



# ***The Catholic Light***

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

**Weekly E-Newsletter**

**October 24, 2024**

**Only love will save humanity, Pope Francis says in new encyclical, *Dilexit nos*, on Sacred Heart of Jesus**



A world that has become “heartless” and indifferent to greed and war, and a Catholic Church in need of revitalizing its missionary joy need to open themselves up to Christ’s infinite love, Pope Francis wrote.

By contemplating Jesus’ Sacred Heart, the faithful can be filled with the “living water that can heal the hurt we have caused, strengthen our ability to love and serve others, and inspire us to journey together toward a just, solidary and fraternal world,” the pope wrote in his encyclical, “Dilexit nos” (‘He loved us’): on the Human and Divine Love of the Heart of Jesus Christ.”

The Vatican released the 28,000-word text Oct. 24.

While it is the pope’s fourth encyclical, he wrote that it is meant to be understood in tandem with his previous two encyclicals, “Laudato Si’, on Care for Our Common Home” and “Fratelli Tutti, on Fraternity and Social Friendship.”

“The present document can help us see that the teaching of the social encyclicals ... is not unrelated to our encounter with the love of Jesus Christ,” he wrote. “For it is by drinking of that same love that we become capable of forging bonds of fraternity, of recognizing the dignity of each human being, and of working together to care for our common home.”

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

[Click Here to Read Pope Francis' New Encyclical, Dilexit Nos, on the Vatican Website](#)

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**During Rite of Acolyte, eight men move closer to diaconate**



Eight men in formation to become permanent deacons of the Diocese of Scranton were instituted in the Ministry of Acolyte during a special Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter on Oct. 19, 2024.

The Ministry of Acolyte includes assisting the priest and deacon at the altar during Mass. Acolytes serve during liturgies, help distribute Holy Communion and purify sacred vessels. Installation to this ministry marks the final step before ordination to the permanent diaconate, which will take place for this class Nov. 29, 2025.

“With each year, it gets more and more serious,” Fernando Alves of Saint Luke Parish in Stroudsburg, said. “We feel blessed to be here. It is a great responsibility to be able to serve the Church and our community.”

In addition to Alves, the seven others instituted as acolytes included: Francisco Castelan of Saint Teresa of Calcutta Parish, Scranton; Michaelangelo Colaneri of the Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton; Frank Fanelli of Saint Ann Parish, Shohola; Joel Marte, Jorge Roca and Rafael Sánchez Velásquez, all of Saint Matthew Parish, East Stroudsburg; and Christian Saunders of Saint Paul Parish, Scranton.

[Click Here to Watch a Video from Catholic Television Regarding the Rite of Acolyte Mass](#)

## Leave a Mark Mass on Nov. 3 to kick off National Vocation Awareness Week



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 5p.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, "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, Director of Vocations and Seminarians and Pastor at St. Maria Goretti Parish in 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.

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

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**More than 20 religious to be recognized  
at annual Jubilee Mass Nov. 3**



## **JUBILEE MASS FOR WOMEN AND MEN RELIGIOUS**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3  
12:15 P.M.**

**CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PETER, SCRANTON**

All people are invited to join in 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.

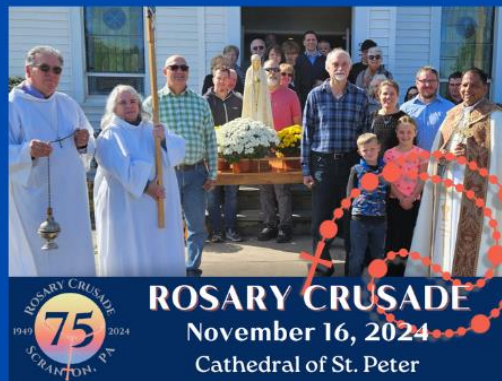
Together, we will gather at 12:15 p.m. to recognize the faith-filled service and commitment of those who have devoted their lives to God and our community.

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

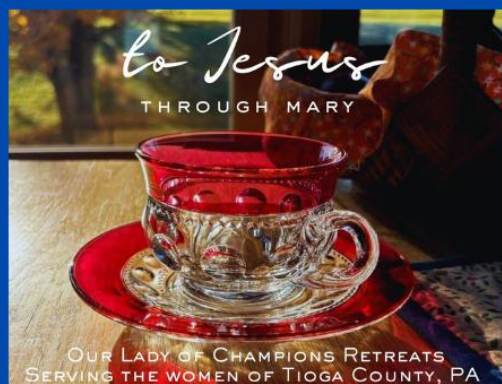
The Mass will be broadcast on CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton for those unable to attend in person. The Mass will also be livestream on the Diocese of Scranton website, YouTube channel and links for the Mass will also be provided on all Diocesan social media platforms.

[Click Here to Share this Information from the Diocese of Scranton website](#)

## Parishes highlighting Rosary events as part of Diocesan Rosary Crusade



We honor Blessed Mary during the month of the Holy Rosary! The Parishes of Holy Cross & Blessed Sacrament



In advance of the Diocese of Scranton's Rosary Rally on Nov. 16 at the Cathedral of Saint Peter, commemorating the 75th anniversary of Father Patrick Peyton's first Rosary Rally in the United States, the Diocesan Office for Parish Life has asked parishes to participate in a Rosary Crusade, holding special events to celebrate the beauty of the rosary and family prayer.

Several parishes have provided photos of events, including Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Wyalusing (upper left); Holy Cross and Blessed



Sacrament Parishes in Olyphant and Throop (upper right); parishes in Tioga County which held a retreat (lower left); and Our Lady of the Rosary Parish in Carbondale (lower right).

If you would like to submit a photo of your parish activities - we would love to see them. Please send them to [info@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:info@dioceseofscranton.org) with details of the event.

[Click Here For More Information on the Ongoing Diocesan Rosary Crusade and the Diocesan Rosary Rally Planned for Nov. 16](#)

## **As Synod nears end, preacher urges members to be at peace with results**



Even if some members of the Synod of Bishops end up feeling disappointed by the results of the synod, “God’s providence is at work in this assembly, bringing us to the Kingdom in ways that God alone knows,” the spiritual adviser to the synod on synodality told them.



“The triumph of the good cannot be frustrated,” and “we may be at peace whatever the result” of the synod’s monthlong second session, said Cardinal-designate Timothy Radcliffe, offering his morning reflection in the Vatican’s Paul VI Audience Hall Oct. 21 before members began reading, discussing, amending and voting on the final document to be presented to Pope Francis Oct. 26.

He also cautioned people, especially the media, against trying to look for “startling decisions, headlines” to come out of the final text, saying, at a Vatican briefing with reporters, that that would be a mistake.

The document will need to be read as something seeking to bring deep renewal of the church not “through dramatic decisions, but it evokes new ways of being a church in which we relate to each other much more profoundly in Christ and to Christ much more profoundly with each other,” he said at the afternoon briefing.

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

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**Saints served generously, creatively, Pope Francis  
says at canonization Mass**



Pope Francis called on the faithful to yearn to serve, not thirst for power, as he proclaimed 14 new saints, including Canada-born St. Marie-Léonie Paradis, founder of the Little Sisters of the Holy Family, and 11 martyrs.

“Those who dominate do not win, only those who serve out of love,” he said Oct. 20.

“When we learn to serve, our every gesture of attention and care, every expression of tenderness, every work of mercy becomes a reflection of God’s love,” he said. “And so, we continue Jesus’ work in the world.”

The pope said the new saints lived Jesus’ way of service. “The faith and the apostolate they carried out did not feed their worldly desires and hunger for power but, on the contrary, they made themselves servants of their brothers and sisters, creative in doing the good, steadfast in difficulties and generous to the end.”

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

## U.S. Bishops' upcoming assembly expected to look at lay ministries, hold key committee elections



The U.S. bishops are gathering in Baltimore Nov. 11-14 for their 2024 fall plenary assembly, which takes place just weeks after the conclusion of the second session of the Catholic Church's synod on synodality in Rome.

Only two days of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' meeting, Nov. 12-13, will be public and livestreamed on the conference's website.

As in years past, Cardinal Christophe Pierre, the papal nuncio to the U.S., and Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services, president of the USCCB, will both address the assembly.

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

## Eucharistic Procession takes Jesus through streets of a bustling Manhattan, past iconic NY sites



A remarkable day of faith and devotion unfolded at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Midtown Manhattan Oct. 15 as thousands of Catholics gathered for a Eucharistic procession.

The event, sponsored by the California-based Napa Institute in collaboration with the Hallow prayer app, featured a Holy Hour, Mass, Eucharistic procession and veneration of a first-class of Blessed Carlo Acutis, offering participants a day filled with prayer. Organizers estimate some 3,500 people attended the fifth annual gathering.

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



**Father Kevin Miller to present at Nov.  
14 Theology on Tap series**

**DIOCESE OF SCRANTON  
YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY**

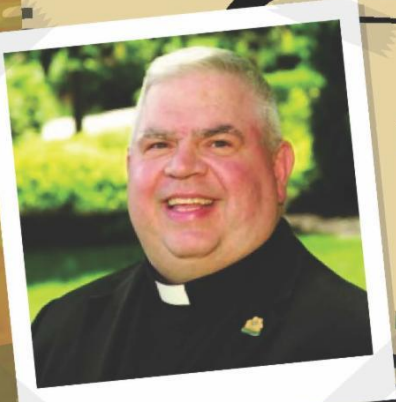
# **THEOLOGY ON TAP**

**A YOUNG ADULT SPEAKER SERIES FOR 21-40 YEAR OLDS**

## **LOVE IS A BATTLEFIELD:**

**SPIRITUAL WARFARE, WAR STORIES, AND THE GREATEST WARRIOR OF ALL**

**GUEST SPEAKER: FR. KEVIN MILLER**



Fr. Kevin Miller is a native of Wilkes-Barre and St. Nicholas-St. Mary Parish. He enlisted in the Army Reserve as a high school senior and graduated from The University of Scranton with a degree in Chemistry and a commission as a second Lieutenant from the ROTC. After 32 years of service, he retired as a lieutenant colonel and entered the Pope Saint John XXIII National Seminary in response to a childhood calling to the priesthood. Ordained in 2020, he now proudly serves as pastor of Holy Annunciation Parish in Hazleton.

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14**  
**7:00PM \$5 COVER**  
**@ SABATINI'S BOTTLESHOP**

# Support the 2024 Catholic Ministries Appeal!



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



*With the help of Appeal gifts, Saint Vincent de Paul Kitchen in Wilkes-Barre served **107,832 meals** to the community last year.*

[Click Here to Answer 'Our Call to Serve' Today!](#)

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