



# *The Catholic Light*

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

**Weekly E-Newsletter**

**March 23, 2023**

## **Join us at the Altar of Repose on Holy Thursday**



The Diocese of Scranton Vocations Office invites you to participate in a new initiative called "Get Up and Pray!"

On Holy Thursday, Catholics are being asked to pray in a special way for priests and seminarians to commemorate the night Christ instituted the Holy Eucharist and gave the 12 Apostles the authority to administer the Sacrament.

All people of faith and good will - including families and young adults - are encouraged to assemble a group of people to visit the Altar of Repose in one - or several - churches around the Diocese of Scranton.

We will be asking you to share photos of your groups with us on social media!

Why are we calling this initiative "Get Up and Pray?"

For that answer, look to Luke 22:46, which said, "Why are you sleeping?" he asked them. "Get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation."

[Click Here for a List of Parishes that are welcoming all faithful to their Altar of Repose on Holy Thursday](#)

## **Bishop Bambera's Reflection for the Fifth Week of Lent**



During Lent, Bishop Bambera is releasing weekly video reflections on Diocesan social media channels as well as Catholic Television.

*"I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."*

These words of Jesus come from the gospel for the Fifth Sunday of Lent—the Raising of Lazarus. This gospel of the third Scrutiny reveals the power of God even over death.

This is a powerful story filled with human emotion—of grief, of tears, of ridicule, of strength, and of hope. In the midst of all of this, Jesus stands before the tomb, offers his Father thanks for having heard him, and simply calls out, “Lazarus, come out!”

To hear Bishop Bambera's full video reflection, click the box above.

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**Final week of Lenten Holy Hours begins  
tonight in Hazleton; stops in Hawley,  
Dunmore and Larksville upcoming**



DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

# LENTEN HOLY HOUR

*with* Bishop Bambera



NATIONAL  
Eucharistic  
Revival

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**HAZLETON DEANERY**  
Ss. Cyril & Methodius Parish

**THURSDAY, MARCH 23**  
7:00 p.m.

604 North Laurel Street, Hazleton, PA 18201

There are four more Lenten Holy Hours with Bishop Bambera planned around the Diocese of Scranton over the upcoming week. The faithful who have attended the other Holy Hours have been struck by the peace and love of Christ they have felt.

More than 250 people showed up this week at St. Gregory Parish alone! Help us keep the momentum going by inviting your family and friends.

Tonight, Thursday, March 23, a Lenten Holy Hour will take place for the Hazleton Deanery at Saints Cyril & Methodius Parish at 7 p.m.

On Monday, March 27, the Holy Hour will be held at Queen of Peace Parish in Hawley for the Honesdale Deanery.

On Tuesday, March 28, the Lenten Holy Hour will take place at Saints Anthony & Rocco Parish in Dunmore.

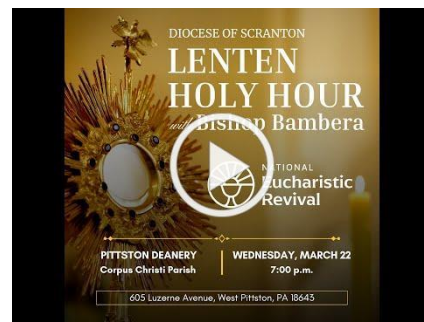
The final of the Kingston Deanery have been invited to the final Lenten Holy Hour on Wednesday, March 29 at St. John the Baptist Parish in Larksville.

[Click Here for all of the Dates and Locations of the Lenten Holy Hours with Bishop Bambera](#)

## **Catholic Television is providing video features from each Lenten Holy Hour**



**St. Gregory Parish**  
**Monday, March 20**



**Corpus Christi Parish**  
**Wednesday, March 22**

**Young adults from Northern & Eastern Pastoral Regions receive Bishop's Youth Awards**





After being postponed one week because of the weather, the second and final Mass to celebrate this year's Bishop's Youth Award recipients took place on Tuesday, March 21, 2023.

Several hundred 8th and 12th grade students who are involved in their parishes and Catholic schools were honored for their commitment to the Catholic faith and community service efforts.

"I think it's really nice. I feel, proud that I'm getting this award," Kherington Melendez of Saint Catherine of Siena Parish in Moscow, said.

"I am an altar server and I'm a Sunday school helper for second grader," Emma Elias of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Tunkhannock, said. "It's a nice experience to be with the kids and teach them about Catholicism and even just teach them how to serve. I've been an altar server for six years so it's very nice to teach other kids how to do it."

In all, nearly 600 students from the 114 parishes and 19 Catholic schools around the Diocese of Scranton received the recognition this year.

[Click Here to See a Facebook Photo Album from the Bishop's Youth Awards Mass on March 21](#)

## **Canton parish to host presentation on Shroud of Turin this weekend**



The Knights of Columbus of Saint Michael Parish in Canton, Bradford County, will host a one-hour presentation on the venerable Shroud of Turin on Saturday, March 25, at the Canton church.

Following the 4 p.m. vigil Mass at Saint Michael Church, the program on the mysterious burial cloth by Alex Piechochi will be offered at 5 p.m. in the parish's social hall. The public is welcome free of charge.

Piechochi's detailed discourse, which will be accompanied by a full size replica of the Shroud, will explore the circuitous history and intriguing facts associated with the much-scrutinized fabric that for centuries has been piously believed in the Christian world to be the sacred wrapping of the crucified Lord.

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

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## **Pope asks Catholics to renew Consecration of World to Mary every March 25**



Pope Francis has invited Catholics worldwide to renew the act of consecrating the church and all humanity, especially Russia and Ukraine, to Mary every March 25, the feast of the Annunciation.

At the end of his general audience in St. Peter's Square March 22, the pope recalled last year's service "when, in union with all the bishops of the world, the church and humanity, especially Russia and Ukraine, were consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary."

"Let us not tire of entrusting the cause of peace to the Queen of Peace," he said, asking that people not forget "troubled Ukraine, which is suffering so much."

The pope invited "every believer and community, especially prayer groups, to renew every March 25 the Act of Consecration to Our Lady, so that she, who is mother, may preserve us all in unity and peace."

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

**Federal judge's pending ruling could block abortion drug from nationwide sale**





A still-pending ruling by a federal judge in Texas could pull an abortion drug from the market across the United States.

A lawsuit by a coalition of pro-life opponents of the drug mifepristone, the first of two drugs used in a medication or chemical abortion, is demanding the U.S. Food and Drug Administration revoke its approval of the drug.

If U.S. District Judge Matthew Kacsmaryk rules in favor of the plaintiffs, he could issue a nationwide injunction on the sale of mifepristone, as requested by the plaintiffs, which would affect even U.S. states where abortion is legal and the drug is permitted under state law.

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

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**Fire guts historic Philly Catholic School in parish connected to St. John Neumann**



A Philadelphia Catholic school community whose parish has historical ties to St. John Neumann is recovering after a March 21 fire devastated its building.

A three-alarm blaze broke out at Our Mother of Consolation Parish School in the city's Chestnut Hill section just after 3:30 p.m., less than an hour after classes had been dismissed for the day.

A parent collecting her child had alerted school staff to the fire after seeing smoke coming from the roof, according to Sister of St. Joseph Christine Konopelski, pastoral associate for faith formation at OMC, speaking with local media.

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

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