

The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

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Bishop to ordain Honesdale native to the Priesthood on June 29

HONESDALE – As a young boy, William Asinari can clearly recall many of the formative moments that were forged in his home parish – the faith community of Saint John the Evangelist in Wayne County.

“I remember sitting in Saint John the Evangelist Church, looking up from the pews, and seeing one of the priests at the time approaching the altar and there was this unexplainable desire that just shot through me,” he said. “I said, ‘I want to do that, I don’t know why, but I want to do that.’”

It took him years to realize that God was calling him to the priesthood.

“It’s a feeling that I have not felt with anything else,” Asinari said. “I just associated the priesthood with that feeling and then as I developed more spiritually, I realized that God was pointing me in a direction.”

When his parish priest would give homilies on vocations to the priesthood, Asinari also found encouragement from the “little old ladies” of Saint John the Evangelist Parish, who would turn to him and say “you, you!”

“God has written this amazing story and allowed me to play in it and I’m profoundly grateful,” he explained.

On Saturday, June 29, 2024, Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will ordain Reverend Mr. William A. Asinari to the Order of the Priesthood for service in the Diocese of Scranton.

Saint John the Evangelist Church, 150 Terrace Street, Honesdale, will be the setting for the Ordination Mass at 10:00 a.m.



Reverend Mr. William A. Asinari

The public is welcome and encouraged to attend the Ordination Mass.

“It is special to be here with the people who have seen me grow up. A lot of these people were here with my parents before I was born. They have seen me since

I was a baby and they have watched me grow. They’ve watched me grow in faith. They’ve been examples to me, teaching me how to pray, learn how to live a Christian life, so having these same people who are older and might be unable to make the trip to Scranton, knowing that they can just go to the same church that they go to for Sunday Mass and having them here, is overwhelming,” he said.

Asinari, a native of Honesdale, was ordained a transitional deacon in 2023. He says he is ready to take his final steps toward priestly ordination.

“Looking back now and seeing the path that God has taken me on, it is beautiful. Everything connects and the more I look back at those experiences that might have been bad, God brought so much good out of it. I can look back and see what used to be thorns are now roses,” he said. “My whole life is a gift that I’m happy to give, I’m humbled to give, especially when looking at the People of God.”

Asinari, 25, is the son of Robert and Cathleen Asinari, and he attended Saint Mary’s Seminary and University in Baltimore.

“I loved my time at Saint Mary’s. It has forced me to stretch myself and grow in ways that I haven’t really tried before,” Asinari reflected. “I exceeded the limits that I thought I had. I haven’t had moments of prayer quite as deep as when I was there.”

Asinari said he is also thankful for the many priests and parish communities that he has served in over the years, including Clarks Summit and Carbondale.

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“Gratefulness to God for 100 Years of Blessings” will be theme for Solemn Novena to Saint Ann this year

SCRANTON – The Very Reverend Richard Burke, C.P., Rector, Saint Ann’s Monastery, has announced the theme for the 100th Anniversary of the Saint Ann’s Solemn Novena: “Gratefulness to God for 100 Years of Blessings.”

This special time of preaching God’s Word and praying for Saint Ann’s intercession begins on Wednesday, July 17, and concludes on Friday, July 26, the Feast of Saint Ann.

The first Solemn Novena was held in 1924, when the newly appointed Novena director, Father John Joseph

Endler, C.P., planned and initiated this special nine day period of preaching and praying in preparation for the celebration of Saint Ann’s feast day.

This spiritual event has taken place every year since. It survived the roaring 20’s, the stock market crash followed by the Great Depression years and the subsequent World War II years. The annual time of intensified praying welcomed the rise of continuing prayerful concerns in the war reconstruction years, the Korean conflict, the rise of baby boomers and the social unrest of the 60’s and 70’s.

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OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE
DIOCESE OF SCRANTON



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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Mass for Priest Jubilarians recognizes 425 years of service

SCRANTON – Ten priests, who have given 425 years of combined service to the Diocese of Scranton, were recognized for their selfless service on June 6, 2024, at the annual Mass for Priest Jubilarians.

“On behalf of the people of the Diocese of Scranton, I congratulate our jubilarians and I thank them, and all our priests, for their service to the Church and to the Lord Jesus who is its heart,” Bishop Joseph C. Bambera said during his homily. “I thank them for their commitment in joyful moments and in challenging times, I thank them for leading us through change and upheaval to harmony and peace, and I thank them for ever reminding us of God’s presence in our lives, in the great gift of the Eucharist, in the Word proclaimed, and in the Church, the People of God from among whom every priest is called.”

Monsignor Constantine V. Siconolfi, who was ordained to the priesthood in 1959, was honored for 65 years of service. The Reverend John T. Albosta was recognized for 60 years of spreading the Good News of the Gospel. Priests celebrating 50 year anniversaries included Rev. Richard W. Beck, Rev. Samuel J. Ferretti, Rev. Patrick J. McLaughlin and Rev. John F. Poplawski. The priests ordained in 1999, thus marking 25 years of



The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, celebrated the Diocese of Scranton's annual Mass for Priest Jubilarians on June 6, 2024. Participating were, front row, from left: Rev. Samuel J. Ferretti (50 years); Rev. Peter J. O'Rourke (25 years); Msgr. Constantine V. Siconolfi (65 years); Bishop Bambera; Rev. Richard W. Beck (50 years); and Rev. Patrick J. McLaughlin (50 years). Back row, from left: Rev. Gerald W. Shantillo, Vicar General; Rev. Anthony J. Generose (25 years); Rev. John F. Poplawski (50 years); and Rev. John V. Polednak, Episcopal Vicar for Clergy. Three priests celebrating milestone anniversaries were unable to attend: Rev. John T. Albosta (60 years); Rev. Arbogaste Satoun (25 years) and Rev. Andrew R. Sinnott (25 years). (Photo/Mike Melisky)

service, included Rev. Anthony J. Generose, Rev. Arbogaste Satoun, Rev. Andrew R. Sinnott, and Rev. Peter J. O'Rourke.

“I am where the Lord has always wanted me to be,” Father Generose said following the Jubilee Mass.

Father Generose was ordained a priest at the age of 36 after having a career in the heating and plumbing industry. He has enjoyed being able to

serve people in different places at different times.

“There are so many opportunities. I would say that availability is one of the great joys of the priesthood, walking with people in their lives and helping them if I could,” Father Generose explained.

During his 50 years in priestly ministry, which also involved serving as a Navy and Marine Corps Chaplain, Father

Ferretti said his greatest joy has been working with young people. He taught for 11 years in our Catholic high schools.

“A lot of young people are confused, there are so many voices out there. Any opportunity you get to bring them back to Christ has been wonderful. There have been so many of them that I’ve been truly blessed in that sense,” Father Ferretti said.

After the Mass concluded, a line of well-wishers took photos and greeted Msgr. Siconolfi, who founded Saint Francis of Assisi Kitchen in Scranton several decades ago.

As he reflected on his 65 years of priestly service, he says his greatest joy has been helping and serving the poor in the name of the Lord Jesus.

“When you read the Scriptures very carefully, you can see that our Lord Jesus was always very interested in the poor. He took care of the poor, he fed them, he healed them, he took care of them and he raised them to life, and I think the main message of the Gospel is to take care of the poor,” he explained.

Msgr. Siconolfi said he has always considered himself to be an instrument of Jesus.

“I’ve seen the hand of God very beautifully and very effectively in my life,” he added.

Priesthood Ordination to be held in Honesdale later this month



Reverend Mr. William Asinari proclaims the Gospel during the Diaconate Ordination Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter on May 25, 2024. (Photo/Mike Melisky)

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Asinari said he has also been touched by the generosity of the faithful, not only in his home parish, but the entire diocese.

“The people of my parish donated a chalice to me; they bought a cassock for me when I needed it. Everything has been taken care of by the People of God,” he explained. “At the diocese, there is an intense investment in us, and we don’t

forget it and we don’t not notice it. It’s humbling that people would give that to us, people that they might not have ever met.”

Asinari says he will be forever grateful to all those who have supported him on this journey.

“I’ve been thinking about this (Priestly Ordination) ever since I was a little kid, and I can’t put it into words. It feels like all my life has been working to this one point and I have to constantly

remind myself that as much as this is the wonderful thing that I’ve been looking forward to so long, it is part of the next step of lifelong service,” he said. “I’m overjoyed that God would call me to this and give me this gift!”

CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton will broadcast the Ordination Mass live and provide livestreaming on the Diocese of Scranton’s website, YouTube channel and social media platforms.

Newly ordained deacons “overwhelmed by support” of parishioners

SCRANTON – Two men ordained as transitional deacons for the Diocese of Scranton were reminded that they must serve generously – and make the example of Jesus’ life their own.

The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, celebrated the Rite of Ordination of Deacons for Thomas J. Dzwonczyk and Andrew T. McCarroll May 25, 2024, at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

“I feel very blessed. There was a nervousness beforehand but as soon as we started to walk up that aisle to begin Mass, God was there, God was present and I was in the moment,” Rev. Mr. Andrew McCarroll said. “I really appreciated celebrating with everyone there in prayer.”

Several hundred family members, friends and fellow parishioners of the Ordinandi filled the Cathedral for the Ordination Mass.

“I feel incredible,” Rev. Mr. Thomas Dzwonczyk said. “It was just incredibly humbling to see so much support from friends and family and then to finally have the day arrive from so many years of study and formation, it is beyond words.”

During his homily, Bishop Bambera reminded both men that the cross becomes the measure by which Jesus showed his love for all.

“Jesus calls us to a selflessness in our love that knows no qualifications, conditions or limitations. Faced with such a command, it was no surprise that the



Thomas J. Dzwonczyk, left, and Andrew T. McCarroll lie prostrate on the floor of the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton in a gesture of solemn petition during the Rite of Ordination of Deacons on May 25, 2024. (Photos/Mike Melisky)

first and daily challenge that we face as disciples is choice. Jesus chose to lay down His life for us. He did so freely because there was no greater way to show the depth of His love,” Bishop Bambera said. “For us, and for you, Tom and Andrew, despite your calling by the Lord himself, love is still always a choice that you and each of us must make time and time again. Love costs – but it is worth the investment.”

As deacons, both men can proclaim the Gospel, preach homilies, baptize, preside at weddings, funerals and other prayer services, assist the priest at the altar, and are called to be the living expression of the charity of the Church.

“In short, God’s people will look to you to see Jesus. They will look to see Jesus in your prayerfulness, in your words, in your hard work, in the simplicity of your life, and in your love,” the bishop added. “In return for all that you give them, they will walk with you, they will pray for you, and they will support you every step of the way.”

During the Rite

of Ordination, both Dzwonczyk and McCarroll were called forward by name, declaring their intention to be ordained to the Diaconate. They then laid prostrate on the floor of the Cathedral while those in attendance, through the intercession of all the saints, asked for God’s blessing. Bishop Bambera then laid his hands upon the head of both men, saying the Prayer of Ordination, after which they put on a diaconal stole and dalmatic and received a Book of the Gospels.

Both of the newly ordained deacons felt the importance of their call to service at different moments.

“Just to lie down on the floor during the Litany of the Saints, you just feel the weight of everyone’s prayers, everyone singing ‘Pray for Us,’ McCarroll said. “I really felt the presence of the saints in the Cathedral, especially the saints of the parishes I have served at, my home parish of Saint Robert Bellarmine and Saint Aloysius Church, those two saints, as well as Saint Boniface and Saint Lawrence, where I’m serving now. They’ve been intercessors for me my entire journey.”

“Having my good friend, Deacon Michael Schultz (of the Archdiocese of Louisville) vest me with the stole and dalmatic, he was tearing up, and I was tearing up,” Dzwonczyk added. “By the Grace of God, I kept it together somewhat, but that was very powerful.”



Top: Newly-ordained deacon Thomas Dzwonczyk distributes the Precious Blood during the Rite of Communion at his Ordination Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton on May 25, 2024.



Above: Newly-ordained deacon Andrew McCarroll is hugged by a well-wisher outside the Cathedral following Mass.



Reverend Mr. Michael L. Schultz from the Archdiocese of Louisville served as vesting deacon for Thomas Dzwonczyk and Reverend Mr. Gary J. Pstrak from the Diocese of Trenton served as vesting deacon for Andrew McCarroll.

As transitional deacons, both Dzwonczyk and McCarroll will spend the next year continuing with their seminary formation with the goal of – God willing – being ordained to the Sacred Priesthood next summer.

As both men left the Mass to greet family and friends, the recessional hymn, “Church of God, Elect and Glorious,” reverberated in the Cathedral.

“I know there are some big challenges ahead of me, to open the Scriptures and preach to the people, to minister and serve them, but I know God is present every step of the way,” McCarroll explained. “I cannot thank enough all of our priests, our deacons, our bishop, all of the lay ministers and especially the People of God who have been supporting us and praying for us.”

Dzwonczyk echoed those sentiments, saying, “I’m just overwhelmed by the support. I wouldn’t be here without all of the people who have been praying for me and sending me well wishes.”

Solemn Novena to Saint Ann to offer daily Mass and Novena service in Spanish this year

SCRANTON - Throughout its 100 years, the Solemn Novena to Saint Ann in West Scranton has reached out to many ethnic groups by inclusion of a Mass or Novena service in their native language.

As part of the Novena's 100th anniversary outreach, Saint Ann's is inviting all those who speak Spanish to join in seeking the intercession of Saint Ann, the Mother of God.

Each evening, July 17 through July 25, the 7:30 p.m. Mass and Novena service will be in Spanish this year.

The community will celebrate Saint Ann's Feast Day in Spanish on Thursday, July 25, at 7:30 p.m. with Bishop Neil Tiedemann, C.P., as our guest celebrant and homilist.

The growing Hispanic community of the Diocese of Scranton and beyond is invited to join in seeking Saint Ann's intercession during this special time of preaching and praying.

Our Solemn Closing of the Novena in English will be on Friday, July 26, at

7:30 p.m. with the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, serving as principal celebrant and homilist.

All are welcome to attend.



En estas muchas decadas la Solemne Novena se ha acercado a muchos grupos etnicos con la inclusion de servcios de Misa o Novena en su idioma nativo.

Como parte del 100 Aniversario, Santa Ana esta invitando a todos aquellos de habla hisopana a unirse buscando la interseccion de Santa Ana, la madre de la Madre de Dios.

Cada noche, desde el 17 hasta el 25 de julio a las 7.30pm los servicios de Misa y Novena seran en espanol.

Estaremos celebrando el dia de fiesta de Santa Ana en espanol el dia Jueves 25 de julio a las 7.30pm con el Obispo Neil Tiedeman C. P., como nuestro invitado celebrando y dando la homilia.

Nuestros crecientes creyentes hispanos estan todos invitados a unirse buscando la interseccion de Santa Ana durante este tempo especial de predica y oracion.

Nuestro solemne clausure de Novena en Ingles sera el Viernes 26 de julio a las 7.30pm con nuestro Obispo Joseph Bambera, D.D. JCL celebrando y haciendo la homilia.

Todos estan bienvenido!

Parish plans cookbook to mark anniversary

SCRANTON - As Saint Ann Basilica prepares for the celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Solemn Novena to Saint Ann, a committee has formed to capture the wonderful recipes of faithful patrons, parishioners of Saint Ann Basilica parish and ministry groups.

A cookbook, with 350 recipes, is being assembled to commemorate the occasion!

This is not just any cookbook, however! It will be replete with many pages of interesting pictures and depictions of our Passionist heritage, the Basilica grounds and current and past Passionist priests who were instrumental in keeping the Novena an active spiritual experience for our community of the faithful both near and far. It also contains greetings from our Rector, Vicar and Pastor.

There is also a section of special clergy family and international recipes!

If you are interested in purchasing a cookbook - or a limited edition embroidered apron - for \$20.00 each, please call (570) 290-6392 today. These will make wonderful gifts for family and friends.

Solemn Novena to Saint Ann preachers and theme announced

Continued from Page 1

Our way of praying shifted along with the changes in Church life and practices of the 80's and following decades. The Solemn Novena continued to be held through the pandemic years thanks to the outdoor capabilities on the West Scranton parish campus.

Through it all, world and church intentions were joined together with family and personal needs in the fervent prayers of all who attended and prayed the Solemn Novena prayers.

The guest Passionist preachers for this year's novena are Father Luis Daniel Guivas Genera, C.P., and Father Justin Nelson Alphonse, C.P.

Father Daniel was born in San Sebastian, Puerto Rico. He graduated from the Universidad Central de Bayamon with a bachelor's degree in business administration. He joined the Passionist community and professed his vows on



Father Luis Daniel Guivas Genera, C.P.

July 11, 2015, after four years of theology studies at Saint Vincent de Paul Reginal Seminary in Boynton Beach, Florida.

Father Daniel was ordained to the Passionist priesthood in January 2023. He just completed his assignment as Parochial Vicar of Immaculate Conception Passionist



Father Justin Nelson Alphonse, C.P.

Parish in New York City and has begun his new ministry as Administrator of Saint Gemma's Passionist Parish and Collegio in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Father Nelson was born and raised in Trichy, Tamilnadu, India. He attended the Passionist Minor seminary in Cochim, Kerala,

India, was professed as a Passionist religious in 1996 and was ordained a Passionist priest in 2000 after four years of theology study in Bangalore, India. Father Nelson has served as Pastor of parishes in India, Birmingham, Ala., and is currently Pastor of Saint Agnes Passionist Parish in Louisville, K.Y.

In light of our 100th anniversary, our preachers have chosen "Gratefulness to God for 100 years of Blessings" as the theme of the 2024 Solemn Novena. Seeking Saint Ann's intercession and favors is a personal and family tradition reaching back for generations. Every family has memories of favors granted to them, to the world and to our church through Saint Ann's watchful concern over us. Remembering these gifts, our hearts become filled with gratitude. Gratitude is the seed bed of lasting joy, of deepened faith, of shared compassion, of service to the needy, of faithful love. Our Passionist preachers will share God's Word on all of these and more during our novena services.

SOLEMN NOVENA

IN HONOR OF

Saint Ann

JULY 17 TO 26, 2024



PREACHERS: FR. LUIS DANIEL GUIVAS GENERA, C.P. AND FR. JUSTIN NELSON ALPHONSE, C.P.

NOVENA DEVOTIONS

After 8 & 11:45 A.M. & 5:30 P.M. Masses; w/Novena only at 3:30 • 7:30 P.M. Mass & Novena in Spanish

DIVINE LITURGY - BYZANTINE RITE

Tuesday, July 23, 5:30 P.M.

7:30 P.M. Mass and Novena in Spanish

DAILY MASSES

7:00, 8:00 & 11:45 A.M. & 5:30 P.M.
July 17-25: 7:30 P.M. Mass in Spanish

CONFESSIONS

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

CHILDREN'S MASS & NOVENA PRAYERS

Saturday, July 20, 10:00 A.M.;
Special Blessing for Families and Grandparents

MASS OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Tuesday, July 23, 1:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, JULY 21

MASSES

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

7:30 P.M. Mass in Spanish

SUNDAY, JULY 21

Celebration of Grandparents & Elderly at Mass

NOVENA DEVOTIONS

After 8:00 & 11:45 A.M. & 5:30 P.M. Masses; w/Novena only at 3:30 P.M. • 7:30 P.M. Mass & Novena in Spanish

SAINT ANN'S FEAST DAY FRIDAY, JULY 26

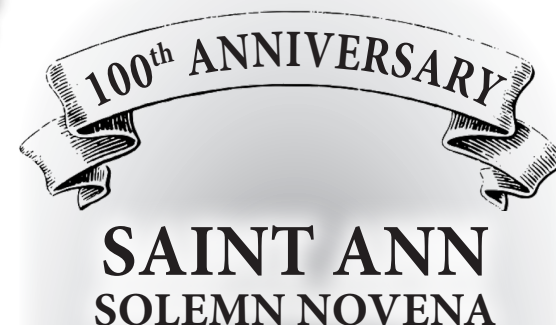
CONFESSIONS 4:00 AM

MASSES & DEVOTIONS

4:30, 7:00, 8:00, 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 FRIDAY, JULY 26, AT 7:30 P.M.

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

CTV COVERAGE OF THE SOLEMN NOVENA

Weekdays at 12 Noon, 3:30 p.m., and 7:00 p.m., except for Thursday, July 25, when it will air at 12 Noon, 3:30 p.m., & 9:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday Air times are 12 Noon & 7:00 p.m.

Closing mass will air live on Friday, July 26 at 7:30 p.m., and rebroadcast Saturday, July 27 at 12 Noon

LOCAL TV COVERAGE

WQMY: Wed., July 17-Fri. July 19 - 3 PM-4 PM; Sat. July 21 & Sun. July 22-Noon-1 PM; Mon., July 22, Tues. July 23, Thurs. July 25, Fri., July 26 - 3 PM-4 PM; Wed., July 24-4 PM-5 PM; Solemn Closing July 27-Noon-1:30 PM

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.

Tioga County church to celebrate 150th anniversary with dinner June 23

BLOSSBURG — The faithful of Holy Child Parish in Tioga County will celebrate the 150th anniversary of its secondary worship site — Saint Mary of Czestochowa Church in Blossburg — later this month.

On Sunday, June 23, 2024, parishioners and friends have been invited to a special celebration that will begin with Mass at 9 a.m. at Saint Mary's Church and will be followed by a dinner at 3 p.m. in Saint Mary's Hall.

"We're going to have Polish foods and most of the people who I see on the list are people that went here when they were kids themselves. They're all coming back," parishioner Ann Marie Davis of Blossburg, said.

Davis is one of several people helping to plan the anniversary celebration for the church which was established on March 15, 1874. A sign marking that date hangs above the main entrance for the church.

"It is hard to believe because when you look at the history of this town there aren't that many churches that are that old," Davis added.

Saint Mary of Czestochowa Church is the first church in the Diocese of Scranton that was



Saint Mary of Czestochowa Church in Blossburg is celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2024. Parishioners are planning an anniversary dinner to be held at 3 p.m. on Sunday, June 23. (Photos/Eric Deabill)

established for the faithful of Polish descent.

In 1874, Blossburg was the acknowledged center of all activities of the upper Tioga Valley coal basin, which included the adjoining towns of Morris Run, Arnot, Fall-Brook, Landrus, Klondike, Morris, Hoytville, Antrim, and Covington.

Although the many Polish Catholic immigrants who had settled in Blossburg attended its one Roman Catholic church,

Saint Andrew's, they had not mastered the English language or customs and longed to be able to continue their growth in faith in the native tongue.

A group of Tioga County Poles petitioned the Right Reverend William O'Hara, then Bishop of the Scranton Diocese, for permission to form a Polish-speaking Catholic congregation and erect a church at Blossburg. Bishop O'Hara readily agreed.

The original wood church



A monument located outside of Saint Mary of Czestochowa Church recognizes it as the first of all parishes in the Diocese of Scranton to be established for the faithful of Polish descent on March 15, 1874.

that was constructed in the late 1800s was replaced by a new brick-edifice building in 1960. The cost at the time was \$190,190.90.

All current parishioners have been invited to display pictures or memorabilia from Saint Mary's at the upcoming dinner.

"One person brought a piece of the railing from our old church and it is very ornate. There are flowers on it and everything," Davis said.

Reverend Bryan Wright, pastor, Holy Child Parish, is excited to recognize the important role Saint Mary's has played in Tioga County history.

"In Blossburg, we had a lot of parishes here at one time and this building has made such a difference in the community. We're celebrating that presence. We're very blessed to be here, to still have this church, and we're very grateful for the gift of the parish. It has been a blessing," Father Wright said.

Pocono Pines parish installs memorial to the unborn

POCONO PINES - On May 25, 2024, Reverend Paschal Mbagwu, Administrator, Saint Maximilian Kolbe Parish, blessed a newly installed memorial to the unborn on the grounds of the parish located on Pocono Crest Road.

Knights of Columbus Council 13752 obtained the memorial after it became available through parish consolidations, with the assistance of the Yanac Funeral Home in Mount Pocono.

A place was prepared by



members of Our Lady of the Lake Council.

Saint Andrew Parish and Saint Leo the Great Parish come together in linkage, begin new Mass schedule

WILKES-BARRE - As part of the *Vision 2030* Process, Saint Andrew Parish and Saint Leo the Great Parish came together in a linkage with a single Pastor, Father Vinnie Dang, on Tuesday, May 28, 2024.

For several weeks leading up to the linkage date, a transition team made up of parishioners from both parishes met to prepare for the linkage and create a new Mass schedule.

After extensive conversation, prayer and exploring multiple



Saint Andrew Parish, Wilkes-Barre



Saint Leo the Great Parish, Ashley

options, the following weekend Mass schedule was implemented:

Saint Leo the Great Parish,
Ashley - Saturday 4:00 p.m.
Saint Andrew Parish,

Wilkes-Barre - Saturday 5:30 p.m.
Saint Leo the Great Parish,

Ashley - Sunday 8:30 a.m.
Saint Andrew Parish,
Wilkes-Barre - Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Messages of gratitude and hope shared during final Mass at Simpson church

SIMPSON – More than 200 people filled the pews of Saint Michael's Church one final time June 2, 2024, as a closing liturgy was held for the worship site which has served the Simpson community for more than 121 years.

"Our hearts are heavy, but we give thanks to God for having been able to encounter him in this sacred place," lector Jean Yamialkowski said in welcoming the faithful to the 2 p.m. Mass. "Words from our Centennial Mass, spoken by Father Hilary Malinowski, continue to have meaning for us today. He said, 'Here our faith life began, grew and continues to mature. As we look around and feel so much at home today, may we be warmed, enriched and empowered to take with us from this holy place, the most Sacred Presence of God to accompany us on our journey to our eternal home with him.'"

The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, served as principal celebrant and homilist for the closing liturgy. Father Seth D. Wasnock, V.F., Pastor, Saint Rose of Lima Parish and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Carbondale, and Father Joseph J. Mosley, Senior Priest, concelebrated the Mass, along with several other priests who were native sons of Saint Michael's or who had served the church.

"Saint Michael's Parish was founded to serve a growing community of predominantly Polish immigrants who journeyed to this portion of God's kingdom to build a better life for themselves and their families," Bishop Bambera said during his homily. "My dad's grandparents, Jacob and Antoinette Pilny, were among its founding members. Ten years after it was established, my mom's parents, John and Blanche Kucharski, arrived in White's Crossing after immigrating from Poland a few years earlier and joined Saint Michael's Parish."

Bishop Bambera shared several personal, family memories of Saint Michael's Church because he wanted the faithful to know that it was okay to be both sad and hopeful about the changes that are occurring.

"Let your minds wander a bit today. It's a good thing to do, a healing experience for all of us, a moment to remember our lives in relationship to Saint Michael's Church," the bishop explained. "This day is not only a day of remembrance but a day



More than 200 people attended the Closing Mass for Saint Michael's Church in Simpson, which was held on Sunday, June 2, 2024. (Photos/Eric Deabill)

of gratitude. Gratitude first for the abiding presence of God within us ... Gratitude for the bond that exists among us as sharers in the one Body of Christ And gratitude for the privilege of being chosen by God to be his presence in our world."

Following the distribution of Holy Communion, the closing ritual for the church took place. It involved Bishop Bambera and Deacon Patrick J. Massino processing to various parts of the worship site and offering specific prayers. They stopped at the baptismal font, confessional, Stations of the Cross, Statue of the Blessed Mother, Statue of Saint Michael the Archangel, ambo and altar.

Following the procession, all parishioners in attendance were invited to come into the sanctuary of the church one final time to reverence the altar with a bow or a kiss. They then proceeded to the back parking lot, after which time the doors of the church were locked for the final time by Joan Fendrock, who has served as the parish sacristan for more than two decades.

"I think everyone had a little hurt in their heart today, but we have to put it in the Lord's hands. He will not abandon us. We have turned another chapter in our 121 years," Fendrock said.

As the closing liturgy took place, Fendrock took Bishop Bambera's advice, allowing her mind to reflect on the first Easter she celebrated in Saint Michael's Church 56 years ago. At that time, the



During the Closing Ritual, Bishop Bambera processed to various parts of Saint Michael's Church, including the baptismal font, thanking God for the great gift of faith.

Mass was still celebrated in Polish – and to have Polish hymns incorporated into the closing Mass at points brought everything full circle – and put a smile on her face.

"The Lord will never abandon us. We may have trials and sadnesses and sorrows in our lives, but he is always there to carry us over them," she added.

The decision to close Saint Michael's Church came as part of the *Vision 2030* Process, in which the parishioners of Saint Rose of Lima Parish and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish have been engaged for several years. When analyzing the priority drivers, it was determined that basic operational costs of Saint Michael's averaged \$66,000 annually and the offertory collected was insufficient to meet those needs, in addition to facility studies indicating the church would need more than \$800,000 in maintenance over the next decade.

At the conclusion of the closing liturgy, Bishop Bambera led the Blessed Sacrament on a Eucharistic Procession. The faithful processed by vehicle to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, from which they processed on foot to Saint Rose of Lima Church where Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament took place, and a reception was held.



Above: Rev. Seth D. Wasnock, Pastor, and Joan Fendrock, Sacristan, lock the doors one final time.

Below: Parishioners recite a decade of the Rosary outside Saint Michael's Church as they begin a Eucharistic Procession to Carbondale.



While enjoying refreshments, parishioners also got to enjoy a pictorial slideshow of memories from Saint Michael's and Holy Trinity churches.

The Sunday 11:30 a.m. Mass which was normally held at Saint Michael's Church will now be held at Saint Rose of Lima Church in Carbondale.



"SACRAMENT OF UNITY"

- *A Priesthood Perspective by Father Gerard M. McGlone* -
Pastor, Queen of Angels Parish, Jessup



Here in Jessup, we offer Eucharistic Adoration on Saturdays in the Grunick Center Chapel. Volunteers sign up for an hour or more to pray before the Blessed Sacrament on a regular basis.

This is not the first parish that I have been assigned to that offers this experience.

Back in 1987, I was stationed in Honesdale, where a 24/7 Eucharistic Adoration was started and still continues to this day. At that time, parishioners were asking questions about what does one do or say when they have their designated hour of Devotion.

Fortunately, we extended an invitation to Father Carl Arico of Contemplative Outreach in New Jersey to come and give a week-long presentation on contemplative prayer. I remember how positive an experience that was for so many and the questions that got answered.

Personally, it was a great help to me when I made a 40-day retreat at Saint Mary's House in Bedford back in 1999.

During the 40 days in Bedford, the community practice was to spend six hours a day before the Blessed Sacrament in sets of two hours — morning, afternoon and evening. It was during that time

I heard the voices of my family members in my head telling me to "remember."

I am told by my family that I have a good memory for things, and I have to admit that I am pretty good at remembering.

In particular, I have very distinct sacramental and personal memories of First Penance, First Holy Communion, Confirmation and, of course, Ordination — both as a Transitional Deacon and a priest for the Diocese of Scranton.

I remember going to confession the day before my Holy Communion at Saint John the Evangelist Church in South Scranton, and the taste of my First Holy Communion on my tongue as I received it from my pastor as I knelt at the altar rail.

I remember the late Bishop J. Carroll McCormick anointing me with Holy Chrism at Confirmation after he gently struck me on the cheek and spoke my Confirmation name—Martin. (That was the practice back then!)

I remember Diaconate ordination on New Year's Eve of 1983 with the congregation singing, "O Come, All Ye Faithful."

Among the many memories of priestly ordination, I turn to the opportunity I had to give my first priestly blessing to my parents.

Throughout the last



Grunick Center Chapel at Queen of Angels Parish in Jessup

nearly 40 years of serving as a priest for the Diocese of Scranton, I have had many memorable celebrations of the Eucharist, and also the opportunity to pray before the Blessed Sacrament in so many different places.

A few of the most notable were at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem; the Basilica of Saint Peter in Rome at Saint Peter's crypt; in the Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi in Assisi; and yet again in the crypt church prior to the devastating earthquake there several years ago.

On April 21 of this year, the Church marked World Day of Prayer for Vocations. On the following day, I had the opportunity to meet with the seventh-grade students at La Salle Academy in Jessup to talk about vocations.

We talked about the word "vocation" with its origin indicating "a call." I also asked them to consider the word "curious," its

etymology, and challenged them to be curious about vocations, and in particular that of the priesthood and religious life.

At the end of our session I invited the students to ask questions you always wanted to ask a priest, but never had the opportunity.

One of the questions from the back row was, "What is the most difficult thing about being a priest and what is the easiest?"

I paused for a moment and I was somehow inspired to say the answer to both questions was just about the same.

The most difficult part of being a priest is knowing how much the liturgy, my vocation, and the Church has to offer, and then realizing that so many do not recognize and take advantage of such gifts, graces and treasures in their own community, even in their own backyard. That's difficult to experience at

times. The other half of the answer was knowing about these gifts, graces and treasures of the Church and being able to celebrate them each day.

There is always something about the Church to be curious about, and there are endless questions about the things of the past, and even now in contemporary times, that a sacramental life can address.

"Do this in memory of me." I say this so many times and people hear it at the Eucharistic liturgy at every celebration.

Vocation and Eucharistic memories converge at this moment for me, and I want to invite all who are reading this to somehow invoke your personal sacramental memory — especially those that involve the liturgy, Eucharistic adoration or Eucharistic ministry in the Church.

In so doing, give witness to the great gifts, graces and treasures that are made available to you in your own vocation and for those coming to Christ and his Church for the very first time.

For those who are going about their lives and find it a bit frantic and chaotic, take time to be quiet before the Blessed Sacrament.

For those who spend time before the Blessed

Sacrament on a regular basis, remember be witness to this practice in the ministry and life of your parish in word and deed.

I read awhile ago something from a Trappist monk in Australia. His name is Father Michael Casey, and I think of this when I celebrate Mass and imagine Jesus with His disciples centuries ago, perhaps bringing forth some of his original intent from the Last Supper into focus for us today.

Father Casey writes, "Saint Paul taught the Corinthians that the communal celebration of the Eucharist is a significant indicator of the degree of unity to be found in the community. When a group gathers to share the Eucharistic meal, it needs to leave behind the factional issues that polarize and paralyze their everyday lives, and truly come together as members of Christ's body, one in mind and heart. The Eucharist is, above all, a sacrament of unity."

Let this time of Eucharistic Revival be one that strives for a greater unity among us here in the Diocese of Scranton and let it happen through our common calling, our common sacramental memory, the gifts, graces and treasures of our local Church!

Stories of conversion, ‘amazing’ encounters mark National Eucharistic Pilgrimage

(OSV News) - As a Eucharistic procession made its way May 28 through Victoria, Texas, a 20-something man sitting on the side of a street caught Charlie McCullough’s attention. McCullough stopped to talk with him, explaining what was going on: The procession was part of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage en route to Indianapolis for the National Eucharistic Congress, and the Eucharist they were walking behind is really, truly Jesus.

“He had grown up in the Protestant faith and had never seen a Eucharistic procession before, and was at a time in life where he was asking a lot of big questions about what is the reason I exist for, what’s the purpose of life, all these things,” McCullough, one of six perpetual pilgrims on the pilgrimage’s southern St. Juan Diego route, recalled May 29. “We talked briefly and I kept walking.”

About five blocks later, McCullough looked over his shoulder and saw the man running after the procession. He caught up to McCullough and asked if they could talk more.

“He told me that that morning was the first time he had tried to pray in years. He opened his Bible, and he didn’t know if the Lord had heard him. And when we walked by - when Jesus Christ walked by - he knew something was different. And he knew that he wanted to follow the Lord, and he had so many questions about how and what he wants to do, and there was this zeal welling up in his heart,” McCullough said. “I just got to pray with him and encourage him.”



The faithful depart the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception June 8, 2024, as they follow the Blessed Sacrament in procession through the streets of the Brookland neighborhood of Washington. The procession was held as the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage’s Seton Route made a stop in the Archdiocese of Washington as it makes its way to Indianapolis for the National Eucharistic Congress to be held in July. (OSV News photo/Mihoko Owada, Catholic Standard)

“At the end of our conversation, he goes, ‘I know this sounds crazy, but I want to go all the way to Indianapolis,’” he said. McCullough, a fellow Texan, thinks it’s unlikely the man will follow the pilgrimage to Indianapolis, “but I pray that he follows the Lord the rest of his life,” he said. “He had a very profound experience, and the Lord stirred his heart through a simple encounter there, and it was very beautiful.”

McCullough shared that encounter on a May 29 media call that included pilgrims from all four routes of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, which began May 18-19 in California, Connecticut, Minnesota and Texas. Their second week included already iconic events - such as when Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York blessed the city with the Eucharist from a boat near the

Statue of Liberty in New York Harbor May 27 - and hidden moments - like when a man got out of a truck in the middle of Oregon, far away from any towns, and genuflected as the Eucharistic caravan passed. “It was just a moment driving by, but he had gone out that distance to make sure he knew he would be by Jesus,” said Chas Firestone East, a perpetual pilgrim from Virginia journeying on the western St. Junipero Serra Route.

The pilgrims shared other stories of encounter and conversion: On the California side of Lake Tahoe, a photographer for a secular news outlet - amazed by the masses of people turning out for processions - told the perpetual pilgrims that he was inspired to learn more about the Eucharist and plans to begin the process for becoming Catholic. Meanwhile, a woman who isn’t able to walk with the pilgrims has been joining each procession along the St. Juan Diego Route since Brownsville, Texas, on a retrofitted tricycle. Also in Texas, some perpetual pilgrims helped bandage a woman’s wounded leg at a homeless shelter, and then the woman - whose name is Hope - asked the pilgrims to pray with her.

The pilgrims have been amazed by the number of people who met them for Eucharistic processions, Holy Hours and Mass. “I have been blown away at how hungry people are to show their faith and how thirsty Jesus is for their souls,” Shayla Elm, a Juan Diego Route perpetual pilgrim, said.

Parishes in the Diocese of Scranton hold Corpus Christi Processions



**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish
Wyalusing**



**Saint Joseph the Worker & Saint Boniface
Parishes, Williamsport**



**Saint Matthew Parish
East Stroudsburg**

Diocesan Annual Appeal hits \$4 million raised of \$4.5 million goal

SCRANTON - With just two weeks left in this year’s Diocesan Annual Appeal campaign, more than \$4 million of the \$4.5 million goal has been raised.

A total of 46 parishes have reached their goal and many others are at 70-percent or above. Those parishes are listed below, along with the amount needed to reach goal.

The Diocesan Annual Appeal provides critical funding for many important Catholic ministries that assist tens of thousands of people each year, including Catholic Social Services, Catholic Schools, Parish Life initiatives, Catholic Communications and Support for Seminarians and Retired Clergy. The Appeal also funds Social Justice and Faith Formation projects in dozens of parishes each year.

It is not too late to make a gift to the current Diocesan Annual Appeal campaign. To make a gift before June 30, visit annualappeal.org or call the Diocesan Development Office at (570) 207-2250.

Thank you for your support!

PARISHES AT 90% OR MORE OF GOAL WITH AMOUNT NEEDED	
Queen of Heaven Parish, Hazleton	\$4 (99%)
Saint Joseph Parish, Matamoras	\$1,977 (95%)
Holy Rosary Parish, Hazleton	\$1,040 (94%)
Holy Child Parish, Mansfield	\$1,986 (93%)
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Dunmore	\$4,033.50 (93%)
Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Dushore	\$3,610 (91%)
Queen of the Apostles Parish, Avoca	\$2,346.75 (90%)
PARISHES AT 80% OR MORE OF GOAL WITH AMOUNT NEEDED	
BVM Queen of Peace Parish, Hawley	\$8,483 (89%)
Immaculate Conception Parish, Bastress	\$2,940 (89%)
Saint Peter the Apostle Parish, Wellsboro	\$4,805 (89%)
Nativity of the BVM Parish, Tunkhannock	\$3,832 (88%)
Saint Ann Parish, Williamsport	\$7,595 (87%)
Saint John Vianney Parish, Montdale	\$3,771 (87%)
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Montoursville	\$5,948 (86%)
Our Lady of the Snows Parish, Clarks Summit	\$11,815.97 (86%)
Saint Maximilian Kolbe Parish, Pocono Pines	\$3,298 (86%)
Saint Robert Bellarmine Parish, Wilkes-Barre	\$4,765 (86%)
Visitation of the BVM Parish, Dickson City	\$7,894.25 (86%)
Most Precious Blood Parish, Hazleton	\$5,295.05 (85%)
Resurrection Parish, Muncy	\$5,105 (85%)
Saint Thomas More Parish, Lake Ariel	\$7,440.60 (85%)
Saint Monica Parish, West Wyoming	\$4,955 (84%)
Christ the King Parish, Archbald	\$11,188.15 (83%)
Saint John the Baptist Parish, Larksville	\$3,624 (83%)
Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Pittston	\$9,141 (83%)
Most Holy Trinity Parish, Cresco	\$8,718.80 (82%)
Saint Rita Parish, Gouldsboro	\$2,583 (82%)
Most Holy Trinity Parish, Susquehanna	\$5,747.10 (81%)
PARISHES AT 70% OR MORE OF GOAL WITH AMOUNT NEEDED	
Saint Michael Parish, Scranton	\$1,895 (79%)
Saint Eulalia Parish, Roaring Brook Township	\$8,781.76 (78%)
Saint Patrick Parish, Nicholson	\$2,030 (77%)
Divine Mercy Parish, Scranton	\$15,303 (76%)
Saint Rose of Lima Parish, Carbondale	\$14,888 (76%)
SS Anthony & Rocco Parish, Dunmore	\$11,705 (75%)
SS Peter & Paul Parish, Scranton	\$3,265 (75%)
Holy Cross Parish, Olyphant	\$12,759 (73%)
Our Lady of the Eucharist Parish, Pittston	\$4,265 (73%)
Saint Luke Parish, Jersey Shore	\$4,325.67 (73%)
Annunciation Parish, Hazleton	\$9,301 (72%)
Epiphany Parish, Sayre	\$24,077 (72%)

Bishop appoints Joseph Strubeck as Diocesan Secretary of Development

SCRANTON – The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, has announced that Joseph D. Strubeck has been named Diocesan Secretary for Development. Strubeck was selected from a number of highly qualified candidates following an extensive search process. He began his new position on May 20, 2024.

For the last four years, Strubeck has worked in the Institutional Advancement Division at King’s College in Wilkes-Barre, serving most recently as the Director of Advancement Operations and Reporting. In that position, he supervised all gift and pledge processing, provided technical support, and successfully helped King’s College implement a new primary alumni and fundraising database.

“I’m enthusiastic about the future of our Church and excited to contribute to the mission of the Diocese of Scranton in this important role,” Strubeck said of his new position.

Strubeck has a master’s degree in theology and a bachelor’s degree in philosophy from The University of Scranton – and for the last several years has been teaching part-time in the King’s College philosophy department. He also has previous experience as a sales representative and business analyst.

“Fundraising and development are so often viewed as obligatory tasks. As someone who is mission-driven, some years ago, I never envisioned myself doing this kind of work. However, my own spiritual discernment has helped me come to view fundraising as ministry. I have found that fundraising provides unique opportunities to share the Good News and empower others to reflect upon their own unique connections to mission,” Strubeck explained. “Looking at all the good work that fundraising supports through Catholic ministries in the Diocese of Scranton, I look

forward to helping the faithful throughout our region learn more about how they uniquely contribute to the mission and impact the lives of thousands each day.”

Strubeck’s skills and qualifications will be a tremendous asset to the Diocesan Development Office and all our parishes – as we work to expand our parish stewardship efforts and communicate the important funding that the Diocesan Annual Appeal provides for our local Catholic ministries.

“My past professional experiences have afforded me the opportunity to work in dynamic ways with and among others. I see the Secretary of Development role as a critical link supporting and helping to facilitate conversations that help us collectively care for those most in need throughout our Diocese,” he added. “In my own life, I’ve personally embraced Bishop Bambera’s call

to serve through servant leadership and look forward to the opportunity to develop and deepen relationships with the faithful throughout our region. Building financial support for our Diocese over the next several years will be critical to fulfilling our obligations and sustaining Catholic ministries in the future. I firmly believe that every person matters, and that financial contributions large and small will help us not only sustain but help our Church grow in the coming years.”

In addition to his experience in Development, Strubeck has been a member of the Finance Council of Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Pittston, and is a 3rd Degree member of the Knights of Columbus, John F. Kennedy Council 372, Pittston. Both Strubeck and his wife are the products of Catholic education – and their oldest son is currently a student at Saint Nicholas/Saint Mary School in Wilkes-Barre.



Joseph D. Strubeck

Diocese to celebrate annual Wedding Anniversary Mass on June 23

SCRANTON – More than 130 couples who are celebrating milestone anniversaries this year will be recognized at the Cathedral of Saint Peter on Sunday, June 23, 2024.

The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will serve as principal celebrant and homilist for the Diocese of Scranton’s annual Wedding Anniversary Mass that recognizes married couples who are celebrating their 25th and 50th anniversaries. The Mass will begin at 2:30 p.m.

If any couple has not yet registered, please contact the Diocesan Office for Parish Life at (570) 207-2213.

CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton will broadcast the Mass live and provide a livestream on the Diocese of Scranton website and all Diocesan social media platforms.

The broadcast and livestream opportunities are a valuable opportunity for all married couples (no matter how many years they have been married) to pause and reflect upon the beauty of the vocation of marriage in our lives and in the life of our church.

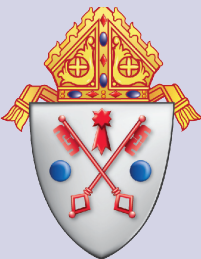
Marriage is a vocation to holiness. From their first days as husband and wife through their golden years, married couples have the awesome task of witnessing God’s faithful love to each other, their children, and society. No couple does this perfectly, and everyone needs help when love feels strained and the going gets tough.

All marriages can grow in knowledge, faith, joy, and love. Whether you are just starting out in marriage or have fifty years under your belt, the church can always help strengthen and bless your marriage.



Notice to the Christian Faithful of the Diocese of Scranton

Deacon Joseph Sudano, an incardinated cleric in the Diocese of Scranton, has chosen to leave the Catholic Church and exercise diaconal ministry within the Episcopal Church.



As a result, Deacon Sodano’s ability to exercise diaconal ministry in the Catholic Church has been withdrawn and he is no longer authorized to provide diaconal ministry to the Christian faithful.

He continues to cooperate with the Diocese of Scranton while his canonical status is resolved.

Aviso a los Fieles Cristianos de la Diócesis de Scranton

El **diácono Joseph Sudano**, un clérigo incardinado en la Diócesis de Scranton, decidió dejar la Iglesia Católica y ejercer el ministerio diaconal dentro de la Iglesia Episcopal.

Como resultado, la capacidad del Diácono Sodano para ejercer el ministerio diaconal en la Iglesia Católica ha sido retirada y ya no está autorizado a brindar el ministerio diaconal a los fieles cristianos.

Continúa cooperando con la Diócesis de Scranton mientras se resuelve su estatus canónico.

APPOINTMENTS

His Excellency, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, announces the following appointments, effective July 1, 2024:

RETIREMENT

Monsignor David A. Bohr, from Secretary for Clergy Formation and Rector, Villa Saint Joseph, Dunmore, to Retirement.

Reverend Louis T. Kaminski, from Pastor, Holy Spirit Parish, Mocanaqua, to Retirement for Reasons of Health.

Monsignor Joseph G. Quinn, from Senior Priest, Our Lady of the Snows Parish, Clarks Summit, and Saint Gregory Parish, Clarks Green, to Retirement for Reasons of Health.

ADMINISTRATOR

Reverend Philbert Takyi-Nketiah, from Parochial Vicar, Saint Jude Parish, Mountain Top, and Saint Mary Parish, Dorrance, to Administrator, Holy Spirit Parish, Mocanaqua. Father will continue as Chaplain, Holy Redeemer High School, Wilkes-Barre.

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT

Reverend Mark J. DeCelles, to Director of the Permanent Diaconate Formation Program. Father will remain Parochial Vicar, Saint Teresa of Calcutta Parish, Scranton.

Reverend Ryan P. Glenn, to Director of Continuing Formation of Priests. Father will remain Pastor, Christ the King Parish, Archbald.

Rev. Alex J. Roche, to Secretary for Clergy Formation. Father will remain Director of Vocations and Pastor, Saint Maria Goretti Parish, Laflin.



BISHOP BAMBERA’S SCHEDULE

June 11 - 14 - USCCB Spring General Meeting
Louisville, Kentucky

June 22 - World Refugee Day
Nay Aug Park, Scranton, 2:00 p.m.

June 23 - Wedding Anniversary Mass
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 2:30 p.m.

June 26 - Candidacy Mass - Held During Quo Vadis Days 2024
Marywood University, Scranton, 11:00 a.m.

June 29 - Priesthood Ordination Mass of Rev. Mr. William A. Asinari
Saint John the Evangelist Church, Honesdale, 10:00 a.m.

July 4 - 12 - Catholic-Pentecostal Dialogue
Lisbon, Portugal

Catholic Women's Conference offers reflection, inspiration and fellowship

SCRANTON – In a powerful display of faith and fellowship, hundreds of Catholic women from around the Diocese of Scranton and beyond gathered for the annual 'Refresh Your Faith' Catholic Women's Conference at Marywood University on June 8, 2024.

The day-long event featured several speakers, recitation of the Rosary, Eucharistic Adoration, the opportunity for Reconciliation, and Mass celebrated by the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton.

"I think it's an opportunity for women to get together and grow deeper in their faith," Laurie Hanley of Saint Vincent de Paul Parish in Dingman Township said.

Hanley moved to Pike County in 2022 and attended the Catholic Women's Conference for the first time last year after reading about it in *The Catholic Light*. After being very impressed with the event, she volunteered to help with the planning committee this year.

"To be able to have these speakers and talented musicians share their love of God with us is amazing and then we can share that together and we can bring it back to our parishes," she added.

The keynote speakers for this year's conference included Father Justin Cinnante, O.Carm., a priest from Transfiguration Priory in Tarrytown, N.Y.; Father Giuseppe Maria Siniscalchi, CFR, who currently serves as the Local Servant (superior) of Saint Mary of the Assumption Friary in Newburgh, N.Y.; and Jackie Francois Angel, a singer/songwriter and worship leader from California.

Each speaker shared powerful and personal stories about the transformative nature of God's love.

"Only God can satisfy the desires of our hearts. No human being can do that. No amount of money or success or popularity can do that," Angel said during her remarks. "We have a massive ache in our hearts for something more. We have a massive ache in our hearts for something that the world cannot give."

"When a woman is fully alive with the love that comes from God, nothing can stop her, she is a force against the universe," Father Giuseppe said. "She is powerful and once a woman has this love in her, nobody needs to tell her what to do,



Fr. Justin Cinnante, O.Carm., delivers the keynote address during the conference June 8.



Singer/songwriter Jackie Francois Angel performs the entrance song during Mass at the conference.



A crowd of several hundred, energized women filled the ballroom at Marywood University for the 2024 'Refresh Your Faith' Catholic Women's Conference. (Photos/Mike Melisky)

it just comes flowing out of her and no one is going to stop her."

Christy Ghigiarelli of SS. Anthony and Rocco Parish in Dunmore found this year's conference empowering because she saw so many other women 'on fire' with faith.

"It's just this beautiful day where you truly get your faith refreshed. You listen to these amazing speakers, and you hear things presented in ways that you haven't heard before," Ghigiarelli explained. "You're surrounded by this community of women that have an amazing love of Christ."

Pati Pawlik of Saint Eulalia Parish in Roaring Brook Township called the conference a "treasure" because it brings so many women together to pray.

"It's such a high-energy environment," Pawlik said. "We feed off each other's joys. We laugh, we cry, it's just a feminine quality that we don't get to experience every day in our normal lives and our normal work environments."

Many participants described the experience as deeply enriching, citing the profound connections formed and the overwhelming sense of support and solidarity among fellow Catholic women.

"I think it's so wonderful that women can lift each other up with our faith at the foundation of everything that we do in our day to day lives," Dara Dirhan of Saint Maria Goretti Parish in Laffin added.

As the conference drew to a close, attendees departed with renewed spirits, fortified in their faith, and emboldened by the connections forged during a transformative day of fellowship. While

the event may have concluded, its impact will undoubtedly resonate within the hearts and minds of all those who attended, serving as a beacon of hope and inspiration on their continued journey of faith.

"This is something that everybody

should come to. It really is a special time," conference marketing committee spokesman Jackie Lewandoski said. "You're reminded of how much God loves us and how special it is that we have him in our life ... It really is the perfect day!"

Catholic Men's Conference to be held Oct. 5 in Wilkes-Barre

WILKES-BARRE— Planning for the ninth annual Catholic Men's Conference, which will be held on Saturday, Oct. 5, 2024, at Holy Redeemer High School is underway.

This year's theme will be "Come Follow Me."

The conference will begin at 8:00 a.m. and run through 3:00 p.m., and feature nationally known speakers, including Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers, John Edwards, and Father Bill Casey. The day will conclude with the celebration of Mass with the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton.

Registration for the conference is available online at BeACatholicMan.com or by mail. The address is "Be A Catholic Man," PO Box 669, Wyalusing, PA 18853. (Please write "Men's Conference" on the check memo and include contact information, e-mail and parish)

The cost of the conference is \$40.00 (\$30 if mailed by Sept. 15, 2024).



Students are \$15.00. Priest, Deacons and Seminarians are free.

For more information, call (570) 721-0872.

Members of the planning committee shown in the photo are, front row, from left: Rev. Brian Van Fossen, conference chaplain; Jim Biondo; Jim Gerichten; Dr. Chris Carr; Dr. Lou Guarnieri; Kevin Burleigh; Ralph Marino; and John Witkosky. Second row, from left: Tim Pawlik; Alex Piochocki; Mike Kilmer, conference chairman; Paul Binner; George Hayden; Gerard Schmidt; and Dennis Shovlin. Taking the photo was Chris Calore.

**Pope preparing document
on Sacred Heart of Jesus to
renew church, world**

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Pope Francis announced that he is preparing a document on the Sacred Heart of Jesus to “illuminate the path of ecclesial renewal, but also to say something significant to a world that seems to have lost its heart.”

The document is expected to be released in September, he said.

The Catholic Church traditionally dedicates the month of June to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

The document will include reflections from “previous magisterial texts” and it will aim to “re-propose to the whole church this devotion laden with spiritual beauty. I believe it will do us much good to meditate on various aspects of the Lord’s love,” the pope said.

**Synod report for U.S. shows
growth, tensions and ‘deep
desire to rebuild’ the body
of Christ**

WASHINGTON (OSV News)- Growth, undeniable tensions and “a deep desire to rebuild and strengthen” the body of Christ have emerged as key themes in the latest synod report for the Catholic Church in the U.S.

Released by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops May 28, the “National Synthesis of the People of God in the United States of America for the Interim Stage of the 2021-2024 Synod” summarizes responses from more than 35,000 participants and over 1,000 listening sessions.

The report showed the synodal journey has made progress in the U.S. Among their insights, participants said they hoped the church can offer both welcome and a prophetic witness that allows it to dialogue and discern its mission while addressing the ongoing wounds of the clerical abuse crisis, racism and other challenges.



THE ORDER OF MALTA

SCRANTON CHAPTER

PRESENTS



FR. PIO MANDATO, FMHJ
MAIN CELEBRANT & HOMILIST

MSGR. NEIL VAN LOON
**MASS CONCELEBRANT &
CHAPLAIN ORDER OF MALTA,
SCRANTON CHAPTER**

AN AFTERNOON OF HEALING

with

FR. PIO MANDATO, FMHJ

Fr. Pio Mandato, FMHJ is a Franciscan priest living as a missionary hermit. He was born in Italy and along with his brother Vincenzo, received his first holy communion from Saint Pio before coming to the USA. He grew up in New Jersey and entered the Capuchin Franciscans at the age of 17, and was ordained in 1985. In 1998 he was accepted in the Diocese of Scranton, Pa., and now lives a life of solitude, prayer and intercession. He is also Chaplain to the Capuchin Sisters of Nazareth and at times is engaged in the preaching apostolate.

SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2024

1:00 PM - CONFESSIONS

1:30 PM - ROSARY

2:00 PM - MASS & HEALING SERVICE

ST. PAUL’S CHURCH
1510 PENN AVE., SCRANTON

Father Pio will bring a relic of Saint Padre Pio and bless everyone individually at the end of the liturgy.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
E-MAIL CONTACT@MALTAOFSCRANTON.ORG

Holy Redeemer High School



**Lainey
Conway**



**Jorden
Lech**

WILKES-BARRE — Holy Redeemer High School was the first Diocesan secondary school to hold spring commencement exercises when graduation ceremonies were staged on May 29 at the F.M. Kirby Center for the Performing Arts in Wilkes-Barre.

A total of 104 Holy Redeemer seniors, led by Principal Cody Opalka, were conferred their diplomas by Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, who also addressed the graduates and offered benediction.

The Baccalaureate Mass was celebrated May 28 at Saint Nicholas Church, Wilkes-Barre, by Father Philbert Takyi-Nketiah, school chaplain, and numerous concelebrative priests.

The 2024 Holy Redeemer class valedictorian is Lainey Conway, daughter of Joseph and Stacy Conway of Mountain Top. Earning salutatorian honors was Jorden Lech, son of James and Joell Lech, who reside in Larksville.

Of the total number of graduates, 101 will be enrolling in colleges or universities to further their education, including 39 who will be attending Catholic institutions of higher learning. The 2024 Holy Redeemer senior class merited a total of 664 scholarship awards worth \$39 million.

“Our class has learned that the only constant in this life is change, and our reaction to it. Appreciating what we have in the present is one key to happiness and success. I challenge you to never forget the importance of real human connection.

Foster relationships with those around you, help others when they need it, and do not be afraid to ask for help in return.”



— Lainey Conway
*Valedictory Address
 excerpt*

“While tonight marks the end of one chapter in our lives, it also marks the beginning of another new and exciting chapter — a chapter that will be filled with new challenges and new opportunities. Wherever we may go, our faith-based education at Holy Redeemer has prepared us for any challenge we may face, as we do all things through Christ.”

— Jorden Lech
Salutatory Address excerpt

Saint John Neumann Regional Academy



**Emma
Gallew**



**Elizabeth
Weller**

WILLIAMSPORT — Graduation ceremonies were conducted for the Saint John Neumann Regional Academy Class of 2024 on May 30 in the George S. Klump Center at the Pennsylvania College of Technology in Williamsport.

Saint John Neumann Principal Alisia McNamee presided over the presentation of diplomas to the 16 members of this year’s graduating class, which were conferred by Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, who also offered remarks and the closing benediction.

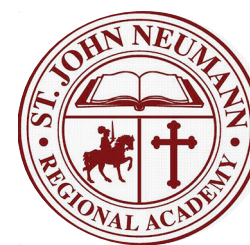
The Baccalaureate Mass was celebrated May 28 at Saint Joseph the Worker Parish, Williamsport, where Father Bert Kozen, school chaplain, served as principal celebrant and homilist.

This year’s Saint John Neumann valedictorian is Emma Gallew, daughter of Steven and Pamela Gallew, residents of South Williamsport. Salutatorian honors were bestowed upon Elizabeth Weller, daughter of Kevin and Julia Weller of Woolrich.

Fifteen members of the senior class will be pursuing further education on the university/college level, including four graduates who plan to attend Catholic institutions of higher learning. As a class, the Saint John Neumann seniors amassed 10 academic scholarships worth more than \$940,000.

“I encourage you all to not see this coming change as a bad thing, but instead, to see it as an opportunity to make new friends and improve on yourself. And remember, if you make a mistake, don’t dwell on it, because there’s no progress without mistakes.

To the underclassmen ... enjoy each moment you have because you might miss out on important memories if you don’t.”



— Emma Gallew
*Valedictory Address
 excerpt*

“Whether you’re going into college, the work force, the military, or even taking a gap year, we all have a future. Nobody knows what the future holds for them. All we can do is give it our all and believe in ourselves. It’s not about where we end up, it’s about the memories and experiences we make along the way.”

— Elizabeth Weller
*Salutatory Address
 excerpt*

224

The total number of young men and women who graduated from the four Catholic High Schools in the Diocese.

\$64 million

Graduates merited more than 1,140 scholarships, cumulatively earning this much toward their future schooling.

95%

The percentage of seniors who will continue their education in college. More than 70 graduates will attend Catholic institutions of learning.

Holy Cross High School



Benjamin Mulvey



Lillie Kochis

DUNMORE — The Sette La Vergetta Center for Performing Arts at Marywood University was the setting for the annual commencement of Holy Cross High School.

Graduation ceremonies for the 69 members of the 2024 Holy Cross senior class were held on May 31, led by school Principal Benjamin D. Tolerico.

Presiding over the commencement exercises and conferring the high school diplomas was Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, who addressed the Holy Cross graduates and offered the benediction.

The Baccalaureate Mass was celebrated May 30 at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton, with Father Cyril D. Edwards, school chaplain, serving as principal celebrant and homilist.

The 2024 Holy Cross valedictorian is Benjamin Mulvey, son of Mark and Christine Mulvey of Mayfield. Class salutatorian is Lillie Kochis, daughter of Steve and Meghan Kochis of Dunmore.

Nearly 96 percent of the Holy Cross graduating class will be attending institutions of higher learning, with 25 graduates planning to enroll at Catholic colleges or universities. As a whole, the class earned 402 post-secondary scholarship awards totaling more than \$19 million.

“Each and every one of you has a story. For the Class of 2024, you too have finished a chapter of your story. I challenge you to improve yourself every single day. Don’t start when you begin your next endeavor, whether that be college or the work force or the military. Start now. I promise you there is nothing stopping you once you walk out those doors.”

“To my classmates, the Class of 2024: join me in ‘praying for the strength’ to go forth out of this auditorium and pour ourselves out to others, using all we have been taught at Holy Cross High School. Remember, your journey begins with a ‘leap of faith’ and it will continue to circle back to faith.”

— Lillie Kochis, Salutatory Address excerpt



— Benjamin Mulvey,
Valedictory Address
excerpt

Notre Dame High School



Joseph Nguyen



Misail Papadopoulos



Isabella Siciliano

EAST STROUDSBURG — Commencement exercises were held June 1 for Notre Dame High School, during which 35 graduates received their diplomas from Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, who also offered the principal address and closing benediction.

The high school theater set the stage for the graduation ceremonies for the Class of 2024 at Notre Dame, led by school Principal Bryan Scotton.

The Baccalaureate Mass was celebrated May 28 in the school’s theater by Father Brian J.T. Clarke, chaplain of Notre Dame High School.

This year’s Notre Dame graduating class hailed a trio of valedictorians: Joseph Nguyen, son of John Nguyen and Khanh-Du Le of Tannersville; Misail Papadopoulos, son of Alexander and Katerina Papadopoulos, Stroudsburg; and Isabella Siciliano, daughter of Nicholas and Jeanmarie Siciliano, East Stroudsburg.

Of the 2024 Notre Dame senior class, 32 graduates will continue their education at the university/college level, including four students who will be attending Catholic institutions of higher learning. The class received a total of 66 scholarship awards valued at nearly \$5 million.

“Whenever you make a decision, think: Who am I? Think of what a person you have become, and think: What would this person do? Hopefully, it is something good, something beautiful that draws on the joy and gratitude you have felt in your life.”

“Living in the present is not easy ... especially like having to prepare and worry about our futures. I take my memories of living in the present with me, and I encourage everyone here today to live in the present a little more because we only have one life and limited time here.”

— Misail Papadopoulos, Valedictory Address excerpt

“I will admit I am still not ready to bid you all farewell, but I trust that just because we are journeying into new beginnings that doesn’t mean that we will forget the people we were in high school and leave behind all the memories that we made.”

— Isabella Siciliano, Valedictory Address excerpt



— Joseph Nguyen
Valedictory Address
excerpt

Congratulations Catholic High School Graduates!

Class of 2024



Mia Rose Lameo
Rosanna Marie Leach
Genavieve Luciani
Cecilia Anne Matatics
Giavanna Elizabeth Matrone
Mia Isabelle Mills
Zachary Scott Minich
Aubrey Priscilla Moase
Lexi Ann Moncinelli
Angelena Theresa Montefour

HOLY CROSS

Brandon Christopher Art
Connor Christopher Art
Isabella Violet Lois Ann Bagnuolo
Anna Elizabeth Bebla
Brooke Maria Bilski
Hailey Bittencourt
Nicholas Patrick Borgia
Ryan Thomas Boyce
Lily Butler
Eva Marie Carachilo
Grazia Maria Cerminaro
Melissa Commadario
Liam Anthony Connor
Francesco Cutrona, Jr.
Hannah Elizabeth D'Annunzio
Gracie Ann Ealo
Abigail Lynn Ednock
Rachel Ann Fay
Nikauri Fernandez
Ryan Christopher Georgetti
Luke Patrick Healey
Journey MinShu Horeis
David Owen Huester
Gillian Kelly Idhaw
Caroline Elizabeth Kennedy
Partik Khadka
Lillie Kochis †
Joseph Cosmo Lalli, Jr.



Thomas Moran
Luke Xavier Mozeleski
Benjamin Robert Mulvey *
Madolyn L. Murphy
Julia Norella
Charles P. O'Malley
Scott Ohmnacht, Jr.
Alyssa Pajalich
Brooke Anne Pawelski
Garek Joseph Petraitis
Christopher Jason Petrucci
Everly Skye Prostka
Alyssa Marie Resio
Stephanie Ann Richter

* Valedictorians

Jenna Anne Robertson
Sam J. Rosetti
Alison Ross
Anthony Salina
Emma Faith Scalese
Mia Grace Catherine Scalese
Brayden Joseph Sherry
Alexander Jacob Stabinski
Evan Matthew Stabinski
Alexander David Strausser
Lena Sylvain

† Salutatorians

HOLY REDEEMER

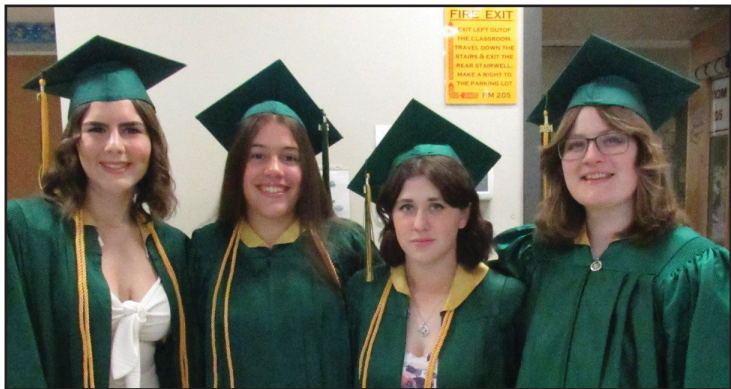
Konner John Achuff
Marie Geneva Bañares Adajar
Marie Prudence Bañares Adajar
Kyle Robert Antinnes
Bailee Ann Atcavage
Mark James Atherton
Kaden Albert Ayre
Bianca Marie Barrager
Francesca Delaine Basalyga
Olivia Kathryn Bilbow
Kassidy Teagan Birmer
Owen Joseph Boshek
William Edward Brady
Aaliyah McKenna Brennan
Payton Marie Brown
Addison Grace Burick
Richard Joseph Carey
Michael Martin Casey
Shane Jerome Cegelka
Avery Grace Chepolis
Nathan Scott Coates
Ava Conrad
Jacob Michael Considine
Nicholas Michael Considine
Lainey Ann Conway *
Angelina Marie Corridoni
Patrick John Paul Cosgrove
Alyssa Paige Daubert



Ava Lily Deiter
Julia Marie Desciak
Michael John Dubaskas
Christopher Connor Durko
Alyssa Lauren Evans
Jaden James Exter
Ella Valeria Fenstermacher
Max Spencer Filchak



Vanessa Elizabeth Flaherty
Alex Frusciant
Ryan Day Garvin
Alanna Christina Gilchrist
Carly Rebecca Glaser
Genesis Gomez
Isabella Maria Granteed
Molly Grove
Kaylee Raye Gryboski
Anya Katherine Grzesek
Luke S. Hajkowski
Alex Hanson
Jude Samuel Harfoush
Luke Hendrzak
Michaela Kay Irwin
Hannah Grace Jones
Lukas Bernard Ivan Kachinko
Theresa Gabrielle Khoudary
Emilia Rose Kindler
Luke Vincent Kopeck
Emily Mackenzie Krevey
Talia Sage Lasota
Olivia Edith Latoski
Liam Anthony Lazecki
Jorden James Lech †



Alyson Marie Lenker
James Charles Locke
Lauren Olivia Lokuta
Prem A. Majamundar
Gabriella Elizabeth Marosevitch
Alexander Matthew Martin
Yovanny Eliezer Martiñez
Delbert John McDermott IV
Aiden H. McDonald
Abigail Rose Miller
Marissa Rose Miller
Anthony James Nazario
An Lac Hoa Nguyen
Jessica Nguyen
Nicholas Nguyen

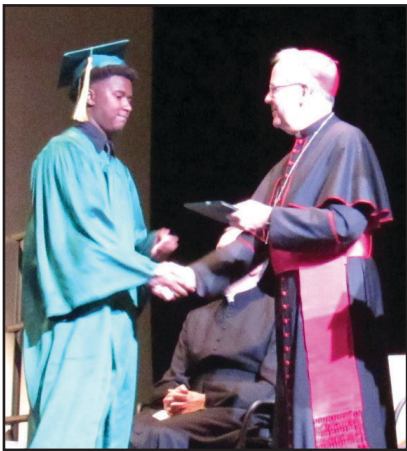


Jacob George Ohrin
Kody Alexander Olejnik
Brooke Eryn Marie Plucas
Yuannis Alexander Polemitis
Joshua Thomas Prebola
Brian Jordan Puscavage
Lucie Jeanne Currie Racicky
Maleea Kaycee Rembish
Stephen James Renfer
Johnnathan Rocha
Noah Jeremy Rokosz
Alexis Carol Romanowski
George Joseph Sabatini
Janelle Elizabeth Sando
Jack Anthony Scavo
Zoe Elizabeth Sechler
Aloysious M. Sennett
Vera Lynn Shaver
Brandon Cyril Shay
David Stochla
Donato Albert Strish
Stephanie Grace Ulitchney
Brianna Marie Van Why
Ivan Matthew Vnuk

Shayla Vo
Tyler Thomas Vodzak
Nicole Allyson Yencha
Amanda Irene Zemetro

NOTRE DAME

Siya Manish Amin
Abigail Frances Anderson
Phoebe Bioh
Dominick Colucci Bojko
Emily M. Brown
Alyze Marie Cappabianca-Sanchez
Jonathan G. Colon
Ryan Patrick Carroll Cosgrove
Samantha Marie DeFabo



Elliz De La Cruz
Alexander Joseph DiDuca
Romeo James Balgoa Dorosz
Finn Feeney
Olivier Samuel Fils-Aime
Jayden Jamal Freeman
Grace A. Godette
Adam Barnabas Gott

Ian Nathan Hale
Vane B. Henderson, Jr
Autumn Jean Kishel
Daton Noel Lorenzo
Douglas Gordon Mackenzie III
Aliciana Star Mendez
Joseph Van Nguyen ✱
Misail Christos Papadopoulos ✱
Angel Gabriel Pincay
Paige Ryan Pugh-Weiss
Christopher John Rinaldi
Isabella Grace Siciliano ✱
Xavier Zavion Spears
Sean Patrick Thompson
Julia Evelyn Traino
Natalie Anna Van de Loecht
Mary Christina Warnagiris
Riley Ellen Wurz

ST. JOHN NEUMANN

Gabriel Cendoma
Jordan Cioffi
Malachi Coleman



Adelyn Dawes
Emma Gallew ✱
Joshua Hamilton
Layla Harris
Saniye Loyd
India Moss
Tyrick Moy
Giyannah Parlante
Yuvika Porob
Jozef Savage
Aden Smith
Aidan Vogt
Elizabeth Weller †



Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton

Mrs. Kristen Donohue, M.Ed. • Diocesan Secretary of Catholic Education/Superintendent of Catholic Schools
Mrs. Charlene Haggerty, M.S. • Assistant Superintendent of Catholic Schools
Mrs. Michele Long, M.Ed. • Assistant Superintendent of Catholic Schools

OFFICE OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS • DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Award

The Diocese of Scranton Catholic Schools Office recognizes these Seton Award recipients. The Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Award is recognition of 8th grade students who are enrolled in one of our Catholic high schools for the 2024-25 school year and exemplify the traits of Saint Seton: devoutness to faith, compassion, and desire to help others. This award is also given to students in 5th Grade at St. John Neumann Elementary School, and students in 6th Grade at Notre Dame Elementary, Epiphany and St. Agnes Schools, who meet criteria determined by their principal. Families of these individuals are commended for their commitment to Catholic education, and the students are congratulated for this distinguished honor. For these students and for all young people in our Catholic schools, Catholic education impacts their formation by incorporating a strong emphasis on the spiritual that is evident in all components of the learning process. Our vision for these students is to provide them an educational experience that promotes a lifelong learning in the faith, and one that prepared them to be responsible, competent, and confident persons as citizens of our country and world. In addition, our schools are dedicated to providing a loving, safe and nurturing environment where the young learn respect for themselves and for all persons.



Ava Nitch
All Saints Academy



Jane Walsh
La Salle Academy



Raymond Mozdian
Our Lady of Peace School



Mila Santiago
St. Agnes School



Charles Marx
St. Clare/St. Paul School



Chase Liska
Good Shepherd Academy



Brody Altier
All Saints Academy



Joseph Yusinski
La Salle Academy



Christian Novak
Our Lady of Peace School



Tyler Kohut
St. Clare/St. Paul School



Michael Biagi
St. Mary of Mount Carmel School



Connor Makarewicz
Good Shepherd Academy



Agonza Mwesige
Epiphany School



Magdalyn Lipko
Our Lady of Peace School



Mary Kathleen Cullen
St. Agnes School



Aiden Kreidler
St. Clare/St. Paul School



Maria Terescavage
St. Mary of Mount Carmel School



Robert Mullery
Good Shepherd Academy



Nicolo Martin Rossettie-Cabrera
Epiphany School



Natalia Matrone
Our Lady of Peace School



Alexander Johnson
St. Agnes School



Kiara Lynn
St. Clare/St. Paul School

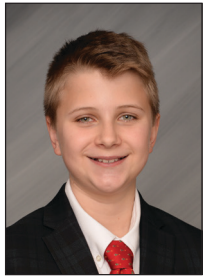


Liam Tamkus
Good Shepherd Academy



To the students who have benefited from a Catholic education, and to those who
continue their educational journey in a Catholic environment,
we salute you and pray that God, through the intercession of
Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, guides you in

Faith, Hope and Love.



Collin Yurkanin
Holy Family Academy



Emma Williams
Holy Family Academy



Elizabeth Rich
Holy Rosary School



Jonathan Fitzmaurice
Holy Rosary School



Clare Grandzol
St. Jude School



Luke Gordon
St. Jude School



Maxwell Reynolds
St. Nicholas/St. Mary School



Emily Werner
St. Nicholas/St. Mary School



Megan Ohrn
St. Nicholas/St. Mary School



William Moller
St. Nicholas/St. Mary School



Emily Cunningham
Wyoming Area Catholic School



Ethan Matechak
Wyoming Area Catholic School



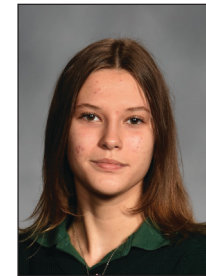
Jedidiah Bioh
Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School



Raymond Full
Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School



Rey Pomaquiza-Morocho
Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School



Liana Romanowska
Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School



Susan Hunter
Notre Dame Elementary School



Caitlin Nappa
Notre Dame Elementary School



Legend Dillard
St. John Neumann
Jr./Sr. High School



Karrah Bair
St. John Neumann
Jr./Sr. High School



Madelyn Steele
St. John Neumann
Elementary School



Topanga Conrad
St. John Neumann
Elementary School

Summer Guide to Church Festivals & Picnics

Mary, Mother of God in Scranton — June 14 & 15. Parish “Block Party” will be held Friday, from 6 to 11 p.m., and Saturday, 5 to 11 p.m., on the grounds of Holy Rosary Center, corner of Wayne & West Market streets, North Scranton. Live entertainment: Friday, Picture Perfect, 7 to 11 p.m.; Saturday, Jim Cerminaro, 5 to 6:30 p.m., followed by Mace in Dickson Band, 7 to 11 p.m. Festival includes games, raffle baskets, and wine & spirits.

Saint Faustina Kowalska in Nanticoke — June 21 & 22, from 5 to 11 p.m. Parish’s Annual Homecoming Festival will be held on the grounds of Saint Faustina Grove, located on Old Newport Street in the Sheatown section. Two-night event features bake sale & ice cream stand and traditional picnic foods: pierogi, potato pancakes, halushki, hot

dogs/hamburgers and French fries. Also includes theme basket raffle, games for all ages, and children’s face-painting, pony rides and bounce house. Live musical entertainment features the Lance Thomas Band (Friday) and Idol Kings (Saturday). Weekend vigil “Mass in the Grove” celebrated on Saturday at 4 p.m., with music

provided by Joe Stanky & The Cadets.

Continued on the next page

Mary, Mother of God Parish
Block Party
HOLY ROSARY CENTER
 Games ♦ Raffle Baskets ♦ Wine & Spirits
 ★ **Friday & Saturday • June 14 & 15** ★
 ★ **Fri. 6 pm-11pm • Sat. 5pm-11pm** ★
 ★ **7-11pm Music by Picture Perfect** ★
 Sat: 5-6:30pm Music by Jim Cerminaro; 7-11pm Music by Mace in Dickson Band
 CORNER OF WAYNE & WEST MARKET STS., NORTH SCRANTON
Rev. Cyril D. Edwards Invites All To Attend!

St. Faustina Parish, Nanticoke
Annual Homecoming Festival
 on the grounds of St. Faustina Grove,
 Old Newport Street, Sheatown
Friday, June 21 • 5pm - 11pm ♦ LANCE THOMAS BAND
Saturday, June 22 • 5pm - 11pm ♦ IDOL KINGS
 **Pierogies, Potato Pancakes, Halushki, Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, French Fries.**
BAKE SALE & ICE CREAM STAND
 Fun & Games for All Ages, Including Basket Raffle, Bingo, Instant Bingo, Children’s Games, Face Painting, Pony Rides, Bounce House and Much More!
SATURDAY MASS AT GROVE
4pm with music by JOE STANKY & THE CADETS



FATHER PAUL MCDONNELL, O.S.J. & PARISHIONERS

invite everyone to their annual

DIVINE MERCY PARISH PICNIC

312 DAVIS ST., SCRANTON (MINOOKA) • BEGINNING EACH NIGHT AT 5:00 PM

Games for All Ages! *Quilt Raffle*

JUNE 21 - 22 - 23
 FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY

Live Music Nightly *Specialty Baskets!*

PLENTY OF DELICIOUS FOODS & BEVERAGES, BIG CASH RAFFLE DRAWING, AND MUCH MORE.

Join the fun as we kick off the summer parish bazaar season!

Summer Guide to Church Festivals & Picnics

Saint Leo the Great in Ashley — June 21 & 22. Summer Festival held on the parish grounds, 33 Manhattan St., Ashley, on Friday and Saturday, beginning each night at 6 p.m. Featured attractions include plant & candle stands, kids' fun stand, Ashley Boutique, children's arts & crafts, bingo games (air-conditioned), games of chance, homemade foods & bake

sale. Live musical entertainment nightly: Friday, Strawberry Jam; Saturday, Hangin' with F.O.G.

raffle drawings, games and activities for all ages.

jewelry, fashion accessories, tools, toys, books, frames/prints, lawn & garden and more. Basket raffle and lunch food menu also available. For more information, call (610) 681-6137.

Rain or Shine! **OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE** *Rain or Shine!*
Annual Flea Market
June 21 • 22 • 23
Friday: 8 AM-3 PM • Saturday: 9 AM-3 PM • Sunday: 12:30-4PM
 Something for everyone - Collectibles, furniture, jewelry, handbags, tools, shoes, toys, holiday, books, crafts, frames, prints, lawn & garden, and much more.
 Stop in and purchase your lunch while you check out the basket raffle!
 Sausages & Peppers, Hamburgers & Hotdogs, and so many more tasty treats!
 www.qopchurch.org or 610-681-6137 • Our Lady Queen of Peace Church
 Route 209 & Weir Lake Road, Brodheadsville, PA.

ST. LEO THE GREAT
Summer Festival!
PARISH GROUNDS
 33 Manhattan Street, Ashley

CASH PRIZES!
June 21 & 22
FRIDAY & SATURDAY
Starts nightly at 6pm

Live Entertainment!
 Friday: Strawberry Jam
 Saturday: Hangin' With F.O.G.

STANDS INCLUDE:
 Pot Luck • Funko Pops • Plant Stand
 • Candle Stand • Ashley Boutique
 Show Me The Money • Children's Arts & Crafts
 Wreath Stand • Fun For Kids • Instant Bingo
 Big Six Wheel • Groceries & More

AIR CONDITIONED BINGO
 ~ HOMEMADE FOOD ~
 ~ BAKE SALE ~
 ~ FREE PARKING! ~

Divine Mercy in Scranton — June 21-23. Annual Parish Picnic held Friday, Saturday & Sunday, beginning each night at 5 p.m. on the parish church grounds, 312 Davis St., Minooka section of Scranton. Three-day summer festival features homemade picnic foods, beverages, live music, specialty theme baskets, big cash & quilt

Our Lady Queen of Peace in Brodheadsville — June 21-23. Annual Parish Flea Market hosted at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Route 209 & Weir Lake Road, Brodheadsville; market hours: Friday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and Sunday, 12:30 to 4 p.m. Sale items at bargain prices include collectibles, furniture, arts & crafts,

All ages are welcome! Come celebrate the 4th!
IHM Parish, Dushore
ANNUAL PICNIC
SUNDAY, JUNE 30 - NOON TIL 5
 Under the tent in Dushore above St Basil's Church on the Hill
 Shuttle service to & from church parking lot
Chicken Dinner \$12 with all the fixins & Homemade Pies
 — EAT IN OR TAKEOUT —
Finger and Ethnic Foods • Refreshments
 Cash & Whiskey Raffles, Theme Baskets Galore, Big 6,
 Instant Bingo, Plush Toy Raffle,
Don't feel like cooking?
 KOC Chicken Barbecue, Friday, June 21st • 11am til sold out - at the Red light in Dushore, Pa

Saint Mary's in Dorrance — June 22 & 23. Saint Mary Church, 3529 Saint Mary's Road, Dorrance, will host its Annual Bazaar on Saturday, from 4 to 10 p.m., and Sunday, 2 to 9 p.m. Event features homemade foods, games, theme baskets, hay rides and bake sale. Musical entertainment by Alibi (Saturday, 6 to 10 p.m.), and The Legends Band (Sunday, 5 to 9 p.m.).

Immaculate Heart of Mary in Dushore — June 30, from noon to 5 p.m. Annual picnic is tent-covered on the grounds above Saint Basil Church; festival features chicken dinner (eat-in or takeout for \$12) with homemade side dishes and pies. Light fare, ethnic foods and refreshments also available. Attractions include games, cash & whiskey raffles, plush toy drawing, and bountiful theme baskets. Shuttle service provided to and from the church parking lot.

St. Mary's of Dorrance
BAZAAR
GPS: 3529 St. Mary's Road, Wapwallopen • 868-5855

SAT, JUNE 22 4:00 - 10:00 PM	SUN, JUNE 23 2:00 - 9:00 PM
Sat: Alibi 6:00 - 10:00 PM	Sun: The Legends Band 5:00 - 9:00 PM
<i>Homemade Pierogi • Potato Pancakes • Theme Baskets</i> <i>Bake Sale • Hay Ride • Covered Seating Area</i>	
☆☆ FUN AND FOOD FOR ALL AGES! ☆☆	

Queen of Angels in Jessup — July 5. Independence Day celebration sponsored by Jessup 21st Century Association will be held at the Jessup Veterans Memorial Field on Hill Street, Jessup. Events commemorating the Fourth of July holiday begin at 4 p.m.; festivities include a basket raffle, picnic foods, bingo, and fireworks display at 9:30 p.m.

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton in Swoyersville — July 11-13, from 5 to 11 p.m. Summer Festival held on the parish grounds, 116 Hughes St., Swoyersville. Three-day event features homemade foods, picnic refreshments, games & prizes for all ages. Nightly

Continued on page 22

Summer Guide to Church Festivals & Picnics

Continued from page 21

entertainment provided by: John Stevens' Doubleshot (Thursday); Hoopla (Friday); and Picture Perfect (Saturday). For more information, call (570) 287-6624.

Our Lady of the Rosary in Carbondale — July 11-13. Our Lady of the Rosary Parish (combining the former parishes of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Saint Rose of Lima) will sponsor their inaugural "Feast 2024" summer festival on Thursday, Friday & Saturday. Featuring homemade food favorites, games, entertainment, and giant cash raffle.

Saint Patrick's in White Haven — July 12 & 13. 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 features "A Storybook Party" for children on Saturday from 1:30 to 3 p.m.; also includes homemade ethnic food favorites, grand prize raffle, live entertainment and large flea market. Music provided by Teacher & The Poet on Friday, 5 to 8 p.m., and John Stevens Polka Band on Saturday, 5 to 9 p.m.

Nativity of Our Lord in Duryea — July 12 & 13. Hosted on Friday, from 5 to 10 p.m., and Saturday, 5 to 11 p.m., on the parish picnic grounds at Holy Rosary Church, 127 Stephenson St., Duryea. Picnic attractions include cash bingo, indoor flea market, ethnic foods, baked goods, and desserts. Live entertainment: Flaxy Morgan (Friday, 6 to 10 p.m.); The Sperrazza Band Reunion (Saturday, 7 to 11 p.m.).

Good Shepherd in Drums — July 12-14. Summer Festival held on the parish church grounds, 87 South Hunter Highway, Drums, on Friday, 5 to 10 p.m.; Saturday, 1 to 10 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 to 7 p.m. Event features a wide variety of traditional and ethnic food favorites, summer treats and beverages. Daily live entertainment: North of 40 (Friday, 6 to 10 p.m.); Late Arrivals (Saturday, 1 to 4 p.m.); Tommy Molinaro (Saturday, 4 to 6 p.m., & Sunday, 1 to 3 p.m.); Kartune (Saturday, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.), followed by fireworks display; and The Legends (Sunday, 3 to 6 p.m.).

Saint Nicholas-Saint Mary in Wilkes-Barre — July 18-20. Annual Parish Bazaar held on the Saint Nicholas church grounds, 226 South Washington St., Wilkes-Barre, beginning at 5:30

p.m. on Thursday and Friday, and following the 4 p.m. Vigil Mass on Saturday. Bazaar features a variety of ethnic foods and traditional American menu items, including Mexican & Caribbean specialties. Giant flea market opens on Thursday at 1 p.m. Live musical entertainment provided nightly from 7 to 10:30 p.m. by Flaxy Morgan (Thursday); Strawberry Jam (Friday); and Kartune (Saturday).

Saint Eulalia's in Roaring Brook Township — July 19 & 20, from 5 to 10 p.m. Summer Festival held on the church picnic grounds, 214 Blue Shutters Road, will feature homemade ethnic foods, Grandma's Attic flea market, basket raffles, bake sale, arts & crafts, and games for all ages. Friday musical

entertainment features the Electric City Steel Drum Project from 6 to 7 p.m., followed by Alex "The Crooner" Nebraska from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday's music provided by the classic rock band Beneath the Velvet Lies from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. For more information, call the parish office (570) 842-7656.

Exaltation of the Holy Cross in Hanover Township — July 19-21. "Big Tent Bazaar" will be held on the church grounds, 420 Main Road, Buttonwood section, on Friday, 6 to 11 p.m.; Saturday (following the 4 p.m. Vigil Mass), 5 p.m. to midnight; and Sunday, 5 to 11 p.m. Featuring homemade foods, potato pancake express, full-service Tiki Bar, theme baskets and raffles.

Continued on next page

The Parish Community of St. Patrick's Church, White Haven

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411 Allegheny Street, White Haven, PA

FRIDAY, JULY 12 • 4PM-9PM
SATURDAY, JULY 13 • 1PM-9PM

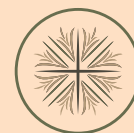
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Friday: 5pm to 8pm - Teacher & The Poet
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— PARISH —

SUMMER FESTIVAL | **JULY 19-20**
5-10 p.m.

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

WEEKEND ENTERTAINMENT:

FRI., JULY 19

6-7 PM

» Electric City Steel Drum Project

7-9 PM

» Alex Nebraska (Alex the Crooner)

SAT., JULY 20

5:30-8:30 PM

» Between the Velvet Lies (classic rock band)

214 Blue Shutters Road, Roaring Brook Township
sainteulalias.com

Summer Guide to Church Festivals & Picnics

Continued from previous page

Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Hunlock Creek — July 26 & 27, from 5 to 10 p.m. Parish “Summer Fest 2024” held on the church grounds at Lake Silkworth, 2011 State Route 29. Tent-covered two-day event features a huge indoor flea market, theme baskets, festival games and homemade foods. Musical entertainment provided by Kartune (Friday) and Popstar Drive (Saturday).

Christ the King in Archbald/Eynon/Jermyn — July 26-28. Summer picnic held on the grounds of Saint Mary of Czestochowa Church, Betty & Main streets, Eynon, beginning on Friday & Saturday at 5 p.m., and Sunday, at 3 p.m. Festival includes ethnic & American food favorites, beer tent, children’s games, basket & cash raffle drawings, and “House of Treasures” market. Live musical entertainment features Poor Decisions (Friday, 6 to 10 p.m.); The Scheme (Saturday, 6 to 10 p.m.); and Frost Duo (Sunday, 3 to 7 p.m.).

Saint Aloysius in Wilkes-Barre — Aug. 1-3. The “St. Al’s Church Bazaar” held Thursday & Friday, from 6 to 10 p.m.; Saturday, 5 to 11 p.m., on the church grounds, 143 West Division St. Picnic food, bingo, and games for all ages.

Concert to celebrate Independence Day

PITTSTON — The music ministries from the parishes of Saint John the Evangelist and Saint Joseph Marelo in Pittston, accompanied by musicians from the community, will present a concert celebrating the Independence Day holiday on Wednesday, June 26, at 7 p.m. in Saint John the Evangelist Church, 35 William St., Pittston.

Our Lady of Victory in Tannersville — Aug. 2 & 3. Annual Homecoming Bazaar held Friday & Saturday on the Our Lady of Victory parish grounds, 327 Cherry Lane Road, Tannersville. Festivities feature food, fun & games for the whole family. Festival attractions also include a grand raffle drawing, nearly 100 theme baskets, used book tent, and bingo games.

Saint Matthew’s in East Stroudsburg — Aug. 9-11. Summer festival held on 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, bingo prizes, kids’ toy bingo & games, raffle drawings, and

mega cash raffle. Featured music headliners include: Who Knows Band, Kevin MacIntire (Frank Sinatra Show), Joey & The T Birds, Lightning Sounds Entertainment, and Robbie Junior Music.

Saint Jude’s in Mountain Top — Aug. 9-11. Parish’s 71st annual “Picnic in the Grove” 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. Features ethnic & traditional picnic foods, including homemade pierogi and halushki; live music; bountiful basket raffle; and open-pit chicken barbecue dinner on Sunday, starting at noon.

Continued on page 29

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CHURCH

ANNUAL HOMECOMING BAZAAR

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2 & SATURDAY, AUGUST 3

5-9 PM

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Opens 5:30PM Thursday & Friday • Opens after 4PM Mass on Saturday

Giant Flea Market (Opens at 1 PM Thurs.) • Games • Bingo
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Live Music 7:00 PM to 10:30 PM

Thursday: Flaxy Morgan • Friday: Strawberry Jam • Saturday: Kartune

Bratwurst, Haluski, Pierogies, Potato Pancakes, Piggies, Pizza,
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St. Elizabeth / St. Mark

Parish Festival

SUNDAY 11TH AUGUST

PARISH GROUNDS
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MISSION MESSAGE

**Haiti — Always
on the Horizon**

*By Shannon Kowalski
Diocesan Director,
Pontifical Mission Societies*



Haiti, a nation known for its resilience and vibrant culture, has long been a focal point for missionary activity, especially within the Catholic Church since the 15th Century.

Catholic missionaries, inspired by Jesus' call in Matthew's Gospel to serve the "least of these," have been dedicated to providing essential services and spiritual guidance to the Haitian people. Despite its rich cultural heritage, Haiti remains one of the poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere.

UNICEF estimates that nearly 59 percent of the Haitian population lives below the poverty line. Extreme poverty is particularly prevalent in rural regions, with approximately 2.5 million individuals earning less than \$1.25 per day. Many Haitians struggle to access basic services

such as clean water, sanitation, and healthcare.

Additionally, Haiti faces significant food insecurity, with 4.97 million people experiencing acute food shortages — nearly half of the country's population. These harsh realities underscore the urgent need for continued aid from Catholic missionaries and other international partners.

Catholic social teaching emphasizes the preferential option for the poor, urging us to prioritize the needs of the most vulnerable. Through centuries of missionary work, education, healthcare, and emergency relief efforts, Christian missionaries have been instrumental in supporting Haiti through its many challenges.

Catholic missionaries in Haiti provide more than humanitarian aid: They bring the sacraments, evangelize, and instill a sense of hope and dignity among the people. Their work is rooted in the belief that every human being is made in the image and likeness of God and deserves a life of dignity, free from poverty and oppression.

Despite their noble intentions, missionaries often face violence and instability in developing nations. On May 23,

Judes Montis, a Haitian mission director, and David and Natalie Lloyd, a missionary couple from the United States, were tragically killed by gang members after leading a youth group activity in a Haitian church. The deaths of Judes, David and Natalie serve as a stark and painful reminder of the risks associated with being a missionary.

These individuals, often inspired by their faith in Christ, leave behind their homes and all that they know to serve in areas fraught with danger. Their sacrifice is a testament to their deep faith and commitment to the Gospel's call to serve. The loss of these lives is a profound tragedy, not only for their families and communities but also for the broader mission of the Church in Haiti.

The recent deaths of these missionaries highlight the dangers and the urgent need for continued support from the Catholic Church and the global community. By standing in solidarity with Haiti, providing necessary aid, and ensuring the safety of those who serve, we honor the memory of the fallen missionaries and uphold the mission of the Church. Their legacy of hope and healing must continue, driven by the Catholic principles of human dignity, solidarity, and the preferential option for the poor.

Through steadfast support and compassion, we can help Haiti move toward a future where all its people can thrive.



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Apostleship of Prayer

Papal Intention for June 2024

For Migrants Fleeing their Homes —

We pray that migrants fleeing from war or hunger,
forced to undertake journeys full of danger and violence,
find welcome and new opportunities
in the countries that receive them.

Mocanaqua parish announces plans for 'Walking Pilgrimage' on July 13



More than 30 faithful made the trek from Mocanaqua to Glen Lyon during last year's Holy Spirit Parish 'Walking Pilgrimage.'

MOCANAQUA — A Saint Adalbert's. Lunch will be traditional "walking pilgrimage" is being planned by Holy Spirit Parish for Saturday, July 13, starting at Saint Mary Church in Mocanaqua and concluding at Saint Adalbert Church in Glen Lyon.

The pilgrimage will begin at 8 a.m. with Confessions and prayers at Saint Mary Church, 130 Rectory Road, Mocanaqua.

The pilgrim brigade will then walk approximately six miles through the Mocanaqua Tract of the Pinchot State Forest, culminating with Holy Mass at

Saint Adalbert's. Lunch will be served and bus transportation back to Mocanaqua will be available.

The public is invited to participate in the pilgrimage, either by walking or by submitting prayer requests to be carried by the pilgrims.

To register, contact Raphael Micca at (570) 301-9253 or email rdmicca@aol.com prior to July 7.

The pilgrimage will be held rain or shine. Participants are asked to dress accordingly and modestly.



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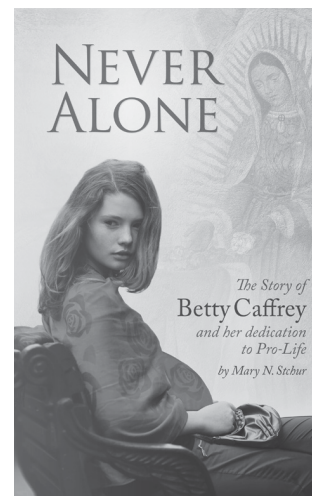
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Blue Army Reparation Vigil

The next monthly First Friday
Reparation Vigil sponsored by the
Blue Army will be held **July 5** at
Saint Joseph's Oblates Chapel,
1880 Highway 315, Laffin.

Devotions begin Friday
evening at 8 p.m. with recitation
of the Rosary, during which time
confessions are heard.

Mass of the Sacred Heart
of Jesus is celebrated at 8:55
p.m., followed by benediction
and exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament and consecration to the
Sacred Heart.



Never Alone

by **Mary N. Stchur, M.Ed.** is the
Biography of **Betty Caffrey** who has
dedicated over 45 years as Founder
and President of the Wyoming Valley
Chapter of Pennsylvanians for Human
Life. It features historical photos and
news stories recalling the Pro-Life
successes, efforts, and challenges which
the Chapter has withstood throughout
the years under the leadership of
Mrs. Caffrey. At the age of 95, Betty
Caffrey is still active in the day-to-day
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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 Respecto 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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World Refugee Day celebration to be held in Scranton June 22



On Saturday, June 22, 2024, everyone is invited to participate in a World Refugee Day celebration at Nay Aug Park (Mulberry Street entrance, across from GCMC and Everhart Museum) in Scranton from 2-4 p.m. The celebration will include cultural music and dance performances, refreshments, giveaways, games, and activities for kids. There are numerous community agencies working together to plan for this celebration. Pictured are, first row, from left: Digne Mbinga, Congolese Community Scranton; Ivanna Gleb, Catholic Social Services; Audrey Golosky, United Neighborhood Centers; Daysi Carreto, The University of Scranton; Camilla Sphabmixay, Catholic Social Services; Smriti Sharma, Bhutanese Cultural Foundation of Scranton Association; and Jelytza Lopez, Catholic Social Services. Second row, from left: Channel Kears, City of Scranton; Ushu Mukelo, Congolese Community Scranton; Niyitanga Dedieumas, Catholic Social Services; Gulnar Siddiqi, Catholic Social Services & Islamic Center of Scranton; Fikile Ryder, Catholic Social Services; Julie Schumacher Cohen, The University of Scranton; Prem Subedi, Bhutanese Cultural Foundation of Scranton Association; Chandra Sitaula, Bhutanese Cultural Foundation of Scranton Association; Jenny Gonzalez, S.T.A.R.S. Program at Marywood University; and Michelle Rosler, S.T.A.R.S. Program at Marywood University.

Saint Vincent de Paul Kitchen kicks off 'Sponsor for a Day' campaign

WILKES-BARRE- The Saint Vincent de Paul Kitchen in Wilkes-Barre kicked off its annual "Sponsor For A Day" campaign on June 1.

For \$125, one can sponsor the day's meal at Saint Vincent de Paul Kitchen and help provide meals to those in need.

The sponsorship can be from oneself, a family, in memory of a loved one, or on behalf of a business.

Sponsors are recognized each day on the "Sponsor For The



Day" draw-board in the Kitchen as well as on the Kitchen's Facebook page.

New sponsors may call (570) 829-7796 for more information.

Cathedral cemetery entrance currently closed for renovations

SCRANTON — On June 4, 2024, the main entrance to Cathedral Cemetery, located in the 1700 block of Oram Street, West Scranton, temporarily closed to both vehicles and pedestrians.

The temporary closure is necessary so that renovation work to the cemetery entrance gates and sidewalks can be completed. The work is expected to be completed, and the main entrance to Cathedral Cemetery reopened, no later than Labor Day weekend.

Cathedral Cemetery remains open to visitors throughout the duration of the renovation work, however access by both vehicles and pedestrians will be the alternative entrance on Pettibone Street (adjacent to the green maintenance garage).

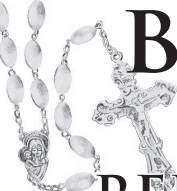
The Diocese of Scranton and

the staff of Cathedral Cemetery appreciate the understanding of all people avoiding the construction area to ensure the safety of both workers and visitors.

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Catholic Mental Health Ministry in Lackawanna County to begin offering spiritual support

CLARKS GREEN — A assistance of the Mental Health Catholic Spiritual Support Group Ministry community from the for those with mental illness parishes of Saint Gregory, Clarks has been established with the Green; Our Lady of the Snows,

Clarks Summit; and Saint John Vianney, Scott Township.

Beginning on Wednesday, July 3, meetings will be held on the first and third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Church of Saint Gregory, 330 North Abington Road, Clarks Green. Meetings will run approximately 90 minutes.

The Spiritual Support Group provides a safe, supportive space for individuals (18 years of age & older) who are living with mental illness. The group

meetings will provide those in attendance the ability to speak out in a confidential, non-judgmental environment, where isolation and stigma dissipate, and a supportive community is created.

“Our goal is to ensure that

no one feels alone in his or her struggle,” organizers of the spiritual support group state. “Sharing each other’s stories can be a liberating and welcome break in the silence that often surrounds mental illness.”

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June 19: Broadway/Shopper's Special

June 23: Adventure Aquarium

June 29: Seaside Heights

July 6: Kutztown Folk Festival

July 11: Dodgers at Phillies

July 13: Blues, Brews & Bube's

July 14: Bronx Zoo

July 16 & Aug. 10: Cape May

July 20: Mountain Beer & Wine Fest

July 20 & Aug. 12: Wildwood

July 21: Brooklyn Pizza Tour

July 26: Baltimore Aquarium

July 27: Windmill Farm & Craft Market

Aug. 4: Peach Fest at Peddler's Village

Aug. 17: Day in Gettysburg

Aug. 24: Wolf Sanctuary & Butterfly Atrium

Sept. 23: PA Grand Canyon

Sept. 26: Tribute to Rat Pack

Oct. 2: Fall Foliage Train Ride

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Catholic Happenings Around the Diocese

Monthly Meeting of the Lay Carmelites — **JUNE 15**, hosted by Our Lady of the Mountains Lay Carmelite Community on the third Saturday of each month; gatherings are held from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Oblates of St. Joseph seminary/chapel, 1880 Highway 315, Laflin. For more information, contact Chris at (570) 239-8094.

Charismatic Renewal Regional Prayer Meeting — **JUNE 17**, sponsored by the Scranton Diocesan Catholic Charismatic Renewal; begins at 7:30 p.m. in the social hall at Queen of the Apostles Parish, 715 Hawthorne St., Avoca. Devotional event includes faith-sharing offering by Pastor Pat Colladay, exultant songs of prayer & praise, and refreshments. All are welcome.

Tuesday Eucharistic Adoration — **JUNE 18**, hosted by St. Peter Parish in Wellsboro; weekly exposition & adoration of the Blessed Sacrament offered every Tuesday from 1 to 6 p.m. at the Church of St. Peter, 47 Central Ave., Wellsboro. All faithful are welcome to spend time in prayerful

meditation and reflection in the presence of the Eucharistic Lord.

Second Annual Pro-Life "Run4Life" Event — **JUNE 22**, sponsored by the Scranton Chapter of Pennsylvanians for Human Life; activities begin at 9:30 p.m. at Nay Aug Park's Schimelfenig Pavilion in Scranton. Participants may either compete in the 5K running event or enjoy the 1.5 mile Fun Walk; prizes will be awarded to the top male and female finishers in various age groups. Family-friendly activities include face painting and coloring stations. Advance registration is \$25 person (\$30 at the event); children ages 12 and younger are free of charge. Complimentary T-shirts will be given to the first 150 paid participants. For more information & registration, visit: prolifescranton.org/event/run4life/ or call (570) 343-5099.

First Friday Rosary & Adoration — **JULY 5**, hosted by St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish at Our Lady of the Lake Church, 5112 Pocono Crest Road, Pocono Pines; offered on First Friday of

Continued on page 30

Summer Church Festivals & Picnics

Blessed Sacrament in Throop — **Aug. 10 & 11**. Blessed Sacrament's 17th Annual Family Festival held on Saturday and Sunday at the parish grounds & hall, 215 Rebecca Street, Throop. Festival features a variety of ethnic and traditional picnic foods, including pigs-in-the-blanket; youth event on Saturday; and Sunday bingo games. For more information, call Karen at (570) 904-3241.

Saint Elizabeth/Saint Mark in Bear Creek — **Aug. 11, from noon to 8 p.m.** Parish's Sunday Summer Festival held on the

Saint Elizabeth church grounds, 5700 Bear Creek Boulevard, Bear Creek, featuring chicken barbecue dinner served from noon to 2 p.m. Traditional ethnic and picnic foods available, including pierogi and potato pancakes. Event also includes live music, summer beverages, gift basket raffles, bingo & festival games, and grand prize cash drawing.



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Catholic Happenings Around the Diocese

Continued from page 29

each month. Opens with recitation of the Rosary at 6:30 p.m. led by St. Monica's Army; followed by one hour of blessed adoration. All faithful are welcome.

Summer Youth Music Camp: "On Pilgrimage with Jesus" — JULY 29-AUG. 2, 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. 4. Camp is open

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, or parishoffice.goh@goholv.org.

Community Flea Market — AUG. 3, sponsored by the Altar & Rosary Society of Gate of Heaven Parish in Dallas; held 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Gate of Heaven church parking lot, 40 Machell Ave., Dallas. Space rentals available for \$20 each; vendors are requested to provide their own tables. For rentals and more information, contact Patty Price at (570) 407-1734 or Cloudsp24@gmail.com.

23rd Annual Lebanese-American Food Festival — AUG. 9-11, hosted by St. Joseph Melkite-Greek Catholic Church,

130 North St. Frances Cabrini Ave. (off lower Jackson Street), West Scranton; event 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 American picnic food favorites; includes gift baskets & cash raffles. For more information, contact the rectory office at (570) 343-6092 or melkite.scranton@gmail.com.

Catholic High School Class Reunion — SEPT. 21, hosted by the 2004 graduation class from the former Bishop Hoban High School in Wilkes-Barre; 20-year reunion gathering will be held from 7 to 10 p.m. at Rodano's in downtown Wilkes-Barre. For more information and reservations, visit: tinyurl.com/hoban04reunion20.

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:

June 13, Father Jonathan Kuhar; June 14, Father Jose Joseph Kuriappilly; June 15, Father Andrew Kurovsky; June 16, Father Joseph Kutch; June 17, Father Arun Lakra; June 18, Father John Lambert; June 19, Passionist Father Francis Landry; June 20, Father William Langan; June 21, Father John Lapera; June 22, Saint Peter Priestly Fraternity Father William Lawrence; June 23, Passionist Father Michael Lee; June 24, Jesuit Father John Levko; June 25, Father Michael Litcheck; June 26, Holy Cross Father Thomas Looney; June 27, Holy Cross Father Robert Lozinski; June 28, Father Edward Lyman; June 29, Monsignor Peter Madus; June 30, Saint Peter Priestly Fraternity Father Christopher Mahowald; July 1, Pope Francis; July 2, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera; July 3, Father Thomas Major; July 4, Father Thomas Maloney; July 5, Father Joseph Manarchuck; July 6, Capuchin Franciscan Father Pio Mandato; July 7, Father Michael Marchetti; July 8, Jesuit Father Joseph Marina; July 9, Jesuit Father Leonard Martin; July 10, Bishop Emeritus Joseph F. Martino; July 11, Father Paschal Mbagwu; July 12, Father Michael McCormick; July 13, Father Glenn McCreary, V.E.; July 14, Saint Joseph Oblate Father Paul McDonnell; July 15, Holy Cross Father Russ McDougall; July 16, Father Patrick McDowell; July 17, Father James McGahagan; July 18, Father Gerard McGlone; July 19, Monsignor Stephen McGough; July 20, Father John McHale; July 21, Father Connell McHugh; July 22, Jesuit Father Bernard McIlhenny; July 23, Jesuit Father Ronald McKinney; July 24, Father Patrick McLaughlin.

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**Sister of Mercy
Mary Stephanie
Olek**

*Entered Life:
September 20, 1925*

*Entered Eternal Life:
May 7, 2024*



**Immaculate Heart
of Mary Sister
Margaret Loftus**

*Entered Life:
March 23, 1925*

*Entered Eternal Life:
May 18, 2024*

**Immaculate Heart
of Mary Sister
Lois Buckley**

*Entered Life:
June 8, 1936*

*Entered Eternal Life:
May 20, 2024*



**Immaculate Heart
of Mary Sister
Jan Marie Kalyan**

*Entered Life:
March 5, 1943*

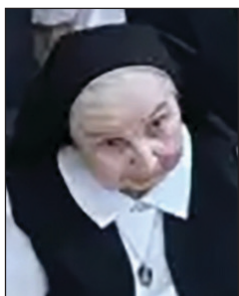
*Entered Eternal Life:
May 31, 2024*



**Christian Charity
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