



# ***The Catholic Light***

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

**Weekly E-Newsletter**

**September 14, 2023**

## **Father Shane Kirby elevated to the rank of Monsignor**



The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, was recently informed that His Holiness Pope Francis has named Reverend Shane L. Kirby, a priest of the Diocese of Scranton, a Chaplain to His Holiness, which bestows upon the priest the title of Monsignor and the privilege of being an honorary member of the Papal Household.

A native of Waynesburg in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, Monsignor Kirby was ordained for the Scranton Diocese in 2004 in the Cathedral of Saint Peter. Since November 2017, he has served in the Dicastery for the Clergy at the Vatican in Rome, Italy.

Originally appointed as an official of the Congregation of the Clergy, Monsignor Kirby currently serves as coordinator for the Clergy and Administration Offices within the Dicastery. Additionally, the newly elevated Monsignor is the coordinator of the Program for the Newly Ordained at Casa Santa Maria, a graduate house for student priests at the Pontifical North American College in Rome.

At the time of his appointment for Vatican service, Monsignor Kirby was serving as Chancellor and Episcopal Vicar for Canonical Affairs for the Diocese of Scranton, as well as pastor of Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary Parish in Jermyn.

[Click Here to Share the Good News of Monsignor Kirby from the Diocese of Scranton Website](#)

## **Diocese of Scranton to offer bus trip to the Pennsylvania March for Life Oct. 16**



The Diocese of Scranton is sponsoring a bus to the PA March for Life in Harrisburg on Monday, Oct. 16, 2023.

High school students, college students and families are welcome to join us.

The cost of the trip is \$30 per adult/\$25 per student and includes charter bus and driver gratuity. Passenger pick-up in Scranton is at 7:45 a.m. The bus will depart Harrisburg at 2:45 p.m. following the conclusion of the 1:30 p.m. Mass at Saint Patrick Cathedral.

For more information or to register, contact Shannon Kowalski at [SKowalski@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:SKowalski@dioceseofscranton.org) or call (570) 207-2213, x1155.

[Click Here for More Information on the PA March for Life, Including the Expected Speakers at This Year's Rally](#)

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## **Hispanic Heritage Month Mass to be held Saturday at Cathedral of Saint Peter**

# III DIOCESAN HISPANIC GATHERING

CELEBRATING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH



**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 16TH**

**SAINT PETER'S CATHEDRAL**

300 WYOMING AVE, SCRANTON, PA 18503

**Mass with Bishop Bambera 12:15 P.M**

*Free Cultural Event after Mass*



Ministerio Hispano  
Diócesis de Scranton

Everyone is welcome to join us for the Diocese of Scranton's annual celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month on Saturday, Sept. 16 at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will celebrate a special Mass at 12:15 p.m., which will be followed by a free cultural event after Mass at the Diocesan Pastoral Center across the street.



## **Hundreds participate in procession in honor of Our Lady of El Cisne in Susquehanna County**



Hundreds of people took to the streets of Susquehanna County this month to celebrate their faith and heritage.

Members of the local Ecuadorian community held a procession throughout Great Bend Sept. 2 with an image of Our Lady of El Cisne, ending with the celebration of Mass at Saint Lawrence Church.

“Latin Americans are very devoted to Our Lady. She has been such a role model for our faith,” Jose Flores, Diocesan Coordinator for Hispanic Ministry, explained. “They have a really strong love of God, our faith and to Our Lady of El Cisne.”

During the Mass, an image of Our Lady of El Cisne, which was brought from Ecuador to be permanently placed in the church, was formally dedicated.

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

## **Old Forge celebrates Our Lady of Constantinople with Mass and procession**



Just one week after La Festa Italiana brought thousands of people to downtown Scranton to celebrate their Italian heritage, the Felittese Festival did the same thing for Old Forge.

Despite rainy weather on Saturday night, many people still attended the annual three-day celebration in honor of Our Lady of Constantinople.

“It has been a tradition in Old Forge for years. It is a way for families, the parish and the community to come together to express their faith,” Father Gus Riccardi, pastor, Prince of Peace Parish, said.

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

[Click Here to Watch a Video from the Felittese Mass in Honor of Our Lady of Constantinople](#)

## **Avoca parish holds Silver Rose Pro-Life Prayer Service**



Faithful from parishes around the Diocese of Scranton came together Sept. 7 to share the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe and pray in an intentional way for the unborn.

Queen of the Apostles Parish in Avoca hosted a Silver Rose program put together by the Knights of Columbus to promote a greater understanding for the dignity of all human life.

The daylong celebration began with the celebration of Mass at 8 a.m., followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament all afternoon. The day concluded with a special Holy Hour at 7 p.m.

“The Knights of Columbus, who are very dedicated to life, are united around this and continue to find their unity as they honor the Mother of God,” Rev. Phil Sladicka, pastor, Queen of the Apostles Parish, said. “We want to defend the child in the womb. We want to respect that life.”



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

## **Catholic Relief Services assists with Morocco Earthquake recovery**



Catholic Relief Services, the U.S. Catholic Church's international relief and development agency, is assisting recovery efforts following a devastating 6.8 magnitude earthquake that has killed more than 2,900 people in Morocco and injured thousands, the group said.

Caroline Brennan, CRS' emergency communications director, told OSV News Sept. 12 that CRS would support the relief work of Caritas Morocco and Caritas Rabat, the charitable arm of the Archdiocese of Rabat, as both Moroccan Catholic aid agencies respond to the earthquake that struck in the High Atlas Mountains the night of Sept. 8.

"CRS, among many Caritas global members, is supporting the efforts of Caritas Rabat and Caritas Morocco as they map out these very early stages of emergency relief that provide support for people just to get by through each day, you know, things that you and I might need each day to get through, from blankets to food," Brennan said.

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



## **Celebration Weekend for 2023 Diocesan Annual Appeal to take place in parishes next weekend (Sept. 23/24)**

### **NEXT WEEKEND**

*We invite you to join us in answering*



Your generosity directly impacts the lives of individuals and families in need, fostering positive change and building communities where faith is nourished and shared

Scan to donate  
or visit  
[annualappeal.org](https://annualappeal.org)



Parishioners across the Diocese of Scranton will be invited to celebrate the 2023 Diocesan Annual Appeal next weekend (Sept. 23/24).

The Diocesan Annual Appeal is the Diocese's single-biggest fundraiser of the year and helps to provide funding for many essential ministry programs, including Catholic Social Services, Catholic education, Vocations and Clergy Wellness, Catholic Communications and the Office for Parish Life.

For more information on the many ministries supported by the Diocesan Annual Appeal, please click the link below.

[For More Information on the 2023 Diocesan Annual Appeal](#)

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## **Montoursville parish to host annual festival this weekend**

# Our Lady of Lourdes Annual Parish Festival

September 15 & 16, 5:00 - 9:00 p.m.

100 Walnut Street, Montoursville, PA 17754

E-Mail: [parishoffice@ourladyoflourdesrcc.org](mailto:parishoffice@ourladyoflourdesrcc.org)

Live Music - Basket Raffle - Cake Wheel  
Pumpkin Stand - Wine Wheel - Children's Games



## Friday Night is "Aloha Night"

Roast Pork Dinner with a Hawaiian flare, baked beans, coleslaw, roll and butter, dessert — \$12

Tickets available in the parish office

Featuring: Leo & KG with Family Traditions

## Saturday Night is "Polish Night"

Authentic *homemade* pierogies, stuffed cabbage, haluski and dessert — \$13

Featuring: Lenny Weber, One Man, One Guitar, One Good Time!  
Playing music of the 70's, 80's & 90's!

## PLUS our regular delicious food!

\*Hot sausages \*Hamburgers \*Hotdogs \*French Fries \*Walking Tacos  
\*Funnel Cakes \*Fresh-squeezed lemonade \*Ice Cream \*Homemade pies



**FUN FOR ALL AGES**

Sunday at 11:30 a.m. — Basket Raffle in the Parish Hall

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Montoursville will host its annual Parish Fall Festival on the parish grounds, 100 Walnut St., Montoursville on Friday and Saturday.

The festival will be held each day from 5 to 9 p.m.



The event will feature live music, basket raffle, cake wheel, pumpkin stand, wine wheel and children's games.

Traditional picnic foods including hot sausages, walking tacos, funnel cakes, fresh lemonade, ice cream & homemade pies will be available. There will also be a basket raffle in the parish hall on Sunday starting at 11:30 a.m.

[Click Here for the Listing of Fall Festivals For the Month of September](#)

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