



GoodNewsNotes

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON OFFICE FOR PARISH LIFE

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The Light Is ON for You
Mondays in Lent
5:30PM-7:00PM

Bishop's Youth Awards
Tuesday, March 7
at 7:00PM
and
Wednesday, March 15
at 7:00PM
at the
Cathedral of Saint Peter

National Eucharistic Revival Lenten Holy Hours

In conjunction with the National Eucharistic Revival taking place within our country since Corpus Christi Sunday, 2022, Bishop Bambera will visit each of the 12 deaneries in the Diocese of Scranton during this upcoming season of Lent to celebrate a Holy Hour with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Vespers and a homily on the Most Holy Eucharist.

Below are the dates and locations for the remaining celebrations within each deanery. **Instructions for the host parish, publicity resources and program for the Lenten Holy Hour can be found on the diocesan website at [this link](#).** Please mark your calendar and invite your parishioners join Bishop Bambera in commemorating this diocesan phase of the National Eucharistic Revival!



DEANERY WIDE LENTEN HOLY HOURS

7:00 P.M. IN EACH LOCATION



- Wednesday, March 8
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Montoursville
- Thursday, March 9
SS. Peter and Paul Parish, Towanda
- Monday, March 13
St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, Wilkes-Barre
- Tuesday, March 14
Mary Mother of God Parish, Scranton
- Monday, March 20
St. Gregory Parish, Clarks Green
- Wednesday, March 22
Corpus Christi Parish, West Pittston
- Thursday, March 23
SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, Hazleton
- Monday, March 27
Queen of Peace Parish, Hawley
- Tuesday, March 28
SS. Anthony and Rocco Parish, Dunmore
- Wednesday, March 29
St. John the Baptist Parish, Larksville





Eucharist: The Work of Our Redemption Series

In response to Pope Francis' call for a "serious and dynamic liturgical formation" (ibid, 31), the Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions is pleased to present a five-part Lenten series for an exploration of the Mass – "Eucharist: The Work of our Redemption." We offer this in harmony with the United States Bishops' campaign for a Eucharistic Revival. They have assembled some of the nation's most respected theologians and liturgists. They will offer not merely an exploration of the elements of the Mass but will reflect on its rich theology and identify implications for pastoral practice.

The sessions will be offered live each Thursday in Lent at 1:00 PM (Eastern). Each webinar will be 75 minutes in length and will include time for questions and answers. As with our previous series, the sessions will be recorded so that all registered participants may watch it at a convenient time. [Click here](#) to register for this free series or visit fdlc.org.

DATE	TOPIC
Feb 23	Celebration of the Paschal Mystery: Theological Foundations
March 2	The Church at Prayer: The Introductory Rites
March 9	Proclamation and Response: The Liturgy of the Word
March 16	Joining in the Sacrifice: The Liturgy of the Eucharist
March 23	Glorifying the Lord by Your Life: The Concluding Rite

Bishop's Youth Awards

On Tuesday March 7th and Wednesday March 15th at 6:00 P.M. at the Cathedral of St. Peter, Scranton, Bishop Bambara will celebrate the Bishop Youth Award Mass, honoring those 8th and 12th grade students that have shown extraordinary commitment to their faith echoing the actions of the early Church, "They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." (Acts 2:42, NABRE).

Mark your calendars and join in celebrating these exemplary individuals.



Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation

VLCFF registration for Cycle 3 is open until April 12, 2023! **Course dates are April 17-May 7).** Celebrate the Easter season through course offerings that will feed your soul and your ministry—available in English and Spanish—with topics such as: *Basic Catechist Formation, Designing a Parish Catechetical Plan, Images of Mary, Ministry Leadership in the Church Today, Spirituality of the Missionary Disciple, Summary of Catholic Social Teaching* and much more. Visit <https://vlcff.udayton.edu/calendar/> to view the calendar of courses and to register!

Dispensation from Abstaining from Meat on Friday, March 17

Given the importance of the feast of Saint Patrick in the life of the Diocese of Scranton and in the lives of many Catholics, **Bishop Bambara is granting a dispensation from the Friday Lenten abstinence on Friday, March 17, 2023**, to those who wish to take advantage of this opportunity.



In the U.S., Catholics aged 14 and over are required to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and each Friday during Lent, and those who are 18 to 59 are also required to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Because these are disciplines rather than doctrines of the Church, as the head authority in his diocese, a bishop can grant a dispensation from these rules.

It is not required that anyone make use of this dispensation. The dispensation does not apply to any other celebrations of Saint Patrick that might take place on any other Fridays in Lent. All the faithful who take advantage of this dispensation are encouraged to abstain from meat on some other day as part of their penitential practices during Lent and/or perform an act of service, prayer or sacrifice in keeping with the character of the Lent.

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

WORSHIP

Revised Order of Penance

The revised translation of 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. **The rite may be used in the liturgy as of Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023 and its use is obligatory in the dioceses of the United States on April 16, 2023** – The Second Sunday of Easter/Divine Mercy Sunday. A Spanish translation of the *Order of Penance* for the USA has not yet been prepared.

Four publishers are producing 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).

If you missed the Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions webinar on the new *Order of Penance*, you can view the recording of it [here](#) or by visiting www.fdlc.org. The link also has free downloads on the Order of Penance for catechesis or for use in the confessional.

Extraordinary Minister of Communion Training Session

A training session for new Extraordinary Ministers of Communion will take place on **Saturday, March 18 from 9:00AM to 2:30PM at St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish 5112 Pocono Crest Rd., Pocono Pines**. This all-day training session is based on the Liturgical Ministry Resource created by the Diocesan Office for Parish Life, and covers the theology of the Eucharist and the Mass, the history and spirituality of the ministry, as well as the particular functions of the Extraordinary Minister of Communion, and how to properly prepare and carry out this ministry. Candidates for the training should have the approval of his or her pastor/parish life coordinator. There is no fee for the training, and lunch will be provided. Please note that it is necessary for candidates to attend the entire session to receive certification as an Extraordinary Minister of Communion. Current Extraordinary Ministers of Communion seeking a refresher course are also welcome to attend.

To register, please contact St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish at 570-646-6424 or email stmaxkol@ptd.net by March 15th. Please be sure to give your full name, address, phone number and the name and town of your parish.

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.

The Light Is ON for You

Again this year, parishes in the Diocese of Scranton are participating in a Lenten initiative called *The Light Is ON for You*. Every Monday continuing through Monday of the last full week of Lent, March 27, confessions will be heard in every parish from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. so that Catholics can come to or return to this beautiful sacrament. Resources are available at [this link](#).

Lenten Resources from the FDLC

Please be reminded that the FDLC has several resources that will assist you as you prepare the liturgies of this holy season. A **Liturgical Preparation Aid for Lent/Triduum and the Easter Season**, in both English and Spanish, is available at [this link](#). It includes:

- Communal Reconciliation Service
- Music Suggestions
- Lectionary Readings
- Liturgical Calendar Advisory
- Preparation sheets for Rites during the Period of Purification and Enlightenment
- Preparation Sheets for Palm Sunday and the Triduum

DIocese OF SCRANTON
YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY


THEOLOGY ON TAP

A Young Adult Speaker Series for 21-40 year olds

Tradition: Living Faith of the Dead, or Dead Faith of the Living?

Guest Speaker: Fr. Cyril Edwards

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



Fr. Cyril Edwards is the pastor of Mary, Mother of God Parish in North Scranton, and the chaplain of Holy Cross High School in Dunmore. He also serves as the Episcopal Vicar for the Northern Pastoral Region. Fr. Edwards can be seen rooting on the Holy Cross Crusaders or shouting 'GO BIRDS' during football season.

COMMUNITY

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

PreCana Days of Reflection

Because Christian marriage is a sacrament, the Catholic Church wants couples to be well-prepared. Dioceses and parishes offer marriage preparation to help couples develop a better understanding of the sacrament; to evaluate and deepen their readiness to live married life, and to gain insights into themselves.

Marriage preparation programs take different forms. Some couples attend a weekend retreat; others are matched with a "sponsor couple"; and others participate in a series of marriage preparation classes offered by their parish or diocese. The important thing for engaged couples to keep in mind as they check numerous items off their pre-wedding "to-do" list is the well-known adage, "Your wedding lasts a day, but your marriage lasts a lifetime." The Church encourages couples to invest time and energy into the all-important work of preparing for their married life together. (USCCB)

The Office for Parish Life offers PreCana Days of Reflection to help couples prepare for marriage. Couples spend a day working through a series of topics, including Marriage as a vocation, the blessing of children, communication and conflict, finances, and setting shared expectations for a fruitful and faithful life together. [Click here](#) for the list of PreCana Days of Reflection or for more information, contact PreCana@dioceseofscranton.org.

Marriage Enrichment Resources

National Marriage Week 2023 may have come and gone in February, but marriage support is ongoing! Listed below are resources to help create time and space for marriages to grow and to helping parents raise their children well. Make your marriage a priority by seeking out enrichment opportunities together:

- [Encouragement and Enrichment - For Your Marriage](#)
- [Try a Five-Point Tune-Up For Your Marriage - For Your Marriage](#)
- [Date Ideas for Married Couples - For Your Marriage](#)



Wedding Anniversary Mass

Save the Date!

Every summer, the Diocese of Scranton holds a Wedding Anniversary Celebration for couples celebrating their 25th and 50th years of marriage at the Cathedral of Saint Peter where couples renew their wedding commitment. This year's Mass will be held on **Sunday, June 4, 2023 at 2:30PM**. Mark your calendar if you are celebrating your 25th or 50th Wedding Anniversary in 2023, or share this news with others who may be doing so. Stay tuned for additional information about this year's Wedding Anniversary Mass. To register for the Wedding Anniversary Celebration, please [click here](#).

Suicide Grief Support Series

WHEN A LOVED ONE DIES BY SUICIDE



Please join our local mental health ministries for a series of monthly suicide grief support meetings based on the 8-part film series, *When a Loved One Dies by Suicide*. To learn more about this resource, contact those listed below or visit <https://catholicmhm.org/whenalovedonediesbysuicide>

Offered at two locations beginning in April 2023

St. Ann Monastery Basilica Parish, Scranton

Beginning April 20 and held on the third Thursday of each month, April through November, at 6:30pm. To learn more contact deaconed@stpeterscathedral.org

Ascension and Saint Katharine Drexel Parishes, Forest City and Pleasant Mount

Beginning April 18 and held on the third Tuesday of each month, April through November, at 6:30pm. To learn more contact carl.albright49@gmail.com

NUEVO HORARIO
MISMA MISIÓN - COMPARTIR & CRECER EN LA FE

CONOCE, AMA & VIVE TU FE
CRECIENDO
+ fortaleciendo nuestra
FE CATÓLICA
MINISTERIO HISPANO - DIOCESIS DE SCRANTON
Sábados 9 am - 10 am
94.9 FM Scranton
95.3 FM Wilkes Barre/ Nanticoke/ Hazleton

Ministerio Hispano - Diócesis de Scranton
LIVE
Ministerio Hispano
Diócesis de Scranton
94.9 FM 95.3 FM

"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

SAVE	ISLI HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT <small>JUNE 20 - 23, 2023</small>
UP&OVER MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT <small>JUNE 2-4, 2023</small>	THE
DATE	Retreat registrations will open in mid-April.  @scranton_ym

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Sponsored by the Diocesan Offices for Parish Life and Vocations



Thursday,
March 2nd
7:00 PM
St. Maria Goretti Church
42 Redwood Drive - Laflin

**SPEAKER, RECONCILIATION,
AND SOCIAL.**

LIVE MUSIC BY JOEL KANKIEWICZ



Chosen Young Adult Women's Retreat Held January 27-29

Nearly two dozen young adult women from across the Diocese of Scranton gathered for the Chosen Retreat at Holy Family Center in Nanticoke.

This brand new retreat was designed by young women for young women who are looking to deepen their faith in Christ establish new friendships rooted in faith. Throughout the weekend were small and large group sessions, daily mass, Eucharistic adoration, the sacrament of reconciliation, and time for rest and fellowship.

A special 'thank you' to the Catholic Women's Conference and Hayden Power Group for sponsoring this retreat!

The Chosen Young Adult Women's Retreat will be held again in the fall.



HAYDEN | 
POWER GROUP

Reg # PA011799

OPL Month-At-A-Glance

March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Eucharist: The Work of Our Redemption Series (virtual) 1PM Eucharistic Adoration 7PM St. Maria Goretti, Laflin	3	4
5 2nd Sunday of Lent	6 The Light Is ON for You 5:30-7PM	7 Bishop's Youth Awards Southern & Western Regions 7PM, Cathedral	8 Lenten Holy Hour, 7PM Our Lady of Lourdes, Montoursville	9 Eucharist: The Work of Our Redemption Series (virtual) 1PM Lenten Holy Hour, 7PM Ss. Peter & Paul, Towanda	10 True Presence Night 6:30PM St. John Vianney (Corpus Christi Church, Scott Twp.	11 St. Patrick's Parade Day Mass 10AM, Cathedral
12 3rd Sunday of Lent	13 The Light Is ON for You 5:30-7PM Lenten Holy Hour, 7PM St. Robert Bellarmine, Wilkes-Barre	14 Lenten Holy Hour, 7PM Mary, Mother of God, Scranton	15 Bishop's Youth Awards Northern & Eastern Regions 7PM, Cathedral	16 Eucharist: The Work of Our Redemption Series (virtual) 1PM	17	18 Extraordinary Minister of Communion Training 9AM-2:30PM St. Maximilian Kolbe, Pocono Pines
19 4th Sunday of Lent	20 The Light Is ON for You 5:30-7PM Lenten Holy Hour, 7PM St. Gregory Parish, Clarks Green	21	22 Lenten Holy Hour, 7PM Corpus Christi Parish, West Pittston	23 Theology on Tap, 7PM Sabatini's Bottleshop, Exeter Lenten Holy Hour, 7PM Ss. Cyril & Methodius, Hazleton	24	25
26 5th Sunday of Lent	27 The Light Is ON for You 5:30-7PM Lenten Holy Hour, 7PM Queen of Peace, Hawley	28 Lenten Holy Hour, 7PM Ss. Anthony & Rocco, Dunmore	29 Lenten Holy Hour, 7PM St. John the Baptist, Larksville	30	31	

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 Hvozdevic**

Director for Community and Family Development:

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

Program Coordinator, PreCana: **Brittain Banull**

Coordinator for Hispanic Ministry: **José Flores**

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

Manager of Parish Renewal: **Dominick Costantino**

Program Coordinator, Diocesan Pastoral Center: **Ana Becerill**

Administrative Assistant: **Jennifer Andres**



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