



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

June 22, 2023

Community invited to participate in World Refugee Day celebration



After coming to the United States from a refugee camp in Uganda, Ushu Mukelo says he has been embraced by the Scranton community.

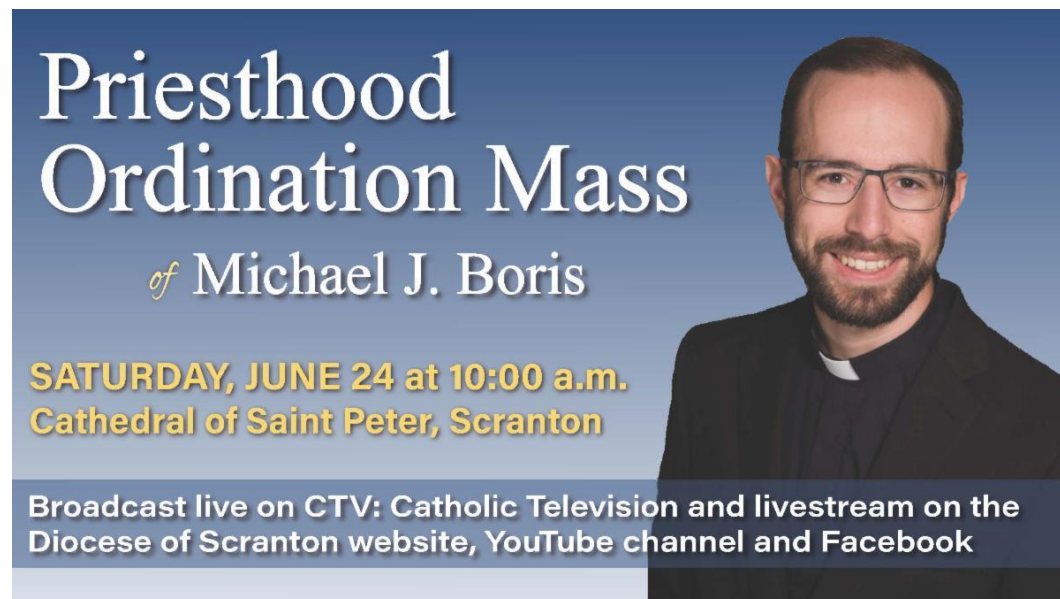
He is now giving back to his new neighbors by helping to plan the 2023 World Refugee Day celebration.

"As a refugee who lived in a refugee camp for more than 12 years, it reminds me of the sense of togetherness. Scranton has been a very hospitable city and your presence will just reinforce that," Mukelo said in a video invitation to the community.

Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton is one of the organizers of the World Refugee Day celebration that will take place on Saturday, June 24 at Nay Aug Park in Scranton (on the Greenhouse side of the park). The event will take place from 2-4 p.m. and feature cultural songs and music, refreshments, games and activities for children. The event will take place rain or shine!

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

Prior to Ordination Mass, "Our Faith Our Diocese" features interview with Deacon Michael J. Boris



**Priesthood
Ordination Mass**
of Michael J. Boris

SATURDAY, JUNE 24 at 10:00 a.m.
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton

Broadcast live on CTV: Catholic Television and livestream on the
Diocese of Scranton website, YouTube channel and Facebook

With just days until his Ordination Mass, Deacon Michael J. Boris reflected on his path to the priesthood during an interview in this month's "Our Faith Our Diocese" program.

Reverend Mr. Michael J. Boris will be ordained to the Order of the Priesthood on Saturday, June 24, 2023, at 10 a.m.

The public is welcome and encouraged to attend the Ordination Mass.

CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton will broadcast the Mass live and provide livestreaming on the Diocese of Scranton's website, YouTube channel and social media platforms.

(Note: Deacon Michael's interview starts 20 minutes into the program)

[Click Here to Watch this Month's "Our Faith Our Diocese" program on YouTube](#)

Vacation Bible schools helping to share Christ's love



Many parishes around the Diocese of Scranton are in the process of planning or are already holding Vacation Bible School this summer.

This week, the Church of Saint John in East Stroudsburg has been hosting dozens of children each day for its "Good VIBES Only" camp.

"We're running a Mega Sports Camp. Our theme is 'Good VIBES Only' and each letter in VIBES stands for something that we want them to remember about themselves," Marybel Sigler, Director of Faith Formation, explained.

The students get to hear Bible stories, participate in sports and other activities and spend time with older students of the parish.

"The main idea with everything that we do here, from Faith Formation to Vacation Bible School, is (to have) a relationship with Jesus," Sigler added. "If we can get them to have a desire to have a relationship with Him, to get to know Him a little better, to make Him their friend, then we've succeeded!"

The camp will run through Friday. The students who are participating are having a wonderful experience.

"This camp is really fun," student Ayva McKelown said. "I'm learning that God made us and he believes in us. He loves us very much."

[Click Here to Watch a Video from the "Good Vibes Only" Vacation Bible School](#)

**Synod document asks how to increase
unity, participation, mission outreach**



In a church that “bears the signs of serious crises of mistrust and lack of credibility,” members of the assembly of the Synod of Bishops will be asked to find ways to build community, encourage the contribution of every baptized person and strengthen the church’s primary mission of sharing the Gospel, said the working document for the October gathering.

“A synodal church is founded on the recognition of a common dignity deriving from baptism, which makes all who receive it sons and daughters of God, members of the family of God, and therefore brothers and sisters in Christ, inhabited by the one Spirit and sent to fulfil a common mission,” said the document, which was released at the Vatican June 20.

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

**Pope leads Angelus, thanks people for prayers
for his recovery**



With a slightly quivering voice, before leading the recitation of the Angelus prayer, Pope Francis thanked everyone who prayed for him and cared for him while he was in the hospital.

Greeting an estimated 15,000 people gathered in St. Peter's Square June 18, two days after he was released from Rome's Gemelli hospital following surgery to repair a hernia, the pope thanked everyone who "showed me affection, care and friendship and assured me of their prayerful support."

"This human and spiritual closeness has been of great help and comfort to me," the pope said. "Thank you all, thank you, thank you from the bottom of my heart!"

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

Adore Jesus' Real Presence in the Eucharist, Pope Francis tells U.S. Catholics



Catholics need to recover a sense of awe and adoration before the Eucharist, knowing that it is “the real and loving presence of the Lord,” Pope Francis told members of the committees organizing the National Eucharistic Revival and the National Eucharistic Congress in the United States.

Jesus spoke of himself as “the living bread which came down from heaven, the true bread that gives life to the world,” the pope told the group June 19, just three days after leaving the hospital following abdominal surgery.

“This morning, while I was celebrating the Eucharist, I thought about this a lot because it is what gives us life,” the pope said. “Indeed, the Eucharist is God’s response to the deepest hunger of the human heart, the hunger for authentic life because in the Eucharist Christ himself is truly in our midst to nourish, console and sustain us on our journey.”

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

U.S. Bishops advance pastoral initiatives to strengthen church amid discussions on Eucharist, priesthood, synodality



Meeting in Orlando for their spring assembly, the U.S. bishops moved ahead on some efforts to advance the church's mission in the U.S., including new pastoral initiatives aimed at activating Catholics as missionary disciples. The gathering's June 15-16 plenary sessions proved relatively smooth, but featured moments of vigorous discussion at a few points, particularly around the formation of priests.

Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services gave his first address as U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops president presiding over the bishops' plenary assembly. He covered a variety of issues of concern to Catholics, such as the need for Congress to pass a comprehensive immigration reform and for an end to Russia's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine.

“We cannot fail to see the face of Christ in all of those who need our assistance, especially the poor and the vulnerable,” he said.

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

U.S. Bishops overwhelming approve 10-year plan to address pastoral needs of Hispanic Catholics



The U.S. bishops approved a new National Pastoral Plan for Hispanic/Latino Ministry to multiply pastoral responses addressing the realities of close to 30 million Hispanic Catholics in the U.S.

On June 16, with 167 supporting votes out of 171, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops resoundingly approved a comprehensive plan aimed at responding to the needs of Hispanic/Latino Catholics in the U.S. and strengthening Hispanic/Latino ministries across the country at the national, local and parish level. The last time the U.S. bishops put forth such a plan was in 1987.

With a recent Pew Research Center analysis showing that 43% of Hispanic/Latino adults self-identify as Catholic in 2022, down from 67% in 2010 — and that the number of Latino Catholics drops to 30% for those ages 18-29 — the urgency to provide pastoral care for Hispanic Catholics is a high priority.

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

Summer Festivals, Picnics and Bazaars page has returned to the Diocesan website

St. Faustina Parish, Nanticoke
Annual Homecoming Festival
On the grounds of St. Faustina Grove,
Old Newport Street, Sheatown

Friday, June 23 • 5pm - 11pm ♦ LANCE THOMAS BAND
Saturday, June 24 • 5pm - 11pm ♦ IDOL KINGS

*Pierogies, Potato Pancakes, Halushki,
Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, French Fries.*
**BAKE SALE &
ICE CREAM STAND**
Fun & Games for All Ages, Including
Basket Raffle, Bingo, Instant Bingo,
Children's Games, Face Painting, Pony
Rides, Bounce House and Much More!

**SATURDAY
MASS AT GROVE**
**4pm with music by
JOE STANKY
& THE CADETS**

ST. LEO THE GREAT

Summer Festival!

PARISH GROUNDS

33 Manhattan Street, Ashley



CASH PRIZES!



June 23 & 24

Friday & Saturday

Starts nightly at 6pm

Live Entertainment!

- Friday: Strawberry Jam
- Saturday: Uncle Sam's American Band



STANDS INCLUDE:

Toy Box Stand • Barbie Stand • Fun for Kids Stand
Plant Stand • Certificates • Funko Pop Stand
Basket Auction • Craft Beer Stand • Bottles of Cheer
Instant Bingo • Surprise Stand
Big Six Wheel • Basket Raffle • Groceries & More

AIR CONDITIONED BINGO

~ HOMEMADE FOOD ~

~ BAKE SALE ~

~ FREE PARKING! ~

The Diocese of Scranton has once again solicited information from parishes all around its 11 counties regarding summer festivals, picnics and bazaars that are being planned.

The webpage, which was visited by more than 15,000 people last year, provides a month-by-month listing of events that will be taking place.

The website is continually updated as parishes send in information.

[Click Here for the Summer Festivals, Picnics and Bazaars Webpage](#)

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