

The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

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Summer of Faith, Friends & Fun

Diocesan and parish programs helping youth discover who God is calling them to be



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DIOCESE OF SCRANTON MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Catholic community of the Diocese of Scranton, are called through Baptism to imitate the servant leadership of Jesus Christ. In union with Our Holy Father, the Pope, we proclaim the Gospel faithfully, celebrate the sacraments joyfully, and boldly promote life, justice and peace in northeastern and north central Pennsylvania.

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“Thank you for saying ‘yes’ to the Lord’s Call”

Bishop Bambera ordains Michael J. Boris to the priesthood

SCRANTON – As he stood in the first pew of the Cathedral of Saint Peter, Joseph Boris, Sr., fought back tears as his son, Michael, gave him his first blessing just moments after his ordination to the priesthood.

“It meant so much. It was just an overwhelming feeling,” Joseph Boris said.

Five years after entering Saint Mary’s Seminary in Baltimore, Michael J. Boris was ordained a priest on Saturday, June 24, 2023, before hundreds of family, friends, fellow parishioners and clergy.

“I loved seeing friends and family, some friends which I haven’t seen in a very long time, and most especially brother seminarians, and now brother priests, who have, in various ways, been part of my journey and have helped me try to surrender to Christ for this moment,” Father Boris said shortly after the Ordination Mass ended.

During the Ordination Rite, Boris prostrated himself before the Cathedral altar as the congregation chanted the Litany of the Saints. The Rite also included the Laying on of Hands, Anointing of Hands and the Fraternal Kiss — ancient rituals that signify his incorporation into the presbyterate.



During the Rite of Ordination, the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, lays his hands upon the head of Michael J. Boris. Following the Bishop, all of the priests present also laid hands on the Dallas native.

Boris said the Laying on of Hands was particularly moving.

“I was moved and trying to reflect when the Bishop and then the other priests came and were laying their hands on my head. I was trying to picture how each

and every one of them is Christ laying his hands on my head and trying to soothe my anxieties and heart, ultimately saying, ‘I’ve called you to this and I will be with you always,’” the newly ordained priest said.

Boris, 27, is the son of Joseph and Susan Boris. The Dallas native is a graduate of Holy Redeemer High School and King’s College where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Theology and Philosophy. Boris entered Saint Mary’s Seminary in the fall of 2018. In 2019, he served a summer assignment in the parish communities of Holy Cross Parish, Olyphant, and Blessed Sacrament Parish, Throop. Boris also served a pastoral year (2020-2021) in the parish communities of Saint Rose of Lima Parish

and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, both in Carbondale.

“Two of the greatest things I’ve been thinking about recently were looking out at the crowd both at Adoration last night and here today and seeing all the people who have been part of my journey and their Christian witness and how they’ve helped me discern in various ways,” Father Boris added. “Everybody from my parishes, schools, King’s College, seminary at Saint Mary’s in Baltimore. They have all been spectacular and I’m very grateful.”

The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, served as principal celebrant and homilist of the Ordination Mass.

Bishop Bambera began his homily by thanking Boris for saying “yes” to the Lord’s Call to serve the church.

“Your consent to God’s will, that has brought you to this day in your life and the life of this local church, affirms that the power of God continues to move among us and affect God’s plan for salvation,” the bishop said.

The Ordination Mass was held on the Solemnity of Saint John the Baptist and provided context, as Bishop Bambera noted, for a person’s response to the call of the Lord.

“John was the bridge between the Old and New Testaments, the prophet whose entire purpose in life was to point the way to Christ,” Bishop Bambera explained. “He understood and accepted God’s will for himself and he embraced it with humility and resolve.”

Being a priest demands the same response and more.

“While very much aware of our human weakness and frailty, God will use you, even with your imperfections to speak on His behalf and serve in His name for the sake of His people,” Bishop Bambera added.

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Several hundred people, including family members, friends and fellow parishioners attended the Ordination Mass of Michael J. Boris on June 24 at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton. (Photos/Mike Melisky)



During the Litany of Supplication, Michael J. Boris lies prostrate on the floor of the Cathedral in a gesture of solemn petition. The crowd asks for God's blessing on Boris.



Rev. Kenneth M. Seegar, a longtime friend of the Boris family, helps Father Boris, now ordained, to vest as a priest for the first time by putting on a stole and chasuble.



During the Concluding Rites, Rev. Boris gives his first blessing as a newly ordained priest to his mother, Susan, his father, Joseph Boris, Sr., and his brother, Joseph Boris, Jr.

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As he ended his homily, the Bishop told Boris to always trust in the grace of God, be faithful to the teachings of the church and to remember he is appointed to serve on behalf of the Christian faithful but will always be in need of God's presence, life and saving grace.

"God's people are looking for meaning, purpose and peace in their lives. Today, here in this Cathedral and beyond, they will celebrate your response to the Lord's call. They will encourage you and embrace you with pride," Bishop Bambera said. "Tomorrow, they will look to you for answers to their questions and they will look to you to find Jesus in your words of forgiveness, in your service to the poor and the simplicity of your life and in the depth of your love."

Throughout the Ordination Mass, Joseph Boris was filled with pride for his son.

"I just wish my mom and dad could be here and Sue's mom and dad. This is something my mom prayed for a long time," the new priest's father said. "I have seven brothers and sisters and I think she was disappointed when none of us went into the priesthood. She was thrilled. She lived until a couple years ago and got to see Michael at the seminary. She was so proud of that."

Over the last five years, Father Boris' father said his son has grown in many ways.

"He is a totally different person. We know him as the goofball kid growing



Father Michael J. Boris receives a hug outside the Cathedral of Saint Peter following his Ordination Mass.

up, having fun, playing basketball," his dad said. "He has really blossomed into somebody that I know will do great things. He will be a great priest."

Father Boris' first priestly appointment is historic. He has been appointed as Parochial Vicar at both Our Lady of the Snows Parish, Clarks Summit, and Saint Gregory Parish, Clarks Green. While the two neighboring parishes are currently independent, they will be working towards coming together in a linkage next year, and being appointed to both parishes now will help towards that goal.

"I am excited. I've never been up there so I really am going in with a clean slate," Father Boris said. "It feels good to have a fresh start, go to a place where I can serve God's people and try to discern God's voice every day."

APPOINTMENTS

His Excellency, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, announces the following appointments:

Effective June 30, 2023

Reverend Brian J.T. Clarke, from Leave of Absence due to Reasons of Health, to Senior Priest, Saint Matthew Parish, East Stroudsburg.

Effective July 5, 2023

Reverend Michael J. Boris, to Parochial Vicar, Our Lady of the Snows Parish, Clarks Summit, and Saint Gregory Parish, Clarks Green.

Effective July 11, 2023

Monsignor Dale R. Rupert, to Senior Priest, Immaculate Conception Parish, Scranton. Monsignor Rupert will continue to serve as Senior Priest, Cathedral of Saint Peter Parish, Scranton, and as Diocesan Master of Ceremonies.

Effective September 8, 2023

Reverend Joseph J. Pisaneschi, from Pastor, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Swoyersville, to Pastor, Saint Therese Parish, Shavertown, and Saint Frances X. Cabrini Parish, Carverton.

Deacon Appointments, Effective July 11, 2023

Deacon Andrew A. Fazio, to Diaconal Ministry, Saints Anthony and Rocco Parish, Dunmore. Deacon Fazio will continue in diaconal ministry, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Dunmore.

Deacon J. Patrick McDonald, to Diaconal Ministry, Cathedral of Saint Peter Parish, Scranton. Deacon McDonald will continue in diaconal ministry, Immaculate Conception Parish, Scranton.

Deacon Edward R. Shoener, to Diaconal Ministry, Immaculate Conception Parish, Scranton. Deacon Shoener will continue in diaconal ministry, Cathedral of Saint Peter Parish, Scranton.

Seminarian takes step closer to the Sacred Priesthood



Seminarian Thomas Dzwonczyk, left, stands before the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, during the Rite of Admission to Candidacy for Holy Orders on June 28, 2023, at Marywood University. (Photo/Dan Gallagher)

DUNMORE – Seminarian Thomas Dzwonczyk has taken a step closer to the sacred priesthood after receiving Admission to Candidacy for Holy Orders from the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton.

A Mass with the Rite of Admission to Candidacy for Holy Orders took place on Wednesday, June 28, 2023, during the annual *Quo Vadis Days* summer camp.

“This was a privilege to celebrate the Rite of Candidacy today with Bishop Bambera and a bunch of priests who have been influential in my formation,” Dzwonczyk said. “Having my family – my mom, dad and sister there – just made it all the more special.”

The Rite of Admission to Candidacy for Holy Orders is celebrated when a man has reached a maturity or purpose in his formation and demonstrated the necessary qualifications for ordination to the diaconate. In the presence of the bishop, Dzwonczyk publicly expressed his intention to complete his preparation for Holy Orders and also his resolve to fully invest himself to that end, so as to best serve Jesus Christ and His Holy Church.

“It was very powerful. I was fighting back tears during the service,” the North Abington Township native said. “I know that on my own I could never do it. I’m a broken and sinful man but He has led

me to this point and I trust that He will continue to guide me through the next years of formation.”

Dzwonczyk, a parishioner of Saint John Vianney Parish, never took part in *Quo Vadis Days* while he was in high school but was happy the Rite of Admission took place during the annual event.

“I was too shy and timid to actually do it when I was in high school but I’m amazed by the young men who are willing to give themselves to these three days. We’ve had some wonderful conversations, some great liturgies, Holy Hours and having them come up and say ‘Congrats, I’m praying for you,’ makes all the difference,” he added.

Dzwonczyk, who has most recently been serving a pastoral year at Saint Jude Parish in Mountain Top and Saint Mary’s Parish in Dorrance, credits his family for being by his side every step of the way.

“My mom texted me late last night and said, ‘I’m offering my nightly rosary for you.’ To have them present just makes it all the more special. I can’t really put it into words. They have been so supportive along the way,” he said. “I still remember the day I called them from school saying I want to enter seminary and now to think that they were here and to know that they’ll be here for the rest of the way is incredible.”

‘Prayer, fun, community building,’ *Quo Vadis Days* help educate high school students on vocational opportunities

DUNMORE – As he weighs many important decisions in his life, Antonio Ingargiola says the idea of becoming a priest has crossed his mind on more than one occasion.

“I have definitely thought about seminary and going into the priesthood,” he said. “I still feel like I have a lot more discernment, prayer and reflection to do, but I feel very strongly towards it.”

Ingargiola, a parishioner of Saints Anthony and Rocco Parish in Dunmore, was one of 30 high school students who attended *Quo Vadis Days* from June 26-28 at Marywood University. Twenty-one of the students this year, including Ingargiola, were attending *Quo Vadis Days* for the first time.

“It’s very empowering because I feel like for other young men who might be discerning priesthood, sometimes you can almost feel alone, you can feel like you’re alone in this vast city,” he added. “But coming to things like this, you realize you’re not alone. There are other young men who are also discerning the same position as you, which is really nice to know and comforting to know.”

Each summer, the Diocesan Office of Vocations holds its *Quo Vadis Days* retreat to help young men explore vocational opportunities and ask the question about where God is calling them. In Latin, “*Quo Vadis*” means, “Where are you going?”

“It is a time of prayer, fun, community building and fellowship,” Father Alex



Above: High school students participating in *Quo Vadis Days* celebrate Mass together at Marywood University.

Below: *Quo Vadis Days* allows plenty of time for young men to learn more about their Catholic faith as well as participate in group activities like cornhole and sporting events.



Roche, Diocesan Director of Vocations and Seminarists, said. “It’s a great opportunity for them to realize that priests, bishops and seminarists are human beings just like them, men who have gone through all the same ups-and-downs of life and who were teenagers themselves once. It gives them the opportunity to experience the priesthood in a new way and discover, maybe, if God is calling them in that direction.”

Throughout the three days, speakers visit to talk not only about the priesthood but also about many other topics including religious life, marriage and dating.

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Faith-based leadership retreat for teens returns after pandemic hiatus

DUNMORE – When Jessica Castro first signed up to participate in the ISLI retreat this summer, the Scranton teen would be the first to admit it was a leap of faith.

“The first day I was nervous and scared but you get comfortable with these people,” she said. “You begin to talk and then you don’t care because you’re comfortable with them.”

Castro is one of 20 high school students from parishes and schools around the Diocese who participated in the International Student Leadership Institute from June 20-23 at Marywood University.

“You learn a lot of new things. You learn communication, support and other things. You meet new people and you feel more confident,” Castro added.

ISLI is a peer-facilitated, faith-based leadership retreat designed by Father Thomas Chambers, C.S.C., at the University of Notre Dame. It is designed to help high school students excel in both leadership and membership roles of task-oriented groups.

During the retreat, participants improve their decision-making and problem solving skills through the teachings of the Catholic faith. The students also celebrate Mass together and participate in Eucharistic Adoration.

“The retreat is focused on the concept of leadership as a learned characteristic specifically rooted in our Catholic faith,” Shannon Kowalski, Director of Service and Mission in the Diocesan Office for Parish Life, explained. “The students experience small group activities that go along with five objectives to help them understand various aspects of themselves, what they have to give towards leadership and how they can improve their leadership potential.”

Zachary Schultz, a student at Holy Redeemer High School and parishioner of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Swoyersville, participated in ISLI for the first time this summer.

“I have enjoyed it ... I definitely felt very welcomed and got to meet a lot of new people,” he said.

In his school and parish community, Schultz admitted he has mostly been a “follower” but after participating in the



Young adults involved in the International Student Leadership Institute (ISLI) participate in Eucharistic Adoration.

ISLI program he said, “I’m going to try and be a leader.”

Lauren Hayden, who also attends Holy Redeemer High School and is a parishioner at Saint Jude Parish in Mountain Top, attended the ISLI program for a second time after having a great experience previously.

“It has definitely had a huge impact on my own life ... I’m part of the Student Council at Holy Redeemer High School,” Hayden explained.

All of the participants got a chance to meet the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, who celebrated Mass with them on the third full day of the retreat.

“Bishop Bambera has been great to us at ISLI. He comes every time we host the retreat to express his support for the kids and to get to know a little more about what we do,” Kowalski said. “He also comes to issue a challenge that we need them in our diocese. The students at ISLI are not the ‘future’ of the church. They are the church now. At the end of this, he expects them, and we expect them, to go back and use what they have learned.”

The ISLI retreat, which was first established in the 1980s, is traditionally offered twice a year in the Diocese of Scranton, once in the winter and once in the summer. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, this summer’s event is the first in-person ISLI gathering in several years.

“We’re having a restart right now because we had to take a couple years off because of COVID,” facilitator Neil Albright explained. “We really want to see this program succeed. We want to bring



Tommy Flynn presents a session to ISLI participants on June 22, 2023, at Marywood University.

it back and make it stronger because it meant so much to me in my life and I want nothing more than to share it with a new generation of kids.”

Albright, who first attended ISLI in 2015, made life-long friends as part of the program. He said the leadership behaviors and styles he learned have helped him in many ways.

“It has made me a stronger leader in so many ways. It has strengthened my faith. It has helped me bridge the gap between

my experiences in the world and my experiences in the church so beautifully and fully. I’m just really thankful I can be a part of it,” he said.

“It is a pleasure of mine and the rest of the adult team to watch the students evolve over the time that they’re here,” Kowalski added. “Most of them come in unsure, uncertain, a little shy and nervous. By the end of the retreat they’re loud, they’re outgoing, and they’re breaking out of their shells.”

Quo Vadis Days leaves impact on young men

Continued from Page 4

The young men grow in their faith by participating in Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer, Mass and Eucharistic Adoration. They also have plenty of free time to play sports, pool, foosball, capture the flag and more.

“I loved Holy Hour. I loved it. It was so beautiful,” Joaquin Sierra, a participant from the Church of Saint John in East Stroudsburg, said.

Sierra said he made several new friends attending *Quo Vadis Days* this summer and loved the fact that many of the priests and seminarians took the time to get to know each person individually.

“They really want to get to know you,” he explained.

Reflecting on his time at *Quo Vadis Days*, Sierra added he is considering speaking about his experience when he gets back to his parish in the Poconos.

“I think I’ll definitely be more thoughtful in everything that I do at

home,” Sierra stated.

That is exactly what Father Roche is hoping that participants take away from their time together.

“I hope what they take away is a new passion for their faith, a new experience of Jesus Christ and the desire to carry whatever they receive here back into their parishes so that they can continue to grow with everything they’ve experienced here throughout the whole year,” Father Roche said.

Having just been ordained a Transitional Deacon for the Diocese of Scranton, Rev. Mr. William Asinari felt many of this year’s *Quo Vadis Days* participants were very receptive to listening to God’s voice as they discern vocational opportunities.

“God loves them and made each of them for a purpose,” Deacon Asinari said. “No matter what it is, it is going to be amazing and God will fulfill everything in them through what He calls out of them.”

Vacation Bible Schools teach faith while offering a little fun

DICKSON CITY – ‘Camping in God’s Creation’ was the theme of this year’s Vacation Bible School at Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish.

Nearly two dozen young adults spent the week of June 26-30 learning different Bible stories, participating in crafts and having fun.

“On Monday, we did the Creation Story to start our week. On Tuesday, we did Jesus is the Light of the World and we made lanterns to go with that. On Wednesday, we did the Ten Commandments and we talked about finding our way and following rules,” Linda Skierski, Director of Religious Education, explained. “On Thursday, we did Simon the Fisherman and we made boats which we floated outside and we

talked about Jesus helping the disciples get their fish. We rounded out the week on Friday with the story of the Ascension.”

Isabella Barilka volunteered at this year’s Vacation Bible School because she enjoys learning and spreading God’s message of love.

“You teach them and you encourage them to go home and talk about it with their family and make it a chain reaction so that their family goes and talks about it with other people,” Barilka said.

The young students took many things away from the weeklong experience.

“We’re learning about how Christ is the Light of the World,” camper Ivy Kadoubowski said.

“I liked making new friends and

learning more about Jesus and God, especially the Ten Commandments,” camper Camia Hurst added.

Whether the kids were using chalk to fill the church sidewalks with images of God’s creation or getting a special blessing from Monsignor Patrick Pratico, pastor of Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, everyone had a wonderful time.

“We spend hours and hours and hours



preparing for it but each day, at the end of the day, we say ‘We think it went really well’ and we’re happy that we did it,” Skierski said with a smile.



EAST STROUDSBURG – There were only good vibes and positive energy at Marybel Sigler, Director of Faith

Formation, explained. “V for valuable, I for influential, B for brave, E for encouraging and S for selfless.”

While the kids had plenty of time for basketball, football and water balloon tosses, they also learned about different stories from the bible. The goal of organizers was to have each camper form a relationship with Jesus.

“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 have succeeded. Then the fun and everything else is icing on the cake,” Sigler added.

Ayva McKelown, a third grade student,

thought Vacation Bible School is so much fun she wants to do it every year. She took away many valuable lessons.

“God made us and He believes in us,” she said. “He loves us very much.”

Liam Flaherty, an eighth grade student, volunteered for this year’s Vacation Bible School to share his love of Jesus.

“It’s a lot of fun but at the same time it’s for the kids to understand what Jesus did for us and why He died for us.”

Not all of the students who participated are parishioners of the Church of Saint John.

“Hopefully we’ll get them to come back and be a part of our Faith Formation group,” Sigler said.

“We spend hours and hours and hours

preparing for it but each day, at the end of the day, we say ‘We think it went really well’ and we’re happy that we did it,” Skierski said with a smile.



NANTICOKE – Six months of hard work and planning paid off during the week of June 12-16 as dozens of children gathered daily for Vacation Bible School at Saint Faustina Kowalska Parish.

This year’s theme was “STELLAR: Shine Jesus’ Light.”

“These activities all include Jesus’ light. We have a Bible station and they learn about Jesus at the Bible station. We also have an imagination station that is really phenomenal,” Char Golobek, Faith Formation Director, said.

Each day had a different theme. One of the days, for example, was ‘Shine Jesus’ Light when you’re feeling happy.’

The program relied on a number of volunteers to be successful.

“It allows me to re-energize. It allows me to connect with my daughter who is one of the crew leaders and it gives me a chance to spread God’s love to the children,” volunteer Maria Mera said.

“I love working with kids,” volunteer Elia Lowe added. “They’re learning about God and it’s a great way for them to learn. It’s good to see them interact with people they don’t know and make friends over the whole week that they’re here.”

The Vacation Bible School was open to students in preschool through six grade

(ages 4-12) and was held at the Catholic Cultural Center of the parish.

“There are nice teachers, nice people here,” camper Michael Urbanski said. “You dance. There is singing. There is everything you need to have fun. You also learn about how Jesus helped people.”

“It is really fun. You play games and you have activities,” camper Addison

Kivler said. “We’re learning to shine Jesus’ light!”



ADORE - RECEIVE - BECOME

*- A Priesthood Perspective by Father Andrew Kurovsky -
Pastor, Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Peckville*



Our parish Director of Faith Formation, Gayle Castellani, attributes the success of our children's religious education program, which numbers over 260 students, to many factors. A multitude of very qualified staff, volunteer teachers and aides, dedicated parents, and perhaps key among them, is the fact that the program focuses on basic catechetical teaching, paramount among which is our focus on the Eucharist. This was most evident in our recent Bible Camp entitled, "Eucharistic Revival for Kids!"

Little children became accustomed to words and terms like, Adoration and Benediction, Eucharist and tabernacle, thurible, monstrance, chalice, and paten. These are terms that many of their parents would be hard pressed to define.

What sets our children apart from others who can define such words is the fact that the children learned how each item is used and what each means in practice. During the camp, the children attended Mass, prayed in Adoration, experienced Benediction, and were involved in making their own vessels for the celebration of all things Eucharistic. The children even took part in making the Eucharistic Bread, which was used at Holy Communion. Of course,



Enzo Angeloni shows Bible Camp attendees many of the items that are used during Mass including the altar bell, aspergillum, chalice, ciborium, cruets and paten.

there was always plenty of time set aside for snacks and play before we sent them out to unsuspecting families where we challenged them to go home and to become Christ for their mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, family and friends.

What the children did during this weeklong camp emulates what our adults are about during this year of Eucharistic Revival on a parish level.

What began on Corpus Christi Sunday, June 11, 2023, will continue throughout the year, namely the practice of Adoration of the Eucharist, reception and celebration of the Eucharist, and finally the empowerment to proclaim and "BE" the Eucharist in our world, our communities and in our homes.

As our parish gathered for the Feast of the Most Precious Body and Blood of Christ, we began in silent Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. After a period of silent Adoration, we were blessed with the Eucharist and then moved toward the celebration of Mass. Then, empowered by that which we adored and received, we went forth to bring that same Christ beyond the walls of our church. Hence, we

adore, receive and become the body of Christ. To adore Christ is simply to become consumed and totally taken up by being in His presence. When we respectfully receive Him, we invite Him to become part of our very being. It is a falling in love of sorts. Then having adored and received, we carry Him out and become Jesus, the Christ, for others.

Imagine what an impact this would have on our world if we became more tuned into what exactly is happening, every time we have this Eucharistic encounter and comprehend exactly what is taking place each time bread and wine is changed into the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. I am in awe of this great mystery!

As a priest, I am even more in awe of what happens every time I celebrate Mass at the altar. Since 1985 when I was ordained with nine other deacons for service as priests in the Diocese of Scranton, I have never had one single Mass or moment when I have taken for granted the wonderful gift that I have been given, in being able to celebrate what the church calls, "the sacred mysteries." What happens each time we celebrate Mass is nothing

less than miraculous. Together, priest and people then, work at bringing that miracle to the world beyond the table, the altar, so that as we adore and receive Jesus Christ in the Eucharist, we bring Him to life in a world who so desperately needs Him.

Going forward, in a spirit of synodality as called for by our Holy Father, Pope Francis, we hope to provide an adult dialogue and faith formation opportunity on Eucharist. Further plans are underway for social events and liturgical services, which are being planned as part of our yearlong Parish Eucharistic Revival. One of note is a Parish Tent Revival Day scheduled for Sunday, September 17. The day will begin with the 10 a.m. Mass in Sacred Heart of Jesus Church. After a procession from the church to the tent, which will be erected outside near our newly established shrine to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the day will be filled with worship, praise, reflections, song, anointing and quiet adoration. We will conclude with a Mass of healing followed by a free parish pasta dinner. Details will be published, and the public is invited. Praise God ... Jesus is alive and well, in our church, in our world and in our hearts, as evidenced by this time of Eucharistic Revival.



Kevin Orlando works to make unleavened bread during Bible Camp at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Peckville.



Mattea Jacobeno shows off her artistic abilities and love for Jesus in the Eucharist during Bible Camp in Peckville.

Adore Jesus' real presence in the Eucharist, pope tells U.S. Catholics

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - 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."

As the National Eucharistic Revival begins the second of its multi-year initiative, parishes in the Diocese of Scranton are encouraged to host Eucharistic days of devotion to foster the Church's universal awareness of the True Presence of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

In the graphic below, Holy Spirit Parish in Luzerne County announces the following schedule of Eucharistic Days 2023 encompassing the parish's three churches.

Luzerne County parish celebrates 100th Anniversary



Parishioners of Saints Peter and Paul Parish in Plains gathered to celebrate the 100th anniversary of their church building on Sunday, June 25, 2023.

PLAINS – Parishioners of Saints Peter and Paul Parish celebrated a century of faith and service on Sunday, June 25, 2023, as they welcomed the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, for a special 100th anniversary celebration Mass.

Hundreds of people attended the 10:30 a.m. liturgy that was followed by a reception in Bernardine Hall.

"It's a real privilege for me to join with this community of believers, this great community of faith, here at Saints Peter and Paul Parish," Bishop Bambera said as he began the Eucharistic celebration.

During his homily, Bishop Bambera reminded the people that while it is fitting to mark the 100-year anniversary of the grand edifice of Saints Peter and Paul Church, it is much more important to treasure what has been done inside the walls of the church for the last century.

"We will celebrate not simply a sign or a symbol but the power and presence and reality of God here in our midst through this incredible Sacrament of Jesus' Body and Blood," the bishop said.

Like everyone in attendance, Bishop Bambera has many memories in the church. His great uncle, Msgr. Joseph Pilny, served as pastor of Saints Peter and Paul Church for 47 years before retiring in 1973. As a young man he attended baptisms, weddings and even the funeral of his great grandmother in the church.

"As we recall events that have taken place within our lives in relationship to this church building, we recall certain people

far more than a building, don't we?" the bishop said. "Perhaps a pastor, a sister, a relative, a friend, and at the heart of such memories are likely to be found the deepest mystery of our faith – what we will do today in celebrating the Eucharist – the presence of Jesus among us."

Bishop Bambera also rededicated the church's altar as part of the Mass.

The parish community of Saints Peter and Paul wanted to celebrate the twelve churches that have come together over the last few decades that now make up its community of believers.

The churches include Saints Peter and Paul, Sacred Heart, Saint Joseph, Saint Francis of Assisi, Saint Dominic, Saint Christopher, Holy Saviour, Saint Stanislaus Kostka, Saint John the Baptist, Blessed Sacrament, Sacred Heart of Jesus and Saint John the Evangelist.

In addition to remembering, Bishop Bambera challenged those in attendance to go forth and continue serving.

"Jesus commands us to use what we have been given in service of our brothers and sisters as He has given us an example. So go, at the end of this Mass, to do the work of God, as faithful parishioners of Saints Peter & Paul Parish have done as they left this church for 100 years," he said.

Father John C. Lambert, pastor, thanked Bishop Bambera for helping the parish celebrate its important milestone.

"I just really want to thank you bishop for joining us today, it meant a great deal to all of us," Father Lambert said.

Holy Spirit Parish Eucharistic Days 2023

Monday, August 14 – St. Adalbert's Church

8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer and Exposition
9:00 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration begins
6:00 p.m. Solemn Vigil Mass of the Assumption
Blessing of Herbs and Flowers

Tuesday, August 15 – St. Martha's Church

8:30 a.m. Assumption Mass at St. Mary's Church
Blessing of Herbs and Flowers
8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer and Exposition
9:00 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration begins
6:00 p.m. Solemn Mass of the Assumption
Blessing of Herbs and Flowers

Wednesday, August 16 – St. Mary's Church

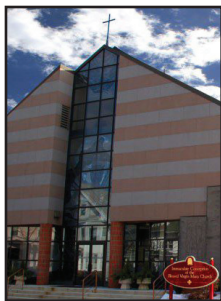
8:30 a.m. Mass and Exposition
9:00 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration begins
6:00 p.m. Solemn Vespers

"I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst."

New parish linkages take effect in Scranton and Dunmore



Cathedral of Saint Peter



Immaculate Conception Church



St. Anthony of Padua Church



St. Mary of Mount Carmel Church

SCRANTON — Four parishes in Lackawanna County officially entered into two new linkages this week after two of them said goodbye to their longtime leaders.

The Cathedral of Saint Peter in downtown Scranton and Immaculate Conception Parish in the city's Hill Section came together in a new linkage on Tuesday, July 11, 2023. Father Jeffrey D. Tudgay, J.V., V.E., J.C.L., is now the pastor of both parish communities after the retirement of Father Pat McLaughlin.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish and Saints Anthony and Rocco Parish, both in Dunmore, also linked as of the same date. Father David Cappelloni, V.F., is now the pastor of both parishes after the retirement of Father John Doris.

The linkages were announced by the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, earlier this year and have been established as part of the Diocese of Scranton's *Vision 2030 Pastoral Planning Process*.

In a linkage, two (or more) parishes share the same pastor. Such parishes, while independent, will by necessity cooperate more closely than other parishes. Linked parishes can do many things cooperatively, such as programming and are encouraged to work toward combining Parish Pastoral Council meetings and establishing common committees where possible.

As both new linkages strive to be "mission-driven," both have decided to implement new Mass schedules.

For the linkage of the Cathedral of Saint Peter and Immaculate Conception, Daily Masses will now be held at the Cathedral at 6:30 a.m. and 12:10 p.m. Daily Mass will be held at Immaculate Conception at 8 a.m. The 12:10 p.m. Daily Mass will continue to be broadcast live on Catholic Television and livestream on the Diocese of Scranton website and social media platforms.

The Saturday 4 p.m. Vigil Mass will now be held at Immaculate Conception Church and the Cathedral of Saint Peter will have a 5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass. Because of this change, the CTV broadcast of the Saturday Vigil Mass will now be live at 5:30 p.m. from the Cathedral.

Sunday Masses at the Cathedral will be held at 6:30 a.m., 10 a.m., 12:15 p.m. and 5 p.m. Immaculate Conception Parish will have its Sunday Mass at 10:30 a.m.

Similarly, the newly linked parishes in Dunmore began a new Mass schedule on Tuesday.

Daily Mass will be held at 8 a.m. at Saints Anthony and Rocco Parish and at noon at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church.

The Saturday 4 p.m. Vigil Mass will be held at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church and a 5:15 p.m. Vigil Mass will be held at Saints Anthony and Rocco Church.

Sunday Masses at Saints Anthony and Rocco Church will take place at 8:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. while a 10 a.m. Mass will be held at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church.

Additional information on the new linkages are available on each parish's website.

Bishop Bambera to celebrate Mass of Remembrance to take place July 25


SCRANTON — The Diocese of Scranton's annual Mass of Remembrance will take place on Thursday, July 25, 2023, at 7 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

This Mass is offered for family and friends of those who have died in tragedy, especially through murder, suicide and accident.

The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will serve as principal celebrant of the Mass.

To register the name of your loved one for this liturgy by July 19, please contact the Office for Parish Life at (570) 207-2213, or use the online registration form on the Diocese of Scranton website.

CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton will provide live coverage of the Mass of Remembrance. The Mass will also be livestream on the Diocese of Scranton website, YouTube channel and across all social media platforms.



MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

Tuesday, July 25, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Cathedral of Saint Peter
315 Wyoming Ave., Scranton

— ♦ —

Celebrated by Bishop Joseph C. Bambera

- Mass is open to the public -

Mass will also be broadcast live on CTV:
Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton



BISHOP BAMBERA'S SCHEDULE

July 13-19 - International Catholic-Pentecostal Dialogue
Accra, Ghana

July 22 - 100th Anniversary Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish
Hunlock Creek, 4:00 p.m.

July 25 - Mass of Remembrance
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 7:00 p.m.

July 26 - Closing Mass for the 99th Annual Solemn Novena to Saint Ann
Saint Ann's Basilica, Scranton, 7:30 p.m.

August 6 - Closing Mass for the Catholic Charismatic Conference
University of Scranton, Scranton, 1:15 p.m.



VISION 2030

*Creating Parish Communities
Rooted in the Life of Jesus Christ*

For 99th year, the annual Solemn Novena to Saint Ann to open in Scranton

SCRANTON — On the cusp of its centennial-year celebration in 2024, the 99th annual Solemn Novena to Saint Ann at the Basilica of the National Shrine of Saint Ann in West Scranton, in honor the mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary, will open on Monday, July 17. It will continue with nine days of Eucharistic worship, devotional prayer and preaching, culminating with the celebration of the Feast of Saint Ann on Wednesday, July 26.

Very Rev. Passionist Father Richard Burke, rector of the Saint Ann Passionist Monastery and director of the Saint Ann National Shrine Basilica, announces the guest preachers for this year's Solemn Novena will be Passionist Father Melvin Shorter and Passionist Brother Andre Mathieu.

The clerical speakers will focus their messages of devotion and inspiration on the 2023 Novena theme: "Intimacy with Jesus."

A native of Baltimore, Md., Father Melvin currently serves as rector of Our Lady of Florida Spiritual Center in North Palm Beach, Fla. After entering the Passionist Novitiate in Pittsburgh more than 40 years ago, he made his first profession of vows as a

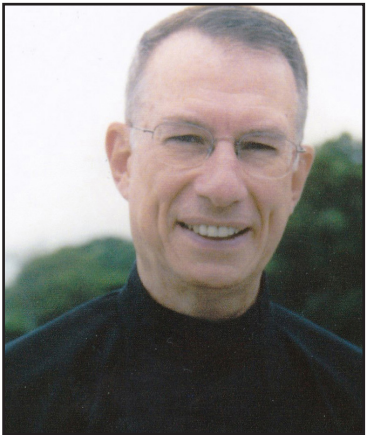


Father Melvin Shorter, C.P.

member of the Congregation of the Passion and eventually earned his Master of Divinity degree from the Catholic Theological Union.

Upon graduation, Father Melvin was ordained to the priesthood for the Passionist order in New York, after which he returned to Pittsburgh for his first ministerial assignment. Within a year, he was requested to join four other confreres to establish a Passionist presence in Greenville, N.C., where he served at Saint Gabriel Parish.

Father Melvin subsequently became a member of the parish staff at Saint Paul of the Cross faith community in Atlanta, where



Brother Andre Mathieu, C.P.

he would assume the pastorate of the parish in 1990. While stationed in Georgia, the priest was elected to the congregation's Provincial Council as a Consultor and also participated in Passionist media ministry.

In 2010, Father Melvin transferred to Europe, where he joined the staff at Saint Joseph Parish in Paris — the only all-English speaking parish in France. Ministering with an ecumenical commission in Paris, the American Passionist spiritually supported members of various faith communities whose worship celebrations were offered in English.

While serving at the parish, Father Melvin also conducted Bible study groups, prepared families for the Sacrament of Baptism, and served as chaplain for the Missionary Sisters of Charity.

Brother Andre, a native of Hartford, Conn., professed his religious vows as a member of the Passionist congregation in 1962. During the past 60 years, he has served in various pastoral, formation and leadership positions in the Eastern Province region of his religious order.

As a member of the Passionist Preaching Ministry for 18 years, Brother Andre has directed parish missions and retreats for clergy,

religious and laity in the United States, Canada and the Caribbean.

He holds a master's degree in pastoral theology from Boston College, as well as a master's in gerontology from the College of New Rochelle, N.Y. His certification in thanatology (death studies) has enabled the Passionist Brother to direct workshops and retreats on the spirituality and dynamics of grief and loss.

For the past 11 years, Brother Andre has served among the Passionist community at Saint Ann Monastery in West Scranton. During that time, he has served for eight years as a Consultor on the Provincial Council and as assistant superior for the Basilica of Saint Ann.

Saint Ann Novena devotions will include outdoor Masses and Novenas (weather permitting) at 8 a.m., 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. The 11:45 a.m. Mass and Novena will be celebrated indoors, except on Sunday, and the 3:30 p.m. Novena service is always offered inside the main Basilica church.

Sacramental confessions are available before and after each service.

Special spiritual offerings highlighting this year's Novena to Saint Ann include the Divine Liturgy of the Byzantine Rite on Tuesday, July 18, at 5:30

p.m., celebrated by Bishop Kurt Burnette of the Byzantine Ruthenian Catholic Eparchy of Passaic. On that day there will be no Mass and Novena at 7:30 p.m.

A Mass with Anointing of the Sick will be offered on Thursday, July 20, at 1:30 p.m., with the Sacrament of the Sick available to all elderly and infirm and anyone who wishes to receive the sacrament.

On Saturday, July 22, a Children's Mass and Novena prayers will be celebrated at 10 a.m., with a special blessing service for all infants and children.

The following day, Sunday, July 23, the Eucharistic liturgies will honor and bless all grandparents in observance of World Day for Grandparents.

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera will celebrate the Solemn Closing of the Novena on the Feast of Saint Ann, Wednesday, July 26, at 7:30 p.m.

The feast day Mass schedule includes liturgies and Novena prayers beginning at 4:30 a.m., with Eucharistic celebrations following every hour from 6 through 11:45 a.m. and at 5:30 p.m. Novena devotions (no Mass) will be offered at 3:30 p.m.

The Mass in Polish and Novena prayers will be celebrated at 1:30 p.m., featuring Polish hymns.



Father James O'Shea, C.P., Provincial of the Passionist Community, blesses religious Sisters with the relic of Saint Ann during last year's Closing Mass of the Solemn Novena.



SOLEMN NOVENA

IN HONOR OF

Saint Ann

JULY 17 TO 26, 2023

PREACHERS: FR. MELVIN SHORTER, C.P., AND BRO. ANDRE MATHIEU, C.P.

NOVENA DEVOTIONS

After 8 & 11:45 A.M., & 5:30 & 7:30 P.M. Masses
and at 3:30 P.M. (Novena only)

DIVINE LITURGY - BYZANTINE RITE

Tuesday, July 18, 5:30 P.M.
(No 7:30 P.M. Mass and Novena on this day)

DAILY MASSES

7:00, 8:00 & 11:45 A.M. & 5:30 and 7:30 P.M.

CONFESSIONS

Lower Basilica for 30 minutes prior to each
Mass and the 3:30 P.M. Novena Service,
and after all services

MASS OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Thursday, July 20, 1:30 P.M.

CHILDREN'S MASS & NOVENA PRAYERS

Saturday, July 22, 10:00 A.M.;
Special Blessing for Families and Grandparents

SUNDAY, JULY 23

MASSES

7:00 A.M., 8:00 A.M., 11:45 A.M., 5:30 P.M. & 7:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, JULY 23

Celebration of Grandparents & Elderly at Mass

NOVENA DEVOTIONS

After 8:00 A.M. & 11:45 A.M. masses; after 5:30
& 7:30 P.M. masses; and at 3:30 P.M. (Novena Only)

SAINT ANN'S FEAST DAY WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

CONFESSIONS 4:00 AM

MASSES & DEVOTIONS

4:30, 6:00, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00 & 11:45 A.M.
3:30 P.M. (Novena only) & 5:30 P.M.

LANGUAGE SERVICE

1:30 PM - POLISH in Upper Basilica

Individual Blessing with Relic of St. Ann After Each Devotion

SOLEMN CLOSING WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, AT 7:30 P.M.

Pontifical Mass celebrated by Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L.

• CTV COVERAGE •

Weekdays at 12 noon, 3:30 p.m., and 7:00 p.m., except Tuesday, July 25, will air at 12 noon, 3:30 p.m., and 9:00 p.m.,
and on Saturday, July 22 and Sunday, July 23 at 12 Noon and 7:00 p.m. Closing mass will be Wednesday, July 26, live
and livestreamed at 7:30 p.m., rebroadcast the following day, on Thursday, July 27 at 1:30 p.m.

• LOCAL TV COVERAGE •

WQMY: Mon.-Fri. 3:00 PM-4:00 PM; Sat. & Sun. 12 Noon; Solemn Closing July 27 3:00 PM-4:00 PM.

Comcast - Channel #11 & #811; Service Electric - Channel #11; DISH - Channel #53; DirectTV - Channel #53; Over-the-Air - Channel #53.1

BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF ST. ANN PASSIONIST MONASTERY

1239 SAINT ANN STREET

SCRANTON, PA 18504

For the convenience of the people attending the novena, refreshments will be available on the monastery grounds during the entire novena.



On second trip to Ghana, Bishop Bambara ordains 14 men to the priesthood

Two seminarians accompanying the Bishop document their experiences

SUNYANI, GHANA –

During a four and a-half hour Ordination Mass, the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambara, Bishop of Scranton, ordained 14 men to the priesthood in the African nation of Ghana on July 8, 2023.

The Mass, which was celebrated on the lawn of Christ the King Cathedral in Sunyani, was filled with joyful music, singing, dancing and devotion to Jesus Christ.

At the beginning of the Eucharistic celebration, the Most Rev. Matthew Kwasi Gyamfi, Bishop of Sunyani, welcomed Bishop Bambara, noting this year is the 50th anniversary of the Diocese of Sunyani.

“For us to celebrate this, I invited a brother bishop, a friend bishop, a bishop who loves this Diocese, a bishop who is already helping many of our priests who have gone to his diocese to study and come back to help us,” Bishop Gyamfi said.

During his homily, Bishop Bambara returned the warm and gracious welcome he received, indicating it is an honor, privilege and joy to celebrate the Ordination Mass.

“For some years, the Diocese of Sunyani and the Diocese of



The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambara, Bishop of Scranton, anoints the hands of one of 14 newly ordained priests for the Diocese of Sunyani on July 8, 2023, on the lawn of Christ the King Cathedral in Ghana.

Scranton have grown in our relationship as sister dioceses in service to the Universal Church. It is a privilege to share with you our faith in the Lord Jesus,” Bishop Bambara said. “My diocese is richer because of the presence of so many of your priests and sisters who are ministering to the faithful of our parishes. I can only hope and pray that your diocese, in turn, has also experienced God’s blessings because of our relationship with you.”

The bishop took a few moments to introduce

seminarians Andrew McCarroll and Tom Dzwonczyk who have accompanied him on his return trip to Ghana this summer. Bishop Bambara first visited the Diocese of Sunyani last August for ten days.

“They are wonderful young men who are excited about their visit and anxious to experience the church in Ghana which I know will have a lasting impression upon them as they continue their priestly formation,” Bishop Bambara noted.

Before celebrating the Rite of



Seminarians Thomas Dzwonczyk, second from left, and Andrew McCarroll, fourth from left, attended the first Mass of Rev. Eric Agyei Febiri at Saint Teresa of Avila Church in Berekum, Ghana, on Sunday, July 9, 2023. Rev. Febiri was ordained to the priesthood one day earlier by Bishop Bambara.

Ordination, Bishop Bambara also spoke directly to the 14 men who were becoming priests. He urged them to make the mission of Jesus their own, serve generously and be merciful.

“Never tire of being merciful. You have the capacity of forgiveness that the Lord had,” Bishop Bambara said.

On Sunday, July 9, Bishop Bambara also confirmed 37 people at Holy Spirit Parish, located in Nkwabeng in Sunyani, where Father Clement Amankwah Yeboah is currently serving as pastor. Father Clement is beloved by many in the Diocese of Scranton, having generously served the faithful of Christ the King Parish in Archbald.

That same day, McCarroll and Dzwonczyk attended the first Mass of Rev. Eric Agyei Febiri who was ordained by Bishop

Bambara the previous day. They shared photos and videos of the liturgy which took place at Saint Teresa of Avila Church in Berekum.

On July 10, Bishop Bambara and the seminarians also had the opportunity to visit Mole National Park to see the wildlife.

Some unexpected car trouble that stranded the group on the side of the road for roughly an hour was actually a blessing because they had the opportunity to visit with several children and families who came out to assist them.

Both seminarians remain in Sunyani and are sharing their journey with the faithful of the Diocese of Scranton on social media. Visit the Diocese of Scranton website, or follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or Threads to see highlights of their experiences.



Seminarian Thomas Dzwonczyk met the mother and brother of Rev. Philbert Takyi-Nketiah while in Ghana. Tom and Father Philbert have worked closely together at Saint Jude Parish in Mountain Top.



During their travels, unexpected tire problems turned into a blessing for Andrew McCarroll and Thomas Dzwonczyk because they had the opportunity to meet several children and families.

Diocese of Scranton delegation preparing for World Youth Day 2023 in Portugal



SCRANTON – In less than a month an expected 1.5 million young Catholics will descend on the capital city of Portugal for World Youth Day 2023. Among them will be 21 pilgrims from the Diocese of Scranton.

World Youth Day 2023 is scheduled to take place in Lisbon, Aug. 1-6, and the motto for this year's event is a passage from Luke's Gospel: "Mary arose and went with haste."

As a part of their trip, those young people and chaperones in the Diocese of Scranton delegation will also visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima.

"Our Diocesan delegation will visit the site of the apparitions and the miracle of Fatima. We're also going to visit the Shrine of the Eucharistic Miracle of Santarem which is exciting and then we're going to dive into the experiences of World Youth Day themselves," Shannon Kowalski, Diocesan Director of Service and Mission, said.

Only six of the pilgrims from the Diocese of Scranton have attended World Youth Day before.

"It is certainly exciting for me because this will be my first time attending World Youth Day," seminarian Jacob Mutchler said. "I'm very much interested and excited to visit Fatima. I think that it is going to be a very powerful experience. I think we can expect a very powerful experience having people from all parts of the world coming together to share their faith and worship the



Diocesan pilgrims who will be attending World Youth Day 2023 gathered for a retreat on June 11 at the Diocesan Pastoral Center in Scranton.

Lord and really grow in their relationship with Him."

Maggie Guarnieri of Pittston, a parishioner of Saint Maria Goretti Parish in Lafin, will be traveling with her two sisters.

"The fact that we all get to do this together is going to bring us even closer than we already are so I'm really excited for that," Guarnieri explained. "I'm very excited to be incredibly present along the way and almost unplug from reality and be fully immersed in this experience."

Pope Francis is expected to have nine events with young people, including hearing their confessions and eating lunch with them. He will arrive in Lisbon Aug. 2

where he will be welcomed by Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, president of Portugal and pray vespers with local bishops, priests, religious, seminarians and pastoral workers.

The highlight of the trip will come Aug. 6 when the pope will end his trip to Portugal by celebrating the closing Mass for World Youth Day along the Portuguese coast.

"I'm really excited to gather with so many young people from around the world and also just to see Pope Francis. I think he has such a calling for young people to get involved in the church," Tommy Flynn, Director of Youth and Family Ministry at Saint John the Evangelist and Saint Joseph Marelllo Parishes in Pittston, stated.

Pope Francis has called World Youth Day an antidote against indifference, isolation and lethargy.

"This is a great opportunity for young people around the world to see that there are young people in the church and they're not the church of the future but they're the church of today," Flynn added.

At 23, Flynn says he will be excited to take the energy and excitement he experiences and bring it back home.

"Even if we don't experience Mass in the same language, it is still a Mass to everyone and we know the special things that happen during Mass," Flynn said. "I'm just really excited to get to know some of the other pilgrims from across the diocese, across the world and deepen my faith a little bit."

Kowalski, who has been planning the pilgrimage for several years, echoes those sentiments.

"There is just no other experience like it. There is no way you can go to World Youth Day and not come back a changed person. There are literally millions of people from all over the world – United States, Europe, Asia, Africa – all coming together for the same reason," Kowalski explained. "They want to have an experience of faith rooted in the Catholic experience, to pray with our Holy Father, Pope Francis, to learn more about our faith and to take advantage of the Sacraments."

Following their experiences at World Youth Day 2023, many of the Diocese of Scranton pilgrims will also visit Barcelona, Spain, to visit the Basilica de la Sagrada Familia before returning home to the United States.

Pope names 21 cardinals, including U.S.-born Archbishop Prevest

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Pope Francis named 21 new cardinals, including U.S.-born Archbishop Robert F. Prevest, who took the helm at the Dicastery for Bishops in April, and French Archbishop Christophe Pierre, the apostolic nuncio to the United States.

The pope announced the names after his recitation of the Angelus with the faithful in St. Peter's Square July 9. He said he

would formally install the cardinals during a special consistory at the Vatican Sept. 30.

Cardinal-designate Prevest expressed his surprise and joy upon hearing the announcement, he said in an interview with Vatican News July 10.

"Certainly I felt happy for the recognition of the mission that has been entrusted to me - which is a very beautiful thing - and at the same time I thought

with reverence and holy fear: I hope I can respond to what the pope is asking of me. It is an enormous responsibility, like when he called me to Rome as prefect," he said in Italian.

The new cardinals represent more than a dozen countries on five continents. Three of the new cardinals are current Vatican officials, three are current or retired apostolic nuncios and 13 are current or



Pope Francis greets Archbishop Robert F. Prevest, a Chicago native, Feb. 12, 2022.

retired heads of archdioceses around the world.

Support Catholic Education

Turn Your Taxes Into Scholarships

MAKE A GIFT FOR NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS AND RECEIVE A 90% PA STATE INCOME TAX CREDIT!

Apply Now - Eligibility is First-Come, First-Served

EAST STROUDSBURG – When Bob and Josie Brown first heard that they could turn their Pennsylvania taxes into Catholic education scholarships, they admitted being a little skeptical.

It almost sounded too good to be true.

“The application process was very easy. I had a few concerns at first and made some phone calls to confirm that our donation would be distributed as intended,” Josie said.

Pennsylvania allows qualifying individuals and businesses to use their tax obligations as need-based scholarships for Catholic school students through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) Program. In many cases, individuals and businesses can receive up to a 90-percent tax credit!

“There are very few opportunities we have as taxpayers to direct how our tax dollars are spent. This EITC program literally allows me to direct a portion of our tax payments directly to our local Catholic school,” Josie explained. “I genuinely believe our Catholic schools are a worthy recipient of these funds and I was pleased to have been able to participate in this program.”

Both Josie and her four children have benefited from a Catholic education.

“I am forever grateful as a student and a parent to have had faith at the foundation of learning in my home and I am proud to help in some small way to the continued

efforts of schools to provide this for future generations,” she added.


Any individual or couple where at least one spouse owns or works for a for-profit company in Pennsylvania can participate. Non-profit employees that own at least one share of stock in a business that operates in Pennsylvania may also participate.

The Diocese of Scranton Catholic School System partners with the Central Pennsylvania Scholarship Fund to administer the program. The Scholarship Fund requires a minimum contribution of \$3,500 to participate.

“We are so grateful to a number of businesses and individuals who donate to our Catholic Schools need-based tuition assistance program through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit program. It’s a wonderful opportunity to support Catholic education and receive a 90% tax credit,” Jim Bebla, Diocesan Secretary for Development, explained. “If one makes a \$5,000 gift, for example, they can receive a \$4,500 tax credit on their business or personal income tax return. And the donor can also claim the remaining \$500 on their federal income tax.”

The Diocese of Scranton is now looking for help spreading the word about the program.

As the owners of RGB Custom Home Builders in the Pocono Mountains, Bob and



Direct Your Tax Dollars to a Diocesan Catholic School

Josie Brown are happy to be among many people who are laying the ‘foundation’ for the success of this initiative.

“This is the very best way to make a donation to your local Catholic school. Assuming you are paying taxes to the state, please consider this program,” Josie said. “It is easy and exponentially increases any donation you are able to make. If you are

unsure ask to speak to someone who has done it before.”

Eligibility is first-come, first-served and money for the individual tax credits runs out quickly. Anyone interested in this giving opportunity is encouraged to apply in July and August by contacting Jim Bebla at (570) 207-2250 or email Jim-Bebbla@dioceseofscranton.org.

Vocations Golf Classic tees off for 13th year to support seminarians

DORRANCE TOWNSHIP – The weather could not have been better July 10 as 184 golfers hit the links for the 13th Vocations Golf Classic at Blue Ridge Trail Golf Club.

The tournament, held in memory of John A. Yourishen Jr., brought together men and women from every corner of the Diocese of Scranton.

“This tournament is a great way to bring people from East Stroudsburg, Williamsport, the Northern Tier, Scranton and Wilkes-Barre together to recognize that we’re one church,” Rev. Alex Roche, Director of Vocations and Seminarians, explained.

Proceeds from the tournament support seminarian expenses, education and

training.

“Many of our parishes support this tournament. The priests and pastors support it personally. They send parish teams so it is really a unifying event for the diocese,” Sandra Snyder, Diocesan Director of Foundation Relations and Special Events, added.

Continued on Page 23



Golfers get ready to head out on the fairways at the 2023 Vocations Golf Classic.

Fond Farewell: Two longtime Catholic school principals retire

Two familiar faces take over leading La Salle Academy & Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School

JESSUP – After dedicating 94 years to Catholic school students in the Diocese of Scranton, two long-time principals retired at the end of June.

Jeffrey Lyons, principal of Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School in East Stroudsburg and Ellen Murphy, principal of La Salle Academy in Jessup, each ended a distinguished career in education on June 30, 2023.

“I have always believed that I was blessed with the best job in the world while working in three wonderful Catholic schools in the Diocese of Scranton,” Murphy said. “There is nothing more important in our world than our beautiful children and the time I spent with them enjoying their laughter and happiness are moments I will cherish forever.”

Murphy dedicated 42 years to Catholic education. She started her career as a teacher at Our Lady of Mount Carmel School in Carbondale where she later served as principal. She continued her administrative role as principal at Sacred Heart Primary/Elementary School in Carbondale and for the last 13 years served as principal of La Salle Academy.

“I knew each day walking through the doors of our school, filled with so much love and happiness, that it would be a great day,” she added. “Watching the excitement and pride in the eyes of our children while reaching that moment of understanding and working through their unique challenges were the moments I knew, that, together with my faculty and staff, we were doing great things for our children.”

Shaina Aquilina assumed the role of principal of La Salle Academy beginning July 1.

“La Salle Academy is comprised of faith-filled, hardworking and dedicated



Mrs. Ellen Murphy



Mr. Jeffrey Lyons



Mrs. Shaina Aquilina



Mr. Bryan Scotton

faculty and staff, students and families, and I am honored to be able to serve this incredible school community in a new capacity,” Aquilina said. “I have certainly been blessed with the opportunity to continue building upon the successes of the school that occurred under the direction of Mrs. Ellen Murphy and Mrs. Maryanne DeMark.”

Aquilina most recently served as the junior high math teacher at La Salle Academy but has also served in various capacities throughout the Diocese since 2016. She has led numerous professional development sessions focused on training teachers in technology, data analysis and STREAM instruction. She also revised the Teacher Induction Plan for the Diocese, which is used for all first year teachers and those new to the Diocese.

“As a former math teacher, I have always valued the ability to analyze data and use it to inform my instructional approach. As a Diocese, we are fortunate to have access to NWEA Map Growth Data to assist our educators in driving our instruction, differentiating our lessons and communicating with the families of our students,” she added. “I am eager to work

closely with our faculty to utilize this data in a way that targets individual students’ areas for growth and assists in urging every student to attain his or her fullest potential.”

After more than a half-century serving the Notre Dame School System, Lyons has also decided to move onto the next phase of his life.

“It is almost impossible to think of Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School and not think of Mr. Lyons as he has dedicated 52 years as a teacher, dean of students, and principal,” Kristen Donohue, Diocesan Secretary of Catholic Education/Superintendent of Catholic Schools, said in announcing his retirement. “Mr. Lyons not only shared his love of Catholic education, but sparked that same excitement in his students, teachers, staff and school community.”

Lyons started his career as an English teacher and then Dean of Students at Notre Dame High School. After 19 years in the classroom, he was appointed as principal of Notre Dame High School, a position he held for the last 33 years. Lyons never truly left the classroom, as he managed to teach one high school class each year.

“It is not often that an individual has the opportunity to impact generations of families but Mr. Lyons has done just that,” Donohue said. “Mr. Lyons prioritized time for students to pray and give thanks to God for the many blessings they have in their lives, while also balancing a rigorous academic schedule. This inseparable combination not only set Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School apart from any other schools but also emphasized Mr. Lyons’ true servant leadership.”

Bryan Scotton assumed the role of principal of Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School beginning July 1.

“I’m very excited to embrace this new role as principal,” Scotton said. “It has been a joy teaching at Notre Dame and I look forward to supporting my current coworkers and helping to provide the best Catholic education possible for our students. I know there will be challenges but knowing there are such great teachers and

students makes those challenges manageable.”

Prior to being appointed principal, Scotton served as music teacher and coach of cross-country and track at Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School. Prior to joining the Diocese of Scranton Catholic School System, he was a religion teacher, curriculum coordinator for the religion and history departments and head of campus ministry at Mater Dei Prep High School in Middletown, N.J.

Scotton says he has many goals as he takes on his new leadership role.

“I think I will look forward the most to collaborating with teachers and staff to build upon the traditions that make Notre Dame unique, continue to grow the initiatives that we have already begun, and begin new journeys to make Notre Dame even better than it is. There is so much support and creative energy already at Notre Dame and I am looking forward to being a part of that.”



In the June 15th edition of *The Catholic Light*, an incorrect photo was published for Connor Pribula, one of the Seton Award winners from Wyoming Area Catholic School.

We apologize for the error and congratulate Connor for his devoutness to faith, compassion and desire to help others.

Diocese of Scranton

CATHOLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

FAITH • ACADEMICS • SERVICE

The Diocese of Scranton is committed to educating our students in an environment that is academically excellent and facilitates the development of moral judgment and Christian decision-making. We are proud to share the following successes of our students in the classroom and in their service to others. Each day, our schools are fulfilling their mission of preparing today's youth and young adults to become tomorrow's faith-filled leaders.



Just before the end of the 2022-23 school year, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, celebrated two liturgies in Bradford County. One Mass was for students at **Epiphany School in Sayre** and the other for students at **Saint Agnes School in Towanda**. In his homilies, Bishop Bambera shared with the school communities how important it is that we treat others with respect, dignity and care. The Bishop told the students, "In God's eyes, we are all equal as He created us in His own image and likeness."

Nothing says summer like a baseball game! The community from **Holy Family Academy in Hazleton** planned a special mother/son trip to see the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders play at PNC Field. Tabatha Neyhart and her son, Theo, enjoy some snacks as they watch the game.



Students from **Holy Rosary School in Duryea** create a variety of tasty treats during the school's annual summer baking camp.



The volleyball team from **Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre** played "Like a ROYAL" showing leadership both on the court and in our community as they placed flags on the graves of veterans laid to rest at Saint Mary's Cemetery.



On the last week of school, students from **Saint John Neumann High School in Williamsport** took a well-deserved break from final exams and relaxed by playing a game of cornhole.



Congratulations to the eighth grade graduates from **Saint Mary of Mount Carmel School in Dunmore**.



Graduation season at **Wyoming Area Catholic School in Exeter** — the eighth graders pose in their gowns with the kindergarten graduates just before the 2022-23 school year ended.



Congratulations to the eighth grade graduates from **Good Shepherd Academy in Kingston!**



The fifth grade class at **Saint Clare/Saint Paul School in Scranton** completed an engineering design process project by designing and building their own shoes/sandals made out of recyclable items.



Every Thursday during the school year, students at **Notre Dame Elementary School in East Stroudsburg** do their morning announcements via video. Indie Incavido presents information to her fellow students about being a botanist, their **STREAM** career of the week.



The legacy members of the Class of 2023 from **Holy Cross High School in Dunmore** pose in front of the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton with their parents and grandparents, all graduates of a Diocesan high school.



There's a lot of buzz at **All Saints Academy in Scranton**. Students in pre-kindergarten through second grade ended the school year performing their play "BUGZ."



Kindergarten students from **Saint John Neumann Elementary School in Williamsport** are cooking up some fun in the "Play Café" as part of their end-of-the-year field trip to the Lewisburg Children's Museum.



Dayton Lorenzo, Ryan Cosgrove, Ian Hale, Romeo Dorosz and Christopher Rinaldi, juniors at **Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School in East Stroudsburg**, show off some of their certificates from the school's Underclass Awards Ceremony.



These youngsters from **La Salle Academy in Jessup** never want to leave as they spent time "camped out" in kindergarten during their final week of school.

Parishes collect 16,024 diapers and 35,930 wipes to help newborn babies

SCRANTON – After learning that Catholic Social Services faced a critical need of diapers and wipes for its Pregnancy and Maternal Health Program, parishioners throughout the Diocese of Scranton responded in an overwhelming way.

Twelve parishes held special collections between Mother's Day (May 14) and Father's Day (June 18) collecting a total of 16,024 diapers and 35,930 wipes to help mothers and families who are struggling to afford one of a child's most basic necessities.

"We have great parishioners. They are so generous. Anytime you ask them to do anything, they are right there," Elayne Totten, a member of the Social Concerns Committee at Saint John Vianney Parish in Montdale, said. "The Catholic Church is always there to help. We've done so many things and this is one of the most important for mothers and babies."

Over the course of three weekends, Saint John Vianney Parish parishioners alone generously donated 2,312 diapers and 4,440 wipes to the cause.

"There are people that say to us that they are happy to give because sometimes in their life they got some type of help," Totten added.

The Pregnancy and Maternal Health Program operated by Catholic Social Services is open to any woman that is pregnant or the birth father of a pregnant woman. During pregnancy, unlimited counseling and support services are available and after the birth, services are provided weekly until the child reaches one year of age.

"Services are provided free of charge and do not require a referral," Jolette Lyons, Director of Lackawanna County Offices for Catholic Social Services, said. "When available, diapers and wipes, along with access to the baby pantry, will be provided."

Catholic Social Services operates its Pregnancy and Maternal Health Program in its Carbondale, Hazleton, Scranton and Wilkes-Barre offices. The agency also operates Shepherd's Maternity House in East Stroudsburg that provides housing for up to 18 months to pregnant women and then their newborn babies.

"Parents with infants and young children approach our offices on a weekly, sometimes daily, basis requesting much needed diapers and wipes. Many families rely on SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits to



sustain their families but diapers and wipes are not eligible for purchase through SNAP," Lyons explained. "The recent decrease in SNAP benefits combined with skyrocketing costs of living expenses continue to negatively

impact our most vulnerable families."

After hearing of the increasing need for diapers and wipes, the Diocese of Scranton Office for Parish Life and Communications Department helped facilitate the

collection under the "Walking with Moms in Need" program launched in March 2020 by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

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Novena to Our Lady of Knock, Queen of Ireland

St. Patrick's Church, Binghamton

Monday, August 14th
5:30pm Vigil Mass with Novena Prayers

Tuesday, August 15th
7:00am Mass with Novena Prayers
7:00pm Mass with Novena Prayers

Wednesday, August 16th
7:00am Mass with Novena Prayers
7:00pm Novena Service

Thursday, August 17th
7:00am Mass with Novena Prayers
7:00pm Feast Day Mass
Ice Cream Social following Mass

Friday, August 18th
7:00am Mass with Novena Prayers
7:00pm Novena Service

Saturday, August 19th
8:00am Mass with Novena Prayers
5:15pm Vigil Mass with Novena Prayers

Sunday, August 20th
9:00am Mass with Novena Prayers
4:00pm Mass with Novena Prayers

Monday, August 21st
7:00am Mass with Novena Prayers
7:00pm Novena Service

Tuesday, August 22nd
7:00am Mass with Novena Prayers
7:00pm Closing Novena Mass

Join us for the 2023 Knock Novena at St. Patrick's Church in Binghamton.

Novena prayers will conclude each of the regularly scheduled masses from August 14-August 22. On August 16, 18, and 21, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed during the 7PM Novena Service. There will be special masses at 7PM on the Solemnity of the Assumption (Aug. 15), the Feast of Our Lady of Knock (Aug. 17) and the Memorial of the Queenship of Mary (Aug. 22). After the Mass on August 17th, there will be an ice cream social to celebrate the feast. We are excited to have visiting preachers from around the diocese for these evening liturgies.

On the evening of August 21, 1879, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared with St. Joseph and St. John the Evangelist on the gable wall of the parish church in Knock. Alongside the three saints, the Lamb of God stood on an altar surrounded by choirs of angels. The people of the village knelt in awe for two hours in the pouring rain praying their rosaries. Devotion to Our Lady of Knock has grown since the approval of this apparition and is celebrated each year with a novena from August 14th-August 22nd, beginning on the Vigil of the Assumption and concluding on the Memorial of the Queenship of Mary. The faithful are encouraged to attend Mass and pray the Rosary during the days of the Novena.

Visit www.sta-sp.org for more information.



Twelve parishes recently collected diapers and wipes for Catholic Social Services which were all counted and sorted by size at the Diocesan Pastoral Center. (Photo/Eric Deabill)

Summer Guide to Church Festivals & Picnics

The parish summer festival season is in full swing, with a plethora of church picnics scheduled throughout the Scranton Diocese. The full list can also be found at www.dioceseofscranton.org.

Saint Joseph Marello in Pittston — July 13-15. Annual three-day summer picnic held on Thursday, Friday & Saturday from 5 to 10 p.m. on the grounds of the parish worship site at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 237 William St., Pittston. Festival features ethnic and traditional food favorites, including pizza frita and potato pancakes; children's games, basket raffle and large indoor flea market. Live nightly musical entertainment provided by The Taxmen (Thursday), The Luongo

Brothers (Friday), and Flaxy Morgan (Saturday).

Saint Nicholas in Wilkes-Barre — July 13-15. Annual Parish Bazaar will be held on the Saint Nicholas Church grounds, 226 South Washington St., Wilkes-Barre, beginning at 6 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, and following the 5 p.m. Vigil Mass on Saturday. Event will feature Mexican & Caribbean foods and traditional American and ethnic fare. Nightly musical entertainment from 7 to 10:30 p.m. provided by Flaxy Morgan, Kartune, and Strawberry Jam, respectively. For more information, call (570) 823-7736.

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton in Swoyersville — July 13-15, from 5 to 11 p.m. Summer Festival

held on the parish grounds, 116 Hughes St., Swoyersville. Three-day event features homemade foods, games for all ages, bingo, and raffle drawings. Nightly entertainment provided by: John Stevens Polka Band (Thursday), Sweet Pepper & The Long Hots (Friday), and Picture Perfect (Saturday). For more information, call (570) 287-6624.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Carbondale — July 13-15. The parish festival celebrating the annual Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel will be held Thursday, Friday & Saturday beginning at 5 p.m. Featuring homemade Italian food favorites, nightly entertainment, and fireworks display. Cash raffle drawing includes top prize of \$5,000; tickets cost \$50 each.

Nativity of Our Lord in Duryea — July 14 & 15, from 5:30 to 10 p.m. Hosted each night on the parish picnic grounds at Holy Rosary Church, 127 Stephenson St., Duryea. Annual Summer Picnic attractions include bingo games, variety stands, kids' games, indoor flea market, ethnic & picnic foods including homemade potato pancakes, hand-dipped ice cream & bake sale, cash raffle & games of chance, and live nightly entertainment. For more information, contact Helen Negvesky (570) 457-3502.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Hunlock Creek — July 14 & 15, from 5 to 11 p.m. Parish "Summer Fest 2023" will be held on the church grounds at Lake Silkworth, 2011 State

Route 29. Tent-covered two-day event to feature a huge indoor flea market, theme baskets, festival games and homemade foods. Musical entertainment provided by Flaxy Morgan (Friday) and Lance Thomas Band (Saturday).

Saint Patrick's in White Haven — July 14 & 15. Parish Summer Festival held on Friday, 4 to 9 p.m., & Saturday, 1 to 9 p.m., on the church grounds, 411 Allegheny St., White Haven. Event includes homemade ethnic food favorites, grand prize raffle, musical entertainment, large rummage sale and more than 70 tricky trays; Saturday featured attraction Magician Brent Kessler, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Continued on next page

Saint Joseph Marello Parish

237 William Street ~ Pittston, PA

Annual Summer Picnic

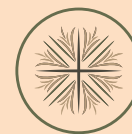
July 13, 14, 15 from 5pm to 10pm

Live Entertainment

Thursday - The Taxmen
Friday - The Luongo Bros.
Saturday - Flaxy Morgan

Picnic Favorites

Ethnic Foods, Pizza Fritta,
Potato Pancakes, Indoor Flea
Market, Basket Raffles, Kid Games
and more!



Saint Eulalia
— PARISH —

SUMMER FESTIVAL | JULY 21-22 5-10 p.m.

Homemade Food, Grandma's Attic, & more...

WEEKEND ENTERTAINMENT:

FRI., JULY 21

6-7 PM

» Electric City Steel
Drum Project

7-10 PM

» Between the Velvet Lies
(classic rock)

SAT., JULY 22

5-6:30 PM

» Alex the Crooner

7-10 PM

» Electric Rewind
(classic rock)

214 Blue Shutters Road, Roaring Brook Township
sainteulalias.com

Summer Guide to Church Festivals & Picnics

Good Shepherd in Drums — on Friday, 5 to 10 p.m.; Saturday, July 14-16. Summer Festival held 1 to 10 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 to 10 p.m. Event features a wide variety of traditional and ethnic food favorites, including chicken fingers, halushki, halupki, pierogi, potato pancakes, pulled pork and sausage/peppers &

steak hoagies; beer, wine coolers and soft beverages. Activities and games for all ages include bounce house, face-painting, tricky trays and raffles. Daily live entertainment: North of 40 (Friday, 6 to 9 p.m.); Autumn Falls Entertainment (Saturday, 1 to 2:30 p.m.), Late Arrivals (Saturday, 3 to 6 p.m.) & Kartune (Saturday, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.), followed by a concluding fireworks display; and Alibi (Sunday, 2 to 6 p.m.).

church picnic grounds at 214 Blue Shuttles Road, will feature homemade ethnic foods, beer pavilion, Grandma's Attic flea market, tricky tray basket raffles, bake sale, arts & crafts boutique, summer cash raffle and small games of chance. Children's games & attractions include face painting and pony rides. Friday musical entertainment features the Electric City Steel Drum Project from 6 to 7 p.m., followed by the classic rock band Beneath the Velvet Lies from 7 to 10 p.m. Saturday's music will be provided by Alex "The Crooner" Nebraska, from 5 to 6:30 p.m., and Electric Rewind (classic rock), 7 to 10 p.m. The festival's 13th Annual Jerry Mahon 5K event through the Roaring Brook/Elmhurst area begins at 9 a.m. on Saturday. Registration is online only at sainteulalias.com/festival-and-5k. For more information, call the parish office (570) 842-7656.

Christ the King in Archbald/Eynon — July 28-30. Summer picnic will be held on the grounds of Saint Mary of Czestochowa Church, Betty & Main streets, Eynon, on Friday & Saturday from 5 to 10 p.m., and Sunday, 3 to 9 p.m. Festival to include ethnic & American food favorites, beer & wine tent, children's games, basket & cash raffle drawings, and a "Hidden Treasures Market." Live entertainment features Inside-Out (Friday, 6:30 to 10 p.m.) and Tommy Guns (Saturday, 6 to 10 p.m.); the Wanabees Duo on Sunday from 5 to 9 p.m., preceded by Sarah Marie & Joseph from 2 to 4 p.m.

Saint Aloysius in Wilkes-Barre — Aug. 3-5. The "St. Al's Church Bazaar" held Thursday & Friday, from 6 to 10 p.m.; Saturday, 5 to

Continued on next page

CHRIST THE KING PARISH PICNIC

(St. Mary of Czestochowa Church, Eynon & St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Archbald)

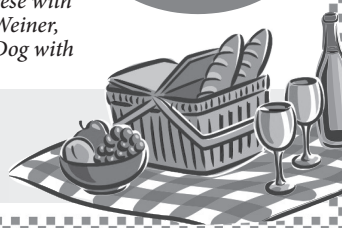
JULY 28, 29, 30, 2023

Friday— Inside-Out 6:30 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. Picnic starts at 5:00 P.M.	Saturday— Tommy Guns 6:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. Picnic starts at 5:00 P.M.	Sunday— The Wanabees Duo 5:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. Picnic starts at 3:00 P.M. Sarah Marie & Joseph 2-4 P.M.
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Beer & Wine Tent, Beverages, Bake Sale, and the following Ethnic and American cuisine: Cabbage & Noodles, Potato Pancakes, Pierogi with onion & butter or deep fried, Pigs in the Blanket, Pagach, Sausage Plain, Sausage with peppers, Steak & Cheese, Steak & Cheese with Peppers and Onions, Steak Sub Hoagie, Texas Burger, Kielbasa with Kraut, Texas Weiner, Wimpie, Porketta, Clam Chowder, French Fries, Hamburger, Hot Dog Plain or Hot Dog with Kraut, Pizza, Pizza-Frita, Funnel Cakes, Fried Oreos.

Visit the
Choice is Yours Raffle Stand, Florence's Basket Raffles,
Match-for-Cash, Instant Bingo, Hidden Treasures Market
PLUS CASH RAFFLE!!

Held on the grounds of St. Mary of Czestochowa Church, corner of Betty & Main Streets, Eynon.



SUMMER FEST '23

The Parish Community of
Saint John the Evangelist, Pittston, PA

AUGUST 10 • 11 • 12, 2023

Thursday, Friday, Saturday • 5:00 to 10:00 PM

Parish Grounds and Pastoral Center on Church and Broad Streets - Rain or Shine

Entertainment Nightly

Thurs. - The Tax Men

Fri. - Sweet Pepper & The Long Hots

Sat. - Flaxy Morgan

**Delicious Ethnic & American Foods • Variety Booths
Bingo • Children's Games • Raffles • Baked Goods**

Our Lady of Perpetual Help (Saint Mary's) in Wyalusing — July 16, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Annual "Old Fashion Picnic" held on Sunday on the grounds of Saint Mary of the Assumption Church, 245 State St., Wyalusing. Festival food menu includes hot dogs with chili or sauerkraut, sausage & peppers, wimpies, pasta and potato salads, baked beans, beverages and homemade pies. Games and attractions feature cash, "Happy Wagon" and basket raffle drawings; face-painting and cornhole tournament. For information, call (570) 746-1006.

Saint Eulalia's in Roaring Brook Township — July 21 & 22, from 5 to 10 p.m. Summer Festival, to be held on the

Summer Guide to Church Festivals & Picnics

Continued from previous page

11 p.m., on the church grounds, 143 West Division St. Picnic food, bingo, and games for all ages. Nightly music: Thursday,

Triple Fret; Friday, Flaxy Morgan; Saturday, Strawberry Jam.

Holy Cross in Olyphant — Aug. 6. Parish Chicken Barbecue

Dinner hosted from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., featuring complete chicken entree with potato and green beans for adults (\$12 per person) and children's dinner with chicken

nuggets & fries (\$5 each). Sunday afternoon event will also include theme basket & cash raffles, bake sale, children's games, musical entertainment and picnic menu treats for purchase, including hot dogs, ice cream, chicken nuggets/fries, ice cream sodas and soft beverages. For more information, call Judith Novak at (570) 489-0752.

Saint John the Evangelist in Pittston — Aug. 10-12. "Summer Fest '23," the three-night parish picnic, will be held Thursday thru Saturday from 5 to 10 p.m. at the pastoral center and parish grounds on Church & Broad streets in downtown Pittston. Festival attractions include ethnic & traditional American picnic foods, variety booths, bingo, children's games, raffle drawings, and baked goods. Featured nightly entertainment: Thursday, The Taxmen; Friday, Sweet Pepper & The Long Hots; and Saturday, Flaxy Morgan.

Saint Jude's in Mountain Top — Aug. 11-13. Parish's 70th annual "Picnic in the Grove" will be held Friday & Saturday, from 4 to 10 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 8 p.m., at the Saint Jude Grove, 420 South Mountain Boulevard (Route 309), Mountain Top, featuring picnic foods, games, and theme baskets. Musical entertainment provided by Rockaholix (Friday, 6 to 9 p.m.); DJ Mike (Saturday, 6 to 9 p.m.); and John Stevens Polka Band (Sunday, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.). For more information, contact Tracie Machalick at (570) 474-6315 or tmach@stjc.org.

Saint Matthew's in East Stroudsburg — Aug. 11-13. Summer festival will be held Friday & Saturday, from 5 to 10 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 6 p.m. on the parish grounds, 78 Ridgeway St., East Stroudsburg. Three-day event includes live

entertainment, homemade international foods & desserts, beer & wine garden, Prize Bingo for adults, Kids' Toy Bingo (Sunday), children's games, raffle drawings, and mega cash raffle.

Saint John the Baptist in Larksville — Aug. 11-13. Annual Saint John's Church Bazaar will be held on the parish grounds, Nesbitt Street, Larksville, on Friday, 6 to 10 p.m.; Saturday, 5 to 10 p.m.; and Sunday, 3 to 8 p.m. Event features a bountiful array of theme gift baskets, games and refreshments; variety of Polish, Slovak and American foods, including sausage, funnel cakes, homemade potato pancakes, halushki, pierogi, clam chowder, French fries, rice pudding and other desserts. Live nightly music provided by John Stevens' Polka Band (Friday, 7 to 10 p.m.); George Tarasek (Saturday, 7 to 10 p.m.); and Late Arrival (Sunday, 5 to 8 p.m.).

Most Precious Blood in Hazleton — Aug. 11-13. Parish's 124th "La Madonna del Monte Festival" honoring the Blessed Mother includes devotional services and festival food nights & live entertainment on Friday, from 4 to 9 p.m., and Saturday, 4:30 to 9 p.m. Sunday pasta & meatball dinner served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. (pre-order & takeout only). Sunday's festivities open with celebration of Mass and the "Madonna del Monte" procession through neighborhood streets, followed by benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto. Weekend event also includes bake sale, tricky trays, cash raffle and calendar lottery.

Saints Anthony & Rocco in Dunmore — Aug. 11-13. The Dunmore parish's annual three-day "Italian Festival" will be hosted on the grounds and pavilion

Continued on next page

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH BAZAAR

**Friday: 6PM-10PM Saturday: 5PM-10PM
Sunday: 3PM-8PM**

ON THE PARISH GROUNDS, NESBITT STREET, LARKSVILLE, PA

**FRIDAY - SATURDAY - SUNDAY
August 11 • 12 • 13**

Live Music Nightly

**Friday - John Stevens' Polka Band 7pm-10pm
Saturday - George Tarasek 7pm-10pm
Sunday - Late Arrival 5pm-8pm**

REFRESHMENTS ♦ AWARDS ♦ GAMES

50+ THEME BASKETS

Large Variety of Polish, Slovak & American Foods, including Sausage, Funnel Cakes & More!

**We make our own Potato Pancake batter, Haluski Noodles, Pierogies, Clam Chowder, Rice Pudding, Desserts & More.
We even peel and cut our own French Fries.**



BEDWICK'S Pharmacy & Gifts

25th ANNIVERSARY SALE & CELEBRATION!

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 2023, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

All Religious, Irish, & Gift Items...25% Off!

All Over-the-Counter & Store Merchandise...25% Off!

All Greeting Cards, Wrap, & Gift Bags...25% Off!

SIDEWALK SALES!

SPEND \$25.00 OR MORE AND RECEIVE A GIFT!



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Chris & George Bedwick



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WITH SIGHTSEEING

8-DAY COASTAL MAINE TOUR

SEPT 11-18

\$2499 PP

INCLUDING ACADIA NATIONAL PARK 13-MEALS,
VERY EXTENSIVE TOUR! BAR HARBOR, KENNEBUNKPORT,
FREEPORT, SEA & LOBSTER CRUISES!

1-WEEK PUNTA CANA FALL FLING

OCTOBER 23-30 **\$1539 PP**

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ALL-INCLUSIVE/FLY UNITED AIRLINES

BOOK NOW! ONLY 44-SEATS AVAILABLE!!!!

4-DAY FALL ATLANTIC CITY TOUR

SEPT 10-13

\$429 PP

ALWAYS A SELL OUT!

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MEALS/\$30 PP SLOT PLAY!

3-DAY NIAGARA FALLS (CANADA) TOUR

SEPT 27-29

\$475 PP

STAY AT COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT
2-BREAKFASTS, MAID OF THE MIST BOAT
FREE TIME, STAY ON CANADIAN SIDE!

3-DAY 1000 ISLANDS NY TOUR

SEPT 17-19

\$439 PP

STAY AT CAPT THOMSON'S (WATER VIEW)
2-BREAKFASTS, WINERY, SIGHTSEEING CRUISE
VISIT BOLDT CASTLE & BOAT MUSEUM!

3-DAY LAKE GEORGE FALL WEEKEND

SEPTEMBER
22-24, 2023

\$549 PP

BUS/HOTEL/3-MEALS PLUS LUNCHEON CRUISE.
TOURING PLUS STOP AT SARATOGA SPRING!

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Summer Guide to Church Festivals & Picnics



Continued from previous page

area at Saint Rocco Church, 122 Kurtz St., Bunker Hill section of Dunmore. Festivities, including homemade ethnic & picnic foods, games and activities, and live entertainment each day, get underway on Friday and Saturday at 5 p.m. and on Sunday following the noon Mass and procession starting from Saint Rocco's. Festival entertainment provided by Picture Perfect (Friday); Popstar Drive (Saturday); and Vinsko Entertainment and the Luongo Brothers Band (Sunday). The event concludes with a fireworks display on Sunday evening at 9 p.m.

Prince of Peace in Old Forge — **Aug. 13.** The Old Forge parish is sponsoring its annual Chicken Barbecue & Basket Raffle event on Sunday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the parking lot of nearby Arcaro & Genell restaurant, located on Main Street. The dinner is prepared by Arcaro & Genell's and is take-out only. Cost for the dinner is \$12 per person and includes a barbecued half-chicken, corn on the cob, pasta salad, roll and

dessert. Walk-ins are limited and advance orders are encouraged. For advance tickets, contact the parish rectory at (570) 457-5900 by Aug. 7.

Saint Juliana's Rock Lake Picnic — **Aug. 19.** Sponsored by Saint Katharine Drexel Parish, the 185th Anniversary Summer Festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on the grounds of Saint Juliana Church, 2048 Creamton Drive (Route 247), Pleasant Mount. Saturday church picnic includes a turkey & ham dinner, served from noon to 3 p.m., for outdoor dining or take-out; celebration of Vigil Mass at 5:30 p.m.; and live music throughout the day. Event also features Giant Finder's Market (10 a.m. to 5 p.m.); refreshment stand; pierogi, pie & bake sales; cash & basket raffles; and games for all ages. For more information, call (570) 798-2107.

Blessed Sacrament in Throop — **Aug. 19 & 20.** Weekend 16th Annual Family Festival held on the parish grounds and hall, Rebecca Street, Throop, featuring ethnic and traditional picnic foods, basket & cash raffle drawings,

bake sale and bingo games. Youth wiffle ball game and other competitions open the festival on Saturday at 9 a.m.

Saint Boniface in Williamsport — **Sept. 7-9.** The 55th annual Church Carnival will be held on the grounds of Saint Boniface, 326 Washington Blvd., Williamsport. Featuring nightly sit-down dinners (take-outs available) from 4 to 7 p.m. in the school gym; white elephant sale, 4 to 8 p.m.; and raffle drawing on final night at 10 p.m. Includes homemade foods & treats, games, rides and bingo.

Our Lady of the Abingtons in Dalton — **Sept. 9 & 10.** Annual Fall Festival held on Saturday, from 5:30 to 10 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 6 p.m., on the church grounds, located off Seminary Road (behind the parish office). Festival attractions include a Saturday pig roast and Sunday chicken barbecue dinner; musical entertainment, potato pancakes, clam chowder, pizza, homemade baked goods, bountiful basket raffle, silent auction and white elephant sale. For more information, call (570) 563-1622.

Diaper collection for newborns to have big impact

Continued from Page 18

"Walking with Moms in Need is a process through which Catholic parishes can help local pregnant and parenting women in need in their own community," Shannon Kowalski, Director of Service and Mission in the Diocesan Office for Parish Life, said. "Our efforts help to fill the gaps in services and provide resources to mothers and fathers parenting young children."

Parishes that collected diapers, wipes or provided monetary contributions included the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton, Gate of Heaven Parish in Dallas, Holy Cross Parish in Olyphant, Our Lady of the Eucharist Parish in Pittston, Our Lady of Victory Parish in Harvey's Lake, Queen of Angels Parish in Jessup, Queen of Apostles Parish in Avoca, Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Peckville, Saint Ignatius Loyola Parish in Kingston, Saint

John Vianney Parish in Montdale, Saint Maria Goretti Parish in Laflin, and Saint Rita Parish in Gouldsboro.

"Anyone that has purchased diapers recently knows exactly how expensive they are," Eric Deabill, Diocesan Secretary for Communications, explained. "With each pack of diapers that was donated, our parishioners responded to the call of becoming a missionary disciple, bringing hope to those in need."

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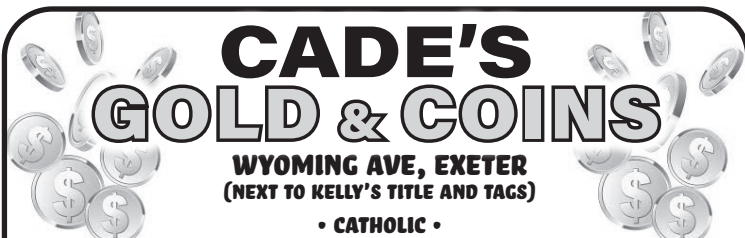
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Vocations Golf Classic has become a 'swinging' success

Continued from Page 14

Seminarian Jacob Mutchler, who will be entering his second year of pre-theology at Saint Vincent's Seminary this fall, joked that he would be staying "off the greens" for everyone's safety. However, he loved being at the tournament so he could connect with supporters on a personal level.

"You get a special perspective when we have events like this, to

see all of our generous supporters coming together in fellowship and recreation but also knowing that they're really supporting us with their prayers regularly as well," he said.

This is the second year Nathan Coates from Plymouth has participated in the tournament. He enjoys getting to interact with the many priests who attend.

"It is nice to talk to them about regular life and golf," Coates said.

"It's fun to see them out here doing the same thing we love."

The tournament relies on dozens of generous sponsors, like Tom and Mari Hendrian of Clarks Summit, to be successful.

"We're just really excited to be here to support them (our seminarians) and their studies," Tom Hendrian explained.

A full listing of sponsors will appear in the August edition of *The Catholic Light*.

Notice Regarding Reporting Sexual Abuse of a Minor

It is the policy of the Diocese of Scranton to report any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to law enforcement. If you are a victim of sexual abuse committed by a priest, deacon, religious or lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton, you are encouraged to immediately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, including child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law enforcement.

It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. To this end, the Diocese is equally committed to adhering to the norms of the *Code of Canon Law* and to upholding the tenets of the USCCB *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, which includes supporting victims of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being. As such, information regarding an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor should also be reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator, Mary Beth Pacuska at (570) 862-7551.

Aviso al Respetto de Reportar el Abuso Sexual de Un Menor de Edad

Es la norma de la Diócesis de Scranton reportar cualquier alegación de abuso sexual de un menor de edad a las autoridades. Si usted es una víctima de abuso sexual cometido por un sacerdote, diácono, religioso o empleado laico, o voluntario de la Diócesis de Scranton, usted está obligado a reportar el asunto inmediatamente a las autoridades de la ley.

Si algún sacerdote, diácono, religioso, empleado laico o voluntario de la Diócesis de Scranton tiene sospecha de que un menor de edad ha sido sujeto a cualquier forma de abuso, incluyendo abuso sexual de menor de edad, el asunto será reportado a las autoridades de la ley.

Es la norma de la Diócesis defender todas las regulaciones civiles y del estado. Al fin de que la Diócesis esté comprometida igualmente a defender las normas del Código de Derecho Canónico y defender los principios de la Carta Para la Protección de Niños y Jóvenes (Conferencia de los Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos), lo cual incluye apoyar a las víctimas de abuso sexual en pos del bienestar emocional y espiritual.

Por eso, información respecto a una alegación del asunto sexual de un menor de edad, debe ser reportada a la Coordinadora Diocesana de Asistencia para Las Víctimas, Mary Beth Pacuska, a (570) 862-7551.

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MISSION MESSAGE

Land of Eternal Spring

*By Deacon Edward Kelly
Interim Director,
Pontifical Mission Societies*



As you might be aware, every year a missionary is assigned to each of our parishes to ask for prayers and monetary sacrifices on behalf of the people they serve in the mission fields. It's called the Missionary Cooperation Plan. These missionaries, by sharing their stories, create an awareness of the good works being done by the Universal Church for the poorest of the poor in the mission lands. Your kind and generous response not only goes a long way in meeting the physical needs (food, health care, housing) of the poorest of the poor, but also serves their spiritual needs by building up their Catholic communities and bringing the message of the Hope That Saves — Jesus Christ.

Several years ago, Father Luis DeLeon from Guatemala came to the Diocese of Scranton as part of the Missionary Cooperation

Plan to share his stories and make an appeal for the missions in Guatemala. Father Luis stayed at my home for four nights and the spirit of Guatemala came to me. He told me that Guatemala is known as the Land of Eternal Spring. The people are young at heart, so alive and happy and always smiling. The land is always flowering and the lives of the people are so connected to the earth that they love to farm and plant and grow fresh fruits and vegetables.

National treasures, like the ancient Mayan ruins, are cherished with awe and reverence. Even the earth itself is honored before planting with a *Mayahak* — a ritual to feed the earth, offering it food and sweet-smelling incense to ask permission for breaking it open and sowing seeds. Mountains, rivers, and lakes are thought to have personalities, and they could get angry if humans overstep their proper relationships with them. Simply put, Guatemalans have deep respect for the good earth.

Father Luis went on to share how the people value God, family, and the land and are thankful for even the smallest blessings. He was constantly telling me and my wife what a blessing we were to him. He shared with us how the

Guatemalan people are taught in their culture not to waste anything. And I can tell you that Father Luis learned his lessons well. He drank every drop of coffee offered to him at our home and was careful not to waste anything.

Pope Francis, in his encyclical *Laudato Si*, is challenging all people to become more aware of the need for changes in lifestyle. If we think for a moment about the fact that 80% of the world's population lives on less than \$10 a day, the list of things we could do to make the earth a cleaner, better place to live for everyone and for future generations is almost endless. Being from a culture that often times mindlessly consumes and accumulates stuff, we could take a long hard look at our real needs and simplify our lives by using fewer resources, leaving the rest to others.

Last week our nation — America the Beautiful — celebrated Independence Day on July 4. May we Americans be mindful of the lessons coming from the mission lands — places like Guatemala — where the people are in touch with and in awe of the land and its treasures.

I thank Father Luis for trusting in me and my wife by coming into our home reminding us how blessed we are and teaching us to trust and depend more on God. I hope this story helps you to do the same. And I pray that the blessings that God has bestowed on all of us here in America will be treasured and cared for so that America the Beautiful will remain "America the Beautiful."

Apostleship of Prayer

Papal Intention for July 2023

For a Eucharistic Life —

We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

World Refugee Day 2023 celebrated in Scranton

SCRANTON – Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton joined several community partners June 24 in organizing and sponsoring a World Refugee Day celebration at Nay Aug Park.

The event, attended by hundreds of people, included cultural songs and music, ethnic food, activities for children and information tables about local refugee communities.

“We welcome you to the greater Scranton area and beyond and hope that you find a home in this area where you feel welcome and loved,” the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, said while addressing the crowd.

Bishop Bambera shared recent words from Pope Francis, in which the Holy Father said we are all called to show “maximum respect” for the dignity of migrants and must “construct bridges and not walls.”

While acknowledging that nations have a right to control their borders, Bishop Bambera said the international community should protect refugees and asylum seekers. He highlighted the story of his own grandmother who came to northeastern Pennsylvania from Poland in 1912 in search of a better life.

“We are so privileged to have you here, to tap into your gifts and your talents and to find ourselves better and richer because of your presence,” Bishop Bambera added.

World Refugee Day was established by the United Nations to celebrate the strength and courage of people who have been forced to flee their home countries to escape conflict or persecution. At the end of 2022, more than 100 million people were forcibly displaced globally – a record number propelled by the War in Ukraine and other conflicts around the world.



Refugee groups proudly dance at Nay Aug Park in Scranton June 24 during the World Refugee Day celebration. (Photo/Eric Deabill)

“We became refugees because of political situations,” Chandra Sitaula of the Bhutanese Cultural Foundation of Scranton Association, said. “We are here from Bhutan, Congo, Afghanistan and many other countries.”

Sitaula came to the Scranton area in 2012 after spending two years in the Bronx. He said there are roughly 7,000 Bhutanese people living in the greater Scranton area according to the 2020 census. He said the number is even larger – roughly 42,000 people – in the Harrisburg region.

“We want to introduce our culture, traditions, values and customs to the community and we need to learn other community’s cultures, communications and religions,” he explained.

Gulnar Siddiqi, a staff member with Catholic Social Services and refugee herself, said the agency works with hundreds of refugees each year.

“We are always here for refugees. Catholic Social Services has been working for many years with refugees as soon as they arrive in the country,” Siddiqi

said. “We want to show our refugees how important they are. We want to show our refugees that we are all one.”

This year’s theme was ‘Hope Away from Home,’ which focused on the power of inclusion and solutions for refugees.

Continued on Page 32

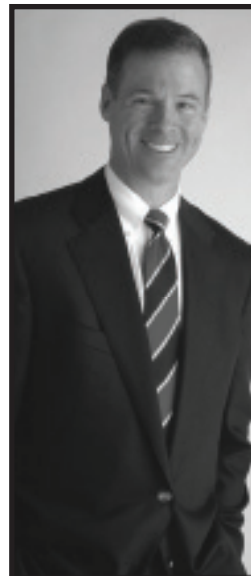


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*Conyngham parish native
 wins Catholic book award*

A former Drums resident and parishioner of Saint John Bosco Church, Conyngham, has received the 2023 Catholic Media Book Award for best biography for her historical account of Saint Francis of Assisi.

Researched and written by Scranton Diocese native Madeline Pecora Nugent and published by Pauline Books and Media of Boston, *Francesco: A Story of Saint Francis of Assisi* was awarded the prestigious honor at the recent Catholic Media Conference in Baltimore.

Nugent, who now lives in Fort Wayne, Ind., is the daughter of Amelia and Pasquo Pecora.

Francesco, along with two other books penned by Nugent — *Chiara: The Story of Saint Clare of Assisi* and *Antonio: The Story of Saint Anthony of Padua* — comprise a trilogy of the first Franciscan saints.

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Extraordinary Minister of Communion Training Session

SCRANTON — A training session for new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will be offered on Saturday, Aug. 19, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Diocesan Pastoral Center in Scranton.

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.

To register, call (570) 207-2213, ext. 1158. Deadline for registration for the training

Two Suicide Grief Support series continue in Diocese

SCRANTON — The Catholic Mental Health Ministry in the Diocese of Scranton announces a series of monthly suicide grief support meetings is continuing at two locations in the Diocese.

Based on the eight-part film series, "When a Loved One Dies by Suicide," one of the grief support gatherings is hosted at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 330 Wyoming Ave., Scranton.

The meetings, which are held at 6:30 p.m., will continue on the third Thursday of each month through November.

For more information, contact deaconed@stpeterscathedral.org.

The Catholic parishes of Ascension, Forest City, and Saint Katharine Drexel, Pleasant Mount, are also currently co-hosting the suicide grief support series.

The series gatherings will

continue at 6:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month through November.

For more information, contact carl.albright49@gmail.com.

All are welcome to attend any of the series sessions. Registration is requested but not required for either offering.

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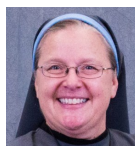
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Eucharistic Miracles presentation available for parish display



Gloria Calabro, a member of Saint Leo Parish in Ashley, is offering for public display a comprehensive exhibit of educational story panels chronicling Eucharistic miracles recognized by the universal Catholic Church throughout the ages. The presentation is the brainchild of Calabro, who first conceived of the idea more than 12 years ago, with the first exhibition taking place at Saint Jude Parish in Mountain Top in 2011. With the National Eucharistic Revival well underway in the Church in America, Calabro expressed that it is an opportune time for parishes in the Diocese of Scranton to host the display, which includes approximately 80 historical capsule accounts. To inquire about possible visitations of the presentation to Diocesan churches, contact Gloria Calabro at (570) 479-1175 or email: g1113pa@gmail.com.

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IHM Foundation plans annual celebration

SCRANTON — of Fidelity Bank. A graduate of Commemorating its tenth year of honoring the Congregation of Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and providing financial support of the IHM Retirement Fund, the Sisters of IHM Foundation will host its annual virtual celebration on Saturday, Aug. 5.

The IHM Foundation announces that, in recognition of her commitment to — and embodiment of — the IHM spirit and mission, Ann Rink will be honored at this year's celebration as the 2023 Spirit of IHM Award recipient.

During her decades-long and dedicated career at St. Joseph's Center, a sponsored ministry of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary since 1888, Rink has assisted hundreds of children and adults in learning to thrive.

The honorary chairperson for the 2023 virtual celebration is Dan Santaniello, president and CEO

of Fidelity Bank. A graduate of Marywood University, Santaniello has been honored by numerous civic and cultural organizations for his philanthropic work and currently serves on the St. Joseph's Foundation Board.

All are welcome to join in the virtual event on Aug. 5 at 6 p.m., when the celebration will be broadcast on the IHM Facebook page and YouTube.

Several various opportunities are available for individuals, companies and organizations to help care for the needs of the retired IHM Sisters.

All donations directly support the ever-increasing costs of maintaining a healthy, safe and comfortable environment for the women religious who reside at the Pascucci Family Our Lady of Peace Residence and the IHM Center in Scranton.

For more information, visit www.sistersofihm.org or call (570) 346-5431.

Catholic Happenings Around the Diocese

20th Annual Memorial Blood Drive — **JULY 20**, sponsored by the North Pocono Blood Council of American Red Cross and St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Moscow; held from 1 to 6 p.m. at St. Catherine Church, 220 Church St., Moscow. Annual Red Cross Blood Drive honors the memory of John Paul Ruggiero, a young parishioner of St. Catherine's who passed away while attending the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., in 2002. Donors receive complimentary refreshments. For appointment registration, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit redcrossblood.org and enter "Moscow." Walk-ins welcome.

Weekly Bereavement Support Group Sessions — **JULY 24-AUG. 14**, sponsored by St. John Neumann Parish in Lords Valley; bereavement support group will meet on four consecutive Mondays from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the St. John parish hall, 705 Route 739, Lords Valley. Weekly gatherings address topics dealing with the grief process to enable participants find healing following the loss

Marian Devotion Rosary prayer services

Fostering prayerful devotion to Jesus and Mary through recitation of the Rosary, Marian Devotion Ministries in the Diocese of Scranton is hosting its 2023 Fatima Journey, which began on the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima, May 13, and continues through October, the Month of the Holy Rosary.

Marian Devotion events are scheduled as follows:

Saturday Rosary Rally — July 15, at 5 p.m. at the outdoor Fatima Grotto on the grounds of Saint Mary of Mount Carmel Church, Chestnut Street, Dunmore.

Monday Rosary Evening of Marian Devotion — July 17, at 6 p.m. at the Oblates of Saint Joseph Chapel, Route 315, Laflin.

Saturday Noon Rosary Rally

of a loved one. All are welcome; advance registration required at stvgriefgroup@att.net or by calling the parish office (570) 775-6791.

St. Monica's Army Prayer & Share Gathering — **JULY 26**, hosted by St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish in Pocono Pines at Our Lady of the Lake Church, 5112 Pocono Crest Road, Pocono Pines; parish devotional group gathers for a monthly prayer meeting at 10:15 a.m. The designated gathering is being offered in conjunction with the National Eucharistic Revival multi-year event.

Annual Lady Crusader Girls Basketball Camp — **JULY 31-AUG. 4**, sponsored by the Lady Crusaders basketball program of Holy Cross High School in Dunmore; held at the Holy Cross High School gymnasium, Drinker St., Dunmore. Open to girls entering grades 4 thru 9. Camp sessions held each day from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and include instruction in all facets of basketball fundamentals and competitive games; instructors include high school coaches and players. Fee: \$60 per camper, includes

commemorative camp T-shirt and end-of-camp pizza party. For more information, contact Coach Bob McCormack at (570) 309-1635 or email: rmack0423@comcast.net.

Summer Youth Music Camp — **JULY 31-AUG. 4**, hosted by Gate of Heaven Parish, 40 Machell Ave., Dallas; music camp for children held daily throughout the week from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., concluding with a Youth Liturgy on Sunday, Aug. 6. Camp is open free of charge to youth singers ages 8 to 15; camper gatherings will include choir rehearsals, snacks and other activities. For more information and registration, contact the parish office at (570) 675-2121.

First Friday Evening Mass & Adoration — **AUG. 4**, hosted by St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish in Pocono Pines at Our Lady of the Lake Church, 5112 Pocono

Crest Road, Pocono Pines; Mass celebrated at 7 p.m., followed by Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, offered on the First Friday of every month. The First Friday liturgy and devotion will continue throughout the National Eucharistic Revival multi-year event established by the U.S. Catholic Bishops.

Adult Vacation Bible School — **AUG. 10, 17 & 24**, hosted by Mary Mother of God Parish at Holy Rosary Church, North Scranton; sessions will be held on three consecutive Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. The Adult Bible School will be based on the current film production of "The Chosen," opening with a Gospel passage/discussion and reflection on one of the film's episodes. All faithful from diocesan parishes are welcome to attend.

Continued on next page

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Catholic Happenings Around the Diocese

22nd Annual Lebanese-American Food Festival — AUG. 11-13, hosted by St. Joseph Melkite-Greek Catholic Church, 130 North St. Frances Cabrini Ave. (off lower Jackson Street), West Scranton; event will be held on the church grounds on Friday & Saturday, from 4 to 9 p.m., and Sunday, 1 to 7 p.m. Featuring homemade Lebanese/Middle Eastern foods & pastries and traditional picnic food favorites. For more information, contact the rectory office at (570) 343-6092.

Canonization Cause Mass for Father McGivney — AUG. 13, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus of St. Michael Parish, Canton; Rosary offered at 8:45 a.m., followed by Mass at 9:30 a.m. in St. Michael Church to further the cause for canonization of Blessed Father Michael McGivney, Knights of Columbus founder. All faithful are invited. For more information, call David Beahm (570) 673-4838, or the parish office (570) 673-5253.

Cash Bingo — AUG. 19, hosted by St. Maria Goretti Parish in Laflin; bingo games held from 1 to 4 p.m. (doors open at 11 a.m.) in the parish hall, 42 Redwood Drive, Laflin. Admission cost: \$30, includes 20 games and \$5 food voucher. Regular game prizes of \$100; prizes for special games (\$5 each) range from \$200 to more than \$500. Event also includes basket raffle, bake sale and cash drawing; food and beverages available for purchase. For tickets, contact the parish office at (570) 655-8956.

17th Annual St. Mary's Villa Golf Tournament — AUG. 28, sponsored by St. Mary's Villa senior care facility in Elmhurst; hosted at

Glen Oak Country Club in Waverly. Registration fee: \$150 per golfer, includes registration luncheon at 11 a.m., tournament play with noon shotgun start, and cocktail reception and awards dinner to follow. Guests may attend the dinner only for \$60 a person. Golfer registrations accepted through Aug. 21. For more information and registration, contact Lani Dickson at (570) 842-5274 ext. 2216, or ldickson@covh.org.

Fall College Football Game Bus Trip — OCT. 7, sponsored by Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Dickson City; bus excursion to attend the Army vs. Boston College football game at noon at West Point Military Academy in New York. Saturday morning departure from St. Mary Parish at 7 a.m.; return trip departs West Point at 6 p.m. and arrives back in Dickson City at approximately 8 p.m. Cost: \$120 per person, includes game ticket, bus accommodations, and bag lunch with soft drink. Reservations require a \$60 deposit; balance is due by Sept. 14. For more information, call (570) 489-2091.

Who makes house calls?

As of October 2015, I will now meet clients either at their home, or at a location they choose and no longer require clients to meet at my office. I have decided that I would change the way I meet with people so it will be as easy and as convenient as possible for the client.

Based on my practice, which consists of estate planning and administration along with elder law, I find that clients are more comfortable discussing such matters in familiar surroundings.

While I know this may seem unconventional to some, I believe I will be able to serve clients much better in this fashion.

If anyone is uncomfortable with home visits, I have a few locations where I can meet in an office setting. I look forward to meeting with my existing clients and especially meeting new clients that are looking for any assistance in estate or elder law matters.



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Prayer Requests for Priests

The Daily Prayer Request for Priests schedule is as follows:

July 13, Father Patrick Albert; July 14, Father John Albosta; July 15, Father James Alco; July 16, Father Andrew Amankwaa; July 17, Father Michael Amo Gyau; July 18, Father Robert Antonelli; July 19, Passionist Father Edison Arreaga Arce; July 20, Father Stephen Asomah; July 21, Monsignor Thomas Banick; July 22, Father David Bechtel; July 23, Father Richard Beck; July 24, Saint Joseph Oblate Father Mariusz Beczek; July 25, Jesuit Father John Begley; July 26, Monsignor John Bendik; July 27, Monsignor John Bergamo; July 28, Father Eric Bergman; July 29, Father Jacek Bialkowski; July 30, Monsignor David Bohr; July 31, Passionist Father Vincent Boney; August 1, Pope Francis; August 2, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera; August 3, Father Michael Boris; August 4, Father Stephen Bosomafi; August 5, Father John Boyle; August 6, Father Michael Bryant; August 7, Passionist Father Richard Burke; August 8, Jesuit Father Timothy Cadigan; August 9, Father William Campbell; August 10, Father David Cappelloni; August 11, Father Thomas Cappelloni; August 12, Passionist Father Robert Carbonneau; August 13, Father Sean Carpenter; August 14, Father Eugene Carr; August 15, Father Edward Casey; August 16, Father John Chmil; August 17, Father Richard Cirba; August 18, Father Brian J.T. Clarke; August 19, Father Brian J.W. Clarke; August 20, Father Charles Connor; August 21, Father William Corcoran; August 22, Father David Cramer.

La Salle students awarded scholarships to further their Catholic education



Kameryn Gale, a recent eighth-grade graduate of La Salle Academy in Jessup, was bestowed the 2023 Katie Sokoloski Gilroy Scholarship to assist in continuing her Catholic education at Holy Cross High School in Dunmore. Established to honor the memory of Katie Sokoloski Gilroy, a beloved teacher and graduate of Bishop O'Hara High School, the scholarship is awarded to an incoming freshman student at Holy Cross, formerly Bishop O'Hara High School. Kameryn is pictured, in the photo at left, with Father Gerard McGlone, pastor of Queen of Angels Parish in Jessup.

Knights of Columbus Council 7622 in Jermyn has established a \$1,000 scholarship program to benefit a graduating eighth-grade student from La Salle Academy in Jessup who plans to continue his or her Catholic education in Lackawanna County. This year's award recipient is Gabriel Roman, who will continue his academic career as an incoming freshman at Holy Cross High School, Dunmore, in the fall. Shown during the scholarship presentation, upper right, are, from left: Knight Ron Ryczak, Council 7622 financial secretary; Gabriel Roman; and Council Deputy Grand Knight Mario Fitzgerald.

AOH Division scholarship recipients



Lila Kolcharno and Matthew Fox, recent graduates of All Saints Academy in Scranton, were the recipients of the Fourth Annual Ancient Order of Hibernians Paul "Hook" O'Malley Memorial Scholarship honoring the legacy of the late Division Vice President Kevin Shaughnessy. Accompanied by principals of the AOH Division and the scholarship foundation, Lila and Matthew are pictured with their \$500 financial awards to benefit their high school education.



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World Refugee Day 2023 showcases cultures, traditions and values

Continued from Page 25

“As a community, we must promote empathy and compassion towards those who have been forced to leave their homes and seek safety in a new country,” Fikile Ryder, Director of Community for Catholic Social Services, added.

Since coming to the United States in 2017, Claudin Nyota of Congo says she has become a U.S. citizen and has found her neighbors to be very welcoming.

“I am happy. I love Scranton,” Nyota said. “I’m happy to see friends here that have helped me, have shown me

something good. I’m so happy to see everybody.”

In addition to Catholic Social Services, World Refugee Day 2023 was sponsored by the Church of Saint Gregory in Clarks Green, The University of Scranton, United Neighborhood Centers of Northeastern Pennsylvania, Ignatian Volunteer Corps, Islamic Center of Scranton, Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit, Congolese Community of Scranton, Bhutanese Cultural Foundation of Scranton Association, Saigon Corner Vietnamese Restaurant and the Pennsylvania Department of Education – Migrant Education Program.

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