



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

October 17, 2024

Pontifical World Mission Sunday Mass to be held Oct. 20 at Cathedral

World Mission Sunday 2024
October 20th

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

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- 844,000 Catechists
- 258,540 Religious sisters

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Pontifical Mission Society

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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.

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

Bishop Bambera's Letter for World Mission Sunday



Dear Friends,

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,

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

[Click Here to Read & Share Bishop Bambera's Message for World Mission Sunday from the Diocese of Scranton website](#)

Honesdale parishioners' generosity providing new church in Ghana



When Father William Langan first appealed to his parishioners at Saint John the Evangelist Parish two year 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.

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.

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.

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

Stroudsburg deanery parishes invite parishioners to take fall pilgrimage to the Poconos



Parish Schedules

~~~~Saturday, October 19, 2024~~~~

**St. John's Church**  
5171 Millford Rd East  
East Stroudsburg, PA 18302  
570-223-9144  
stjohnch29@gmail.com

Vigil Mass- 4pm  
Santa Misa- 6:30pm

**Most Holy Trinity Parish**  
236 PA-390  
Cresco, PA 18326  
570-595-3100  
mht-poconos@outlook.com

Café & Gift Shop Open- 10am-3pm  
Consecration Displays and Video- 10am-3pm  
Chalices Showcase- 10am-3pm  
Ministry Stations- 10am-3pm  
Confessions- 3pm  
Vigil Mass- 4pm

**St. Matthew's Church**  
200 Brodhead Ave  
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301  
570-421-2342  
rectory@ptd.net

**Fr. Clarke Presents:**  
**Reflection on Church Architecture- 2:30p**  
Confessions- 3-3:45pm  
Holy Mass- 4pm

**Saint Rita Church**  
512 Main St.  
Gouldsboro, PA 18424  
570-842-4995  
strcgouldsboro@gmail.com

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

**Church of St. Luke**  
818 Main St.  
Stroudsburg, PA 18360  
570-421-9097  
office@churchofsaintluke.org

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

**St. Maximilian Kolbe**  
5112 Pocono Crest Rd.  
Pocono Pines, PA 18350  
570-646-6424  
stmakol@ptd.net

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

**Our Lady of Victory**  
327 Cherry Lane Rd.  
Tannersville, PA 18372  
570-629-4572  
victory1@ptd.net

Artisan Craft Fair & Food (\$) - 10am-4pm  
Confessions- 4-4:45pm  
Vigil Mass- 5pm

**Our Lady Queen of Peace**  
1402 US-209  
Brodheadville, PA 18322  
610-681-6137  
churchoffice@qopchurch.org

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  
**Fr. Bob Presents "Eucharist: The Life of the World"- 11am**  
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~~~~

St. John's Church
5171 Millford Rd East
East Stroudsburg, PA 18302
570-223-9144
stjohnch29@gmail.com

Holy Mass- 8:30am
Holy Mass- 11am

Most Holy Trinity Parish
236 PA-390
Cresco, PA 18326
570-595-3100
mht-poconos@outlook.com

Holy Mass- 10:30am
Spanish Mass- 12pm
Gift Shop Open 1-3pm
Consecration Displays and Video- 1-4pm
Chalices Showcase- 1-4pm
Ministry Stations- 1-4pm
Worship Space Tour- 1, 2, 3pm

St. Matthew's Church
200 Brodhead Ave
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301
570-421-2342
rectory@ptd.net

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

Saint Rita Church
512 Main St.
Gouldsboro, PA 18424
570-842-4995
strcgouldsboro@gmail.com

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)
**Fr. Rawel Presents: The Power of Intercession...
Love and Spiritual Warfare- 2:30pm**

Church of St. Luke
818 Main St.
Stroudsburg, PA 18360
570-421-9097
office@churchofsaintluke.org

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.

St. Maximilian Kolbe
5112 Pocono Crest Rd.
Pocono Pines, PA 18350
570-646-6424
stmakol@ptd.net

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
Faith-based Soccer Clinic w/Fr. Paschal- 12pm
Family Demo, Pietra Fitness w/Dr. Rachel Leskosky- 12pm

Our Lady of Victory
327 Cherry Lane Rd.
Tannersville, PA 18372
570-629-4572
victory1@ptd.net

Holy Mass- 10:30am

Our Lady Queen of Peace
1402 US-209
Brodheadville, PA 18322
610-681-6137
churchoffice@qopchurch.org

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
Benediction of the Blessed Eucharist- 4pm



Year of Mission



Year of Prayer

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.

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

Hispanic Heritage Mass features commissioning of parishioners



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.

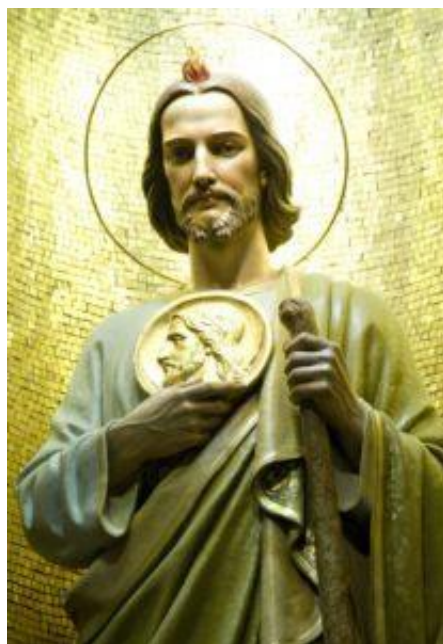
The Mass, celebrated in Spanish by the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, highlighted the many contributions of the Hispanic community within the church and the broader society, making it a significant occasion for reflection and cultural appreciation.

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.

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

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



Our Lady of the Eucharist Parish will host its 67th annual Novena to Saint Jude, patron saint of hopeless cases and things despaired of, at Saint Mary, 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.

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U.S. Cardinals meet privately with Pope Francis to discuss synodality



Three U.S. cardinals attending the synod on synodality met privately with Pope Francis to speak more in-depth about synodality and the process of discernment, said Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin of Newark, New Jersey.

“I had asked for the appointment simply because I think the church is always seeking ways to do better what we think we’re called to do,” the cardinal told reporters during a Vatican press briefing Oct. 11.

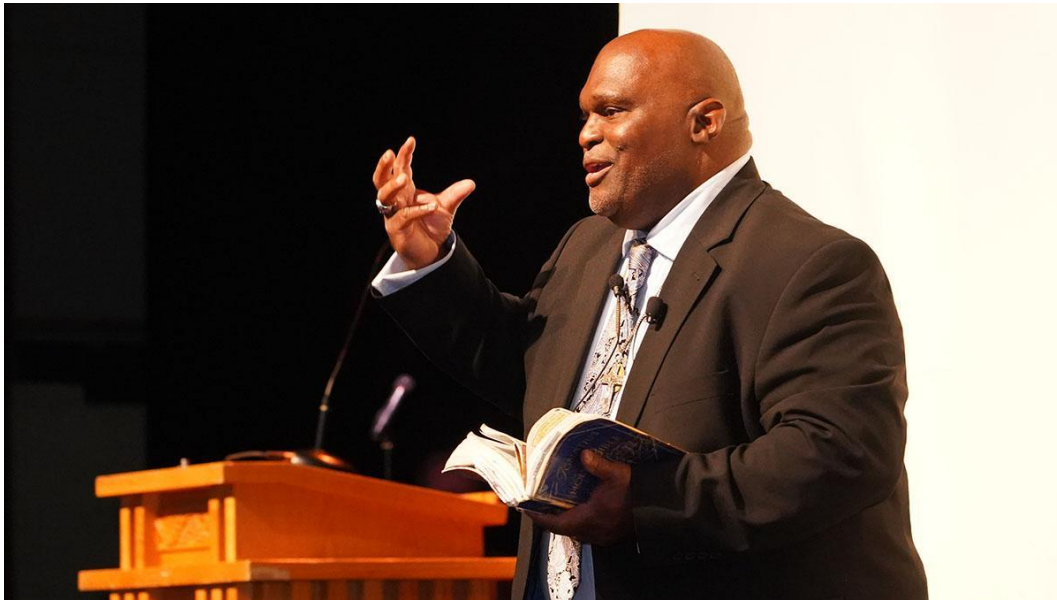
“I’ve personally found a lot of hope in this emphasis on a way of being church that’s described as synodality. And it’s something that Pope Francis has thought a lot about. It’s something that he’s practiced” as a Jesuit, the cardinal said.

Cardinals Tobin, Robert W. McElroy of San Diego and Blase J. Cupich of Chicago met with the pope early Oct. 10 in the library of the Apostolic Palace at the Vatican. That day, Cardinal Tobin said they met with the

pope “to discuss challenges in the United States,” and did not specify further.

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

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



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.”

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



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."

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

Synod begins looking at institutional changes to promote synodality



If members of the Synod of Bishops are serious about sharing their experience of "synodality" with all members of the Catholic Church, then

they must identify concrete ways to do so, Cardinal Jean-Claude Hollerich told members.

“If we keep this treasure only for ourselves, we transform it into a privilege” rather than a service to the whole church, Cardinal Hollerich, the synod relator general, told members Oct. 15 as they began discussing the third and final part of the synod’s working document.

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

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call (570) 207-2250 or
click this QR code



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300 Wyoming Avenue,
Scranton, PA 18503-1279
(570) 207-2238
www.dioceseofscranton.org