crowd size estimates.

[Read the Full Story from Our Sunday Visitor](#)

Underway in Philly: Trial of Pro-Life activist charged with violating federal FACE Act



A Catholic pro-life advocate is on trial for allegedly violating a federal law that protects access to abortion clinics, and the lead lawyer defending him said the charges against his client are being pursued “solely to intimidate people of faith and pro-life Americans.”

Mark Houck, known for his sidewalk counseling outside a Philadelphia abortion facility, is being tried in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania on two charges under the federal Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act, or FACE Act, for allegedly assaulting an abortion clinic volunteer in October 2021.

The 1994 law prohibits intentional property damage of a facility that provides “reproductive health services,” including those related to abortion, and prohibits using “force or threat of force or ... physical obstruction” to “injure, intimidate or interfere with” someone entering an abortion clinic.

[Read the Full Story from Our Sunday Visitor](#)

Experts: Mental health ministry a dire need across the U.S. Church



During the six months following the national 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline launch in July, more than 2 million calls, texts and chat messages have

streamed into its 200 call centers coast-to-coast, the Associated Press recently reported.

As suicide continues to be a leading cause of American deaths, Catholics may also turn to their church for spiritual support in the midst of a mental health episode — but dioceses are discovering they need to sprint to catch up and keep pace with this deadly epidemic.

“This is a brand new ministry in the church,” Deacon Ed Shoener, president and founding member of The Association of Catholic Mental Health Ministers, told OSV News. “And I think it’s growing fairly rapidly for a new ministry like this, in a very ancient institution.”

[Read the Full Story from Our Sunday Visitor](#)

God's word, mercy must be shared with everyone, pope says



The Word of God, which heals and raises people up, is meant for everyone, Pope Francis said.

Jesus “wants to reach those far away, he wants to heal the sick, he wants to save sinners, he wants to gather the lost sheep and lift up those whose hearts are weary and oppressed,” the pope said.

“Jesus ‘reaches out’ to tell us that God’s mercy is for everyone,” he said in his homily during Mass in St. Peter’s Basilica Jan. 22, the church’s celebration of Sunday of the Word of God.

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

Pope thanks Ukrainian Religious leaders for unity in the face of conflict



As war ravages Ukraine, the country cannot be divided among religious confessions but must be united behind “mother Ukraine,” Pope Francis said.

“Jewish Ukraine, Christian Ukraine, Orthodox Ukraine” are not as important as Ukraine as a whole, the pope told members of the Ukrainian

Council of Churches and Religions during a meeting at the Vatican Jan. 25.

“I thank you for your unity, for me this is a great thing, like the children of a family” that are dispersed, “but when the mother is ill, they are all together,” he told them. “It is an example in the face of so much superficiality that we see in our culture today.”

[Read More from Catholic News Service](#)

DIocese of SCRANTON
YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

THEOLOGY ON TAP

A Young Adult Speaker Series for 21-40 year olds

"Catholic Through Chaos" *JUGGLING WORK, FAITH, FAMILY, & FRIENDS.*

Guest Speaker: Kelley McConnell

7PM | FEB 23RD | \$8 COVER
SABITINI'S BOTTLESHOP - EXETER



Kelley McConnell, PhD is director of data & student assessment at Reach Cyber Charter School. She also is the youth minister at St. Eulalia's in Elmhurst. Kelley is married and has two adorable little boys. In her free time she enjoys reading, boating, and her new puppy - Teddy.

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