

# The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

WWW.DIOCESEOFSCRANTON.ORG VOLUME 124 NUMBER 11 ISSN-0164-9418 THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2024

## Diocese to host inspiring Rosary Rally on Nov. 16 at Cathedral of Saint Peter

SCRANTON – In a world filled with noise and distractions, Nancy Layo finds peace and comfort in praying the rosary.

“I feel like I’m holding onto Mary’s hand when I’m praying the rosary,” Layo said. “It keeps me connected to God through Mary.”

The same is true for Ann Laird.

“For me, it has provided a sense of calm, a sense of purpose, and I feel much closer to our Lord through the Blessed Mother,” Laird added.

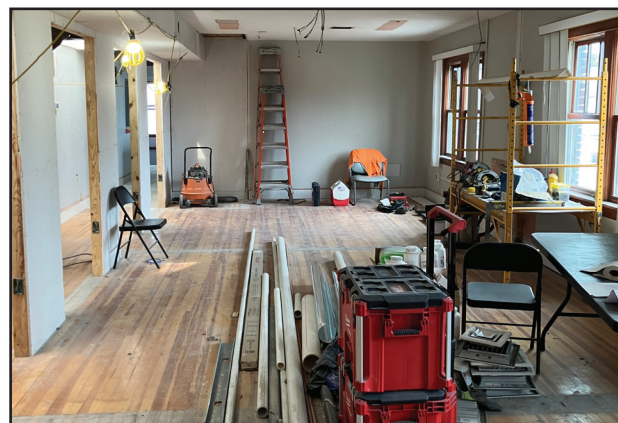
Both Layo and Laird, who are parishioners and members of the worship team at Mary, Mother of God Parish in North Scranton, have dedicated their Friday mornings this month to praying the rosary with fellow parishioners in their church.

“It is good for us to say our own prayers but for us to get together and pray is also powerful,” Layo said.

The Catholic Church dedicates the month of October to the Holy Rosary. This year, this month takes on added significance because parishes in the Diocese of Scranton are participating in a Rosary Crusade, leading up to a large Rosary Rally that will take place on Nov. 16, 2024, at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

The Rosary Crusade, which is now underway, will look different in each parish. Some will celebrate Mass or schedule a special Holy Hour for the intention of an increase in family prayer. Others will have parishioners gather more often to recite the rosary – or ask families to sign a pledge card to recite the rosary as a family.

“We’re excited because there are so many beautiful things about the rosary. It is such a common, uniting element that we have in our faith,” Mary Hallman, Diocesan Secretary for Parish Life, explained. “The whole purpose of the (Rosary) Crusade is for families to pray more.”



Construction is underway on the new permanent location for Mother Teresa’s Haven shelter, which will be located on East Jackson Street in Wilkes-Barre. (Photo/Eric Deabill)

## Construction begins on permanent homeless shelter in Wilkes-Barre

WILKES-BARRE – With colder nights on the horizon, construction is now underway on the new, permanent location for Mother Teresa’s Haven, an emergency shelter for men experiencing homelessness, which is operated by Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton.

Located at 39 East Jackson Street, directly above Saint Vincent de Paul Kitchen, the new facility will provide stability and essential services for those in need.

“I’m like a little kid as Christmas is approaching,” Joe Mahoney, Chief Executive Officer of Catholic Social Services, said while touring the facility Oct. 10.

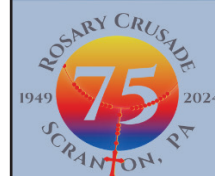
“I’m so ready to have our people move into this space. Panzitta Enterprises, our construction contractor, has been wonderful to work with on this whole project.”

For several decades, Mother Teresa’s Haven has been ‘nomadic’ in nature, operating out of various churches in Wilkes-Barre. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, it has been housed in the basement of Saint Mary’s Church of the Immaculate Conception. Having a permanent site will not only enhance the quality of services offered but will also enable better coordination with other local providers.

*Continued on Page 27*

“The family  
that prays  
together,  
stays  
together.”

– Venerable Patrick Peyton



ROSARY CRUSADE

ScrantonPrays.com





# The Catholic Light

(ISSN 0164-9418)

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.

## POLICY STATEMENT

*The Catholic Light* is our official diocesan journal. The publication of notices, regulations and extra-synodical decrees in said paper constitute legal promulgation for all the faithful of the Diocese of Scranton, Clergy and Laity.

## Published monthly by:

Catholic Light Publishing Company  
300 Wyoming Avenue  
Scranton, PA 18503-1287

## Offices:

300 Wyoming Avenue  
Scranton, PA 18503-1287  
Phone: (570) 207-2229  
Fax: (570) 207-2271

## Publisher:

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

**Secretary for Communications/Editor-in-Chief:**  
Eric M. Deabill

## Managing Editor:

Kevin G. McDonnell

## Advertising Coordinator:

Eileen Manley

## Circulation Coordinator:

Pamela Haeefe

## Yearly Subscription Rates:

Resident: \$10  
Foreign: \$12

Your donation to the Diocesan Annual Appeal  
helps support The Catholic Light

Diocese of Scranton  
**DIOCESAN**  
ANNUAL APPEAL

## Postal Information:

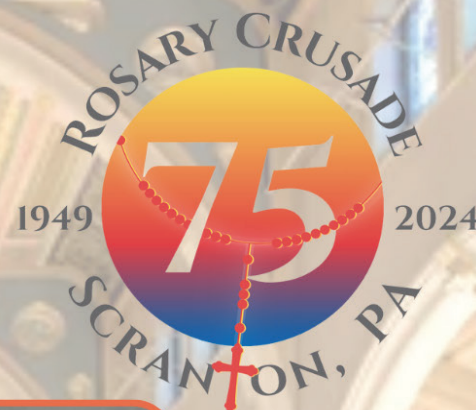
*The Catholic Light* (ISSN 0164-9418) is published monthly by the Catholic Light Publishing Company, 300 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, PA 18503-1287. Periodicals postage paid at Scranton PA and additional mailing offices.

## POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to *The Catholic Light*, 300 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, PA 18503-1287

[www.dioceseofscranton.org](http://www.dioceseofscranton.org)

# ROSARY RALLY



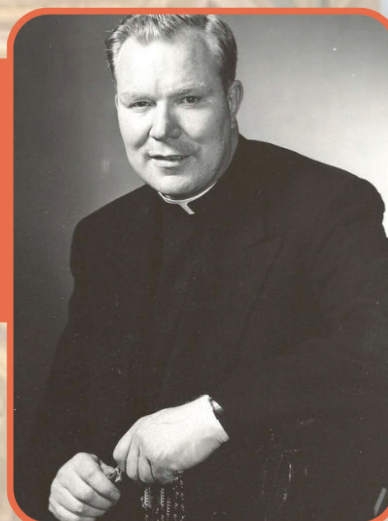
# 11.16.2024 1:30pm

## Cathedral of St. Peter 315 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton PA

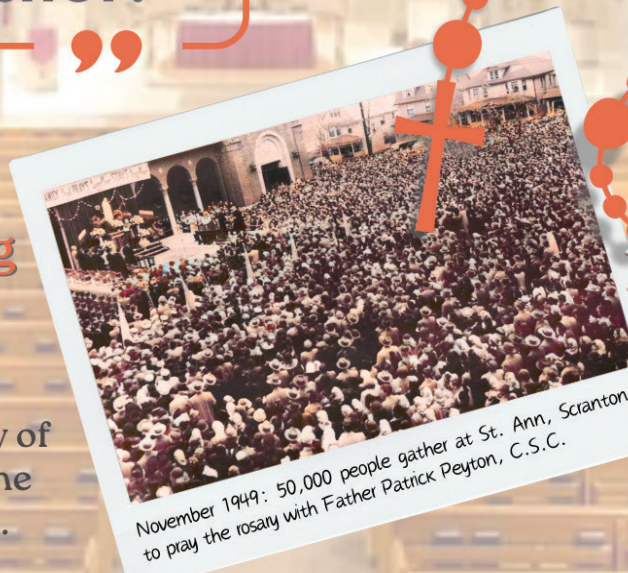
“The family that  
prays together,  
stays together.”

- Rosary
- Book signing
- Movie screening
- Adoration
- Confessions

Let's continue the legacy of  
Fr. Peyton and renew the  
spirit of family prayer.



75 Years ago, Father  
Patrick Peyton held  
the first U.S. Rosary  
Rally in Scranton, PA.  
50,000 people  
gathered here!



November 1949: 50,000 people gather at St. Ann, Scranton  
to pray the rosary with Father Patrick Peyton, C.S.C.



DIOCESE OF  
SCRANTON



HOLY CROSS  
FAMILY MINISTRIES



ORDER OF MALTA  
SCRANTON



HEAVEN & EARTH  
GIFT SHOP • CAFE

For more information contact: Mary Hallman (570) 207-2213 [mhallman@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:mhallman@dioceseofscranton.org)



# 'Very moving:' Parishioners unite for 45th annual Candlelight Rosary Novena

SCRANTON – Over the course of nine nights, hundreds of people filled the pews of Divine Mercy Parish for what has become a popular tradition in Lackawanna County.

Between Oct. 5-13, the Minooka-based parish hosted the well-known Candlelight Rosary Novena each night to celebrate the Marian month of October.

With parishes in the Diocese of Scranton currently involved in a Rosary Crusade, parishioner Joe Moceyunas described this year's services as "very moving."

"Once you experience it, it puts a whole different spin on your life and you're very gracious and thankful for everything that God does," he said. "It's just amazing to see the faith that brings everybody here to pray to God."

While the Candlelight Rosary Novena has now been taking place for 45 years in various parishes, Kathy Moceyunas



**Faithful from across the Diocese of Scranton participate in the 45th annual Candlelight Rosary Novena at Divine Mercy Parish in Scranton Oct. 7, 2024. (Photo/Dan Piazza)**

feels it brought the Divine Mercy parish community even closer together.

With the theme for this year's Rosary Novena, "In God We Trust," Moceyunas found herself praying for our world.

"It really is a very prayerful moment, and it takes away from our busy lives. We come together and pray to the Blessed Mother. It's just beautiful from start to finish," she said.

During each night of the event, people recited the rosary together, crowned the Blessed Mother, reflected on a Gospel passage, prayed the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and used candlelight during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

"I think it touches their hearts," Deacon Carmine Mendicino, the Candlelight Rosary Novena's long-time director, said. "No one leaves the church, even after it is over, they want to stay until the last song

is finished and then they stop and talk to one another and share their feelings. It's beautiful."

The candlelight ambiance, combined with heartfelt prayers and music, creates a moving experience for all attendees – including many men – which Mendicino says was very evident this year.

"Many men come to this, and they are touched in a very special way," Mendicino added. "I think it's something that Mary has brought to all of us that we might enjoy."

Father Paul McDonnell, O.S.J., Pastor of Divine Mercy Parish, said the nightly event was a beautiful way to honor Jesus through his Blessed Mother.

"They're bringing the gift of faith into this church and if that moves me as a mere human being, as a priest, imagine what it does to the heart of Christ and to the Immaculate Heart of Mary," Father McDonnell said.

## Rosary Rally to commemorate 75 years since Fr. Peyton's first event in Scranton

*Continued from Page 1*

Father Peyton devoted his priestly life to spreading devotion to Mary and encouraging family prayer, especially the rosary. He used radio, television, and film, and 540 Rosary Rallies worldwide to accomplish his mission.

"He harnessed the media and look at where we are today. We have ways to pray the rosary that he could have never imagined. There are apps for it. You can go online. One of my personal favorite things is I go on YouTube, and I can hear the voice of Father Peyton and pray the rosary along with him, just like people did all those years ago," Hallman said.

Father Peyton, whose cause for sainthood was officially opened in 2001, has a connection to Scranton. After immigrating to the United States, a young Peyton served as the janitor for the Cathedral of Saint Peter before answering the call to the priesthood.

The Rosary Rally planned for Nov. 16 is open to everyone. There will be a special emphasis on getting families

to attend together. There will be many special events taking place, including book signings, a screening of the movie 'Pray,' Eucharistic Adoration and a reflection on Mary using the artwork of the Cathedral of Saint Peter.

The centerpiece of the Rosary Rally will take place at 1:30 p.m. when all in attendance will recite the rosary together.

"We're asking people to come together in the same spirit as they did with Father Peyton," Hallman excitedly stated.

Whether you're a lifelong devotee or have never picked up a rosary, Father Cyril Edwards, pastor, Mary, Mother of God Parish in Scranton, believes the Rosary Rally will be an opportunity for people to learn, grow, and experience the beauty of communal prayer. Together, he believes participants will lift their voices to heaven and draw closer to God.

"There is plenty to pray for," the longtime pastor said.

For more information on the Rosary Rally that will take place on Nov. 16, visit the Diocese of Scranton website at [dioceseofscranton.org](http://dioceseofscranton.org).

## Why do you believe praying the rosary is such a powerful prayer?



*"I feel like I'm holding onto Mary's hand when I'm praying the rosary and I love the Mother of God and I feel she is my mother too."*

**Nancy Layo**



*"For me, it has provided a sense of calm, a sense of purpose, and I feel much closer to our Lord through the Blessed Mother."*

**Ann Laird**



*"It just draws us more deeply into Jesus' life. For example, the sorrowful mysteries, the agony, the scourging, the crowning of thorns, those are all powerful events entering into His death and His resurrection."*

**Fr. Cyril Edwards**  
**Pastor, Mary, Mother of God Parish**



# Bishop Bambera's Message for Respect Life Month 2024

Dear Friends,

*"I came so that they might have life (Jn 10:10)."*

Since 1972, the year before abortion was legalized in the United States, the Catholic Church has dedicated the month of October as a special season to promote a culture of life throughout our land. This year's theme is taken from Saint John's gospel discourse on the Good Shepherd.

This venerable image of the People of God as God's flock and Jesus as our Shepherd is significant for several reasons. First, the image of Jesus as our Shepherd is both consoling and hopeful as we reflect upon the selfless care and guidance of God who walks with us in this journey of life. Second, its context in John's gospel reminds us of the challenges that we confront as followers of Christ.



In this portion of the gospel, Jesus more precisely refers to himself as the gate for the sheep, the one who gives access to God, the source of all life. Today in our world, however, many sadly seek to redirect the values we hold as Christians. Quite intentionally, they attempt to convince us of the significance of determining our own way while simultaneously setting aside the recognition of the unique and treasured status of all forms of human life. Espousing a flawed notion of freedom, their goal is to diminish appreciation for the ultimate values of the gospel, thereby undermining our conviction as Christians that Jesus alone guides God's flock to life and salvation.

Despite the overturning of Roe v. Wade in 2022, the challenge to protect human life has not diminished at all. It's merely shifted from being a national issue to a state issue. Threats to human life are increasingly evident in our world today; threats that we often fail – or refuse – to recognize. And make no mistake about it, with the efforts of so many influential groups and organizations in our land that seek to undermine the value of human life while masquerading as supporters of freedom and champions of justice, we are on the precipice of a slippery slope that will eventually lead to even more heinous actions that disregard the sanctity of life. It should come as no surprise that in addition to the tragic and continued widespread scourge of abortion, we're also confronted with proposals and policies that favor assisted suicide, euthanasia, infanticide and human cloning. These too are dire threats to our belief in the dignity and value of the human person – as are the death penalty, human trafficking, and unjust immigration laws.

The good news, however, is that the voices of faithful, selfless disciples of Jesus and countless others from different faith traditions continue to be heard in our world, proclaiming the value of human life as the treasured gift of God that it is.

Pope Francis has often reminded us that "every person – from the most vulnerable unborn child to the sick, the elderly and the poor – has an inviolable right to life" and "is a masterpiece of God's creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect."

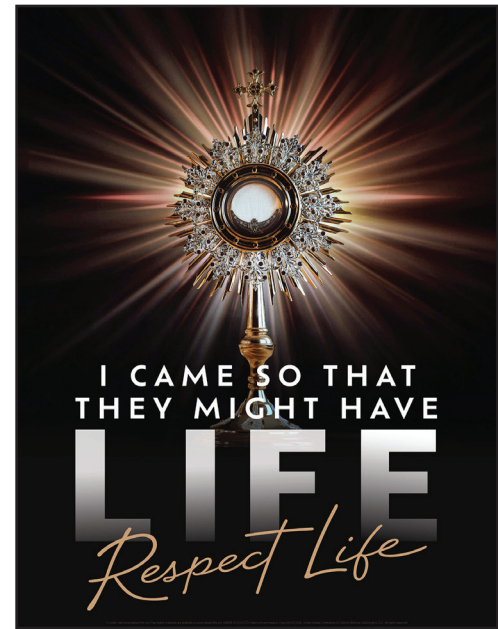
Though well beyond our ability to determine or control, life – from the moment of conception to natural end – is a gift to treasure and respect. We do so, however, not through our self-righteous criticisms of those whose beliefs may appear to be different than our own. ... We treasure and respect life when we are courageous enough to assert our commitment to such values, despite how some may regard us in the process. ... We treasure and respect life when we vote carefully and thoughtfully according to the beliefs that we treasure within our hearts. ... And we most effectively witness to life when we are humble enough to embrace the gospel message of Jesus and to treat the lives that come into our own with reverence and dignity as children of one and the same God.

Therein lies the essence of Jesus' words, "I came so that they might have life (Jn 10:10)."

Faithfully yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph C. Bambera".

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



Photos on this page are from the Respect Life Sunday Mass, held at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton, on Oct. 6, 2024. (Photos/Mike Melisky)



# Standing in Solidarity of Life

## Thousands rally in Harrisburg for fourth annual PA March for Life, championing human dignity

HARRISBURG – Rain showers did not dampen the spirit of thousands of pro-life Pennsylvanians rallying at the State Capitol Complex on Sept. 23, 2024.

The fourth annual Pennsylvania March for Life brought a crowd of at least 5,000 people to Harrisburg from every corner of the commonwealth to voice their support for protecting the human dignity of every life – including the unborn.

“I have been here every year since it has been going on and it’s just uplifting to see all the people that believe we need to protect the unborn because it is a slippery slope. Once we start killing babies, we don’t value human life,” Doris Bush of Williamsport said.

Bush, a parishioner at Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Bastress, attended the Pennsylvania March for Life with several of her sisters.

“We are never going to stop until we stop killing babies in the womb,” she explained.

The PA March for Life is also a family tradition for Ryan Rupprecht of Old Forge. The parishioner of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Dupont walked alongside his father, John, who has attended every national March for Life in Washington since the mid-1970s.

“We never missed a march. Every march, he managed to bring the family down to D.C., we went through rainstorms, snowstorms, whatever it took,” Ryan said. “Any day we can stand up and give a voice to the voiceless is a great day and we’ll do whatever it takes. We will never stop fighting.”

Several groups across the Diocese of Scranton sponsored bus trips to bring people to the PA March for Life.

Jacob Gensel, a senior at Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre, took a Diocesan-sponsored bus to the rally with several other students involved in his school’s pro-life club.

“It fires you up to see more young people and it encourages you to fight,” Gensel said. “It is really nice to see that we have multiple schools throughout the commonwealth here today. Hopefully we’re going to be able to take some of this



Despite rain, a crowd of at least 5,000 people filled the State Capitol Complex in Harrisburg Sept. 23, 2024, for the PA March for Life.



Students from Trinity High School carried the PA March for Life banner leading others around the Capitol. (Photos/Eric Deabill)

back and use it to get more club members and spread the word a little bit more.”

The Pennsylvania Family Institute hosts the PA March for Life in partnership with the national March for Life organization.

In a pre-march rally, speakers peacefully advocated for pro-life protections for women and the unborn. Rally speakers included Wendy Burpee, Executive Director of Genesis Women’s Clinics, who extends a helping hand to mothers, babies, and families to build a culture of life.

“We give them the opportunity to see their unborn children. We give them the chance to hear the heartbeat of that little baby and we give them the love and support that they need so that they can choose life,” Burpee told the crowd.

Abortions are legal in Pennsylvania up to 24 weeks of pregnancy. After that, abortions are available if the pregnancy would risk the life or health of the mother.

Jeanne F. Mancini, President of March for Life Education and Defense Fund, encouraged those in the crowd to contact their state lawmakers, urging them to oppose the Reproductive Freedom Act (House Bill 2304).

She said the legislation would repeal long-standing laws that protect women, children and babies, including the parental consent requirement for minors to undergo an abortion, the 24-hour waiting period, informed consent for women before having

an abortion and protection for babies born alive during a failed abortion.

“Your commitment gives me hope,” Mancini told the crowd. “You are a beacon of hope lighting the way for a future that embraces the beauty and the dignity of every human life.”

As he wrapped up his walk around the Capitol Complex, Dr. Francis Schell of Luzerne, criticized HB 2304, saying it

would strip away the life-affirming laws that protect Pennsylvania’s most vulnerable.

“Some of the legislation they’re trying to introduce here would make abortion with no limitations, including after birth,” Dr. Schell explained. “Kids would get what they call ‘comfort measures.’ You would think ‘comfort measures’ would include food and warmth. They do not. They let the baby die after birth.”

### Bishop Bambera delivers homily during Closing Mass of PA March for Life

HARRISBURG - Catholic Bishops from around the Commonwealth joined their parishioners during the fourth annual Pennsylvania March for Life.

They also led the faithful in Mass at Saint Patrick Cathedral before and after the event.

The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, was the homilist for the closing Mass at 1:30 p.m., which followed the March. The principal celebrant was Archbishop Nelson Perez of Philadelphia.

During his homily, Bishop Bambera said the Lord counts on each of us to spread the Gospel of Life.

“The Lord counts on us to be light in the midst of darkness, to be hope in the



Bishop Bambera delivers the homily during the closing Mass of the PA March for Life at Saint Patrick Cathedral Sept. 23, 2024. (Photo/Jen Reed, *The Catholic Witness*)

midst of despair and to be his presence embracing and respecting every human life made in the image and likeness of our Creator,” Bishop Bambera said.





## GRANDMA'S WORDS INSPIRE A LIFELONG LOVE OF THE EUCHARIST

- *A Priesthood Perspective by Father Michael Drevitch-  
Assistant Pastor, Corpus Christi Parish, West Pittston/Exeter*



The late Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI once wrote, "In the Eucharist, we do not simply receive something, but someone. And it is through the example and teaching of others that we are led to fully appreciate this encounter with Christ."

As I reflect on my own deep appreciation of the Eucharist, the words of Pope Benedict remind me of my grandparents, and their faithful dedication to the Church.

I can recall being in first grade at Sacred Heart School in Wilkes-Barre. My classroom faced the parking lot, shared by both the church and school. As I glanced out the window one morning, shortly upon settling into the school day, I watched my grandparents pull into the parking lot and proceed into the church for morning Mass. I was puzzled, I couldn't quite understand, as a first grader, why my grandparents would be going to Mass during the week. It wasn't Sunday after all, and my childlike mind didn't process the reception of Holy Communion on a daily basis.

Day after day, my grandparents faithfully attended Mass. The first opportunity I had to see my grandparents, I made to question their doings. Like a young Sherlock Holmes, I asked as many questions as I could, pondering why they were attending Mass every day. My grandmother's words have never left me.

"There's no better way than to start your day than by attending Mass and praying the Rosary," she said.

I've never forgotten her answer, and it would take a long time for me to truly appreciate her devout lifestyle, dedicated to Our Lord and Our Blessed Mother.

Little did I realize that as the school year continued, the student body would attend Mass every Thursday morning. Mass became more interesting, not just because it got us away from class for an hour, but because it gave us an opportunity to learn more about our Catholic faith

and the importance of the Eucharist. I'm grateful for my Catholic education, and the sacrifice my parents made to maintain that education throughout my entire academic career. I would come to love attending Mass, especially as I went on to receive First Holy Communion and become an altar boy.

My relationship with my grandparents strengthened with age, and with that came a deeper appreciation of their love for the Eucharist. Their faithfulness became my faithfulness, their devotions became my devotions.

Thanks to their example, I began to discern in my heart God's call to the Holy Priesthood. Attending Mass regularly, praying the rosary with my grandparents, and the example of my parish priests, deepened the intensity of my desire to become a priest.

Being accepted into the seminary was a great gift from God, and as I began my formation, my understanding and devotion to the Eucharist would grow stronger.

I'll never forget my first semester of college seminary at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia. Every year at the beginning of November, with the Solemnity of All Saints, classes would cease and the seminary community would enter into 40 Hours Devotion. Our days were spent focused on the Eucharist. Putting aside the stress of classes, it was an opportunity to rekindle those very words of my grandmother so many years ago. The Eucharist was truly the center of everything we did in our seminary formation.

Towards the end of my seminary formation, one of the greatest blessings I was afforded was to be able to attend Mass in Washington D.C. with Pope Francis on the occasion of the canonization of Saint Junipero Serra.

More so, since I was a transitional deacon at the time, I was privileged to be able to distribute Holy Communion for the nearly 25,000 faithful Catholics

who attended Mass that day.

During his homily, Pope Francis stressed the importance of evangelization, saying, "The joy of the Gospel is something to be experienced, something to be known and lived only through giving it away, through giving ourselves away."

With my ordination to the priesthood in the periphery, those words of Pope Francis reminded me that the Eucharist is meant to nourish us to truly go forth to live out the mission of Jesus Christ.

Allowing the Eucharist to remain at the forefront of my faith allowed me to fully understand the very nature of my ordination to the Holy Priesthood.

Not only would I continue to receive Jesus in the Eucharist, now I would stand "in persona Christi," offering to the faithful the body and blood of Jesus Christ Himself. There truly is no greater gift than to offer Mass every day and recognize Jesus working in and through me for the salvation of souls.

The Eucharist takes so many forms in the life of a priest: Daily Mass in the parish, bringing Holy Communion to the homebound and the hospitalized, offering Mass at the nursing home or local elementary school. The variety of ways in which the Eucharist is made accessible for those in need is beautiful testimony of the dedication of so many wonderful priests in our Diocese.

October is generally dedicated to the Rosary and Respect of Life. There is no better way to come to appreciate the Blessed Mother and the dignity of human life than through the Eucharist.

Saint John Paul II once said, "And is not the enraptured gaze of Mary as she contemplated the face of the newborn Christ and cradled Him in her arms that unparalleled model of love which should inspire us every time we receive Eucharistic communion?"

What a beautiful image! When we approach the altar of our Lord to receive Holy Communion, the Blessed

Mother stands as a model for us to truly recognize the living God present to us in the Eucharist. Mary's "yes" represents the very "yes" we make in our hearts upon reception of Holy Communion, acknowledging our own belief in the Real Presence of Jesus Christ.

Many years ago, a priest encouraged me to remove my wristwatch before celebrating Mass. To this day, I've never offered Mass with a watch on. Why? It reminds me that as I approach the altar, my time is not my own. I pray for the grace to be able to give fully of myself to the Lord and to my faithful parishioners who will be nourished by my words.

During Mass, our time is not our own, it is time that belongs to our Lord, who seeks continuously to offer us His love and mercy.

I've never forgotten those words my grandmother spoke to me many years ago as a young boy in first grade. For her, the Eucharist and the Rosary were not only part of her day, but part of her very being. Her faith not only inspired me, but it brought me to understand the beauty of the Eucharist in my life and my vocation to the priesthood. There are so many wonderful people in my life that help me appreciate what the Eucharist truly is: Jesus Christ truly present, body, blood, soul, and divinity.

As we continue the National Eucharistic Revival, let us not only rejuvenate our faith in the Real Presence of Jesus Christ, but also give thanks for the many people that we encounter in our lives who help us come to a greater appreciation of the Eucharist.

My dedication to the Eucharist, and the very priest who I am today, is in part thanks to my family, the dedicated priests of this Diocese, and so many lay faithful who strive to live out their faith in Jesus Christ.

Most importantly, I thank God, for His abundant mercy and compassion that gives me the strength to live out my life as a faithful priest of Jesus Christ.



# Stroudsburg Deanery parishes invite parishioners to take fall pilgrimage in the Poconos

STROUDSBBURG - With the beautiful colors of fall already making an appearance throughout the Poconos, all of the faithful of the Diocese of Scranton are being invited to spend this coming weekend visiting the parishes of the Stroudsburg deanery.

The deanery is hosting the second annual ‘Living Water Trail,’ on the weekend of Oct. 19-20, 2024.

The ‘Living Water Trail’ is designed to provide an immersive experience, highlighting the spiritual and communal aspects of the Eucharist. Over the course of this special weekend, participating parishes will open their doors to offer a variety of special events, including talks, Masses, and opportunities for fellowship.

Given that the third-year of the National Eucharistic Revival is now underway, each parish will showcase its approach to celebrating the Eucharist, allowing attendees to share their experiences and deepen their connections within the community.

Organizers are encouraging everyone to come and be a part of the journey - whether you’re a lifelong Catholic or simply curious about other parishes and learning more about the faith.

The ‘Living Water Trail’ is not only an opportunity to learn more about the Eucharist, but also to foster community bonds among parishes within the Stroudsburg deanery. Participants will be encouraged to share their reflections and experiences, enriching the collective faith journey.

Participants can begin their journey at any parish and travel from site to site at their own pace. People can visit as few, or as many churches as desired. A schedule of events, by date and parish, is located at the right.

For more information on any of the particular parish events for this enriching weekend, you can contact the parish directly. To view the full schedule, please visit the Diocese of Scranton website at [dioceseofscranton.org](http://dioceseofscranton.org).

~~~~~Saturday, October 19, 2024~~~~~			
<b>St. John's Church</b> 5171 Milford Rd East East Stroudsburg, PA 18302 570-223-9144 <a href="mailto:stjohnch29@gmail.com">stjohnch29@gmail.com</a>	Vigil Mass- 4pm Santa Misa- 6:30pm	<b>Most Holy Trinity Parish</b> 236 PA-390 Cresco, PA 18326 570-595-3100 <a href="mailto:mht-poconos@outlook.com">mht-poconos@outlook.com</a>	Café & Gift Shop Open- 10am-3pm Consecration Displays and Video- 10am-3pm Chalice Showcase- 10am-3pm Ministry Stations- 10am-3pm Confessions- 3pm Vigil Mass- 4pm
<b>St. Matthew's Church</b> 200 Broadhead Ave East Stroudsburg, PA 18301 570-421-2342 <a href="mailto:rectorv@pttd.net">rectorv@pttd.net</a>	<b>Fr. Clarke Presents:</b> <b>Reflection on Church Architecture- 2:30p</b> Confessions- 3-3:45pm Holy Mass- 4pm	<b>Saint Rita Church</b> 512 Main St. Gouldsboro, PA 18424 570-842-4995 <a href="mailto:stregouldsboro@gmail.com">stregouldsboro@gmail.com</a>	Traveling Blessed Virgin Mary Statue- 10am-3pm Refreshments- 10am-3pm Rosary- 10am, 12pm, 2pm (Complimentary Beads/Cards) Confessions- before Mass, by appointment Vigil Mass- 4pm
<b>Church of St. Luke</b> 818 Main St. Stroudsburg, PA 18360 570-421-9097 <a href="mailto:office@churchofstlukes.org">office@churchofstlukes.org</a>	Stained Glass Windows Tour, church sanctuary- 10am Community Meal, Jacques Center, church basement, accessible to public- 12pm Stained Glass Windows Tour, church sanctuary- 1pm Quiet Reflective Prayer- 1:30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation- 3pm Mass- 4pm	<b>St. Maximilian Kolbe</b> 5112 Pocono Crest Rd. Pocono Pines, PA 18350 570-646-6424 <a href="mailto:stmaxkol@pttd.net">stmaxkol@pttd.net</a>	Visio Divina, Praying through Art- 10am-3pm Lectio Divina, Praying through Scripture- 10am-3pm Jesus Hug Photo Booth- 10am-3pm Prayer Walk- 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm Confessions- 3-3:45pm Vigil Mass- 4pm Old School Folk Song Sing-a-long Campfire- 6pm
<b>Our Lady of Victory</b> 327 Cherry Lane Rd. Tannersville, PA 18372 570-629-4572 <a href="mailto:victory2@pttd.net">victory2@pttd.net</a>	Artisan Craft Fair & Food (\$)- 10am-4pm Confessions- 4-4:45pm Vigil Mass- 5pm	<b>Our Lady Queen of Peace</b> 1402 US-209 Brookheadville, PA 18322 610-681-6137 <a href="mailto:churchoffice@gapchurch.org">churchoffice@gapchurch.org</a>	Catholic Men's Breakfast in Hall- 8am Refreshments: Beverages, Snacks, Soup - 10am-5pm Vatican Legos Display in Hall- 10am-5pm Adoration in Pavilion, w/Prayer Shawls- 10am-5pm <b>Fr. Bob Presents "Eucharist: The Life of the World"- 11am</b> Create Your own Prayer Rock- 2-3pm Little Bethlehem Religious Article Sale- 3-5pm Receive and Pray on Handmade Rosary- 4:30pm Vigil Mass- 5pm
~~~~~Sunday, October 20, 2024~~~~~			
<b>St. John's Church</b> 5171 Milford Rd East East Stroudsburg, PA 18302 570-223-9144 <a href="mailto:stjohnch29@gmail.com">stjohnch29@gmail.com</a>	Holy Mass- 8:30am Holy Mass- 11am	<b>Most Holy Trinity Parish</b> 236 PA-390 Cresco, PA 18326 570-595-3100 <a href="mailto:mht-poconos@outlook.com">mht-poconos@outlook.com</a>	Holy Mass- 10:30am Spanish Mass- 12pm Gift Shop Open 1-3pm Consecration Displays and Video- 1-4pm Chalice Showcase- 1-4pm Ministry Stations- 1-4pm Worship Space Tour- 1, 2, 3pm
<b>St. Matthew's Church</b> 200 Broadhead Ave East Stroudsburg, PA 18301 570-421-2342 <a href="mailto:rectorv@pttd.net">rectorv@pttd.net</a>	The Greatest Prayer: The Holy Mass Holy Mass- 8am Santa Misa- 9:15am Holy Mass- 10:45am Holy Mass- 12:45pm Santa Misa- 2pm Holy Mass- 6pm	<b>Saint Rita Church</b> 512 Main St. Gouldsboro, PA 18424 570-842-4995 <a href="mailto:stregouldsboro@gmail.com">stregouldsboro@gmail.com</a>	Holy Mass- 10:30am Traveling Statue Blessed Virgin Mary- 10am-3pm Refreshments- 11:30am-4pm Centennial History/Tour of Church- 11:30am, 1pm, 3:30pm Rosary- 12pm, 2pm (Complimentary Beads/Cards) <b>Fr. Rawel Presents: The Power of Intercession... Love and Spiritual Warfare- 2:30pm</b>
<b>Church of St. Luke</b> 818 Main St. Stroudsburg, PA 18360 570-421-9097 <a href="mailto:office@churchofstlukes.org">office@churchofstlukes.org</a>	Mass- 8am & 10:30am Sunday Café. Jacques Center, church basement- 9-10:15am 9:30 am Sing-Along: Contemporary Worship Music in the Jacques Center, church basement. 12 pm - 2 pm Family Faith Event Jacques Center. Lunch served. Church Basement. Accessible to public. 2 pm Polish Mass in the Church Sanctuary. 3:30 pm to 4 pm Outdoor Rosary.	<b>St. Maximilian Kolbe</b> 5112 Pocono Crest Rd. Pocono Pines, PA 18350 570-646-6424 <a href="mailto:stmaxkol@pttd.net">stmaxkol@pttd.net</a>	Holy Mass- 10:30am Visio Divina, Praying through Art- 11:30am-4pm Lectio Divina, Praying through Scripture- 11:30am-4pm Jesus Hug Photo Booth- 11:30am-4pm <b>Faith-based Soccer Clinic w/Fr. Paschal- 12pm</b> <b>Family Demo, Pietra Fitness w/Dr. Rachel Leskosky- 12pm</b>
<b>Our Lady of Victory</b> 327 Cherry Lane Rd. Tannersville, PA 18372 570-629-4572 <a href="mailto:victory2@pttd.net">victory2@pttd.net</a>	Holy Mass- 10:30am	<b>Our Lady Queen of Peace</b> 1402 US-209 Brookheadville, PA 18322 610-681-6137 <a href="mailto:churchoffice@gapchurch.org">churchoffice@gapchurch.org</a>	Mass- 11am Spanish Mass- 1pm Refreshments: Beverages, Snacks, Soup - 12-4pm Vatican Legos Display in Hall- 12-4pm Adoration in Pavilion, w/Prayer Shawls- 12-4pm <b>Benediction of the Blessed Eucharist- 4pm</b>

## Wayne County church marks centennial with celebration of faith and community

BEACH LAKE – In a special celebration that blended nostalgia with hope for the future, Catholics in rural Wayne County celebrated the 100th anniversary of Saint Bernard Church on Sunday, Sept. 29, 2024.

The day began with a joyous 10:30 a.m. Mass celebrated by the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, who emphasized the church’s role as a cornerstone of the community.

“We are intimately connected with every soul who has worshiped in this place beginning with those that were here 100 years ago, and those of us today,” Bishop Bambera said. “We are bound together through the Eucharist that we celebrate on this altar and because of words of faith that we proclaim: ‘Christ has died, Christ is Risen, and Christ will come again.’”



**Parishioners of Saint John the Evangelist Parish gathered to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Saint Bernard Church in Beach Lake on Sept. 29, 2024. (Photo/ Dan Piazza)**

Joseph Ehrenhardt has been attending Mass at Saint Bernard Church regularly since 1976. He calls the church a “close-

knit community.”

“The church was built 100 years ago, before the (Great) Depression. When it was finished, they went through the depression. They went through World Wars and conflicts ... yet the faithful were always here praying for peace and praying for the community,” he said.

Like many, Ehrenhardt discovered Saint Bernard Church because of the many resort communities in northern Wayne County. When he retired, his family moved to the community permanently and became more involved in his church community.

“We take in a lot of people from the resort areas every year and they’re part of our community here,” he added.

Over the years, Saint Bernard Church has become known for its welcoming spirit, drawing in people from all walks of life. Parishioners shared stories of how the church has been a refuge during times of need and a place of celebration during moments of joy.

“It is an anchor of the community,” parishioner Patrick La Tournous said. “There is a great amount of charity that comes out of here, whether it is through prayer or the practical sense.”

Gale Reers, who is an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and has taught faith formation classes for 25 years, was inspired by the anniversary celebration.

*Continued on Page 18*



# Father Michael Rafferty, Scranton Diocesan priest 67 years, dies at age 93

WEST WYOMING — Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, served as principal celebrant of a Pontifical Concelebrated Mass of Christian Burial for Father Michael J. Rafferty on Sept. 30 in Our Lady of Sorrows Church at Saint Monica Parish, West Wyoming.

Pastor emeritus of the former Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Father Rafferty died Sept. 24 at the age of 93, after faithfully serving the Diocese of Scranton for 67 years.

Born Oct. 15, 1930, in Scranton, son of the late Joseph and Helen Fursha Rafferty, Father Rafferty was a graduate of Scranton Central High School and earned his

Bachelor of Science degree from The University of Scranton.

He pursued preparatory studies for the priesthood at Saint Vincent Seminary in Latrobe and was ordained a priest of the Scranton Diocese on July 15, 1957, in the Cathedral of Saint Peter by the late Most Rev. Jerome D. Hannan, fifth Bishop of Scranton.

Upon his ordination, Father Rafferty served in a summer assignment as assistant *pro tem* at Saint Mary of the Mount Parish in Mount Pocono. In October 1957, he was assigned as assistant pastor at Gate of Heaven Parish, Dallas, where he served until September 1966, when he was



**Father Michael J. Rafferty**

named assistant pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Plains.

Two years later, he was appointed as a faculty professor at College Misericordia, Dallas, and was named chaplain of

Misericordia in September 1971.

Father Rafferty was assigned to his first and only pastorate, at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, West Wyoming, in September 1975. He would shepherd the parish faithful for 31 years until July 2006, when he retired from pastoral ministry and was appointed pastor emeritus of Our Lady of Sorrows.

In the funeral homily for his priest friend, Father John Doris recalled how he first met Father Rafferty as an altar boy while serving at Masses at Our Lady of Victory Church in Harveys Lake.

“I do remember him then as a priest who was joyful and approachable,” Father Doris related. “I remember going to confession to him...and I found someone who was compassionate, calm, humorous and loving.”

“I would learn much later, as a priest, that these traits defined Father Rafferty and expressed his manifestation of Jesus” as a Catholic priest, he added.

Father Doris recalled how his close friend and confrere also manifested Christ through his gifts of kindness and compassion, always interested in the lives of his

flock and those in the community.

“They were indeed his brothers and sisters in Christ,” the homilist remarked, recounting how Father Rafferty “would spend countless hours counseling his people, helping them find hope, joy and peace in Jesus himself.”

Father Doris concluded, “Yes, Father Michael, what a wondrous life you shared with us. You were called to perceive people’s brokenness, to comfort with the solace of Jesus. Now (you) are called in the words of today’s Gospel: ‘That the love with which you loved me may be in them and I in them.’”

Surviving are a brother, Philip Rafferty, Dunmore; two nieces, Dr. Karen Rafferty, J.D., Cocoa Beach, Fla., and Erin Rafferty Cole, Columbus, Ohio; and one nephew, Kevin Rafferty, also of Columbus.

Father Rafferty was preceded in death by a brother, Ronald, and a sister, Sister Mariel Rafferty, who served with the Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart congregation of women religious in Baltimore, Md.

Interment was held in Cathedral Cemetery, Scranton.

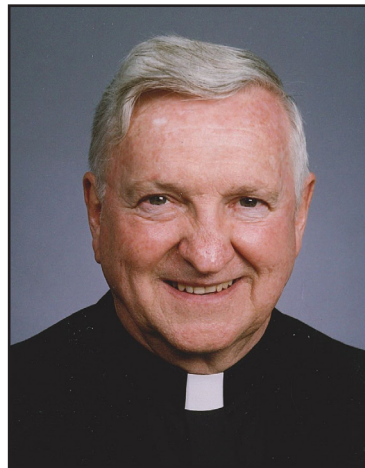
## Father Thomas Sarnecki dies in Florida; ordained for Scranton Diocese in 2002

SEMINOLE, Fla. — A Funeral Mass was offered for Father Thomas G. Sarnecki on Oct. 7 at Saint Justin, Martyr Catholic Church in Seminole, Florida. He died Sept. 14 at Bay Pines VA Hospital in St. Petersburg, Fla., at the age of 92.

A native of Luzerne County and ordained a priest for the Diocese of Scranton in 2002, Father Sarnecki served in pastoral assignments in his home diocese for three years until continuing his priestly ministry in Ohio and Florida.

Born in Plains on March 24, 1932, son of the late Joseph and Anna Selepak Sarnecki, Father Sarnecki received an early education in Plains public schools and served in the United States Coast Guard prior to earning his bachelor’s degree from King’s College, Wilkes-Barre, in 1957.

For nearly 30 years, the future priest served as a teacher and psychologist in Detroit, Mich., where he obtained post-graduate degrees in education from Wayne State University. He received a



**Father Thomas G. Sarnecki**

doctorate in education from Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., in 1992.

During this time, he was married to the former Christine Serafin for 42 years until her death in 1998.

As a 66-year-old widower with four children and eight grandchildren, Father Sarnecki began his preparatory studies for the priesthood for the Scranton Diocese. He completed his theological training at Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in

Weston, Mass., where he earned his Master of Divinity degree in 2002.

Father Sarnecki was ordained a Scranton Diocesan priest on June 29, 2002, in the Cathedral of Saint Peter by Bishop James C. Timlin, late Bishop of Scranton.

Following ordination, he was assigned as assistant pastor of Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Dickson City. He later served as pastor of Saint David Parish, Scranton, and Saint Stanislaus Parish, Old Forge.

In 2005, Father Sarnecki began his ministry as a chaplain of the Veterans Administration Hospital in Cleveland, Ohio. A year later, he transferred to Bay Pines VA Hospital, St. Petersburg, Fla., where he served in chaplaincy until 2014.

Surviving are four children, Karen, Kristine, Nancy and John; eight grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

A private Committal Service for Father Sarnecki is scheduled to be held at Florida Hills Memorial Garden in Spring Hill, Fla.

## Red Mass celebrated at Cathedral Oct. 4

SCRANTON-Attorney J. Timothy Hinton, Jr., 2024 L a c k a w a n n a Bar Association President, presented a crystal gavel to Rev. Joseph G. Marina, S.J., President, The University of Scranton, for serving as the homilist for the Diocese of Scranton’s annual Red Mass, which was held at the Cathedral of Saint Peter on Oct. 4, 2024.

The Red Mass invokes the guidance of the Holy Spirit on those involved in the administration of justice, including judges, lawyers, and lawmakers. It is often celebrated at the beginning of the judicial year and features red vestments, symbolizing the Holy Spirit and the martyrdom of saints.





# Leave a Mark Mass to be held at Cathedral of Saint Peter Nov. 3

SCRANTON - Young adults are invited to join the Diocesan Vocations Office at the ninth annual Leave a Mark Mass on Nov. 3 to kick off National Vocation Awareness Week.

The Mass, which will be celebrated at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton at 5:00 p.m., is an opportunity for young Catholics to worship the Lord, listen a bit more intentionally to his voice, and discern how they can leave a mark on the world.

Young adults discerning their vocation are encouraged to reflect upon Pope Francis's words spoken at the 2016 World Youth Day in Poland. He said, "Dear young people, we didn't come into this world to 'vegetate,' to take it easy, to make our lives a comfortable sofa to fall asleep on. No, we came for another reason: to leave a mark. It is very sad to pass through life without leaving a mark."

The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will be the principal celebrant of this Mass, and Father Alex Roche, Diocesan Secretary for Clergy Formation, and Pastor of Saint Maria Goretti Parish, Laflin, will deliver the homily.

There will be a reception following the Mass at the Diocesan Pastoral Center across the street from the Cathedral of Saint Peter.

For those unable to attend the Mass in person, CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton will provide a live broadcast of the Mass. The Mass will also be livestream on the Diocese of Scranton website and YouTube channel and links to the Mass will be provided on all Diocesan social media platforms.



## JUBILEE MASS FOR WOMEN AND MEN RELIGIOUS

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3  
12:15 P.M.  
CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PETER, SCRANTON**

SCRANTON - Join us for a joyous celebration as we honor the dedicated contributions of those in religious life as the Diocese of Scranton celebrates its annual Jubilee Mass for Women and Men Religious on Sunday, Nov. 3, 2024, at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

Together, we will gather at 12:15 p.m. to recognize the faith-filled service and commitment of those who have devoted their lives to God and our community.

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

# YOUNG ADULTS

## KICK-OFF NATIONAL VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK

# Leave a Mark

### 2024


# 11 - 3 - 2024

5PM MASS AT THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. PETER

SPONSORED BY  
**DIOCESAN VOCATIONS OFFICE**

*Social to follow*  
AT THE DIOCESAN PASTORAL CENTER

*Invite Friends*  
f t i @LEAVEAMARK24  
VOCATIONS.DIOCESEOFSCRANTON.ORG  
570-207-1452



## BISHOP BAMBERA'S SCHEDULE

**October 19** - Ministry of Acolyte Mass  
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 10:00 a.m.

**October 20** - World Mission Sunday Mass  
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 12:15 p.m.

**October 21-24** - Priests Convocation

**November 3** - Jubilee Mass for Women and Men Religious  
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 12:15 p.m.

**November 3** - Leave a Mark Mass  
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 5:00 p.m.

**November 4** - Mass for Deceased Bishops of Scranton  
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 12:10 p.m.

**November 8** - Marywood Inauguration Liturgy  
Sette LaVerghetta Fine Arts Building, 10:00 a.m.

**November 9-14** - USCCB General Assembly  
Baltimore

**November 16** - Rosary Rally  
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 1:30 p.m.



# Voting involves acts of citizenship, faith and discernment:

As Catholics and Americans, we are blessed to be able to participate in our nation's political and public life. Our freedoms respect the dignity of individuals and their consciences and allow us to come together for the common good.

gratitude and hope. Our love for this country, our patriotism, properly impels us to vote.

But increasingly, it seems, election seasons are a time of anxiety and spiritual trial. Political rhetoric is increasingly angry, seeking to motivate primarily through division and hatred. Fear can be an effective tool for raising money. The most heated arguments online often get the most clicks. Demonizing the other can win votes.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops document, "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship," reflects the perennial role of the Church in public life in proclaiming timeless principles: the infinite worth and dignity of every human life, the common good, solidarity, and subsidiarity.



Participation in political life also requires judgments about concrete circumstances.

Not sure what these mean? We invite you to visit the Diocese of Scranton website and read a copy of "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship" and learn more.

While the bishops help form the laity in accordance with basic principles, they do not tell the laity to vote for particular candidates.

Election seasons, therefore, should contain a sense of

Continued on Page 11

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE COMPARISON		Pennsylvania Catholic Conference		Compiled by the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference for the 2024 General Election	
In keeping with its mission, the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference aims to educate and inform Catholics about a wide range of issues. The information compiled here has been gathered from policies, public statements, official and campaign websites, and other resources, as of September 6th, to help voters form their consciences before voting in November. The issues that appear here do not represent a complete list of issues that may be of importance to Catholics. The PCC neither supports nor opposes any candidate for public office.					
“Human dignity is respected and the common good is fostered only if <b>human rights are protected and basic responsibilities</b> are met. Every human being has a right to life, the fundamental right that makes all other rights possible, and a right to access those things required for human decency – food and shelter, education and employment, health care and housing, freedom of religion and family life.” – <i>Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship</i> , No. 49, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2023					
	Vice President KAMALA HARRIS	Former President DONALD TRUMP			
ABORTION					
In a 2023 interview, <u>Harris said</u> , “We need to put into law the protections of Roe v. Wade. And that is about going back to where we were before the <u>Dobbs decision</u> .” <u>Harris posted</u> on social media in July 2024, “We who believe in reproductive freedom will stop Donald Trump’s extreme abortion bans—because we trust women to make decisions about their bodies.” In her address at the Democratic National Convention <u>Harris said</u> , “[W]hen Congress passes a bill to restore reproductive freedom, as president of the United States, I will proudly sign it into law.”			As president, <u>Trump</u> nominated three Supreme Court justices who voted to overturn Roe v. Wade. In an April 2024 video, <u>Trump said</u> , “My view is now that we have abortion where everyone wanted it from a legal standpoint, the states will determine by vote or legislation... Many states will be different.” <u>He also said</u> he would not sign a national abortion ban. In August 2024, <u>Trump said</u> he is voting no on Florida’s ballot Amendment 4, which would legalize abortion throughout all nine months of pregnancy with no protections for the unborn baby.		
CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM					
<u>Harris’ 2020 plan included</u> legalizing marijuana, abolishing mandatory minimum sentences, ending the death penalty and solitary confinement, stopping private prisons, getting rid of cash bail, and leveraging the president’s clemency powers to reduce the number of people in federal prison. As a Senator, <u>Harris introduced</u> a bail reform bill with Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY) in 2017 and <u>voted</u> in favor of the First Step Act in 2018.			In 2018, <u>Trump signed into law</u> the First Step Act, which, according to a Federal Bureau of Prisons <u>overview</u> , “was the culmination of a bi-partisan effort to improve criminal justice outcomes, as well as to reduce the size of the federal prison population while also creating mechanisms to maintain public safety.” During an Aug. 2020 White House briefing, <u>Trump stated</u> , “I’ll appoint more tough-on-crime prosecutors. ... When you enforce the law, order follows. And we need order.”		
DEATH PENALTY					
During her 2020 Presidential bid, <u>Harris stated</u> she would seek to end the death penalty. In 2024, the Democratic National Committee dropped the call for an end to the death penalty from its platform.			The <u>Trump administration presided</u> over 13 federal executions. Trump has said that he <u>supports</u> expanding the death penalty to include convicted drug smugglers/traffickers.		
EDUCATIONAL CHOICE					
No statements on Harris’ position on educational choice were found. The <u>2024 Democratic Party Platform states</u> , “We oppose the use of private-school vouchers, tuition tax credits, opportunity scholarships, and other schemes that divert taxpayer-funded resources away from public education.”			Trump’s <u>website states</u> , “Republicans believe families should be empowered to choose the best Education for their children. We support Universal School Choice in every State in America. We will expand 529 Education Savings Accounts and support Homeschooling Families equally.”		
ENVIRONMENT					
At a UN climate summit in 2023, <u>Vice President Harris announced</u> “a new \$3 billion pledge to the Green Climate Fund, which helps developing countries invest in resilience, clean energy, and nature-based solutions.”			In 2019, the <u>Trump Administration began</u> the process of withdrawing from the Paris agreement on climate change, an international accord to reduce global green-house gas emissions.		
GENDER ISSUES					
In social media posts in <u>June/July</u> of 2023, Harris called on Congress to pass the Equality Act, which would add the new terms “sexual orientation” and “gender identity” to the definition of “sex” in federal civil rights laws, and would exempt itself from the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993. As a U.S. Senator, Harris also <u>cosponsored</u> the Equality Act in 2017.			In a Jan. 2023 video, <u>Trump said</u> , “I will ask Congress to pass a bill establishing that the only genders recognized by the United States government are male and female and they are assigned at birth. The bill will also make clear that Title IX prohibits men from participating in women’s sports and we will protect the rights of parents from being forced to allow their minor child to assume a gender which is new and an identity without the parents’ consent.”		
HEALTH CARE					
At a March 2024 event, <u>Harris said</u> the Biden-Harris Administration “strengthened the Affordable Care Act so that, today, more Americans have healthcare coverage than ever before.”			In a Nov. 2023 social media post, <u>Trump said</u> , “Getting much better Healthcare than Obamacare for the American people will be a priority.... It is not a matter of cost, it is a matter of HEALTH. America will have one of the best Healthcare Plans anywhere in the world. Right now it has one of the WORST!”		

1/2



# “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship” is available to help

Continued from Page 10

On these often complex matters, it is the laity’s responsibility to form their consciences and grow in the virtue of prudence to approach the many and varied issues of the day with the mind of Christ. Conscience is “a judgment of

reason” by which one determines whether an action is right or wrong (see Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 1778). It does not allow us to justify doing whatever we want, nor is it a mere “feeling.” Conscience – properly formed according to God’s revelation and the teaching of the Church – is a

means by which one listens to God and discerns how to act in accordance with the truth. The truth is something we receive, not something we make. We can only judge using the conscience we have, but our judgments do not make things true. It is our responsibility to learn more of Catholic teaching

and tradition, to participate in Church life, to learn from trustworthy sources about the issues facing our communities, and to do our best to make wise judgments about candidates and government actions. *–Taken from Introductory Note of “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship”*



PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE COMPARISON		2024 General Election	
VICE PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS		FORMER PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP	
IMMIGRATION/REFUGEES			
In 2021, as vice president, Harris began leading the Biden Administration’s <u>efforts to address the root causes of migration</u> from countries in Central America, citing the need for a multilateral approach and encouraging private-sector investment. In her keynote at the Democratic National Convention, <u>Harris pledged</u> to bring back a bipartisan border package that would have dramatically limited the number of people allowed to claim asylum at the U.S.-Mexico border, while increasing resources for local communities receiving migrants.		At the July 2024 Republican National Convention, Trump <u>promised</u> to launch the “largest deportation operation in the history of the United States.” In 2018, the Trump Administration implemented a “ <u>zero tolerance policy</u> ,” an escalated effort to prosecute individuals entering the U.S. unlawfully, resulting in the separation of thousands of children from their parents, some of whom remain separated today. As president, Trump implemented policies such as the “ <u>Migrant Protection Protocols</u> ” and “Title 42,” which severely limited access to asylum along the U.S.-Mexico border, and <u>set the lowest refugee admissions ceiling</u> since the resettlement program was created in 1980.	
IN VITRO FERTILIZATION (IVF)			
In a March 2024 social media post, <u>Harris said</u> , “President @JoeBiden and I will always protect access to IVF.”		In an August 2024 speech, <u>Trump said</u> , “[U]nder the Trump administration, your government will pay for — or your insurance company will be mandated to pay for — all costs associated with IVF treatment.”	
POVERTY			
In a <u>proposal released in August 2024</u> , Harris pledged to send Congress proposed federal limits on price increases for food producers and grocers. The proposal also called for creating a \$40 billion innovation fund for businesses building affordable rental housing units, expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit for some frontline workers, and reducing taxes on healthcare plans offered on the marketplace created by the Affordable Care Act. Harris also <u>supports</u> raising the federal minimum wage to \$15, <u>supports</u> expanding Social Security benefits by \$1,300 annually for those making less than \$16,000 a year, and has pushed for expanding SNAP (formerly Food Stamps) through the <u>SNAP for KIDS Act</u> .		Trump signed the <u>Reducing Poverty in America by Promoting Opportunity and Economic Mobility</u> executive order that calls on federal agencies to reevaluate welfare regulations. He favors <u>mandatory work requirements</u> for social welfare programs, and called for <u>\$8.8 billion in affordable housing cuts</u> in his fiscal year 2019 budget request. During his 2016 campaign, Trump suggested <u>raising the federal minimum wage to at least \$10</u> but also expressed belief that the decision should rest with states. He has stated in the past that the federal government should <u>not</u> cut Social Security benefits. The Trump Administration <u>proposed cuts</u> to SNAP (formerly Food Stamps).	
RACIAL EQUITY			
In an op-ed <u>Harris wrote</u> , “People are protesting because Black people have been treated as less than human in America. ...[O]ur country has never fully addressed the systemic racism that has plagued our country since its earliest days. ...No longer can some wait on the sidelines, hoping for incremental change. In times like this, silence is complicity.”		On his website, <u>Trump said</u> , “Joe Biden recently signed a very sinister executive order mandating that almost every federal department and agency establish a Marxist ‘equity’... enforcement squad to implement a woke takeover of the entire federal government... Instead of treating everyone equally...‘equity’ means that benefits are awarded and policies are enforced based on skin color and sexual identity. We don’t think that’s a good idea. ...I will revoke this executive order on my first day back in office.”	
RELIGIOUS FREEDOM			
As Senator, Harris co-introduced the <u>Do No Harm Act</u> that states that the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) “should not be interpreted to authorize an exemption from generally applicable law that imposes the religious views, habits, or practices of one party upon another.” The measure was first introduced in 2017 in response to the Supreme Court’s 2014 <u>Burwell v. Hobby Lobby Stores</u> decision, which held that applying the HHS contraceptive mandate to closely held corporations violated RFRA.		Trump <u>signed an Executive Order</u> Promoting Free Speech and Religious Liberty to ensure that faith-based organizations would not be forced to compromise their religious beliefs as they serve their communities. This includes defending the rights of religious orders to care for the infirm and elderly without being fined out of existence for refusing to facilitate access to services that violate their faith. In June 2024 <u>Trump said</u> , “When I return to the White House, I will, once again, aggressively defend religious freedom in all of its forms.”	
UKRAINE AND THE MIDDLE EAST			
In 2024 <u>Harris said</u> , “Russia’s aggression is...an attack on international rules and norms and the principles embodied in the U.N. Charter. ...President Joe Biden and I will continue to support Ukraine and continue to impose costs on Russia.” Regarding the Middle East, <u>Harris said</u> , “It is time for this war to end and end in a way where Israel is secure, all the hostages are released, the suffering of Palestinians in Gaza ends, and the Palestinian people can exercise their right to freedom, dignity, and self-determination.”		In his 2024 Republican National Convention speech, <u>Trump said</u> , “I will end every single international crisis that the current administration has created, including the horrible war with Russia and Ukraine, which would have never happened if I was president. And the war caused by the attack on Israel, which would never have happened if I was president.”	
Disclaimer: As a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference is not associated with any political party and does not endorse any candidate, political party, or political action committee.			

2/2





# Thank you for reviewing our Voter Guide!

We thank each candidate for their consideration and time responding. PCC made several attempts to contact all candidates through email and phone calls. All responses were the exact answers we received.

If you would like more information about candidates in your diocese, here are their websites.

## Statewide

### U.S. Senate

- D Bob Casey, Jr. .... <https://bobcasey.com>
- R Dave McCormick..... <https://www.davemccormickpa.com>
- L John C. Thomas..... [bit.ly/3XEOwGo](https://bit.ly/3XEOwGo)
- G Leila Hazou..... <https://www.leilaforsenate.com>
- C Marty Selker ..... <https://www.martyselkerforsenate.com>

### Auditor General

- R Tim DeFoor..... <https://www.defoor4pa.com>
- D Malcolm Kenyatta ..... <https://malcolmkenyatta.com>
- L Reece Smith..... <https://www.votereece.com>
- A Eric Anton..... (No Website)
- C Bob Goodrich..... (No Website)

### Attorney General

- D Eugene DePasquale..... <https://www.depasqualeforag.com>
- R Dave Sunday ..... <https://www.davesundayforag.com>
- L Robert Cowburn..... <https://cowburnforag.com>
- G Richard Weiss..... <https://twitter.com/RichardLWeiss>
- C Justin Magill ..... <https://seventy.org/2024-voter-guide/attorney-general/justin-magill>
- F Eric Settle ..... <https://ericsettle4ag.com>

### Treasurer

- R Stacy Garritty ..... <https://www.garrityforpa.com>
- D Erin McClelland ..... <https://erinmcclelland.com>
- L Nickolas Ciesielski..... <https://nickcforpa.com>
- C Troy Bowman ..... (No Website)
- F Chris Foster..... <https://chrisfosterfortreasurer.com>

Key: R: Republican • D: Democratic • L: Libertarian • C: Constitution • G: Green • F: Forward • A: American Solidarity Party continued on next page

## Row Office Races

Row Office	County	Candidate	Party	Do you support utilizing public dollars to support agencies that deliver pregnancy support?	Do you support Pennsylvania's biggest statewide school choice program: the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC)?	What, if any, changes would you make to combat recidivism within the criminal justice system?	How can the state best combat human trafficking?	What are your ideas for combatting a lack of affordable housing?	How do you think the immigration system should be reformed and streamlined?	Attacks against members of faith communities continue to rise. What can PA do to protect religious liberty?
Treasurer	Statewide Republican	Stacy Garrity	R	Yes	Yes	This sounds like a task ideally suited to the Church.	Protect the U.S. border and enforce immigration law.	Reduce regulations. Streamline permitting and inspections processes. Hold inspecting agencies accountable.	I believe that God has established the nations, and it is good for nations to protect their borders. The power to do that is rightly delegated to the federal government.	If the Church is boldly preaching the message of Christ in love, attacks are bound to happen. When they do, the law should be applied equally.



House

- 68 R Clinton D. Owlett.....<https://www.repowlett.com/>
- 83 R Jamie Flick .....<https://www.repflick.com/>
- 84 R Joseph D. Hamm .....<https://www.repjoehamm.com/>
- 110 R Tina Pickett .....<https://www.reppickett.com/>
- 111 R Jonathan A. Fritz .....<https://www.repfriz.com/>
- 112 D Kyle J. Mullins .....<https://www.pahouse.com/Mullins/>
- 113 D Kyle T. Donahue .....<https://www.pahouse.com/Donahue/>
- 114 D Bridget Kosierowski .....<https://www.pahouse.com/Kosierowski/>
- 115 D Maureen E. Madden .....<https://www.pahouse.com/Madden/>
- 115 R Matthew Long .....<https://www.mattlongforpa.com>
- 116 D Deborah L. Adoff.....<http://debadoff.com/>
- 116 R Dane Watro .....<https://www.repwatro.com/>
- 117 R Jamie Walsh.....<https://www.walshforpa.com>
- 118 D James L. Haddock.....<https://friendsofjimhaddock.com/>
- 118 R McKayla Kathio.....<https://www.kathioforstaterep.com/>
- 119 D Megan Kocher .....<https://megankforpa.com/>
- 119 R Alec J. Ryncavage .....<https://www.repryncavage.com/>
- 120 D Fern Leard.....<https://votefern4pa.com/>
- 120 R Brenda M. Pugh.....<https://brendaforpa.com/>
- 121 D Edwin Pashinski.....<https://www.eddiedaypashinski.com/>
- 121 R Dino Disler.....<https://dinoforpa.com/>
- 139 D Robin Skibber .....<https://www.robinfor139.com/>
- 139 R Jeffery H. Olsommer .....<https://www.jeffolsommer139th.com/>
- 176 D Hope E. Christman.....<https://www.facebook.com/Hope4PA176>
- 176 R Jack B. Rader, Jr. ....<https://www.reprader.com/>
- 189 D Tarah Probst.....<https://www.tarahprobst.com/>
- 189 R Lisa Vanwhy .....<https://www.lisavanwhyforpa.com/>

Senate

- 23 R Gene Yaw .....<https://www.senatorgeneyaw.com/>
- 23 D Kim Pitcher..... (No Website)
- 27 D Patricia Lawton .....[bit.ly/PatriciaLawton](https://bit.ly/PatriciaLawton)
- 27 R Lynda Culver .....<https://www.facebook.com/Culver27/>
- 29 R Dave Argall .....<https://www.senatorargall.com>
- 29 D John Zugarek .....<https://www.jz4pa.com/>
- 29 L Timothy Henning.....<https://henningforpa.com>

Congressional

- 7 R Ryan MacKenzie .....<https://www.repmackenzie.com/>
- 7 D Susan Wild .....<https://wild.house.gov/>
- 8 D Matt Cartwright .....<https://cartwright.house.gov/>
- 8 R Rob Breshnahan, Jr. ....<https://robforpa.com>
- 9 R Dan Meuser.....<https://meuser.house.gov/>
- 9 D Amanda Waldman .....<https://www.waldman4pa.com/>
- 15 R Glenn Thompson .....<https://thompson.house.gov/>
- 15 D Zack Womer.....<https://womeforpa.com>

Key: R: Republican • D: Democratic • L: Libertarian • C: Constitution • G: Green • F: Forward • A: American Solidarity Party

www.pacatholic.org

Senate Races

District	County	Candidate	Party	Do you support utilizing public dollars to support agencies that deliver pregnancy support?	Do you support Pennsylvania's biggest statewide school choice program: the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC)?	What, if any, changes would you make to combat recidivism within the criminal justice system?	How can the state best combat human trafficking?	What are your ideas for combatting a lack of affordable housing?	How do you think the immigration system should be reformed and streamlined?	Attacks against members of faith communities continue to rise. What can PA do to protect religious liberty?
29	Luzerne County	David Argall	R	Yes	Yes	Enforce current law!	Enforce current law!	Increased aid for public water and wastewater systems—which will aid new housing.	Enforce current law!	Enforce current law!



# Bishop reminds Catholic educators they have a ‘treasure to share’

WILKES-BARRE – As he gathered with Catholic educators and administrators to kick off the 2024-2025 school year, the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, reminded each of them of the unique role they play in our diocese.

“More than you realize, you have a treasure to share with our children,” Bishop Bambera said, emphasizing the incredible privilege they have to share the gift of faith and the Eucharist with their students.

“It is faith that serves as the foundation for all that we teach – rooted in servant leadership – that we both are called to model and instill in the lives given to our care. That sets us apart and gives us our unique Catholic identity,” he added.

During his homily for the Diocesan Teachers’ Institute Mass on Sept. 16, 2024, the Bishop asked the hundreds of educators gathered inside Saint Nicholas Church to reflect on the mission statement of our Diocesan School System.

“Many of the children and families who come into our lives are poor. Some are materially poor, but far more are spiritually and emotionally poor. Yes, they come seeking an education. But they also come looking for meaning and purpose in their lives,” Bishop Bambera said. “Parents come with hopes for their children. And children come trusting in you to love and respect them and to give them a way forward in life.”



**Bishop Joseph C. Bambera delivers the homily for the Diocesan Teachers’ Institute Mass on Sept. 16, 2024, at Saint Nicholas Church in Wilkes-Barre. (Photos/Mike Melisky)**



**Catholic school teachers from all 19 Diocesan schools recite the ‘Prayer of Commitment’ together during the Diocesan Teachers’ Institute Mass on Sept. 16, 2024.**

Several priests, including many that have direct connections to specific schools, concelebrated the Diocesan Teachers’ Institute Mass.

Before the celebration of Mass began, Kristen Donohue, Diocesan Secretary for Catholic Education/Superintendent of Catholic Schools, provided a brief welcome.

“Today, we celebrate positive moments and reflect on the opportunities for growth, professionally, spiritually, and emotionally,” she said. “We recognize the true joy it is to be part of one of the greatest missions of the church – Catholic education.”

Prior to the final blessing at the Mass, the Catholic educators and administrators recited the ‘Prayer of Commitment,’ asking God to strengthen their commitment to the ideals of Catholic education. Part of the prayer asks God for the courage to fulfill their duties each day.

“I place my trust in you, O God, and ask for the grace to fulfill my duties faithfully and conscientiously each day,” the educators said together. “Enable me to be your worthy disciple as I proclaim in word and deed your message of truth, justice, and peace through this commitment to Catholic education with the Diocese of Scranton.”

In addition to celebrating the Diocesan Teachers’ Institute Mass each year, Bishop Bambera has made it a priority to visit every Catholic school each school year, celebrating Mass with students and visiting classrooms.

Bishop Bambera has already celebrated Mass with Holy Cross High School in Dunmore and Holy Family Academy in Hazleton this year. The Masses will continue throughout the school year, ending in early May 2025, at Epiphany School in Sayre and Saint Agnes School in Towanda.

## “Making Every Class Catholic”

*Diocesan Teachers’ Institute Keynote Speaker shares how Catholic perspectives transform classroom experiences*



**Dr. Brett Salkeld served as the keynote speaker for the 2024 Diocesan Teachers’ Institute on Sept. 16 in Wilkes-Barre.**

WILKES-BARRE – As he began his presentation to teachers in the Diocese of Scranton, Dr. Brett Salkeld struck a deal with his audience.

“If I can convince you that math can be taught from a Catholic point of view, will you come along with me for the ride?” he asked.

The crowd filled with hundreds of educators, seated inside the Holy Redeemer High School auditorium, willingly agreed.

Over the next hour, Dr. Salkeld explained how faith can be integrated into math – and many other aspects of a school

curriculum – from literature and language, to science, art, and even health.

“Kids naturally want to ask the big questions,” he said. “We have to be willing to engage in the big questions.”

For example, in his math analogy, Dr. Salkeld focused on a question most teachers have heard before: “Why do we need to study math?”

He said simple answers like “to graduate,” “to gain marketable skills,” and “to be a productive citizen,” all miss the mark.

“In a Catholic school, if a student asks, ‘Why should I study math,’ we can

answer something like, ‘You are created to know and love God and God’s works, and math is a unique and powerful way to explore the beauty and order of creation.’”

He even acknowledged a simpler answer, “because you can,” would suffice.

“There is nothing else we know in creation that does math and it is amazing that human beings do math,” he said. “Math is a tool in our toolkit to take care of creation. You’re using math to develop some potential that God built into creation.”

*Continued on Page 15*



# Celebrating Dedication: Two Long-Time Educators Honored for 25 Years of Service to Catholic Education

WILKES-BARRE – Two long-time Catholic educators in the Diocese of Scranton, who have spent their careers instilling the values of compassion, integrity, and a love for learning in their students, were recognized for their accomplishments at this year's Diocesan Teachers' Institute Mass on Sept. 16, 2024.

Heather Feher and James Renfer were each presented with the Saint John Paul II Award by the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, inside Saint Nicholas Church.

The award recognizes 25 years of dedicated service to Catholic education in the Diocese of Scranton.

"I believe in Catholic education," Feher said. "I love being able to pass my values onto the children."

For the last 18 years, Feher has taught kindergarten at Saint Nicholas/Saint Mary School in Wilkes-Barre. She previously spent six years teaching kindergarten at Gate of Heaven School and one year teaching pre-school at Saint Mary's Byzantine School.



**Two long-time Catholic educators in the Diocese of Scranton were presented with the Saint John Paul II Award for 25 years of dedicated service to Catholic education in the Diocese of Scranton on Sept. 16, 2024, at Saint Nicholas Church in Wilkes-Barre. Participating in the presentation are, from left: Charlene Haggerty, Assistant Superintendent of Catholic Schools; James Renfer, Wyoming Area Catholic School, Exeter; Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton; Heather Feher, Saint Nicholas/Saint Mary School, Wilkes-Barre; and Kristen Donohue, Diocesan Secretary for Catholic Education/Superintendent of Catholic Schools. (Photo/Mike Melisky)**

Feher said she loves teaching kindergarten because the kids are excited

about coming to school each day.

"I like when they accidentally call me

'mommy.' Now that I'm getting older, I've been called 'grandma' twice this year," she joked. "I also love it when they come back from Holy Redeemer High School and visit us all right before they graduate. I love when I see them all grown up."

Renfer started his teaching career in 1999 teaching sixth-through-eighth grade at Sacred Heart School in Dupont. He then moved to Wyoming Area Catholic School, where he taught fourth grade for 13 years, and for the last five years has been teaching eighth grade.

"It's important that we keep the faith going in the schools," Renfer said.

As their fellow educators applauded them after the awards presentation, both Feher and Renfer said their success is a direct reflection of the incredible educational community that surrounds them.

"We're all very close. They're wonderful people," Renfer said of his fellow Catholic educators.

"We are a family," Feher added. "We're very close. I've made a lot of good friends."

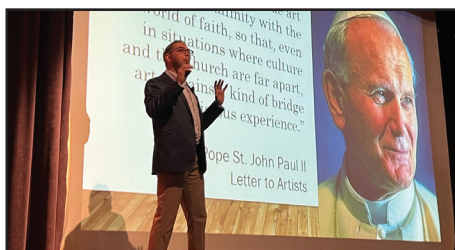
## 'Every subject can - and should - be taught from a Catholic worldview,' speaker says

*Continued from Page 14*

Dr. Salkeld served as the keynote speaker for the 2024 Diocesan Teachers' Institute. He based his presentation off his book, "Educating for Eternity: A Teacher's Companion for Making Every Class Catholic," which explained every subject can – and should – be taught from a Catholic worldview.

During his presentation, Dr. Salkeld, who serves as the Archdiocesan theologian for the Archdiocese of Regina, Canada, said teaching every subject from a Catholic perspective does more than just prepare students for the job market, it forms people who can change the world.

He also stressed that it should not be just "one more thing" to do in the classroom. Using the approach authentically, no matter what the class or age being taught, is a way to explain and model eternal truths to students.



**Dr. Salkeld speaks during his presentation inside Holy Redeemer High School.**

However, he stressed, especially as his presentation drew to a close, that educators should not simply "add things that feel forced or contrived."

"The point isn't to add 'Catholic' to check a box. Teaching from the Catholic point of view does not require mentioning God or the church in every single class," he said. "Do it when it is appropriate and when it makes sense. Do it when it is authentic. Sometimes when you're just doing quadratic equations, if you're pursuing the truth, that is fine."

### Support the 2024 Catholic Ministries Appeal

**Appeal gifts support more than 4,500 students in our 19 Catholic Schools.**

OUR CALL TO  
**SERVE**  
CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

Donate now at  
[AnnualAppeal.org](https://AnnualAppeal.org),  
call (570) 207-2250 or  
click this QR code



Diocese of Scranton  
**CATHOLIC**  
 SCHOOL SYSTEM  
 FAITH • ACADEMICS • SERVICE

*The Diocese of Scranton is committed to educating our students in an environment that is academically excellent and facilitates the development of moral judgment and Christian decision-making. We are proud to share the following successes of our students in the classroom and in their service to others. Each day, our schools are fulfilling their mission of preparing today's youth and young adults to become tomorrow's faith-filled leaders.*



During their October First Friday Mass, students from **All Saints Academy in Scranton** brought their favorite furry friends to the altar to receive their Saint Francis Blessing.



Second grade students portray Saint Francis of Assisi and Saint Clare during the annual blessing of the animals at **Saint Mary of Mount Carmel School in Dunmore**.



Students in Miss Mecir's sophomore biology classes at **Holy Cross High School in Dunmore** are learning microscope skills as part of their current lesson. Learn more about the academic and extracurricular opportunities for your student by attending the Holy Cross HS Open House on Sunday, Oct. 27, from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. More details and the registration link can be found at [www.HCHS.org](http://www.HCHS.org).



Students at **Saint John Neumann Elementary School in Williamsport** celebrated the Feast Day of Saint Francis of Assisi by blessing their "animals" during Mass.



Moved by the Holy Spirit, students at **Saint Agnes School in Towanda** collected supplies to be sent to Hurricane Helene victims.



Students at **La Salle Academy in Jessup** do more than just sing in music class, as students practice playing their ukuleles.



Students, faculty and families from **Holy Family Academy in Hazleton** were joined by the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, for a special school liturgy on Oct. 7, 2024. In his homily, Bishop Bambera spoke of the miracle of the Eucharist and reminded students of the importance of giving thanks for the opportunity to receive the Body and Blood of Christ.





Pre-kindergarten students from **Saint Clare/Saint Paul School in Scranton** learned the importance about taking care of all of God's wonderful creations.



Father Daniel Toomey celebrates the Feast of St. Francis with the students at **Epiphany School in Sayre** by blessing their real-life pets and their stuffed animals. Students also donated \$650 to the St. Francis Kitchen as part of their celebration.



Art teacher Mrs. Taylor helps seventh grade students at **Saint John Neumann Jr./Sr. High School in Williamsport** make the final touches to their 3-D art projects.



Students and families from **Good Shepherd Academy in Kingston** recently participated in the school's annual RUNGSA 5K Run/1 Mile Walk. This year more than 300 participants were registered for the race, with proceeds benefiting childhood cancer research and safety upgrades at the school.



Third grade students Kaitlynn O'Leary, Grace Dudkowski and Alexis Meadows from **Saint Jude School in Mountain Top** show off their homeroom flag during the school's annual Race for Education.



Students, faculty and staff from **Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre** participated in McCarthy Tire Service's Hurricane Helene relief effort, collecting several pallets of dry food and cleaning supplies. Learn more about the academic and extracurricular opportunities for your student by attending the Holy Redeemer HS Open House on Sunday, Oct. 27, from 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. More details about the school can be found at [www.HolyRedeemerHS.org](http://www.HolyRedeemerHS.org).



Students at **Wyoming Area Catholic School in Exeter** celebrated the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary by praying the rosary as a school community with a large helium balloon rosary.



Students at **Holy Rosary School in Duryea** are learning all about agriculture and growing plants without soil. The school has acquired two hydroponic systems and the students are nurturing seeds into flowers and vegetables.



Mrs. Tynemouth's seventh grade class at **Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School in East Stroudsburg** plays music dominoes. Learn more about the academic and extracurricular opportunities for your student by attending the Notre Dame HS Open House on Saturday, Nov. 2, from 10 a.m. – noon. For more information about the school, please visit [www.NDHigh.org](http://www.NDHigh.org).



# Diocese of Scranton statement on Martin M. Boylan being dismissed from the clerical state

SCRANTON – Martin M. Boylan, formerly a priest of the Diocese of Scranton, has been dismissed from the clerical state at the conclusion of a disciplinary process authorized by the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith at the Holy See.

Boylan's involuntary dismissal from the clerical state was imposed after having been found guilty under canon law of the sexual assault of two minors. As a result, Boylan will never again exercise priestly ministry in any capacity. He may no longer celebrate Mass, hear confessions, or administer any of the Church's sacraments. His relationship with the Diocese of Scranton in any official capacity is now permanently ended.

This penalty concludes a canonical process that began eight years ago.

On April 1, 2016, then-Father Boylan was removed from priestly ministry following an accusation of the sexual assault of a minor. Using the procedures in canon law and its Policy for Response to Sexual Abuse of Minors, the Diocese of Scranton determined the initial accusation to be credible.

Between April 2016 and October 2023, four additional accusations of sexual assault of minors were received by the Diocese of Scranton, all of which were brought to the attention of law enforcement.

Each of the five accusations was individually investigated by the Diocese of Scranton and the findings were submitted to the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith at the Vatican, as required by specific norms in canon law. Finding the accusations credible, the Disciplinary Section of the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith at the Vatican authorized the Diocese of Scranton to adjudicate the accusations made against Boylan.

Throughout the canonical proceedings, Boylan was represented by a canon lawyer of his choosing and was given the opportunity to present his defense.

At the conclusion of the adjudication, Boylan was found guilty under canon law of the sexual assault of two minors. The Vatican's Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith reviewed the findings and authorized the Diocese of Scranton to impose the permanent penalty of dismissal from the

clerical state on Boylan, the most severe penalty that the Catholic Church can impose on a cleric.

Having been served with the decision, Boylan exercised his right to appeal to the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith. In two consecutive appeals by Boylan, the Vatican upheld the original decision of the Diocese of Scranton in its entirety, exhausting any further appeals.

Boylan, 76, is among the priests listed on the Diocese of Scranton's "Credibly Accused Individuals" listing. A listing of prior ministry assignments is available on the Diocese of Scranton website.

Throughout the process, victims have

been offered assistance for healing.

"I ask all people to join me in praying for the victims and their families. No one should ever have to endure such trauma, and it is our responsibility to ensure that all survivors are heard, supported, and empowered to heal," Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, said. "Let me be clear: there is no place in our Church for such heinous acts. We must ensure that our Church is a safe haven for all, and it is our collective duty to protect, to listen, and to stand against any form of abuse."

Boylan now lives privately and may not represent the Diocese of Scranton in any capacity.

## 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 Respetto 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.

## Wayne Co. church celebrates anniversary Mass

*Continued from Page 7*

"I feel that this community at Saint Bernard's is very friendly. It is like a second home. Everybody in the parish is welcoming," Reers explained. "We're celebrating the past, present and future and God has blessed us in many ways including all the wonderful priests that we've had over the years to guide us."

Saint Bernard Church is currently a worship site of Saint John the Evangelist Parish in Honesdale. As many parishioners reflected on the anniversary of their church community, they expressed gratitude not only for the building – but for the opportunity to be part of something greater.

"The church is a reflection of the community and in particular, the Catholic community. Some churches have to develop a fellowship, but it seems to be natural here and it's great," parishioner



**Parishioners sing during the Anniversary Mass at Saint Bernard Church Sept. 29, 2024.**

David Ford explained. "The faith of the Christian community is strongly embedded. It's one of the reasons why we're so happy and comfortable here and I can't see that changing. I see it just getting better over time."

Following Mass, the anniversary festivities concluded with a community gathering at Lukan's Family Resort in Hawley.



# Bishop Bambera admits eight men as candidates for permanent diaconate

SCRANTON – In a special Mass held at the Cathedral of Saint Peter on Sept. 28, 2024, eight men were officially admitted as candidates into the Diocese of Scranton's Permanent Diaconate Formation Program.

The Mass, attended by clergy, family, and friends, marked a transformative moment for both the candidates and the Diocese.

The candidates are: William Chechel, Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Brodheadsville; Daniel B. Cosacchi, Ph.D., Saint Gregory Parish, Clarks Green; Jeffrey R. Kovaleski, Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Dickson City; Thomas J. Krzan, Saint Jude Parish, Mountain Top; Kevin J. Martin, Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Brodheadsville; Stephen O. Muntzenberger, Saint Jude Parish, Mountain Top; Justo Paula-Martínez, Saint Teresa of Calcutta Parish, Scranton; and Paul M. Zwolan, Saint Therese Parish, Shavertown.

"It was a very exciting day for me and all the other candidates," Chechel said. "It has been maybe a ten-year process of me discerning."

"I've always had a closeness to God and always felt that it was important to share his Word on salvation," Kovaleski added.

The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, served as principal celebrant



**Pictured after the Mass with Rite of Admission to Candidacy for Holy Orders on Sept. 28, 2024, are from left: Reverend Mark J. DeCelles, Diocesan Director of Permanent Diaconate Formation; William Chechel; Daniel B. Cosacchi; Stephen O. Muntzenberger; Jeffrey R. Kovaleski; Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton; Paul M. Zwolan; Thomas J. Krzan; Kevin J. Martin; Justo Paula-Martínez; and Deacon André F. Kabacinski, Coordinator of the Candidate Advisor and Pastoral Formation Programs.**

for the Mass, emphasizing the importance of service, humility, and commitment to the Church during his homily.

"You are being given the opportunity to deepen your resolve to follow the Lord Jesus and to serve the People of God. Just as the first disciples, you have been chosen for this role," Bishop Bambera said. "With this formal recognition of your candidacy, you enter a new and deeper phase of formation to prepare you for the singular seal of the Holy Spirit in

the Sacrament of Holy Orders."

During the Rite of Admission to Candidacy, each aspirant was called by name and presented himself before Bishop Bambera. Each man made a promise to complete his formation and form his heart and mind in service to the Church.

The candidates, aged between 38 and 61, represent a diverse array of backgrounds, professions, and life experiences. Among them are educators, mechanics, and company managers, all united by their desire to serve as permanent deacons.

In the Diocese of Scranton, the Permanent Diaconate Formation Program takes five years to complete. The first year, which is considered the aspirancy year, focuses heavily on discernment – not only for the men – but for the Church as well.

"The Rite of Candidacy means that these men have heard the call of God and are responding to it, and that the Church has formally entered

into their process of discerning a call to serve as deacons," Father Mark DeCelles, Director of the Permanent Diaconate Formation Program, explained. "Deacons, in a special way, share in Jesus' ministry of being a leader and an example of service."

The new candidates will spend the next four years studying and training before their ordination as permanent deacons. Permanent deacons may preach, proclaim the Gospel, prepare couples for marriage, witness marriages and conduct funeral services, in addition to other duties.

Following Mass, the candidates and their families joined Bishop Bambera for a reception in the Diocesan Pastoral Center.

Thomas Krzan began the discernment process after receiving a personal invitation from the clergy of his parish.

"The Holy Spirit was able to pull me out of my comfort zone and I'm glad that he did and I'm glad that I answered the call," he said.

Through the diaconate program, Krzan is hoping to be able to touch those who feel forgotten or left out.

"We've been doing a lot of work in the nursing home and people really appreciate that we're there. They thank us for coming and they sometimes applaud that we're there, so it's the poor and forgotten that I'm looking forward to helping," he explained.

Justo Paula-Martínez feels the same way.

Through the help of an interpreter, Paula-Martínez, who is a native Spanish speaker, said the service work he is already doing in his parish has been very fulfilling.

"In our church, we have a program with the CIC (Community Intervention Center). We take food to the homeless and the needy and I love working with the people and serving the people," he said. "I just hope to serve all, that the people get to know me, but I get to know them."



**During the Rite of Admission to Candidacy for Holy Orders, all eight men made a promise to complete his formation and form his heart and mind in service to the Church. (Photos/Mike Melisky)**



**During the Mass, candidates William Chechel and Daniel B. Cosacchi present the gifts to Bishop Bambera.**



**World Mission  
Sunday 2024**  
October 20th

**GO AND INVITE  
EVERYONE**  
*to the banquet*  
(MT 22:9)

YOUR GIFT  
HELPS SUPPORT:

 **38,140**  
Seminarians

 **8,750**  
Shelters and  
Orphanages

 **12,000**  
Health Centers

 **844,000**  
Catechists

 **258,540**  
Religious sisters

TEXT "MISSIONS24" TO 44384



SHARE  
THE FEAST:

*Give now*

The Society for the  
Propagation of the Faith  
a Pontifical Mission Society

[WWW.ONEFAMILYINMISSION.ORG/WMS](http://WWW.ONEFAMILYINMISSION.ORG/WMS)

*Pray and Give Generously on* **OCTOBER 20, 2024**



World Mission Sunday is a special day that unites Catholics worldwide in prayer, solidarity, and support for the Church's mission efforts. This year's theme, chosen by Pope Francis, is rooted in the Gospel of Matthew: "Go and Invite Everyone to the Banquet," reflecting the inclusive and urgent call to bring God's love to everyone. A Pontifical Mass in honor of World Mission Sunday will be celebrated at the Cathedral of Saint Peter, 315 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, on Sunday, Oct. 20, 2024 at 12:15 p.m. The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will be the principal celebrant. Father Stephen Bosomafi, a native of the Diocese of Sunyani, Ghana, and pastor of Saint Thomas More Parish in Lake Ariel, will be the homilist. All are invited to attend.

Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton will provide a live broadcast of the Mass. The Mass will also be livestream on the Diocese of Scranton website, YouTube channel and across all Diocesan social media platforms.

*Join us in the universal mission to spread the Gospel and invite all to experience the joy of Christ's message!*



# Honesdale parishioners' generosity providing new church in Ghana

**HONESDALE** - When Father William Langan first appealed to his parishioners at Saint John the Evangelist Parish two years ago about providing financial assistance for a church building project in the Diocese of Sunyani, Ghana, the response was immediate and overwhelming.

Faithful members of the four churches comprising the Honesdale Catholic parish believed - and still believe - their generous support would be most fitting, given that their assistant pastor, Father Dominic Sabi, is a native of the West African republic and one of nearly ten priests from Sunyani who are currently providing much-needed ministry in the Diocese of Scranton.

Since that time, the Saint John's parishioners have "adopted" the recently created Saint Anthony of Padua Rectorate (Parish) in Ghana as a "sister parish," generously raising \$5,175 for the construction of their new church.

"They are really counting on our donations," Father Langan said, as he proudly announced the first phase of the building project was completed early this year. "The superstructure is up and the roof is in place."

He related that the funding drive is ongoing and continues to be very successful.

"Once we accumulate a considerable amount of funds, we send it over to them," Father Langan noted, adding that he believes his parish hopes to make another sizable donation by next Lent.

The fundraising drive began with a simple request by Father Sabi, Saint John's assistant pastor since 2021, who has close ties to the Ghana parish.

He explained that when Most Rev. Matthew Kwasi Gyamfi, Bishop of the priest's home Diocese of Sunyani, established the new rectorate, he named Father Samuel Takyi, a seminary classmate of Father Sabi, as the founding pastor.

Father Sabi related that the existing Saint Anthony Church was in a "deplorable state" and needed to be razed



**Generous donations from parishioners of Saint John the Evangelist Parish in Honesdale have provided essential funding for a new church building project in the Diocese of Sunyani, Ghana. (Provided photo)**

to the foundation.

"I realized there was a great need, and I approached Father Langan about the possibility of our parish lending a helping hand," he said.

According to the African native priest, the second phase of the project is well underway, including extensive electrical work.

"We look forward to the next phase when pews will be installed and interior painting begins," Father Sabi shared.

Not surprisingly, expressions of gratitude from Saint Anthony of Padua Parish and the Sunyani Diocese have been most effusive. Letters of grateful appreciation have

arrived in Honesdale from Bishop Gyamfi and Father Fosu Dibi Eric, the parish's current rector.

"With deepest sense of appreciation, I write of behalf of Christ's faithful of St. Anthony Rectorate at Kwadwokumikrom," Father Fosu has communicated to Father Langan. "Our sincerest gratitude to you and your cherished and benevolent parishioners of St. John's Parish, Honesdale, for your donation towards the renovation of our church building project."

"My people cannot hide their joy for reaching out to support us," he stated. "We continue to count on your... support to assist us (to) complete the project to the greater glory of God."

## God calls everyone to the happiness of his kingdom

**VATICAN CITY (CNS)** - Mission is tirelessly going out to all men and women to invite them with respect, joy and kindness, to encounter God and enter into communion with him, Pope Francis wrote in his message for World Mission Sunday.

The Catholic Church, he wrote, "in fidelity to the mission she has received from the Lord, will continue to go to the ends of the earth, to set out over and over again, without ever growing weary or losing heart in the face of difficulties and obstacles."

He also praised the Eucharistic renewal that many local churches are promoting, saying this "will also be essential for reviving the missionary spirit in each member of the faithful."

"In this year devoted to prayer in preparation for the Jubilee of 2025, I wish to encourage all to deepen their commitment above all to take part in the celebration of Mass and to pray for the church's mission of evangelization," he wrote.

The theme of this year's message, "Go and invite everyone to the banquet," (Mt 22:9) indicates three important aspects of evangelization, the pope wrote: going out into the world; inviting everyone; and indicating God's divine banquet, which is "marked by joy, sharing, justice and fraternity in communion with God and with others."

"God, great in love and rich in mercy, constantly sets out to encounter all men and women, and to call them to the happiness of his kingdom, even in the face of their indifference or refusal," he wrote.

"Let us not forget that every Christian is called to take part in this universal mission by offering his or her own witness to the Gospel in every context," he wrote.

At the same time, the pope wrote, those bringing the Gospel to everyone must imitate the Lord's same "style" and do so "with joy, magnanimity and benevolence that are the fruits of the Holy Spirit within them. Not by pressuring, coercing or

proselytizing, but with closeness, compassion and tenderness."

Everyone, "whatever their social or even moral status," is invited by God "to partake of his grace, which transforms and saves. One need simply say 'yes' to this gratuitous divine gift, accepting it and allowing oneself (to) be transformed by it," the pope wrote.





# Bishop Bambera's Letter for World Mission Sunday

On October 20, 2024, the Universal Church will celebrate World Mission Sunday. As we come together on this special day, I join Pope Francis in inviting each of you to embrace the Gospel's call: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations" (Mt 28:19). This invitation to mission is at the heart of our faith, compelling us to share God's love with all people.

World Mission Sunday is a reminder that our faith is not confined by borders but extends to the farthest reaches of our world. This day invites us to reflect on our shared vocation as baptized members of the Body of Christ – to be ambassadors of His love and to engage in the transformative work of His mission. Together, we can bring the light of Christ to those who have not yet heard His message.

More than a century ago, the Church in the United States was sustained by the generosity of Catholics worldwide, a generosity that will be reflected in our second collection on World Mission Sunday. We now can extend that same support to our brothers and sisters in over 1,150 mission territories across Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Pacific Islands, and the Middle East. Your gifts will help to fund seminaries, support the formation of future religious sisters, train catechists, and sustain Catholic schools and healthcare centers.

Moreover, let us commit to praying for missionaries and the people they serve. Our prayers are powerful and critically important for those who dedicate their lives to serving others in the name of Christ. They work in regions marked by extreme weather conditions, violence, disease, and socio-political upheaval. Let us ask the Holy Spirit to guide and inspire all those involved in mission work!

May our participation in World Mission Sunday reflect the depth of our faith and our commitment to making the world a place where the light of Christ shines brightly for all.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

† *Joseph C. Bambera*

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



## Father Stephen Kow Bosomafi to serve as homilist at WORLD MISSION SUNDAY MASS AT CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PETER

SCRANTON - Father Stephen Bosomafi, pastor of Saint Thomas More Parish in Lake Ariel, will serve as the homilist of the World Mission Sunday Mass on Oct. 20, 2024, at 12:15 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will be the principal celebrant.

All are invited and encouraged to attend.

Father Bosomafi was born in February 1975 in Amisano, near Elmina and Cape Coast, in the Central Region of Ghana. He is the son of Paul Kweku Bosomafi and Beatrice Esi Baaba Bosomafi.

At the age of 15, Father Bosomafi's path to becoming a Catholic priest began when he had the opportunity to write an entrance examination for Saint James Minor Seminary for his high school education from 1990-1993. After high school, Father Bosomafi decided to continue his priestly formation, and in 1995, entered Saint Paul's Major Seminary, Sowutuom-Accra for a spiritual year and philosophical studies. He continued to Saint Peter's Regional Seminary, Pedu-Cape Coast for Theological Studies from 1998-2002. He obtained a bachelor's degree in

sociology and the study of religions from the University of Ghana, Legon-Accra. He also has a post graduate diploma in education (PGDE) from the University of Cape Coast, Ghana.

Father Bosomafi was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Sunyani on Dec. 7, 2002.

In Sept. 2004, his Bishop, Most Rev. Matthew Kwasi Gyamfi, asked him to go for further studies in the United States.

While working as an assistant pastor at a parish in New York, he received a master's degree in Business Administration from Marist College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Father Bosomafi returned to Ghana in 2008 and served as Diocesan Financial Administrator and on numerous boards and commissions.

In Feb. 2022, Bishop Matthew requested Father Bosomafi to return to the United States, specifically in the Diocese of Scranton to help raise money for Diocesan missions. After serving as assistant pastor at Christ the King Parish, Archbald, he was appointed pastor of Saint Thomas More Parish, Lake Ariel, on July 26, 2022. He is also currently a member of the Diocesan Presbyteral Council.



Father Bosomafi enjoys reading, walking, biking, cooking and traveling.





## WHAT IS THE PONTIFICAL MISSION SOCIETIES IN THE UNITED STATES?

### The Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith

The Propagation of the Faith's commitment is to arouse in the people of God an authentically universal spirit in order to make grow in the local Churches a missionary awareness in accordance with the Church's natural outreach.

### The Pontifical Missionary Childhood Association

The Pontifical Society of Missionary Childhood or of the Holy Childhood leads children to discover the missionary spirit and teaches them to help children of their same age around the world through prayer and small material sacrifices.

### The Pontifical Society of St. Peter Apostle

The Society of Saint Peter collaborates in the growth of the young churches through financial support for building new seminaries and formation programs for the new local priests, religious and sisters.

### The Pontifical Missionary Union

The Missionary Union is an association of the clergy, men and women religious and laypersons which proposes to arouse the passion for the mission in the Church, contribute to missionary formation, and encourage the Christian communities to cooperate and take active part in evangelization.

As we come together to celebrate World Mission Sunday on October 20, 2024, I invite you to reflect on our shared call to serve those in need and to spread the Gospel to all corners of the world.

This year, Pope Francis invites us with the theme, "Go and invite everyone to the banquet (cf. Mt 22:9)," reminding us of the joyful and urgent call to share the Good News that is at the heart of our faith.

World Mission Sunday is a special day for all of us to reflect on the Church's global mission to bring the Gospel to every corner of the world.

We are part of a beautiful story that goes back generations. Over a century ago, when the United States was considered a mission territory, Catholics around the world supported us with their prayers and gifts. Today, we have the opportunity and responsibility to do the same for our brothers and sisters in over 1,150 mission areas across Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Pacific Islands, and the Middle East.

In the Diocese of Scranton, we have a rich history of missionary activity. Many priests, religious, and lay people from our own parishes

## MISSION MESSAGE

*All are Welcome!*

**By Shannon Kowalski  
Diocesan Director,  
Pontifical Mission Societies**



have dedicated their lives to mission work, reaching out to the poorest and most marginalized in different parts of the world.

Their commitment to bringing both the message of salvation, and practical assistance to those in need, is a testament to the faith and generosity of the people of this diocese. This legacy of service continues today through the efforts of missionaries supported by the Pontifical Mission Societies, who ensure that our outreach extends to the ends of the earth.

World Mission Sunday is an opportunity for each of us to participate in this important work. Your prayers and financial support are crucial in empowering missionaries to continue their work in challenging environments.

The support gathered on World Mission Sunday directly impacts the lives of seminarians,

religious sisters, catechists, and helps develop Catholic schools and healthcare centers.

Let's make World Mission Sunday a spark for a renewed missionary spirit in our parishes.

Together, we can inspire our communities to look beyond our local church and embrace the world that is longing for the message of Jesus.

Let's also pray for the success of the Church's mission and for the missionaries who dedicate their lives to spreading the Gospel.

May our prayers and contributions on World Mission Sunday bring abundant blessings as we answer the call to invite everyone to the Lord's banquet.

You may return the form below to: Society for the Propagation of the Faith, c/o Diocese of Scranton, 300 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, PA 18503.

Thank you for your support!

## The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

**As a member, your gift means financial and spiritual support to:**

Missionaries, Seminarians, Religious Novices, Catechists, Schools, Hospitals, Orphanages, Maternity Clinics and Feeding Programs in more than 1150 Mission Dioceses!

**As a member, you receive:**

The grateful prayers of missionaries around the world, special remembrance in more than 15,000 Masses a year and a subscription to MISSION Magazine.

### YEARLY

☐ Individual.....\$5.00

☐ Family.....\$10.00

### PERPETUAL

☐ Perpetual Membership for a Family.....\$100.00

☐ Perpetual Membership for Individual.....\$50.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

If Membership is for another: \_\_\_\_\_ (living/deceased)



# Hispanic Heritage Mass features commissioning of parishioners

## *Faithful will help Diocese create new Hispanic ministry plan*

SCRANTON—The Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton was filled with vibrant energy and beautiful music Oct. 12, 2024, as nearly 700 people gathered to celebrate a special Mass for Hispanic Heritage month.

The Mass, celebrated in Spanish by the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, highlighted the many contributions of the Hispanic community within the church and the broader society, making it a significant occasion for reflection and cultural appreciation.

A notable highlight of the Mass was Bishop Bambera commissioning nearly 20 individuals to embark on a vital initiative for the Diocese of Scranton.

The newly commissioned individuals will engage – and most importantly listen – to parish communities to formulate a comprehensive Hispanic ministry plan for the Diocese of Scranton over the next year aimed at addressing the unique needs of Hispanic parishioners.

“I’m really excited,” Pilar Cueva from Saint Matthew Parish in East Stroudsburg said. “It is definitely an opportunity for us all.”

Cueva was born and raised in New York. Her parents came to the



**During the Hispanic Heritage Mass, nearly 20 parishioners were commissioned by Bishop Bambera to help the Diocese of Scranton develop a new Hispanic Ministry plan by next October.**

United States from Ecuador more than 45 years ago. She considers her parish to be her second home and is looking forward to helping others discover the beauty of God’s love.

“This is an opportunity for us to be heard and also to understand our different devotional and traditional practices,” she added. “It is definitely a great opportunity for all of us to feel included as one.”

The Diocese of Scranton currently has 13 parishes that regularly celebrate Masses in Spanish for members of the Hispanic community. In all, parishioners come from at least 20 countries including Mexico, Dominican Republic, El

Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Peru, Panama, Ecuador, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia, Colombia, Venezuela, Puerto Rico, Spain, and Cuba.

“We all come from different places, and we are all different, but when we all come together, we can make something really good and we can grow,” commission member Aris Torres, parishioner of Christ the King Parish in Archbald, added.

Torres was born in the Dominican Republic but came to the United States at 13, where he attended both high school and college. He moved to the Scranton area in 2015 and enjoys serving the church.



**The Cathedral of Saint Peter was nearly filled to capacity, with more than 700 people attending this year’s Hispanic Heritage Mass celebration on Oct. 12, 2024. (Photos/Mike Melisky)**

“The Spanish community is growing. This is a way to grow the community and help each other come together,” Torres said. “I see this as an opportunity to serve.”

By actively seeking input from the Hispanic community, the Diocese of Scranton aims to enhance spiritual engagement and understand community-specific concerns, ensuring that the voices of all people can be heard.

As the Diocese develops a strategic plan for Hispanic ministry it also seeks to cultivate an inclusive environment that celebrates diversity in faith.

That goal echoes the theme of this year’s Hispanic Heritage month in the United States, ‘Pioneers of Change: Shaping the

Future Together,’ which Bishop Bambera emphasized during his homily at the Hispanic Heritage Month Mass.

“As the Hispanic community takes its rightful place in the great tapestry of life that has been created in our country by its people who immigrated to this land from every corner and country of the world, we celebrate the gifts that you bring to our lives, to our Church and to our future,” Bishop Bambera said. “How blessed we are to begin this celebration at the table of the Eucharist, to be nourished for our shared mission and bound together in unity by nothing less than the power and presence of Almighty God.”



**Prior to the entrance procession, every parish that has a regularly scheduled Spanish Mass was highlighted with a special banner.**



**A woman prays during the Liturgy of the Eucharist at Mass.**



**Following the Mass, hundreds of people filled the Diocesan Pastoral Center for food and entertainment, including multi-cultural dancing.**



# Misa de la Herencia Hispana presenta la comisión de los feligreses

## Los fieles ayudarán a la Diócesis a crear un nuevo plan de ministerio hispano

SCRANTON – La Catedral de San Pedro en Scranton se llenó de energía vibrante y hermosa música el 12 de octubre de 2024, mientras casi 700 personas se reunían para celebrar una Misa especial por el mes de la Herencia Hispana.

La Misa, celebrada en español por el Muy Reverendo Joseph C. Bambera, Obispo de Scranton, destacó las numerosas contribuciones de la comunidad hispana dentro de la iglesia y la sociedad en general, convirtiéndola en una ocasión significativa para la reflexión y la apreciación cultural.

Un momento notable de la Misa fue la comisión de casi 20 individuos por parte del Obispo Bambera para emprender una iniciativa vital para la Diócesis de Scranton.

Los recién comisionados se involucrarán - y, lo más importante, escucharán - a las comunidades parroquiales para formular un plan integral de ministerio hispano para la Diócesis de Scranton durante el próximo año, dirigido a abordar las necesidades únicas de los feligreses hispanos.

“Estoy muy emocionada,” dijo Pilar Cueva, de la Parroquia San Mateo en East Stroudsburg. “Definitivamente es una oportunidad para todos nosotros.”

Cueva nació y creció en



**Durante la Misa, casi 20 feligreses fueron comisionados por el Obispo Bambera para ayudar a la Diócesis de Scranton a desarrollar un nuevo plan de ministerio hispano para octubre del próximo año.**

Nueva York. Sus padres llegaron a los Estados Unidos desde Ecuador hace más de 45 años. Considera que su parroquia es su segundo hogar y espera ayudar a otros a descubrir la belleza del amor de Dios.

“Esta es una oportunidad para que seamos escuchados y también para comprender nuestras diferentes prácticas devocionales y tradicionales,” agregó. “Definitivamente es una gran oportunidad para que todos nos sintamos incluidos como uno.”

La Diócesis de Scranton cuenta actualmente con 13 parroquias que celebran regularmente Misas en español para miembros de la comunidad hispana. En total, los feligreses provienen de al menos 20 países, incluyendo México,

República Dominicana, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Perú, Panamá, Ecuador, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia, Colombia, Venezuela, Puerto Rico, España y Cuba.

“Todos venimos de diferentes lugares y somos diferentes, pero cuando nos reunimos, podemos hacer algo realmente bueno y crecer,” agregó Aris Torres, miembro de la comisión y feligrés de la Parroquia Cristo Rey en Archbald.

Torres nació en la República Dominicana, pero llegó a los Estados Unidos a los 13 años, donde asistió tanto a la escuela secundaria como a la universidad. Se mudó al área de Scranton en 2015 y disfruta servir a la iglesia.



**La Catedral de San Pedro estuvo casi llena a su capacidad, con más de 700 personas asistiendo a la celebración de la Misa de la Herencia Hispana este año el 12 de octubre de 2024. (Fotos/Mike Melisky)**

“La comunidad hispana está creciendo. Esta es una forma de hacer crecer la comunidad y ayudar a que todos se unan,” dijo Torres. “Veo esto como una oportunidad para servir.”

Al buscar activamente la opinión de la comunidad hispana, la Diócesis de Scranton tiene como objetivo mejorar el compromiso espiritual y comprender las preocupaciones específicas de la comunidad, asegurando que las voces de todas las personas sean escuchadas.

Mientras la Diócesis desarrolla un plan estratégico para el ministerio hispano, también busca cultivar un ambiente inclusivo que celebre la diversidad en la fe.

Ese objetivo refleja el tema del mes de la Herencia Hispana

de este año en los Estados Unidos, ‘Pioneros del Cambio: Dando Forma al Futuro Juntos,’ que el Obispo Bambera enfatizó durante su homilía en la Misa del Mes de la Herencia Hispana.

“A medida que la comunidad hispana ocupa su lugar legítimo en el gran tapiz de la vida que ha sido creado en nuestro país por sus habitantes que inmigraron a esta tierra desde cada rincón y país del mundo, celebramos los dones que ustedes traen a nuestras vidas, a nuestra Iglesia y a nuestro futuro,” dijo el Obispo Bambera. “Qué bendecidos somos al comenzar esta celebración en la mesa de la Eucaristía, para ser nutridos para nuestra misión compartida y unidos por nada menos que el poder y la presencia del Dios Todopoderoso.”



**Antes de la procesión de entrada, se destacó a cada parroquia que tiene una Misa en español programada regularmente con un banner especial.**



**Una mujer reza durante la Liturgia de la Eucaristía en la Misa.**



**Después de la Misa, cientos de personas llenaron el Centro Pastoral Diocesano para disfrutar de comida y entretenimiento, incluyendo danzas multiculturales.**



## MCDADÉ - CHICHILLA APARTMENTS

230 Lackawanna Avenue, Olyphant, PA 18447

### ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

- 62 or older, handicapped or disabled
- Apartments designed for the mobility handicapped

Rent based on 30% of your income.

Includes all utilities except cable and telephone.

Telephone: (570) 489-4756

- CLOSE TO ALL AMENITIES •



## St. Joseph Melkite Greek-Catholic Church

130 N. St. Frances Cabrini Ave., West Scranton

### Pasta Dinner



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23 • 4-6pm

TAKEOUT ONLY

Adults \$11.00 • Children 6 - 10 \$6.00

Tickets at the door, or Pre-order:

570-468-0529

melkite.scranton@gmail.com

melkitescranton.org or facebook



# Catholic Columbarium

for the Interment of Ashes in the Greater Pittston Area.

Niches now available.



Contact the Parish Office for pricing and advance sales.

Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery • Pine Street, Dupont

570.654.3713 shojesuschurch@gmail.com

## Catholic Men's Conference highlights the call to embrace Catholic values

WILKES-BARRE — While they each had diverse stories and styles, the three main speakers at the 2024 'Be A Catholic Man' Conference all had a similar message.

Each speaker challenged the men attending this year's conference to be proactive in embracing their Catholic faith and to become spiritual leaders in their homes and communities.

"Strong men, strong families," Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers told the crowd. "Strong families, strong church."

Burke-Sivers is the author of five books and hosts several shows on EWTN. He explained that leadership is rooted in service.

"You're not the 'boss' of your house," he told the crowd. "You're the head of the house because you are the chief servant."

Father Bill Casey, who is also a frequent guest on EWTN and a nationally renowned speaker,



John Edwards, left, and Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers, right, speak during the 'Be A Catholic Man' Conference Oct. 5, 2024, at Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre. (Photos/Mike Melisky)

explained that every person is created for heaven, that nothing is impossible with God, God has a plan for each life and is always faithful to his promises.

"Make the most of the gift of life and the gift of the time that God has given to you," Father Casey said. "History has proven that time and time again, God always raises up the greatest saints in times of crisis in his church and the present age will be no different."

John Edwards, founder and executive director of Pew Ministries, a Catholic apostolate with the mission of bringing Jesus Christ to all people, told a very personal story about how his addiction to drugs and alcohol landed him in prison.

Edwards said it was at that lowest point in his struggle with addiction that he realized Jesus came to him with love and mercy.

"God doesn't care about what you've done. He cares about what you have the potential to do," Edwards said. "Every one of the Apostles was broken ... I met Jesus and Jesus did something for me that I could not do for myself, and he can do it in every one of our lives."

Approximately 250 men attended this year's conference, which was held Oct. 5 at Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre. This year was the ninth annual 'Be A Catholic Man' Conference.

"The speakers are unbelievable. They are national speakers, and I have never been

disappointed," Mike McFadden, a parishioner of Saint Lawrence Parish in South Williamsport, said. "I learned a lot about humility."

Jack Walsh, who lives in Hershey, made the 90-minute trip to participate in this year's conference.

"When you get in a group like this at a men's conference, where you're surrounded by guys that believe the same things and feel strongly in their faith, it's very moving and important," Walsh said.

Walsh brought his son, Mark, who is a junior at Messiah University, to this year's conference for the first time. Mark, 22, was particularly inspired by Edwards' personal story of putting his life back together after his arrest — and took away an important message.

"No matter what I'm going through, you can always have faith in the Lord, and if you believe, you can get back up," Mark Walsh explained.

The conference concluded with Mass, celebrated by the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, who reflected on this year's conference theme, 'Come, follow me.'

"Following Jesus demands that for those of us who say 'yes' to his invitation, we're willing to allow him to reshape our priorities, our actions and our very identity," Bishop Bambera explained. "Authentically following Jesus requires a realignment of our lives with his teachings and example, embracing his values and making them our own."



# Catholic Social Services launches 'Parents as Teachers' program to support families

WILKES-BARRE—Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton has announced the launch of a new program, 'Parents as Teachers,' designed to empower families in Luzerne County by providing resources and support for early childhood development.

The agency began serving its first nine families in September and is planning a large kick-off event on Nov. 9 to help spread the word about the new program.

"Research has shown that the first three years of a child's life are the most formative," Montie Ford, lead caseworker for the 'Parents as Teachers' program, said. "A lot of times moms don't understand that the time during their pregnancy is important too."

The 'Parents as Teachers' program aims to equip parents with the knowledge and skills necessary to foster their children's growth and learning from conception up to one year before entering kindergarten (typically around the age of five).

"At ten weeks in utero, a child has a nervous system and they're taking in everything in their environment," Ford added. "We can talk to pregnant mothers about the importance of a healthy diet, not doing drugs, not smoking

pot or cigarettes, not using curse words all the time, and trying to destress themselves and be calm."

The 'Parents as Teachers' program offers a range of services, including home visits from trained educators, parenting workshops, and access to educational materials and toys. Families receive personalized guidance tailored to their individual needs, focusing on developmental milestones, effective parenting strategies, and early literacy.

"One of the great things about 'Parents as Teachers' is that through these assessments, we're able to identify developmental issues that a parent could go to their primary care provider and say, 'they're not doing milestones or this,' and the medical provider can do a diagnosis," Dagmar Montolio, program supervisor, said.

Unlike other programs, there is no income requirement for a family to participate in the 'Parents as Teachers' program. It is currently available to any parent in Luzerne County who is pregnant or who has a young baby. The program does have a minimum commitment of one year.

Catholic Social Services currently has six caseworkers



**Dagmar Montolio, left, and Montie Ford, are among six Catholic Social Services employees who have helped to launch a new program, 'Parents as Teachers,' which will provide resources and support to families for early childhood development. (Photo/Eric Deabill)**

taking part in the 'Parents as Teachers' program. Families can expect to get one or two visits a month depending on the number of stressors in the child's environment.

"We want them to look forward to us coming to know that we're part of their team," Montolio said, explaining the initiative as extremely proactive.

The 'Parents as Teachers' program is designed to support parents in their crucial role as their child's first teacher, helping to ensure that every child has the opportunity to thrive. Catholic Social Services believes strongly that investing in our families is essential for building a stronger community.

"It is really an amazing program," Montolio added. "We want people to know that this program is starting."

## "Thanks For Giving" Event Planned for Nov. 9

To help spread the word about the launch of the new 'Parents as Teachers' program, Catholic Social Services is organizing a 'Thanks for Giving' community event on Saturday, Nov. 9, 2024.

"Everything will be family friendly," Ford said.

Between 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., everyone is invited to the Salvation Army Gymnasium, 17 S. Pennsylvania Avenue, Wilkes-Barre. The event will feature door

prizes, information tables, craft vendors, free face painting and entertainment. Free haircuts will also be provided by the Repair Shop and the Plains Lions Club will offer free eye screenings for children.

"We want parents to see what 'Parents as Teachers' offers, but even if they don't engage with P.A.T., we hope they leave with something to better themselves," Montolio stated.

As part of its mission to serve those in need, Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton has been working with Luzerne County Children & Youth Services to develop initiatives that support family well-being and community cohesion. The launch of the 'Parents as Teachers' program is a testament to the organization's commitment to enhancing the lives of families and ensuring that every child has a strong foundation for future success.

For more information about the 'Parents as Teachers' program, contact Dagmar Montolio at (570) 822-7118, ext. 3319, or email [dmontolio@cssdioceseofscranton.org](mailto:dmontolio@cssdioceseofscranton.org); or Montie Ford at (570) 763-9320, or email [mford@cssdioceseofscranton.org](mailto:mford@cssdioceseofscranton.org).

# New permanent homeless shelter under construction in Wilkes-Barre

*Continued from Page 1*

"CareerLink is right behind us. There are health services and mental health services within walking distance," Mahoney added.

The shelter will also be able to coordinate services with Saint Vincent de Paul Kitchen, along with its food and clothing pantries.

"If somebody comes in without a pair of shoes, we're going to be able to go downstairs and immediately solve that problem," Harry Lyons, program

director for Mother Teresa's Haven, said.

The new shelter will have space for 20 beds and will also feature showers and laundry facilities for the first time.

"To be able to wake up in the morning and take a shower is not only a matter of hygiene and health, but basic human dignity," Lyons added.

Construction is expected to be complete around Thanksgiving, just in time for the winter months, when the need for support is often most noticeable. The new shelter

will be handicap accessible with access available via elevator.

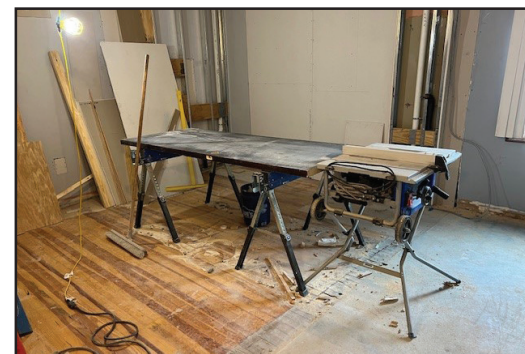
Since Catholic Social Services owns the building, managers will also have flexibility to extend hours as weather conditions warrant.

"If there is a foot of snow on the ground, or if it is four degrees out, I'm going to be able to make the decision that we are going to stay open that day and not put people out into the cold," Lyons explained.

Community members – from county and city leaders to Bishop

Bambera and local parishes – have been extremely supportive of the project. Funding from the ongoing Catholic Ministries Appeal will help the new shelter operate.

"This is really a community project," Mahoney said. "This is where we need to be."



**Work is underway on the second floor of the Saint Vincent de Paul Kitchen building on East Jackson Street in Wilkes-Barre to create a new permanent home for Mother Teresa's Haven shelter. (Photo/Eric Deabill)**



# Pittston parish to host 67th Saint Jude Novena beginning Oct. 19

PITSTON — Our Lady of Help of Christians Church, 535 North Main St., Pittston. The well-known and time-honored Saint Jude Novena begins Saturday, Oct. 19, and

concludes on the Feast of Saint Jude, Monday, Oct. 28.

Mass, homily, Novena prayers and veneration of the relic of Saint Jude will be held Monday through Friday at noon & 7 p.m.

Saturday devotions are

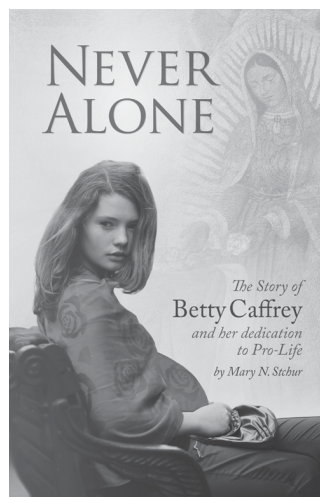
offered at noon & 4 p.m., and the Sunday Novena is held at 11 a.m. & 5 p.m.

Recitation of the Rosary and Sacramental confessions (except Sunday) precede all Novena devotions.

This year's scheduled celebrants/homilists for the Saint Jude Novena include: Saint Joseph Oblate Father Gregory

Finn, Monsignor Joseph Quinn, Monsignor John Bendik, Father Sam Ferretti, Father Michael Boris, Monsignor John Jordan, Saint Joseph Oblate Father Paul McDonnell and Father Joseph Elston.

Novena prayer cards are provided. For more information, contact the parish office at (570) 654-0263.

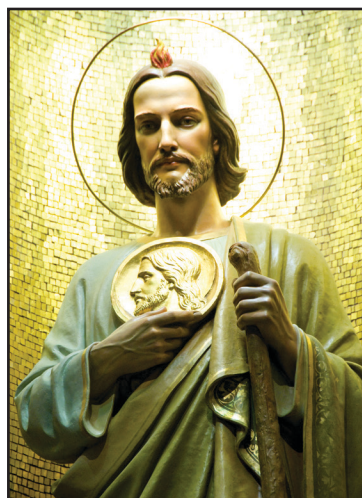


## Never Alone

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 running of the Pro-Life Center and stands as an inspirational warrior in the fight for the protection of the unborn.

— Available at —  
Heaven & Earth Gift Shop Scranton  
Barnes & Noble Wilkes-Barre  
Bedwick's Pharmacy Wilkes-Barre

For more information, contact: [mnstchur@gmail.com](mailto:mnstchur@gmail.com)



## Marian Devotion Rosary prayer services

Fostering prayerful devotion to Jesus and the Blessed Virgin Mary through recitation of the Holy Rosary, Marian Devotion Ministries in the Diocese of Scranton continues to lead its Fatima Journey, which began on the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima (May 13) and continues through October, the Month of the Holy Rosary.

Marian Devotion gatherings are scheduled as follows:

**Saturday Rosary Devotion** — Oct. 19, at 5 p.m. at the Fatima Shrine on the grounds of Saint Mary of Mount Carmel Church, Dunmore.

**Monday Evening of Marian Devotion** — Oct. 21, at 6 p.m. at the Oblates of Saint Joseph Chapel, Route 315, Laffin.

**MARTZ**  
EST. 1908 **BUS**



## Look Where 2025 Will Take You!



### WINTER GETAWAY IN AC

Jan. 26-27

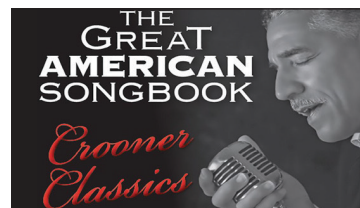
Margaritaville @ Tropicana  
Hotel, food & slots vouchers



### PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW

March 3-7

5 Day Trips  
Admission included



### CATSKILLS CASINO

Feb. 11-12

"Great American Songbook"  
Hotel, Show, slots & food vouchers



### RIVERDANCE

Feb. 26

Orchestra seating & dinner  
AMT, Lancaster



### THE 60S SHOW

Friday, Feb. 6

Penn's Peak  
Premier reserved seats

## More Great Tours!

### 2024:

Oct. 23: Pumpkin Blaze  
Oct. 29: 3 Troubadours at Penn's Peak  
Nov. 7: Cash/Diamond Tribute at Silver Birches  
Nov. 12: Destiny USA Shopping Mall  
Dec. 28: Broadway/NY City

### 2025:

Jan. 11: PA Farm Show

Jan. 17: Fire & Frost @ Peddler's Village  
Jan. 23: Driving Miss Daisy-Dinner & Show  
Feb. 2: Great Outdoor Show  
Feb. 7: The 60s Show  
Feb. 16: A Hershey Valentine  
Feb. 17: American Dream Mall  
March 12: Bally's AC Overnight  
March 13: The Irish Show  
March 21-23: Springtime in DC  
March 23: Murder Mystery Dinner

March 29: Peddler's Peeps  
April 8: Brooklyn Chocolate Tour  
April 9: Noah @ Sight & Sound  
April 13: Cape May NJ  
April 17: Gettysburg  
April 21: Murder Mystery  
April 23-24: Benny & Jets @ Tropicana  
April 24-27: Military Bands in Va.  
May 7: Fiddler on the Roof  
May 12: Finger Lakes Wine Tour

May 14: 911 Museum & Memorial  
May 21: Bronx Zoo  
May 24: Flavor Fest Wine Event  
May 27-29: Comedy Center Tour  
May 31: Liberty & Ellis Islands  
June 7: Noah @ Sight & Sound  
June 15-19: Homes of the Presidents  
June 23: Cape May  
June 28: Brooklyn Pizza Tour  
June 29: Bronx Zoo

Check [www.MartzTours.com](http://www.MartzTours.com) — Join our email list for tour specials! Call 570-821-3838 for more information.



Shroud of Turin exhibit hosted at Pocono Pines parish

POCONO PINES - During the final days of September, Saint Maximilian Kolbe Parish in Pocono Pines hosted “The Man of the Shroud” exhibit, which was on loan to the local Knights of Columbus from the Saint Maximilian Kolbe Shrine in Illinois.

The in-depth visual presentation on the venerable Shroud of Turin - piously believed to be the burial cloth of Jesus - was open for public display.

The exhibit featured more than 30 informational panels, a full-length canvas replica of the Shroud, and a large corpus model revealing the wounds suffered by Christ during his passion and crucifixion.



Apostleship of Prayer

Papal Intention for November 2024

For Anyone Who Has Lost A Child —

We pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and receive peace and consolation from the Holy Spirit.

LAMONICA LAW FIRM LLC

CARLO A. LAMONICA —ATTORNEY AT LAW

- Probate & Estate Administration
- Estate Planning
- Powers of Attorney
- Advance Health Care Directives
- Estate & Inheritance Taxes
- Veterans Disability Claims

Prepare for your Future, Protect Your Family. Schedule your FREE CONSULTATION today!

• (570) 751-1571 • www.LaMonicaLawFirm.com

Statement of Ownership

Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation (Required by 39 USC 3685) September 18, 2024, of

The Catholic Light

ISSN 0164-9418 Published monthly at: 300 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania 18503-1224

Publisher: Catholic Light Publishing Co., Scranton, Pa.

Editor-in-Chief: Eric M. Deabill, Scranton, Pa.

OWNER (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning and holding one percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual must be given.)

Catholic Light Publishing Company, Scranton, Pa.

President: Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Scranton, Pa.

Vice President: Rev. Gerald W. Shantillo, Scranton, Pa.

Treasurer: Eric M. Deabill, Scranton, Pa.

Secretary: Linda E. Price, Scranton, Pa.

Known bondholders, mortgagees and other security holders owning or holding one percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities: None.

	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 months	Single Issue nearest filing
A. Total No. Copies Printed (Net Press Run)	33,734	36,517
B. Paid Circulation		
1. Outside County	33,003	35,757
2. In County		
3. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales	None	None
4. Other classes of mail	None	None
C. Total Paid Distribution	33,003	35,757
D. Free Distribution		
1. Outside County	631	660
2. In County		
3. Other classes of mail	None	None
4. Outside the mail	None	None
E. Total Free Distribution	631	660
F. Total Distribution	33,634	36,417
G. Copies Not Distributed	100	100
H. Total	33,734	36,517
I. Percent Paid	98.12%	98.19%

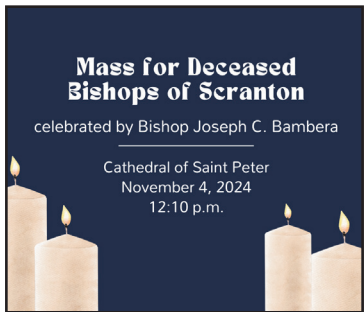
I certify that the statements made by me are correct and complete.

Eric M. Deabill, Editor-in-Chief

Mass for Deceased Bishops of Scranton

celebrated by Bishop Joseph C. Bambera

Cathedral of Saint Peter November 4, 2024 12:10 p.m.



PRESENT THIS COUPON FOR A DISCOUNT

Veteran's Day is fast approaching.

– Make sure your loved one's memory is never forgotten –

Call Loving Memories Monument Care, LLC - today!

570-575-1184



↑ BEFORE

AFTER ↓



↑ BEFORE

AFTER ↓



Seniors & Veterans Discounts!



## Do you LOVE the Catholic faith?

This is what inspires us. We hire for mission.

### JOIN OUR TEAM:

- Café Barista
- Gift Shop Sales Associate
- Café Chef
- Operations Manager

To apply go to...

HeavenAndEarthGiftShop.com/join-our-team

...or scan the QR code below.



HEAVEN & EARTH

The Guild Building • 400 Wyoming Ave • Scranton, PA

## Knights restore 'Angel of the Unborn' Statue



### 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.



### Elder Law

- Guardianships
- Asset Protection Planning
- Medicaid Application Assistance

### Estate Administration

#### Probate :

Settle all estate matters and distribute inheritances.

#### Inheritance Tax :

Utilize all discounts and proper deductions.

Meet all requirements and deadlines.

- Powers of Attorney • Living Wills • Wills
- Trusts Guardianships • Asset Protection Planning
- Medicaid Application Assistance

### Estate Planning

- Powers of Attorney • Living Wills
- Wills • Trusts Guardianships



**Michael J. Bendick**

Attorney At Law

**(570) 901-1254**

[www.bendicklaw.com](http://www.bendicklaw.com)

Located in Shavertown  
(Covering Luzerne, Lackawanna,  
& Wyoming Counties)

Members of Knights of Columbus Council 7622 recently took it upon themselves to provide the work, and cover the cost, to restore the age-old "Angel of the Unborn" concrete statue outside Sacred Heart of Mary Church in Jermyn, one of the worship sites of Christ the King Parish in Archbald. Knights of the Council went about repairing the damaged fingers on one of the statue's hands; cleaning the statue with a solvent mixture and soft brushing; and power-washing, painting and seal-coating the monument dedicated to the memory of unborn children. Shown above are Council Grand Knight Kevin Pittack, left, and Financial Secretary Ron Ryczak posing with the finished product, and Grand Knight Pittack wielding the pressure washer.

### South Scranton Catholic '64 graduates reunite



Members of the 1964 graduating class from the former South Scranton Catholic High School gathered recently at Amadeo's restaurant in Moosic for their 60th class reunion. Classmates in attendance are shown, seated from left: Joe Quinn, Chet Wasik, Monsignor David Bohr, Helenanne Jimmie, Barbara Spellman Shuta, Bob Burke, Terry Padden and Joe Connolly. Second row: D'Ann Edsell Cecere, Marcia Reidy Harney, Cathy McDowell Collins, Grace Finnerty Dawgert, Joyce McIntyre O'Hara, Teresa Manley Grabowski, Betty Metcalf Ward, Marie Lahey Burke, Angie Brady VanNess, Andrea Kettel Lucke and Barbara Dehaba. Third row: Helene Olecki Tinsley, Denny Ward, Dorothy Sroka Sheridan, Len O'Hara, Teresa Barrett Zeller, Jeanne Flowers Boshier, Phil Boshier, Father Joseph Kakareka, Adelle Rozaieski Facinelli, Jim Kanavy, Wayne Phillips, Tom Evanew and Jack Condridge.



St. Ann's Basilica, Scranton, is sponsoring a fall conference series entitled:

### ***Spirituality: Our Sacred Journey Through Life***

The conferences will look at our lives and the world more deeply through the lens of the grace, the mercy, and the presence of the Lord.



**2nd Conference: Saturday, October 26**

Led by Deacon Peter Lemocelli • Entitled: What is Prayer?

**3rd Conference: Saturday, November 23**

Led by Fr. Mark Ward, CP. • Entitled: Catholic Spirituality - Enriched by the Sacraments.

To be held in St. Gabriel's Room in the lower Basilica • 9:30AM until 11:30AM

**All are welcome. Please register by visiting or calling the Shrine Office during business hours at 570-347-5691.**

## **ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES WANTED**

### **1 ITEM OR COMPLETE ESTATES**

Post Cards	Guns	Sewing
Books	Sporting Items	Machines
Military	Glassware	Light
Mining Items	Toys	Fixtures
Tools	Clocks	Magazines

**570-430-2370**

## **S&K ANTIQUES**

**We buy old Christmas & Halloween items, as well as old toys, old advertising, military, mining & railroad items, musical instruments, beer items, lamps & clocks, sewing machines, watches, jewelry & more.**

**WE BUY ANYTHING OLD!**

**570-954-4023 • FREE APPRAISALS**

### **WANTED TO BUY**

Old books, postcards, cigarette lighters, mining & railroad items, match box toys, all antiques & anything old. 570-430-2370.

### **WANTED TO BUY**

**KEYSTONE ANTIQUES** - We Buy: Costume Jewelry; Coin Collections; Antiques & Old Furniture. If you are settling an estate, or have any: Gold; Silver; Coins; Mining or RR items; Old Sewing Machines; Bookcases; B/R or D/R Furniture - **ANYTHING OLD**, please give us a call. We have been in the estate furniture business since 1972 (*no other antique dealer in this valley has been in business longer*) and we do it full time. **Complete Estate Cleanout Service-Keystone Antiques, Paul L. Cicon. 570-498-6068.**

### **WANTED**

Woman's Vintage Clothing: 1900 thru 1970; Men's 1900 thru 1940. Good condition, no fur coats. Local area. **Maegan 315-857-1606**

### **COUNSELING SERVICES**

**Patrick F. Cioni, M.S., M.A., L.P.C.**  
Individual & Marriage Counseling. Most Insurances Accepted. **570-848-7272.**

### **DRIVER**

Dependable driver for all your local or long distance trips (excluding NYC). Call or text Bernie at **570-718-7779**

## **Pittston parishes hosting 'Evening of Song' on Oct. 19**

PITSTON — Saint John the Evangelist and Saint Joseph Mareello parishes will co-sponsor an "Evening of Song" on Saturday, Oct. 19, at 7 p.m. in Saint John the Evangelist Church, William Street.

The concert event is being presented jointly by the Saint Thomas Gospel Choir of Philadelphia and Cantores Christi Regis of King's College in Wilkes-Barre, directed by Rob Yenkowski.

The choirs will perform both individually and together throughout the evening.

For more information, contact the Saint John parish office at (570) 654-0053.

## **TRAVELWORLD**

### **\*\*\*WINTER 2025 SPECIAL\*\*\***

**8-DAY WINTER FLORIDA & BAHAMAS CRUISE**

Including A Perfect Day at Coco Cay

FEBRUARY 8-16, 2025

**LAST CALL \$1395 PP LAST CALL**

Oceanview Balcony

Plan to Sail aboard the Odyssey of the Seas first time sailing from Bayonne, NJ on this **PEAK WINTER SAILING**

Valentine's Cruise



Big Game Cruise

Book Now, We have 100-Staterooms Available!  
Bus included to the Pier, Deposit of \$250 pp to confirm Bon Voyage!

### **WINTER SPLASH 1-WEEK SPECIAL RIU CANCUN RESORT**



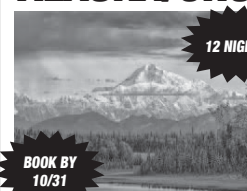
**OCEANVIEW ROOM - ALL-INCLUSIVE  
BURST AIRFARE INCLUDED | FEBRUARY 3-10, 2025**

**\$1599 PP**

**ADULTS ONLY/44-SEATS !!!**

435 Green Ridge Street, Scranton, Pa 18509  
**570-342-5790**

### **SAPPHIRE PRINCESS ALASKA/CRUISE TOUR 2025**



12 NIGHTS

**AUGUST 8-21, 2025**

**\$5975 PP**

**OCEANVIEW BALCONY**

**INCLUDING AIRFARE/ CRUISE/DOME TRAIN RIDE/  
DRINKS/ WI-FI/GRATUITIES/DENALI NATIONAL  
PARK THIS IS THE MOST INCLUSIVE DEAL WE  
HAVE EVER SEEN! BOOK THIS EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL  
NOW! YOU WILL NEVER SEE RATE AGAIN!**

### **ADVANCE NOTICE**



**NEW YORK CITY 1-DAY  
BUS TRIPS**

**"SHOPPER'S SPECIAL"  
SATURDAY, DEC 7TH  
OR DEC. 14TH**

**\$69PP**

**"CHRISTMAS TIME  
IN NYC"**

601 Market Street, Kingston, Pa 18704  
**570-288-9311**

### **Classifieds**

### **Classifieds**

### **Classifieds**

### **Classifieds**

### **HAULING**

**JUNK REMOVAL  
WE HAUL FOR LESS**

Senior citizen and Veteran discounts.  
PA license #112108. Insured  
**Free Estimates • 570-687-7687  
WEDOCLEANOUTS.com**

### **MOLD REMOVAL**

TekPure Environmental LLC  
Professional mold remediation.  
Sample Testing. Skilled personnel.  
PA license #140395. Insured.  
**570-687-7687 www.TekPure.com**

## **ADVERTISERS!**

**Reach out to our faithful readers every week!**

Advertise in

**The Catholic Light**

**570-207-2229**

**Eileen-Manley@DioceseofScranton.org**



# STUCKER TOURS

570-655-8458 • For a complete list of tours • [www.stuckertours.com](http://www.stuckertours.com)

**"DANIEL" SIGHT & SOUND THEATER**  
Incl. a meal at an authentic Amish home & dairy farm & visit to Village Farm Market.  
**Oct. 24 • \$209 FRONT, CENTER SEATS!**

## TURNING STONE CASINO & HIGH STAKES BINGO HALL OVERNIGHT

**Nov. 10-11** • Accommodations located at the Casino/Bingo Hall. Fantastic Package!! \$55 in casino slotplay or bingo & \$20 meal credit. High-Stakes Bingo features the highest payouts. Plenty of dining options! • \$299

**RESORTS WORLD CATSKILLS CASINO**  
**\$25 SLOT, \$15 FOOD • NOV. 17 • ONLY \$63**

## THE BEST OF THE MAHONEY BROTHERS HUNTERDON HILLS PLAYHOUSE

**March 1** • The latest show from America's most versatile tribute act play the most iconic musical legends. The greatest hits of the BeeGees, Neil Diamond, the Beatles, Billy Joel, Willie Nelson & more. Visit to Wind Creek Casino with \$25 Slotplay • \$185

## BRANSON, MO

**June 21-29** • 6 of the best shows, including one on the Showboat Branson Bell, Dogwood Canyon Nature Tram Tour and picnic lunch at the Chuckwagon Pavilion, 12 meals, visit to St. Louis, Titanic Museum and more! • \$2,049

**SENECA ALLEGANY RESORT CASINO OVERNIGHT & BINGO HALL**  
**July 20-21** • \$75 Slotplay + \$20 food credit. Plus a stop at Tioga Downs Casino • \$249

## SOUTH DAKOTA

**& YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK**  
**August 9-22** • (20) delicious meals, Notre Dame University, chuckwagon dinner & Rodeo, Mount Rushmore, Safari Jeep Tour in Custer State Park **and MUCH MORE!** • \$3,499

**"NOAH'S ARK" 30TH ANNIVERSARY AT SIGHT & SOUND THEATER,**  
Lancaster, PA • April 3, July 26, Oct. 4, - Meal incl., **Excellent Front, Center Seats!** • \$219

Who is the man  
behind the Rosary  
Rally??



Family Theater  
Productions

Scan the QR code or  
follow the link  
for a complementary  
viewing of  
**PRAY: The Story of  
Patrick Peyton**



<https://vimeo.com/video/605030005?share=copy>

**Password:**  
**RosaryRally2024**

**PRAY**

THE STORY OF PATRICK PEYTON



## Sacred Heart Parish in Dupont hosting Fall Theology Series

DUPONT — Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish announces it will host a free Fall Theology Series for adult learners on Wednesday evenings, Oct. 23, 30 & Nov. 6, from 6 to 7 p.m. in the parish's School of Religion, 219 Lackawanna Ave., Dupont.

Former Lutheran pastor Bill Jones will serve as guest instructor for the three class offerings. The

schedule for the program series is as follows:

**Oct. 23** — "Mary is: the Mother of God; Our Lady; and much, much more"; presentation discussion on the Jewish biblical roots of the Blessed Virgin Mary and denominational myths about the Mother of God.

**Oct. 30** — "The Koran and its References to Jesus, Mary and

Christians"; exploring passages from the Koran that refer to the selected themes.

**Nov. 6** — "Modernism: The Unknown Threat"; discussion of the meaning of modernism and why it has been called the "synthesis of all heresies."

The theology series is open to the public free of charge.

## Catholic Mental Health Support

CLARKS GREEN — A Catholic Spiritual Support Group for those with mental illness is offering support group meetings for adults twice a month in Lackawanna County.

Meetings are held on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Church of Saint Gregory, 330 North Abington Road, Clarks Green.

Sessions run about 90 minutes.



## — COME & EXPERIENCE — the Authentic Christmas Markets of Europe

## ♦ Magical Christmas Markets ♦

**DECEMBER 4-11, 2025**

*Highlights: Innsbruck, Seefeld with Carriage Ride, Salzburg, St Peter's Restaurant, Linderhof Palace*

Oberammergau, Munich and Christmas Markets

5 nights Innsbruck – 1 night Munich

• *Seats are limited and always sells out!* •

For more information contact:  
**Marge McCauley, Scully Travel**  
**570-486-4231**  
[marge.mccauley@scullytravel.com](mailto:marge.mccauley@scullytravel.com)



**ROBERT RITTERBECK**

*Church Painting and Decorating*

**(570) 343-2899**

*Please visit our website at [www.Ritterbeck.com](http://www.Ritterbeck.com)*

STATUES • STENCILS • GOLD LEAF • MURAL RESTORATION



## Friends of the Poor launches annual effort to feed thousands in need at Thanksgiving

SCRANTON — Friends of the Poor on Sept. 30 officially announced its daunting and ambitious goal of serving more than 17,000 holiday meals to those in need during the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday through its community-based programs and collaborations.

The 48th Annual Thanksgiving Community Program will sponsor three food-based outreach events to meet the ever-growing challenge of feeding the less fortunate during this festive time of year.

Such an auspicious endeavor can only be accomplished through tremendous community support, in the form of a network of dedicated volunteers and the selfless generosity of countless donors — not to mention, plenty of faith.

“While everyone sees their budgets cover less and less each year, this is especially poignant to the families Friends of the Poor serves year-round,” Meghan Loftus, president and CEO of the charitable apostolate, said. “We are seeing a thirty percent increase in the number of families

we are serving across our daily programming.”

Loftus continued, “We work diligently with our suppliers and donors beginning in the early months of summer to get the best deals. Still, the Thanksgiving Community Program this year will run about \$250,000.”

From its humble beginnings of feeding a few dozen members of the community at Thanksgiving in the mid-1970s, Friends of the Poor continues to rely on the trademark generosity of area businesses, institutions and individual benefactors to make the holiday special for those who often go without.

Nearly 50 years later, efforts are well underway to prepare and serve 4,000 holiday meals and provide 4,000 families with groceries for a Thanksgiving feast at home.

The Thanksgiving program series of events begins on Friday, Nov. 22, at 7 p.m. with the Interfaith Prayer Service hosted at Temple Hesed, 1 Knox Road, Scranton. All are welcome to attend the prayer service celebrating the gift

of gratitude through the area’s faith traditions and the true meaning of the holiday.

On Sunday, Nov. 24, University of Scranton students will get hands-on insight into the inner workings of the Family-to-Family program, as the University’s Center for Service and Social Justice will provide Thanksgiving menu items to 200 families in the Hilltop and Valley View housing developments within the Scranton Housing Authority.

The traditional Thanksgiving Dinner for Adults & Elderly will be distributed take-out style for the fifth year in a row on Tuesday, Nov. 26, outside the Scranton Cultural Center, 420 North Washington Ave., Scranton, from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m.

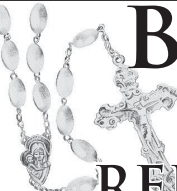
Anyone in need of a cooked Thanksgiving meal is welcome to drive-thru or walk-up for the packaged dinner. No pre-

registration or proof of income is required. During this time, the 400 & 500 blocks of North Washington and Vine streets will be closed for traffic control.

Patrons are requested to arrive no sooner than 2 p.m. to facilitate

the delivery of approximately 1,500 meals to pre-registered, low-income seniors with continued assistance from the dedicated volunteer drivers from the Junior League of Scranton.

*Continued on page 34*



## BEDWICK'S

### *Pharmacy & Gifts*

## RELIGIOUS ITEMS

### FOR EVERYDAY & SPECIAL OCCASIONS

*See our store displays of more than:*

**450 DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS STATUES**  
**200 DIFFERENT ROSARIES**  
**400 DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS MEDALS**

*You'll be sure to find something special!*

Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri: 9 a.m.-6 p.m. • Tues: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Thurs: 1 p.m.-6 p.m. Sat: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE: NOVEMBER 30<sup>th</sup>**  
**452 Hazle Street - Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702 - 570-823-3818**

### ‘Race Against Hunger’ to benefit Kitchen



The 12th annual “Race Against Hunger” benefiting the St. Francis of Assisi Kitchen in Scranton will take place on Saturday, Nov. 9. The Scranton Running Company and AllOne Charities are hosting the weekend’s events. Pictured, from left: Mary Carroll Donahoe, chief program officer, AllOne Charities; Rob Williams, executive director, St. Francis of Assisi Kitchen; Atty. P.J. LaBelle, SFK advisory board member and sponsorship co-chair; and Matthew Byrne, race director and co-founder, Scranton Running Company. For information about sponsorships, participation and pre-registration for the event, visit the St. Francis Kitchen Facebook page.

## NEED A SECOND OPINION ON YOUR FINANCIAL PLAN?

**We are full service brokerage firm with over 20 years of experience serving local financial needs in:**

- ✓ Retirement Planning
- ✓ Estate Planning
- ✓ Tax Deferred Investment Options

– JOHN PAUL TOSI, CFP –

– WEALTH ADVISOR –

• 58 Bridge Street, Tunkhannock — Next to CVS •

**Call today to schedule a free, personalized consultation!**  
**570-836-9000 - Toll Free 1-877-557-2634**

 **LPL Financial**

Securities and advisory services offered through LPL Financial, a Registered Investment Advisor, Member FINRA/SIPC



## Thanksgiving program aids less fortunate

*Continued from page 33*

The traditional Family-to-Family Thanksgiving Food Basket Program kicks into high gear on Thanksgiving eve, with this being the 10th year the holiday food giveaway has been under the auspices of the Robeson family and the caring guidance of their matriarch, Linda Robeson.

On Wednesday, Nov. 27, beginning at 9 a.m. in front of the Scranton Cultural Center, the food basket initiative will offer various grocery items allowing families to prepare a traditional Thanksgiving meal in their homes. Baskets will be provided until 5 p.m., or while supplies last.

The drive-thru event, with no need for pre-registration or proof of income, will also include a dedicated tent with supplies and volunteers to assist those arriving for walk-up service.

“For the last several years, our Family-to-Family program and our dinners for adults and

elderly have run out of food before the designated end time,” Loftus explained. “We are increasing the numbers for 2024; however, that comes with a cost.”

Friends of the Poor is requesting a donation of \$40 to subsidize the cost of a Thanksgiving basket for a family of four.

Donations of any amount can be mailed to Family-to-Family, P.O. Box 13, Scranton, PA 18503, or given online at [friendsofthepoor.com](http://friendsofthepoor.com).

Cooper’s Seafood House in Scranton is currently hosting a basket raffle fundraiser at the restaurant, open to the public until Oct. 20, to benefit the Thanksgiving programs. All proceeds from Cooper’s soup sale (\$10 per quart) will also be donated to the Friends of the Poor.

For more information on the annual Thanksgiving Community Program, contact the development office at (570) 892-8038 or [development@fotp-ihm.org](mailto:development@fotp-ihm.org).

**Mesko**  
glass

[mesko.com](http://mesko.com)

SCRANTON | WILKES-BARRE  
HONESDALE | ALLENTOWN

**Your clear  
glass choice  
for over  
90 years.**

AUTO | COMMERCIAL | RESIDENTIAL

**PDQ**  
BUILDING YOUR BRAND

570.343.0414 • Taylor, PA 18517

Print, Mail, Fulfillment & Promotional Items

[www.pdqprint.com](http://www.pdqprint.com)

Diocese of Scranton Presents 2025 Jubilee

*Pilgrims of Hope*

**PILGRIMAGE TO ROME**

with Bishop Joseph C. Bambera

AUGUST 31 – SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

\$4,995.00 pp/double occupancy

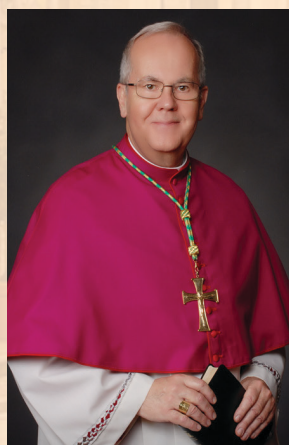


**Special Papal  
Audience  
& Scavi Tour**



**ROME — ASSISI — GUBBIO — SIENA  
FLORENCE — LUCCA — MONTECATINI**

**— MASS CELEBRATED DAILY BY BISHOP BAMBERA —**  
At various Basilicas & Cathedrals



**The Features of this Pilgrimage Tour Include:**

- Roundtrip motorcoach to Newark International Airport
- Roundtrip (non-stop) airfare to Rome
- 8-Nights First Class Hotel Accommodations
- Private deluxe motorcoach
- Buffet Breakfast daily
- 6-Dinners with wine & 2 lunches including Wine Tasting
- Tour Manager, local guides & all entrance fees
- Taxes, departure fees & Government taxes
- Baggage handling & portage

**CALL TRAVELWORLD @ 570-342-5790 FOR A COLOR FLYER & ITINERARY**

[www.asktravelworld.com](http://www.asktravelworld.com)

**TRAVELWORLD**

[www.asktravelworld.com](http://www.asktravelworld.com)



# Catholic Happenings Around the Diocese of Scranton

**Final “40 Days for Life” Pro-Life Rosary Gatherings — OCT. 17-NOV. 1**, offered for the special intentions of an end to abortion and closure of the Planned Parenthood location in Wilkes-Barre; Rosary is prayed each weekday, Monday to Friday, at 10 a.m. in front of the Planned Parenthood offices at 101 North Main St., Wilkes-Barre. The pro-life campaign draws attention to the evil of abortion through prayer & fasting, constant vigil, and community outreach.

**40th Annual Prayer Breakfast for Life — OCT. 19**, sponsored by the Scranton Chapter of Pennsylvanians for Human Life (PHL) in celebration of its 50th anniversary; held from 9 to 11 a.m. at Fiorelli’s Catering, 1501 Main St., Peckville. Guest speakers include Dr. John Bruchalski, former abortionist-turned pro-life doctor and author; breakfast buffet event also features a Chinese auction for designer purses and basket raffles. Breakfast cost: \$25 for adults; all children & students admitted free of charge. For more information and reservations, call the Scranton PHL office at (570) 343-5099, or email: pahumanlife@yahoo.com.

**Artisan Craft Show — OCT. 19**, sponsored by Our Lady of Victory Parish, Cherry Lane Road, Tannersville; held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Showcase event features handmade arts & crafts from numerous artisans, including watercolor art, wooden bowls, decorative wreathes & ceramics; homemade foods, tricky tray and cash drawings also available. Admission fee: \$2 donation to the 1000 Pink Lights initiative to benefit breast cancer patients; sit-down or takeout lunch offered. For more information, contact Fran Prebish at fransbottles@hotmail.com or (973) 809-3184.

**Cancer Walk Fundraiser — OCT. 19**, sponsored by the Service Committee of Exaltation

of the Holy Cross Parish, 420 Main Road, Hanover Township; registration at 11:30 a.m. on the church grounds, followed by the walk at 1 p.m. Registration fee: \$10. Ribbons, food and other items available for a free-will donation. Proceeds benefit local cancer charities. To register, call Joan at (570) 814-6444.

**Cash Bingo Bonanza — OCT. 20**, hosted by Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Dickson City; doors open at noon and games begin at 2 p.m. Admission cost: \$25, in advance; \$30, at door. Games party includes 17 bingo games, each with a minimum prize of \$300. Event also features basket raffle and cash drawings; food and beverages for sale. For advance tickets and more information, contact the parish office at (570) 489-2091.

**Weekly Bereavement Support Group Sessions — OCT. 21-NOV. 18**, sponsored by St. John Neumann Parish in Lords Valley; bereavement support group meets on consecutive Monday afternoons from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the St. John parish hall, 705 Route 739, Lords Valley. Weekly gatherings address topics dealing with the grief process to enable participants to find healing following the loss of a loved one. All are welcome; advance registration required at stvgriefgroup@att.net or by calling the parish office (570) 775-6791.

**University of Scranton Presentation — OCT. 21**, Scranton Stories: “Hispanic/Latinx Voices: Screening and Panel Discussion”; sponsored free of charge by The University of Scranton at 6:30 p.m. in the Main Auditorium, Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine, 525 Pine St., Scranton. Call (570) 941-4419 for more information.

**University of Scranton Art Exhibit — OCT. 21-NOV. 22**,

“Hudson River and Delaware Valley: Selections from the Paul Biedlingmaier Jr. Collection”; offered free of charge during gallery hours in the Hope Horn Gallery, Hyland Hall, on The University of Scranton campus. Call (570) 941-4214 for more information.

**Nine-Week Novena Devotion to Saint Anthony of Padua — OCT. 22-DEC. 18**, hosted by Our Lady of Hope Parish, 40 Park Ave., Wilkes-Barre; Saint Anthony Novena devotions held on nine consecutive Tuesday evenings, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the parish church. Novena theme: “The Mystery of Suffering & The Saints.” Novena services include blessing with the Saint Anthony relic. All faithful are welcome; for more information, call (570) 824-7832.

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Weekly Rosary — OCT. 23**, hosted at SS. Peter & Paul Church, 1309 West Locust St., West Scranton; Rosary devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help offered every

*Continued on page 36*

**VOLKSWAGENS**  
SALES - SERVICE - PARTS  
 **KELLY MOTOR CO.**  
AUTHORIZED VOLKSWAGEN DEALER  
S. Main at Elm, Scranton  
**570-347-5656**

**NJC INVESTMENTS**  
Helping to take the mystery out of your financial future  
**Nicholas J. Colarossi, CRC®**  
College Planning • Retirement Planning  
**www.njcinvestments.com • 570-586-5030**  
Securities offered through Leigh Baldwin & Co., LLC. Member FINRA/SIPC



**HOLY CROSS HS**  
**OPEN HOUSE**  
**HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL**  
**DIOCESE OF SCRANTON**  
Please join us on **Sunday, October 27, 2024** to discover the benefits of a faith-based education with dedicated teachers & staff who provide a supportive & nurturing environment for students to grow academically, spiritually, & morally!  
LEARN MORE AT **HCHSPA.ORG**  
     
@HolyCrossDunmore  
~TUITION ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE~  
NUMEROUS TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS AVAILABLE



## LOCAL CEMETERY MONUMENT DEALERS

### MJ JUDGE MONUMENT COMPANY, INC

Call for appointment  
■ 570-829-4881 ■

### ST. MARY'S MONUMENT COMPANY, LLC

975 S Main St-Hanover Twp., PA  
■ 570-829-8138 ■

CEMETERY MONUMENTS · MARKERS  
LETTERING · CLEANING · RESTORATION

— [www.stmarysmonumentcompany.com](http://www.stmarysmonumentcompany.com) —  
— [stmary975@aol.com](mailto:stmary975@aol.com) —



Home Health, Hospice and  
Outpatient Therapy

P.O. Box 103  
750 State Route 93  
Sybertsville, Pa. 18251

[www.maylathhealth.com](http://www.maylathhealth.com)

570-708-2929 phone  
570-708-1010 fax  
1-877-751-0080 toll free

[info@maylathhealth.com](mailto:info@maylathhealth.com) email



- ✓ Skilled Nursing
- ✓ Nursing Aides
- ✓ Social Work
- ✓ Pastoral Care
- ✓ Registered Dietary
- ✓ Physical Therapy
- ✓ Occupational Therapy
- ✓ Speech Therapy

C.H.A.P. Accredited

Training Provided in:  
CPR, First Aid and AED

Outpatient Therapy in  
Two Locations:  
Sybertsville and The Laurels, Hazleton

## Catholic Happenings Around Diocese

Continued from page 35

### Looking for the Perfect Monument?

Stop by to see why we are the preferred memorial provider.

#### SELECTION

- Tri-state area's largest • Over 400 memorials on display • More than 25 color choices

#### QUALIFICATION

- Family owned and operated for over 130 years • Recommended by more than 15 funeral homes • Superior workmanship

#### PRICE

- Buy direct from the manufacturer • NO MIDDLEMAN!

Serving All  
Catholic  
Cemeteries in  
NE PA

The clear choice  
for all your  
memorial needs



**Martin Caufield Memorial Works**  
249 Sunrise Ave., Honesdale, PA 18431

1-800-824-5293 • 570-253-3300 • FAX: 570-253-3360

[www.martinaufieldmemorialworks.com](http://www.martinaufieldmemorialworks.com)  
[mcmwphil@ptd.net](mailto:mcmwphil@ptd.net)

Full Service Granite Company Since 1877

Wednesday morning following the 9 a.m. Mass. All are welcome.

**Annual Take-Out Pasta Dinner — OCT. 23**, sponsored by the Women's Society of St. Joseph Melkite Greek Catholic Church, North St. Frances Cabrini Ave., Scranton; pasta dinners including penne & meatballs, salad, bread and dessert are take-out only from 4 to 6 p.m. Cost: adults, \$11; children (ages six to 10), \$6. Tickets available at the door; for advance orders, call (570) 468-0529.

**Healing Service & Bread of Life Conference — OCT. 24**, hosted by St. Maria Goretti Parish in Laffin; presided over by Capuchin Franciscan Father Pio Mandato. Begins with Sacrament of Reconciliation from 6 to 7 p.m.; followed by adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, homily, benediction, and blessing with Holy Oil and relic of St. Padre Pio. All faithful welcome.

**Bishop Hannan H.S. 40th Class Reunion — OCT. 26**, hosted by the 1984 graduation class of the former Bishop Hannan High School, Scranton; begins at 6 p.m. at Cooper's Seafood House in Scranton. Reservation cost: \$30 per person; contact Pamela Georgia Schuster via Venmo or 336 Knapp Road, Clarks Summit, PA 18411. For more information, visit the Bishop Hannan Class of 1984 Facebook page.

**University of Scranton Performance Music Concert — OCT. 26**, "In Concert: The University of Scranton Jazz Band" with guest soloist Alvin Atkinson on drums; open free of charge at 7:30 p.m. in the U of S Houlihan-McLean Center. Call (570) 941-7624 or email: [music@scranton.edu](mailto:music@scranton.edu).

**Eucharistic Miracles Presentation — OCT. 26 & 27**, hosted by Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, 215 Lackawanna Ave., Dupont; offered in conjunction with

the National Eucharistic Revival, the public display will be available for viewing on Saturday, 2:30 to 5 p.m., and Sunday, 8 to 11:30 a.m., in the church hall. The exhibit is a presentation of principal, Vatican-approved Eucharistic miracle events documented by the Catholic Church that have occurred throughout history around the world.

**Autumn Bake Sale — OCT. 26 & 27**, sponsored by Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, 215 Lackawanna Ave., Dupont; sale held in the church hall on Saturday, 2:30 to 5 p.m., and Sunday, 8 to 11:30 a.m. Event also includes cash and basket raffles.

**Marywood Undergraduate Fall Open Houses — OCT. 26 & NOV. 16**, hosted by Marywood University in Scranton; both Saturday open house events for high school students and their parents are held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., beginning with registration at 8:30 a.m. in the Fireplace Lounge at the Nazareth Student Center on campus. Complimentary continental breakfast and lunch included. To register, visit: [marywood.edu/openhouse](http://marywood.edu/openhouse), or call (570) 348-6234.

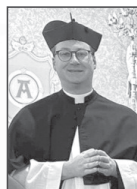
**Cemetery Sunday Devotions — OCT. 27**, sponsored by Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Dupont; begins 1 p.m. in Sacred Heart Church, 215 Lackawanna Ave., Dupont, with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and prayerful recitation of the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary. Following solemn benediction and reposition, a procession will form to the cemetery with singing of the Litany of the Saints; all faithful are welcome to join the cemetery blessing service and visitation of graves. Traditional Polish, Latin and English hymns will be sung.

Continued on page 37

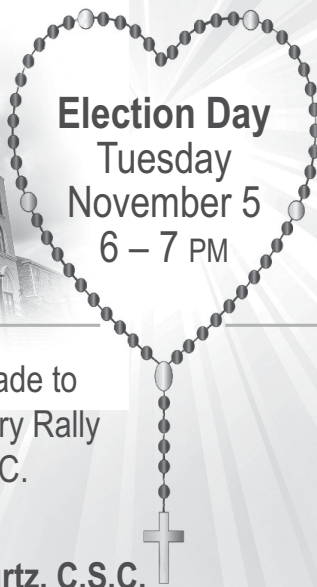
## ROSARY RALLY

Sacred Heart of Jesus Church  
215 Lackawanna Ave., Dupont.

A Rosary Rally joining in the Diocesan Rosary Crusade to commemorate the 75<sup>TH</sup> anniversary of the first Rosary Rally held in the United States by Fr. Patrick Peyton, C.S.C.



The Rosary will be led by **Fr. Michael Wurtz, C.S.C.** who will also deliver a homily during a period of Eucharistic Adoration. **Prayers will be offered for the needs of our country and the reign of the Social Kingship of Jesus Christ.**



SCRANTON SECTION



## Catholic Happenings

**"All Hallows Eve" Organ Concert** — OCT. 27, hosted at St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 William St., Pittston; program begins at 2 p.m., led by parish organist and music director Michael Sowa. Concert features organ music and spiritual readings providing inspirational and peaceful meditations for the upcoming celebrations of All Saints Day and All Souls Day. Free-will offering will be accepted.

**University of Scranton Fall Open House** — OCT. 27, for prospective students and their families; begins 9 a.m. at various locations on The University of Scranton campus. Registration required; call 1-888-SCRANTON or email: admissions@scranton.edu.

**Annual Rigatoni & Meatball Dinner** — OCT. 27, sponsored by Queen of Angels Parish in Jessup; dinner is drive-thru and takeout only, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 607 Church St., Jessup. Cost: adults, \$12; children (under age 12), \$5. Tickets available by calling the parish office at (570) 489-2252.

**Collaborative Church Series: "Aging with Dignity & Grace"** — OCT. 30-NOV. 20, co-hosted by Epiphany Catholic Church, Sayre, and Valley United Presbyterian Church, Waverly N.Y.; four-week series of presentations held on consecutive Wednesday evenings, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Weekly programs include light dinner and guest speakers addressing concerns of families, caregivers, and seniors dealing with life changes and challenges. Epiphany Church events: Oct. 30, "Trends in Eldercare," & Nov. 6, "Safety in the Home"; Valley UPC events: Nov. 13, "Advocacy in Healthcare" & Nov. 20, "Decluttering and Organizing." Public is welcome.

**Beginning Experience Ministry: "In the Beginning: Coping with Life Alone"** — NOV. 2, peer-led ministry for those

grieving the end of marriage or spousal relationship due to death, divorce or separation; one-day remote via Zoom program from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Information/registration, call Jim at (845) 220-7883. Men and women of all faiths are welcome.

**Annual Pasta Dinner** — NOV. 3, hosted by Divine Mercy Parish, 312 Davis St., Scranton (Minooka); held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the parish center. Dinner includes pasta w/meatballs, salad, dessert & coffee/water; eat-in and takeout service offered. Tickets available at the parish office or by calling/texting (570) 498-0590.

**Parish Cash Bingo** — NOV. 3, to benefit Prince of Peace Parish in Old Forge; hosted at the Eagle McClure Fire Department, 375 Milwaukee Ave., Old Forge. Doors open at 11 a.m.; bingo games start at 1 p.m. Event includes 20 regular games with \$100 cash prizes; three specials, \$250 jackpots; and one special game, \$500 jackpot. Basket raffle and snack bar also available. Admission cost: \$30; additional game booklets \$10 each. Advance tickets available at weekend Masses or by contacting the parish office (570) 457-5900.

**Autumn Fling Bingo** — NOV. 3, hosted by Mary's Ministry at St. Ignatius Loyola Parish in Kingston; doors open at 11:45 a.m. and games begin at 1 p.m. in Conlan Hall. Admission cost: \$25 (in advance by Oct. 24); \$30 (after Oct. 24) — includes 15 regular games. Event includes extra games, specials, raffle & cash drawings; sale of food and beverages. All prizes valued at \$100 or more. Players under age 18 must be accompanied by an adult; for more information, call (570) 288-6446.

**Ethnic Dinner** — NOV. 3, sponsored by St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church, 320 Mifflin Ave., Scranton; dine-in and takeout

*Continued on page 38*



**PAULSON NATIONAL TOURS**  
**FNT**  
paulsontours.com

**CELEBRATING**  
**30 YEARS**  
**IN BUSINESS!**

## PENN STATE FOOTBALL



*Have your own tickets?  
Ride & Tailgate Only  
Also Available!*

**Paulson's Pick! Lower Level Covered Seating!!**

*When its hot—stay cool in the shade and stay dry in the rain!*

Any size group is guaranteed to be seated together. All trips include professionally driven motorcoach with restroom and **TAILGATE PARTY** with garden salad, meat & cheese tray, pasta, meatballs, chicken, rolls and more! *Starting from \$150 (select games).*

**Game tickets from upper level end-zone to lower level 20-50 yard line!**

11/2—Ohio State | 11/9—Washington | 11/30—Maryland

## RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SHOW & NEW YORK CITY SHOPPING

**ORCHESTRA • 1ST MEZZ • 3RD MEZZ SEATING**

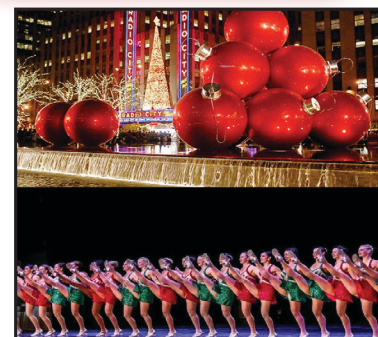
**Any size group - your seats will be together!**



**Nov 23, 28, & 30**

**Dec 4, 7, 8, 11, 14, 15, 18, 21, 22, 28, & 30**

**NO SWITCHING BUSES • TWO DROP OFFS IN THE CITY!**



**Notre Dame vs Navy @ Met Life Stadium • Nov 26**  
Starting from \$125



**Notre Dame vs Army @ Yankee Stadium • Nov 23**  
Starting from \$125



**Woodbury Common Holiday Shopping • Dec 11**



**Longwood Gardens • Dec 7**

**Other Trips Available Including**



**570-706-8687 • PaulsonTours.com**



# Catholic Happenings Around the Diocese of Scranton

Continued from page 37

dinners available from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in St. Mary's Center. Menu features homemade pierogi, halushki, halupki and kielbasa; event also includes bake sale

& raffle drawings. Dinner cost: \$13. For information, call (570) 343-5151.

**Annual Election Day Pasta Dinner** — NOV. 5, hosted by St. John Bosco Parish in Conyngham;

sit-down dinners and takeout orders served from 3 to 7 p.m. in the parish hall. Dinners include pasta with meatballs, salad, Italian bread & homemade dessert. Cost: adults, \$13; children (ten years & younger), \$6. Tickets available after all weekend Masses, at parish office, and at the door.

**Venerable Father Patrick Peyton Monthly Rosary** — NOV. 6, hosted by the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton; Rosary devotion is held on the first Wednesday of each month following the 12:10 p.m. Mass at the Cathedral. Recitation of Rosary prayers is offered for the special intention of furthering the cause for canonization of Venerable Father Patrick Peyton.

**Annual Craft Fair** — NOV. 9, sponsored by the Altar & Rosary Society of St. Joseph Marelo

Parish, 237 William St., Pittston; held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the parish center. Featuring dozens of specialty vendors and a wide variety of crafts, goods, and direct sale items; food and beverages available for purchase. Event also includes a raffle drawing featuring select items from participating vendors.

**Homemade Meatloaf Dinner & Basket Raffle** — NOV. 9, hosted by Gate of Heaven Parish in Dallas; the take-out only dinner will be served from 4 to 7 p.m. in the parish gymnasium, 40 Machell Ave., Dallas. Meal includes meatloaf & mashed potatoes/gravy, vegetable, dinner roll and dessert. Cost: \$14. Raffle drawing for nearly 30 theme baskets follows the dinner; raffle tickets are 7 for \$5. For more information, contact the parish office at (570) 675-2121.

**Pocono Women's Cornerstone Day of Reflection** — NOV. 9, hosted by St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish, 5112 Pocono Crest Road, Pocono Pines; event for adult women begins at 8:30 a.m. Day of rest and renewal includes prayer, talks, meditations, prayer garden walks, adoration, Rosary, confessions and Mass at 4 p.m.; light breakfast and lunch provided. Offered free of charge; registration required by contacting Tracy Stodnick at (609) 351-4068.

**Parish Christmas Bazaar** — NOV. 9 & 10, sponsored by the Altar & Rosary Society of St. Catherine of Siena Parish, 220 Church St., Moscow; held Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the parish hall. Event features various vendors, more than 100 tricky tray drawings, bake sale, homemade food & soups, Christmas Attic Treasures, and "Selfies with Santa" (Saturday, noon to 3 p.m.). Free admission.

**Designer Purse Bingo** — NOV. 10, sponsored by the Ladies of Mary Society, Exaltation of the Holy Cross Parish in Hanover Township; held at the Warrior Run Fire Hall, 316 Academy St., Warrior Run. Doors open at 11 a.m.; games begin at 1 p.m. Admission cost: \$30, includes 15 regular games. Event also features five specials, door prizes, basket raffle, food items, and cash drawing. For tickets, visit [www.exhc.org](http://www.exhc.org) or call (570) 817-7048.

**Vocation Discernment Weekend: "Come and See"** — NOV. 15-17, sponsored by the Sisters of the IHM; weekend experience begins Friday at 6:30 p.m. and concludes Sunday following Mass and brunch. Program designed for women (ages 18-35) interested in deepening their faith and getting to know others living in community and offering a life of service to God's people. For information & registration, contact the IHM Sisters at [williamsk@sistersofihm.org](mailto:williamsk@sistersofihm.org) or (570) 346-5414.

**"Nazareth Group" Days for High School Girls** — DEC. 7, hosted by the Capuchin Sisters of Nazareth in Tunkhannock and Williamsport; Saturday programs are presented by the Nazareth Group. Open to all girls in grades 9-12; the experience is offered from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Capuchin Sisters' two convent locations: Mother of God Convent, 215 Wellwood Drive, Tunkhannock; and Mother of the Eucharist Convent, 6100 Jacks Hollow Road, Williamsport. Reservations are required. For Tunkhannock, contact Sister Angela of the Capuchin Sisters at (570) 836-2737; for Williamsport, contact Sister Clare at (570) 745-3334.

## A Different Kind of Lawyer

Real Estate  
Living Wills  
Estate Planning & Administration  
Municipal Law

**JONATHAN A. SPOHRER**

**Attorney at Law**

279 Pierce Street, Kingston  
570.287.1156

## AUBURN TREE & SHRUB

*Bringing knowledge, experience and enthusiasm to every job!*

- ✓ **All types of tree and shrub pruning.**
- ✓ **Large shade trees to tiny ornamentals and everything in between.**
- ✓ **Proficient and technical tree climber.**
- ✓ **Beautifying landscapes for over 20 years.**
- ✓ **Specializing in fruit tree care.**

**WORKING  
ALL YEAR ROUND!  
Call Tim: 570-240-5161**



**TIM MORRIS**  
ISA  
Certified  
Arborist  
MA-4561A



## IN MEMORIAM

**Immaculate Heart  
of Mary Sister  
Mary Ellen James**

*Entered Life:*  
November 3, 1924

*Entered Eternal Life:*  
September 12, 2024



**Immaculate Heart  
of Mary Sister Martin  
de Porres McHale**

*Entered Life:*  
October 23, 1931

*Entered Eternal Life:*  
September 24, 2024



## Prayer Requests for Priests

*The Daily Prayer Request for Priests schedule is as follows:*

October 17, Father James Walsh; October 18, Passionist Father Mark Ward; October 19, Monsignor William Ward; October 20, Monsignor Christopher Washington; October 21, Father Seth Wasnock; October 22, Father Donald Williams; October 23, Father Bryan Wright; October 24, Holy Cross Father Michael Wurtz; October 25, Father Paul Yeboah; October 26, Father Michael Zipay; October 27, Father Joseph Adonizio; October 28, Saint Peter Priestly Fraternity Father Zachary Akers; October 29, Father Patrick Albert; October 30, Father John Albosta; October 31, Father James Alco; November 1, Pope Francis; November 2, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera; November 3, Father Andrew Amankwaa; November 4, Father Michael Amo Gyau; November 5, Father Robert Antonelli; November 6, Father William Asinari; November 7, Father Thomas Augustine; November 8, Monsignor Thomas Banick; November 9, Father David Bechtel; November 10, Father Richard Beck; November 11, Monsignor John Bendik; November 12, Father John Bergamo; November 13, Father Eric Bergman; November 14, Father Rafael Ofarril Bermudez Gonzalez; November 15, Father Jacek Bialkowski; November 16, Monsignor David Bohr; November 17, Passionist Vincent Boney; November 18, Father Michael Boris; November 19, Father Stephen Bosomafi.

**MARTZ**  
EST. 1908 **BUS**



**Make Memories,  
Make Friends**

**GIVE AN EXPERIENCE THIS CHRISTMAS**

Save your seat today at [www.martztours.com](http://www.martztours.com) or call 570-821-3838



### A LONGWOOD CHRISTMAS

Jan. 3-4 • \$300-\$425

Longwood • Winterthur Museum  
Mendenhall Inn • 2 Meals



### RADIO CITY/ROCKETTES

Dec. 6, 11, 16, 21 & 28

New York City - \$215-\$275  
Orchestra, Time To Shop



### COLONIAL CHRISTMAS

Dec. 8-11 • \$860-\$1,099

Williamsburg, Va. Beach  
Busch Gardens • 4 Days/3 Nights



### WHITE CHRISTMAS

Friday, Nov. 29

Dutch Apple - \$125-\$155



### MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET

Sunday, Dec. 15

Surflight Theatre, \$155-\$185  
Lunch & Show



### JOY TO THE WORLD

Sunday, Dec. 22 • \$99-\$125

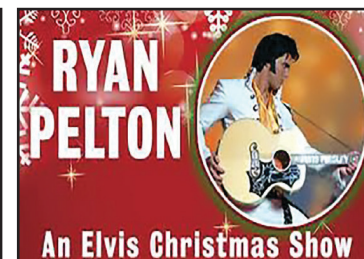
American Music Theatre  
Dinner Show/Kitchen Kettle



### VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

Dec. 16-18 • \$615-\$805

Cape May, NJ Winery, Trolley  
Tour • 3 Days/2 Nights



### ELVIS CHRISTMAS

Thursday, Dec. 5

Penn's Peak - \$110-\$130

**More Tours on our website at [www.martztours.com](http://www.martztours.com)**

Join our email list: [martztours.com](http://martztours.com) • Follow us on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram

**Call 570-821-3838 for more information.**



**DIOCESE OF SCRANTON**

# YOUTH *Living Hope* RALLY

1 PETER 1:1-12

SAVE THE DATE

## SAT, NOV 23

### 2:00 - 8:00PM

#### HOLY REDEEMER HS

159 S PENNSYLVANIA AVE, WILKES-BARRE, PA 18701

*Viva Cristo Rey*



Joe Melendrez



Chris Spilka



Bishop Bambera

## BENNINGTON AND SON

CHURCH SPECIALISTS INC.

**INTERIOR**

- ✦ Plastering
- ✦ Painting
- ✦ Stencil Work
- ✦ Gold Leafing
- ✦ Refinishing of Woodwork and Pews
- ✦ Professional Wall Washing
- ✦ Marbleizing
- ✦ Stained Glass Work  
(Restoration and New)

**EXTERIOR**

- ✦ Steeple Work  
(Restoration and New)
- ✦ Painting
- ✦ High Pressure Cleaning
- ✦ Masonry Restoration
- ✦ Water Proofing/Caulking
- ✦ Roofing and Flashing
- ✦ Metal Fabrication
- ✦ Fiberglass Work

PO Box 845 • Scranton, Pa 18501  
570-342-8878 • Fax 570-344-0541  
www.benningtonandson.com  
e-mail: bennington90@verizon.net

*Providing church restoration services for 75 years.*

## The Catholic Light

MAILING LABEL - Please be sure to enclose this label with any address changes and mail to The Catholic Light, 330 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, PA 18503



St. Mary's Villa  
Since 1924

Visit us on Facebook at  
St. Mary's Villa Campus

*All The Care You Need On One Campus*

**Short Term Rehab**      **Personal Care**  
**Skilled Nursing**      **Respite Stays**  
**Independent Living**  
**Residence (570) 842-5274**  
**Skilled Nursing (570) 842-7621**

## LOOKING FOR A CD ALTERNATIVE?

6 Year Fixed Annuity  
6 Year Term

# 5.00%

\$5000 Minimum  
Tax Deferred  
Surrender Charge (Yr1-6%, Yr2-5%, Yr3-4%  
Yr4-3%, Yr5-2%, Yr6-1%)  
Form Nos. AA-09, ASQ-1

Park 2 Annuity  
2 Year Term

# 4.50%

\$1000 Minimum  
Tax Deferred  
Surrender Charges (Yr1-6%, Yr2-5%)  
10% Free Withdrawal per Year  
Form Nos. AA-09, ASQ-1, 12012010



"FOR GOD  
& NATION"

**FIRST  
CATHOLIC  
SLOVAK  
UNION**

Plans provide full withdrawal at the end of the stated term.  
Rates are subject to change. Annuity contracts issued by First Catholic Slovak Union, a fraternal benefit society founded in Cleveland, OH in 1890. Not available in all states. Not FDIC or NCUSIF Insured.

**Michael J. Ricci, CRPC**  
P.O. Box 100, Olyphant, PA 18447  
**800-324-2890**