



# ***The Catholic Light***

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

## **Weekly E-Newsletter**

**August 31, 2023**

### **Oblates to host Labor Day Triduum, Mass honoring Saint Joseph the Worker**



The Congregation of the Oblates of Saint Joseph will host their 41st Annual Labor Day Weekend Triduum and Labor Day Mass in honor of Saint Joseph the Worker during the upcoming holiday weekend, Sept. 1-4, at the Oblates chapel, located at 1880 Route 315 in Laflin.

Masses during the Triduum -- Friday, Sept. 1, through Sunday, Sept. 3 -- will be celebrated at noon and 7 p.m., followed by devotional prayers to Saint Joseph as the patron saint of laborers. A blessing with the first-class relic of Saint Joseph Marelli, founder of the Oblates of Saint Joseph, will conclude the devotions.

Guest celebrant and preacher for this year's Labor Day Triduum will be Saint Joseph Oblate Father Gustavo Lopez, who ministers with the Oblates' USA Province as assistant pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Bakersfield, Calif. A California native and ordained to the priesthood in 2009, Father Gustavo also serves in deliverance/exorcism ministry and as prison chaplain for the Diocese of Fresno.

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

## **La Festa Italiana Mass to take place on Sunday at Cathedral**



Hundreds of people are expected to fill the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton Sunday morning, Sept. 3, as the annual Mass in Italian is celebrated at 10 a.m.

The liturgy is celebrated annually in conjunction with La Festa Italiana, which occurs over the Labor Day Weekend on Courthouse Square in Scranton.

Rev. David P. Cappelloni, V.F., La Festa Chaplain, will be the principal celebrant and homilist.

Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton will broadcast the Mass live for those unable to attend in person.

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

## **Avoca parish to host Day of Prayer dedicated to Our Lady of Guadalupe on Sept. 7**



Queen of the Apostles Parish, Avoca, is having a day of prayer dedicated to Our Lady of Guadalupe on Thursday, Sept. 7, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

At 7 p.m., the parish will have a special Holy Hour of Prayer for the unborn. The Silver Rose Prayer Service and a Silver Rose dedicated to Our Lady of Guadalupe, will be present. It is traveling from Canada to the United States to Mexico and will end at the Shrine of Our Lady in Mexico City.

Every stop the Silver Rose makes throughout the pilgrimage is a rosary-centered occasion for Knights of Columbus, parishioners and community members to pray for respect for life, for the spiritual renewal of each nation, and for the advancement of the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

All are invited to the parish throughout the day on Sept. 7 for Adoration and prayer and all are especially encouraged to attend the Holy Hour at 7 p.m.

[Help Spread the Word About this Parish Event By Sharing the Information from the Diocese of Scranton Website](#)

## **War against creation must stop, pope says in advance of Sept. 1 - World Day of Prayer for Creation**





People must end the “senseless war against creation” and help victims of environmental and climate injustice, Pope Francis said.

“We must do this by resolving to transform our hearts, our lifestyles and the public policies ruling our societies,” the pope said in his message for the 2023 World Day of Prayer for Creation.

Some injustices needing immediate responses are “economic policies that promote scandalous wealth for a privileged few and degrading conditions for many others,” the continued exploration and expansion of fossil fuel infrastructures, and “predatory industries” depleting and polluting freshwater sources, he wrote in his message.

The World Day of Prayer for Creation, which will be celebrated Sept. 1, marks the start of the ecumenical Season of Creation. The season concludes Oct. 4, the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of ecology. The theme for 2023 is “Let justice and peace flow,” based on the verse from Book of Amos (5:24), “Let justice surge like waters and righteousness like an unfailing stream.”

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

## **Bishop Bambara announces clergy appointments**



On Aug. 29, 2023, the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, announced several more clergy assignments for parishes in the Diocese of Scranton.

[Click Here to Read the Clergy Assignments Released on August 29, 2023](#)

## **U.S. Catholic schools see growth, forming children 'who love Jesus Christ'**



As they open their doors for a new academic year, the nation's Catholic schools are enjoying overall strong growth, along with a firm commitment to mission, experts told OSV News.

"Our school system has grown two years in a row," said Lincoln Snyder, president and CEO of the National Catholic Educational Association.

Based in Leesburg, Virginia, the NCEA, an organization which traces its origins to a 1904 conference held in St. Louis, represents close to 140,000 Catholic educators serving 1.6 million students.

Snyder told OSV News that Catholic schools in the U.S. on balance experienced a bump in enrollment amid the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, with a 3.8% growth from 2021-2022 and 0.3% growth during the 2022-2023 year.

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

## Synod is 'truly important' for the church, Pope Francis says



Pope Francis asked a group of Italian journalists to shun fake news and a love of scandal, including when covering the Catholic Church and the upcoming assembly of the Synod of Bishops.

“Help me to narrate this process for what it really is, leaving behind the logic of slogans and pre-packaged stories,” he asked the group Aug. 26 as he accepted the “È Giornalismo” prize, which recognizes outstanding contributions to journalism.

Pope Francis told the group he realizes how “speaking of a ‘synod on synodality’ may seem something abstruse, self-referential, excessively technical, of little interest to the general public,” but the whole process, which began in 2021 with listening sessions on the local, national and regional levels “is something truly important for the church.”

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

## **One parish, two parties**

### ***Churches of Holy Spirit Parish to hold Labor Day weekend events***







**Holy Spirit Parish**

# **St. Martha's Festival and Chicken Dinner**

**"A reunion of family and friends"**

**Saturday, September 2, 5-11 p.m.**

**Sunday, September 3, Noon-11 p.m.**

**RAIN OR SHINE – "UNDER THE BIG TOP"**



**Homemade Polish and American food**



**Try our haluski, piggies, potato pancakes, pierogi, and more!**

**Basket raffle**

**Cake, coffee, and pie**

**Children's games**

**Dime pitch**

**Ice cream**

**Indoor flea market**

**Barbecue chicken dinners served Saturday and Sunday!**

**🎵 LIVE MUSIC NIGHTLY 🎵**

**SATURDAY:** Vine Street **SUNDAY:** Al White and Friends

**Join us for Mass: Saturday 4:00 p.m., Sunday 10:00 a.m.**

**260 Bonnieville Road, Fairmount Springs**

Two churches of Holy Spirit Parish will be holding events this Labor Day weekend.

First, Saint Mary Church in Mocanaqua will hold its homecoming picnic on Sept. 2 and Sept. 3 at St. Mary Park on Lee Road.

The event will feature homemade ethnic foods (pierogi, haluski, piggies, potato pancakes and more) as well as live entertainment by The Music Room on Saturday and Flaxy Morgan on Sunday.

Second, Saint Martha Church in Fairmount Springs will hold its annual Festival on Saturday, September 2 from 5:00 until 11:00 p.m. and Sunday, September 3 from 12:00 noon until 11:00 p.m. Mass will be offered at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday and 10:00 a.m. on Sunday.

There will be Polish and American food including homemade pierogi, haluski, potato pancakes, and gołąbki (piggies), a café with cake, pie, and coffee, as well as an ice cream stand, children's games, a dime pitch, basket raffle, and a large indoor flea market. Barbecue chicken dinners will be available for outdoor dining or take out both days.

There will be live music nightly, with "Vine Street" performing on Saturday and "Al White and Friends" on Sunday. The Festival will be held rain or shine under the "big top."

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

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