

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



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."

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### Mass in Remembrance of Victims of Violent or Tragic Death to be held July 25



The Diocese of Scranton will offer its annual Mass in Remembrance of Victims of Violent or Tragic Death on Tuesday, July 25 at 7 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

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

All persons who have lost a loved one through tragic and traumatic death are invited to this liturgy. The Mass will also be televised by CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton.

We ask that the names of deceased loved ones are registered prior to the celebration of Mass. Please click the link below to register a loved one's name. The deadline for registration forms is July 19.

Click Here to Register a Name for the 2023 Mass of Remembrance

### Turn your PA Taxes into Catholic Education Scholarships



Did you know that you can turn your PA Taxes into Catholic Education Scholarships?

Pennsylvania allows qualifying individuals and businesses to use their PA tax obligations as need-based scholarships for our Catholic School Students through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) Program.

Individuals or couples filing jointly may make a gift for tuition assistance to a Diocesan Catholic School and receive a 90% tax credit on your personal income tax. For example, a \$5,000 gift will receive a \$4,500 tax credit.

Each year, more than 1,000 families receive tuition awards from the Diocese of Scranton Scholarship Foundation which is funded primarily from business contributions under the EITC and OSTC programs.

Click Here for More Information on How to Give to Catholic Schools

# Mercy Foundation celebrates 10 years in Dallas



The Sisters of Mercy recently celebrated the ten-year anniversary of the Mercy Foundation at a luncheon at the Sisters' Residence at Mercy Center in Dallas, Pennsylvania.

"The Mercy legacy continues because of the deep commitment of so many people willing to partner with us in response to need," says Sister Marie Parker, RSM, chair of the board of directors of Mercy Foundation.

Over the past ten years, the foundation has awarded 80 grants to local organizations. The foundation started with funds from the sale of Mercy Scranton, Mercy Nanticoke, Mercy Tyler, all part of the former Mercy Health System, as a way to retain a local Mercy presence and support ministries in Lackawanna, Luzerne, and Wyoming Counties of Pennsylvania.

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### **Vocations Golf Classic 2023 - John Yourishen Memorial Tournament - to take place Monday**



No matter if you golf or not - you can still help to raise money to support Diocesan seminarians by participating in the 50/50 raffle associated with the Vocations Golf Classic that will take place Monday, July 10, at Blue Ridge Trail Golf Club in Luzerne County.

You can enter the 50/50 raffle online with just a few clicks!

Tickets are one for \$5; three for \$10 or seven tickets for \$20. The winner of the 50/50 raffle be awarded half of the total amount of money that is raised.

Click Here to Enter the 50/50 Raffle as Part of the Vocations Golf Classic

Catholic leaders call for prayer, action after wave of July 4 holiday shootings across U.S.



Catholic leaders throughout the country are calling for prayer and action after gun violence scarred the July 4 holiday weekend in several states.

Mass shootings took place in 13 states plus the nation's capital from June 30 through the early morning hours of July 5, according to the Washington-based nonprofit Gun Violence Archive.

The rampages have so far left 15 dead and 94 injured. Holiday weekend shootings were reported in Washington, D.C., Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania and Texas, with both Maryland and Texas each recording two attacks.

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Be Transformed by the Eucharist, Pope Francis asks Catholics



Catholics must place the Eucharist at the center of their lives to transform their relationships with God and their neighbors, Pope Francis said.

"If you are the same at the end of Mass as you were at the beginning, something is wrong," the pope said in a video message released July 3 for his prayer intention for the month of July: "For a Eucharistic life."

"The Eucharist is the presence of Jesus, it is deeply transforming. Jesus comes and must transform you," he said.

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### Supreme Court expands protections for workers seeking to observe Holy Days, Sunday rest



The U.S. Supreme Court issued a unanimous decision June 29 in favor of a former postal worker who said he was denied a religious accommodation to observe Christian precepts on keeping holy the Lord's Day by his former employer.

The case Groff v. DeJoy concerned Gerald Groff, an evangelical Christian and former U.S. Postal Service worker, who was denied an accommodation to observe his Sunday Sabbath by not taking Sunday shifts that resulted in the loss of his job.

The Supreme Court's ruling found that federal law requires workplaces to make appropriate accommodations for their employees' religious practices unless those practices cannot be "reasonably" accommodated without "undue hardship."

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July is a big month for summer festivals, parish picnics and bazaars!





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