



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

June 1, 2023

Honesdale native ordained transitional deacon, marking a milestone on the path to priesthood



Just minutes before his Ordination Mass, William A. Asinari was so overwhelmed with gratitude he started to cry.

“It’s inexplicable. I was sitting up in the chapel and I was just in tears thanking God for the blessing of service,” Deacon Asinari said.

Less than an hour later, the 24 year old became a transitional deacon through the Rite of Ordination to the Diaconate, which includes the presentation of the candidate, election by the bishop, promise of the elect, litany of supplication and laying on of hands.

“I think one of the most beautiful moments was just hearing from the Church, we have found this man to be worthy,” Deacon Asinari explained. “I think every seminarian, to some degree, goes through the struggle that God is giving me this gift and I don’t deserve this. It is immensely beautiful and it’s beyond what I could ever deserve. You fight that feeling of unworthiness and when you finally get there in that moment and hear it, it hits home!”

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

Diocese of Scranton to celebrate annual Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 4



DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Nearly 150 couples who are celebrating milestone anniversaries in 2023 will be recognized at the Cathedral of Saint Peter on Sunday, June 4, 2023.

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera will serve as principal celebrant and homilist for the Diocese of Scranton's annual Wedding Anniversary Mass that recognizes married couples who are celebrating their 25th and 50th anniversaries this year. The Mass will begin at 2:30 p.m.

In addition to married couples celebrating their Silver and Golden anniversaries, there are expected to be one couple in attendance celebrating 66 years of marriage and two couples in attendance celebrating 60 years of marriage.

In all, a total of 6,528 years of marriage will be celebrated between the 148 couples who have pre-registered to attend the Mass.

[For More Information on the Wedding Anniversary Mass](#)

**Join us this evening at the Wyoming Valley
Catholic Youth Center as we kick off
#NEPAGives Day 2023**

NEPA
GIVES



BECAUSE YOU'RE
A #COOLCATHOLIC!



RALLY & GIVE GATHERING TODAY, JUNE 1, 6-9 P.M.!

JOIN US INSIDE THE
CATHOLIC YOUTH CENTER (CYC) GYM,
36 SOUTH WASHINGTON ST, WILKES-BARRE

(PARK IN CYC LOT ON N. PENN AVE. SIDE OF BUILDING OR IN HOLY REDEEMER HIGH SCHOOL LOTS.
ENTER THROUGH NORTH PENN AVE. SIDE OF BUILDING.)

WINE, BEER, SODA, SALTY AND SWEET SNACKS, GRILLED FOOD, AND EVEN A
"FATHER JAMES PAISLEY ICE-CREAM BAR/TAILGATE STATION!" GOODIES, GIVEAWAYS AND
RAFFLES (FOR IN-PERSON & AT-HOME DONORS), FAMILY-FRIENDLY FUN+GAMES, PHOTOS WITH
"POPE FRANCIS," AND A CELEBRITY MUSICAL ENSEMBLE FRONTED BY
"RECTORY, SET, COOK!" TWO-TIME CHAMPION FATHER JAMES PAISLEY!
GRAND PRIZE IS A YETI TUNDRA 45 COOLER!



IF YOU CAN'T JOIN US IN PERSON, TUNE IN HOURLY ON DIOCESE OF SCRANTON FACEBOOK LIVE
OR SUPPORT US WITH AN ONLINE DONATION:

[HTTPS://WWW.NEPAGIVES.ORG/ORGANIZATIONS/DIOCESE-OF-SCRANTON](https://www.nepagives.org/organizations/diocese-of-scranton)

ALL DONATIONS BENEFIT DIOCESAN MISSION ORGANIZATIONS AND CATHOLIC SCHOOLS!
CHOOSE GREATEST NEED OR A FAVORITE DESIGNATED CAUSE FROM THE ABOVE WEBSITE
AND HELP MOVE THE DIOCESE UP THE 24-HOUR LEADERBOARD!

MORE INFO: SANDRA-SNYDER@DIOCESEOFSCRANTON.ORG OR 570-207-2250



"MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE TO THE LORD!" PSALM 98:4



As the Wyoming Valley Catholic Youth Center celebrates 75 years of steadfast service to children and young people, the community is being invited to support its mission and innovative programming.

“The Wyoming Valley Catholic Youth Center means so much to the youth of our community. We offer many different programs from our daycare program to our basketball and swim programs and even our drop-in program for young people who are involved in the mental health system. This is a home away from home for those children,” Mark Soprano, Executive Director of the Wyoming Valley Catholic Youth Center, said. “We are the largest daycare provider in Luzerne County. We offer 24-hour daycare for children of working families.”

In conjunction with #NEPAGives Day 2023, the CYC will open its doors to the community from 6-9 p.m. on Thursday, June 1, 2023, for free food, drinks and fun. Father Jim Paisley, pastor of St. Therese Parish and St. Frances Cabrini Parish, will perform several songs and entertain those in attendance. No reservations are needed. Anyone is welcome to attend to learn more about the CYC or its programs or hear about the 27 other Diocesan causes that are part of #NEPAGives Day 2023, including our Catholic schools and service programs.

[For More Information on #NEPAGives Day 2023](#)

Bishop Bambera to celebrate Mass for Priest Jubilarians June 8

Mass for Priest Jubilarians

Thursday, June 8, 2023, at 12:10 p.m.
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton



Celebrate those who have dedicated
70, 65, 60, 50 and 25 years
to priestly ministry or religious life.



**MASS WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE ON CTV: CATHOLIC TELEVISION AND LIVESTREAM ON THE
DIOCESE OF SCRANTON WEBSITE, YOUTUBE CHANNEL AND SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS**

Fourteen priests who are celebrating milestone anniversaries of their ordination year will be recognized during the 2023 Mass for Priest Jubilarians at 12:10 p.m. on Thursday, June 8, 2023, at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will serve as principal celebrant and homilist. During the Mass, the bishop will recognize a total of 665 years of service to the priesthood.

Monsignor John A. Esseff, M.S., D.Min., will be recognized for 70 years of priestly service. Monsignor Esseff was ordained on May 30, 1953, by the late Bishop William J. Hafey and has served as a retreat director and confessor to Saint Mother Teresa.

In addition to Msgr. Esseff, priests who are celebrating 65, 60, 50 and 25 ordination year anniversaries will also be honored.

[Click Here for More Information on the Mass for Priest Jubilarians,
Including a List of All of the Jubilarians for 2023](#)

Bishop Bambera announces Clergy Appointments



On Wednesday, May 31, 2023, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, announced a series of clergy appointments that will take effect on June 30, July 11 and September 1 respectively.

[Click Here To View the Clergy Appointments Announced on May 31](#)

Pope on Pentecost: Synod is journey in the Spirit, not a 'parliament'



The Catholic Church's current Synod of Bishops should not be a "parliament for demanding rights," but a "journey in accordance with the Spirit," Pope Francis said.

The synod, which seeks to gather input from all baptized Catholics on building a listening church, is not "an occasion for following wherever the wind is blowing, but the opportunity to submit to the breath of the Spirit," he said.

In his homily for Pentecost Mass in St. Peter's Basilica May 28, the pope said that the Holy Spirit is "the heart of synodality and the driving force of evangelization."

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

Promote Christian values, not divisions, on social media, Vatican says



Catholics should make an "examination of conscience" about how they use social media, how they allow it to influence them and about the opportunities it provides them to share the Gospel, build community and care for others, said the Vatican Dicastery for Communication.

“Unfortunately, the tendency to get carried away in heated and sometimes disrespectful discussions is common with online exchanges,” said the dicastery’s document, “Towards Full Presence. A Pastoral Reflection on Engagement with Social Media.”

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

Thousands flock to Missouri to visit nun's apparently incorrupt body over Memorial Day weekend



Thousands flocked to a rural Missouri monastery over the Memorial Day weekend to venerate the apparently incorrupt body of a Benedictine nun with visitors telling OSV News the experience has been spiritually powerful for them.

“It’s electrifying. It’s galvanizing the hearts of the faithful and the unfaithful as well,” said Luke Nold of Easton, Missouri, a volunteer helping the crowds converging at the Abbey of Our Lady of Ephesus,

located outside of Gower. “I’ve talked to people who have come from as far as Colorado, as near as Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa. ... northern Minnesota, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, North Carolina. And some of the stories I’m hearing are just profound. A local mortician came out just in disbelief; this doesn’t happen.”

The remarkably intact remains of Benedictine Sister Wilhelmina Lancaster of the Most Holy Rosary have been on display for several weeks at the Abbey of Our Lady of Ephesus. On April 28, the Benedictine Sisters of Mary, Queen of the Apostles had exhumed the body of their foundress to transfer it to a new shrine altar honoring St. Joseph.

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

Experts hope for progress on health care, disability ministry and Hispanic Catholics at U.S. Bishops' June meeting



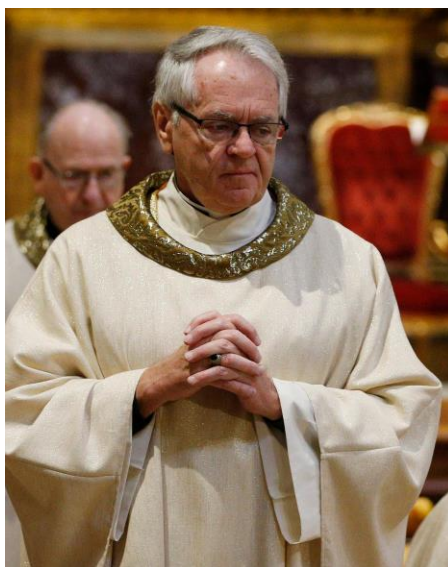
Ahead of the U.S. bishops' June meeting, pastoral experts told OSV News they are looking forward to progress on issues impacting health care, Hispanic Catholics and persons with disabilities.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) will hold its spring plenary assembly in Orlando, Florida, June 14-16. As USCCB president, Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services, will address the bishops as well as oversee the proceedings. Archbishop Christophe Pierre, papal nuncio to the U.S., also will address the bishops. The public sessions June 15-16 will be livestreamed on the USCCB website at www.usccb.org.

Amid prayer and dialogue sessions, the bishops will survey a number of topics, including the the bishops' three-year National Eucharistic Revival, currently underway, and preparations for two major events: the 2024 National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis, which is the culminating event of the revival, and World Youth Day with Pope Francis, which will take place Aug. 1-6 in Lisbon, Portugal.

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

Pope creates ecclesiastical province of Las Vegas, names Bishop Thomas metropolitan Archbishop



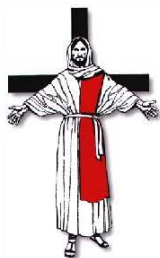
Pope Francis has created the ecclesiastical province of Las Vegas, comprised of the Archdiocese of Las Vegas and the suffragan dioceses of Reno, Nevada, and Salt Lake City.

He also named Las Vegas Bishop George Leo Thomas to be the first metropolitan archbishop of Las Vegas. Archbishop Thomas, who turned 73 May 19, was appointed the third bishop of Las Vegas Feb. 28, 2018.

The establishment of the new province and the appointment of the metropolitan archbishop was publicized in Washington May 30 by Archbishop Christophe Pierre, apostolic nuncio to the United States.

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

Catholic Charismatic Conference 2023 to take place Aug. 4-6 at The University of Scranton



Are you in need of **Renewal ?**
Refreshment for your spirit? There
is **new life** and **healing** available to
everyone in the Holy Spirit!



Catholic Charismatic Renewal Diocese of Scranton

University of Scranton, Scranton, Pennsylvania

Conference 2023

*“Heal me, O Lord,
And I shall be healed” Jer 17:14*



Sr. Lukasiewicz



Deborah DeRosia



Bob Valiante



Bob Canton

August 4, 5, & 6, 2023

All are Welcome!

Full weekend Pre-Registration \$60.

Daily Registration available during the event at the U of S!

For more information, go to ccscranton.org/conference

Come join in this
celebration and
renewal of faith
with Praise, Worship,
Daily Mass,
Adoration,
Inspired Teaching by
An International
group
of Speakers!

[Click Here to Register or For More Information](#)

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