



# **The Catholic Light**

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

**Weekly E-Newsletter**

**May 2, 2024**

## **Bishop Bambera to celebrate annual Mother's Day Adoption Mass May 12**



**MOTHER'S DAY  
ADOPTION MASS**

**Sunday, May 12, 2024  
10:00 a.m.**

**Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton**

*At this special Mass, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera will recognize all mothers, with a special emphasis on adoptive and foster mothers.*

*CTV: Catholic Television will broadcast the Mass live and provide a livestream on the Diocese of Scranton website.*

Diocese of Scranton 

The Diocese of Scranton will celebrate its annual Mother's Day Adoption Mass on Sunday, May 12, at 10:00 a.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton. This liturgy prayerfully recognizes all mothers, with a special emphasis on adoptive and foster mothers.

The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will serve as principal celebrant and homilist for the Mass.

The Mother's Day Adoption Mass is open to the public and all faithful are invited to attend.

CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton will broadcast the Mass live. A livestream will also be provided on the Diocese of Scranton website, YouTube channel and across all Diocesan social media platforms.

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

## Saint Aloysius Church in Wilkes-Barre celebrates 125th anniversary



For Cathy Swoboda, business manager and parishioner of Saint Robert Bellarmine Parish, this past weekend was one to celebrate the past and look with hope to the future.

Swoboda was one of several hundred people who attended a special Mass of Thanksgiving, recognizing the 125th anniversary of Saint Aloysius Church in Wilkes-Barre. The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, served as principal celebrant and homilist for the anniversary Mass.

"It is a milestone for the church. We have been through so much, starting with the Flood in '72 and COVID recently," Swoboda explained. "Father just had everything repainted. It gives us all brand new hope that this church will survive and we will keep going on."

Father Richard Cirba, pastor, concelebrated the Anniversary Mass for the church.

"It was just a glorious day. The weather is beautiful and we're happy to welcome back some of the native sons of the parish," Father Cirba explained.

To watch a short video from the 125th Anniversary Mass from Catholic Television, click on the link above or below.

[Click Here to Watch a Short Video from CTV: Catholic Television from the 125th Anniversary Mass](#)

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## **Catholic Charismatic Renewal to hold Pentecost Celebration May 18**

# ***Pentecost Celebration***

## ***Come, Holy Spirit !!***

**Saturday, May 18**

**Doors open - 8:30**

**Coffee & Donuts**



**St. Maria Goretti**

**42 Redwood Dr.**

**Laflin, PA**

## ***Come, Holy Fire !!***



Our speaker is Rev. Joseph Ita-Sam, CM, who is a Roman Catholic priest from Akwa-Ibom State in Nigeria. He was ordained into the sacred priesthood on 13 July 2018 in Enugu, Nigeria.

He was sent on Mission to the United States in 2018, and he is stationed as parochial vicar in St. Vincent DePaul Church, Germantown, PA. He is also studying to gain his Master's degree in Clinical Counseling in Marriage and Family Therapy at LaSalle University.

**FREE REGISTRATION...FREE LIGHT LUNCH**  
(Hoagie, Chips, & Beverage)

**\*\*YOU MUST BE PRE-REGISTERED FOR LUNCH!\*\***  
Choice of Tuna, Turkey, Italian,  
or Veggie Hoagie.

For Registration and Hoagie selection please go  
online to

<https://ccrscranton.org/news/pentecost-celebration>

**Cutoff date for ordering hoagies is**  
**Wednesday, May 15, 2024.**

Questions? Unable to register online? Please use a phone number  
shown below or the email at bottom:

Cathy Best 570-406-3015  
Joyce Hudak 570-735-1068  
CCR Office 570-344-2214

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL  
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To Lead  
To Unify  
To Serve

COME JOIN US FOR:  
SPIRIT-FILLED PRAYER AND PRAISE  
INSPIRING MUSIC AND ANOINTED WORSHIP  
CHALLENGING TEACHING  
PRAYERS FOR HEALING

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal of the Diocese of Scranton will hold its annual Pentecost celebration on Saturday, May 18, 2024, at Saint Maria Goretti Parish in Laflin.



The celebration will feature spirit-filled prayer and praise, inspiring music, teaching and prayers for healing.

The Pentecost celebration is free to attend and includes a light lunch. Doors open at 8:30 a.m.

[Click Here to Register for the Catholic Charismatic Renewal's 2024 Pentecost Celebration](#)

## Catholic Social Services in Hazleton planning 'Pop-Up Dinner/Dance' in June



The Hazleton Office of Catholic Social Services is inviting the community to participate in its 'Night Under the Stars' Dinner/Dance which is scheduled for June 14, 2024.

The event will run from 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. and will include entertainment by "Six Shots."

The cost is \$60/per person and includes a four-course meal.

The venue of the event will be a surprise and will be held in an "unusual location" where dinner/dance events don't normally take place. Attendees will be notified by text/email two hours before the start of the event.

The planning committee is pictured above. Members include, front row, from left: Karen Ann Kowalczyk, Anna Jean Onuschak, and Chris Leskosky. Back row, from left: Danielle Matarella, Tim Trently, Bob Trishman and Monica Scavnicky. Missing from the photo are: Sue Farley, Pam Yale and Kathleen Trishman.

[Click Here for More Information on the "Night Under the Stars" Dinner/Dance or to Register for the Event](#)

## Ignite the fire of faith in people's hearts, pope tells religious



Religious men and women need to be setting people's faith on fire, not stamping it out, Pope Francis said.

“It makes me sad when I see religious who seem more like firefighters” than men and women who are ardently filled with the flame of faith and ready to share it with others, he told representatives of congregations founded by St. Magdalene of Canossa during an audience at the Vatican April 29.

Members of the Canossian Sons of Charity, also known as the Canossian Fathers, and the Canossian Daughters of Charity were holding their general chapters in Rome with the theme, “The one who does not burn does not set on fire!”

Reflecting on their theme, the pope encouraged them to set people’s faith ablaze and, “please, no firefighters! We already have too many.”

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

## **Pope asks lay Catholics to prepare for Synod's 'prophetic' stage**



The most important outcome of the current Synod of Bishops on synodality is the synodal process itself and not the hot-button topics discussed, Pope Francis said.

With the second synod assembly scheduled for October, the pope said the synod process is approaching its “most challenging and important” stage — the point at which it must become “prophetic.”

“Now it is a matter of translating the work of the previous stages into choices that will give impetus and new life to the mission of the church in our time,” he told members of the Italian Catholic Action lay association in a packed St. Peter’s Square April 25.

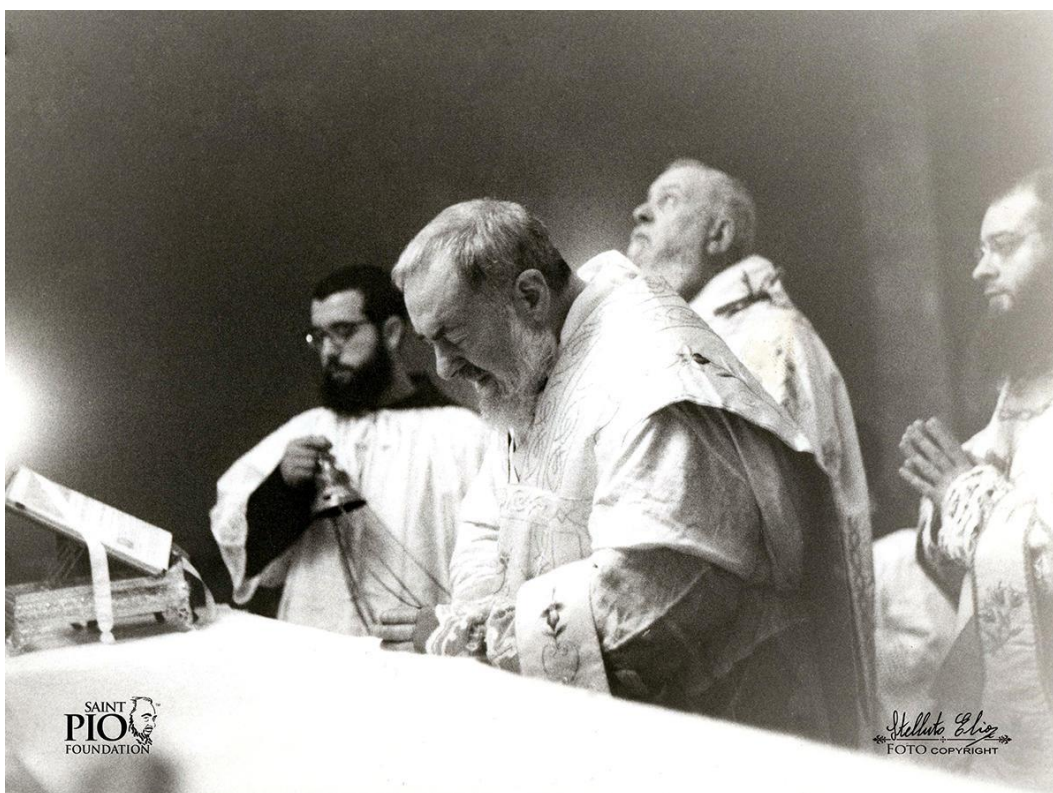
But he noted that “the most important thing of this synod is synodality, the subjects and topics (discussed) are there to advance this expression of the church that is synodality.”

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

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## New photos reveal many sides of Padre Pio





A foundation that promotes devotion to St. Pio of Pietrelcina, more widely known as Padre Pio, is making 10 never-before-seen photographs of the saint available to the devout for free.

The images provide personal insight into the life, attitude and spirituality of 20th-century saint, said the photographer. Some photos show Padre Pio solemnly celebrating Mass while in others he is smiling while surrounded by his confreres.

Elia Stelluto, Padre Pio's personal photographer, stood proudly — camera in hand — before posters of the 10 new images for the presentation of the photos in the Vatican movie theater April 29.

“It's enough to look at one image of his face” to understand Padre Pio, he told Catholic News Service. “With that you can understand so much; each photo has its own story, one must at them look one by one and that way you see so much more in his expressions.”

Stelluto photographed the saint for decades at the convent where he lived in San Giovanni Rotondo, Italy.

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

## Pier Giorgio Frassati's canonization reportedly 'on the horizon' in 2025



During XVIII Assembly of the Italian Catholic Action in Sacrofano, Cardinal Marcello Semeraro, prefect of the Dicastery for the Causes of Saints, told those gathered that “the canonization of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati is now clear on the horizon and looming for the next jubilee year” of 2025.

According to the Italian newspaper *Avvenire*, the declaration was met with resounding applause by the thousands of members present, marking a momentous occasion for devotees of Frassati and the wider Catholic community. An official declaration on the matter has yet to come from the Vatican.

Pier Giorgio Frassati, born in Turin in 1901, has inspired countless young people. During his life he was known for his zealous love of God and dedication to serving the less fortunate. Though brief, his life was vibrant with activities ranging from mountaineering to serving the poorest through the St. Vincent de Paul Society, showcasing his dynamic approach

to faith and charity. He was also a lay Dominican. He died at the young age of 24 and was beatified in 1990.

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

## **Last Call! Ten tickets remain for Matt Maher concert on Friday evening in Peckville**



Calling all music lovers....this is your last chance!

The Diocese of Scranton still has 10 tickets left to see world-renown Catholic artist Matt Maher who is making a stop in our area as part of The Live and In The Room Tour TOMORROW, Friday, May 3, at 7:00 p.m. at the Peckville Assembly of God. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. and seating is general admission- first come, first served.

Matt has led music at the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) and multiple World Youth Days. He sang his top song Lord, I Need You before a crowd of nearly four million, including Pope Francis for World Youth Day 2013 in Rio, Brazil. In addition to Lord, I Need You, his other top

songs include Because He Lives (Amen), Your Grace Is Enough, Hold Us Together and Alive and Breathing.

General admission (including processing fees) is \$33.19. We are offering the ticket to you for \$30.00.

If you have any questions, please contact Dominick Costantino, Director of Parish Renewal, at [dcostantino@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:dcostantino@dioceseofscranton.org) or 570-207-2213.

Tickets will be sold, FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED!

[Click Here to Reserve Your Tickets Right Now!](#)

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