



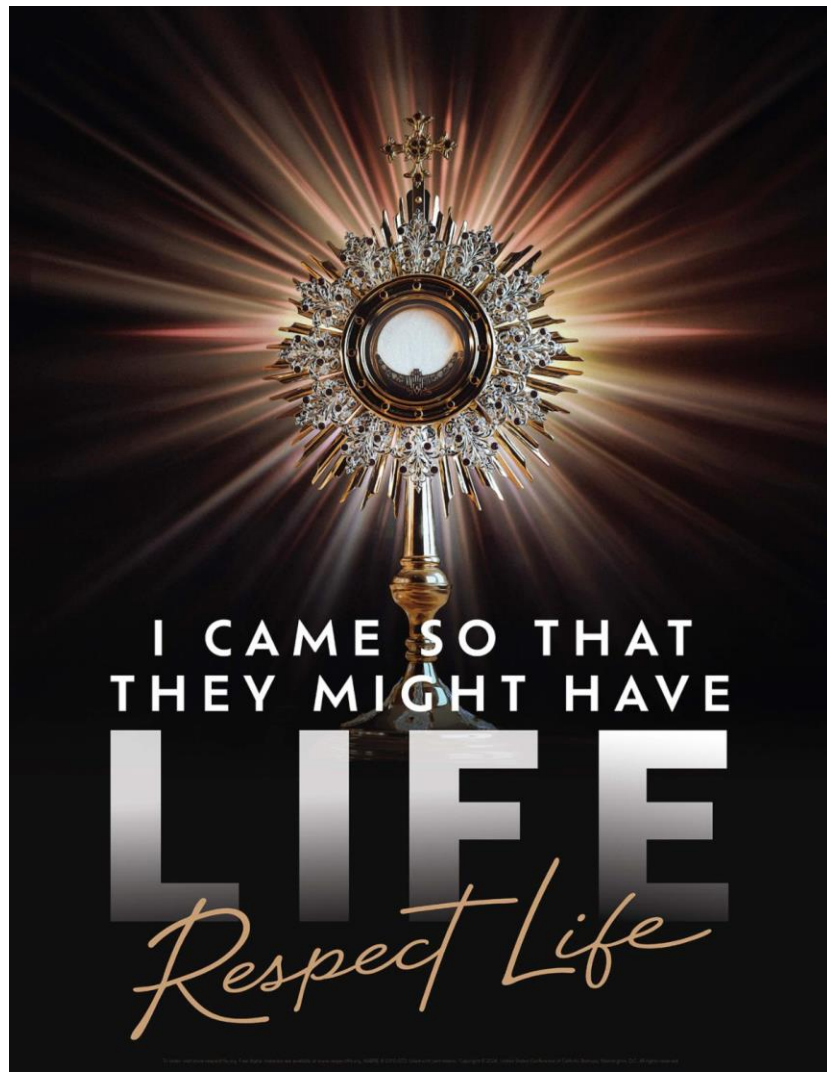
The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

October 3, 2024

**Bishop Bambera to celebrate Respect
Life Sunday Mass on Oct. 6**



The Catholic Church recognizes the month of October as Respect Life Month and the first Sunday in October is designated as Respect Life Sunday.

The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will celebrate Respect Life Sunday Mass on Oct. 6 at 10:00 a.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

The Mass is open to the public. Faithful from across the Diocese of Scranton are invited to attend the Respect Life Sunday Mass and focus on God's precious gift of human life and our responsibility to care for, protect and defend the lives of our brothers and sisters.

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

Pope calls for Oct. 7 to be day of prayer and fasting for peace



Pope Francis has called for Monday, Oct. 7, to be a day of prayer and fasting for peace. That date will mark the one-year anniversary of the outbreak of the Israel-Hamas war.

The pope made the announcement at the end of his homily at Mass in St. Peter's Square on Wednesday.

"Brothers and sisters, we begin anew our synodal path with an eye toward the world, since the Christian community is always at the service of humanity in order to announce the joy of the Gospel," the Holy Father said. "In such a dramatic time in our history, when the winds of war and the flames of violence continue to devastate entire peoples and nations, there is need for this message."

On Sunday, Pope Francis said he would recite the Holy Rosary and make a heartfelt plea for peace to the Virgin Mary in the Basilica of Saint Mary Major.

[Read Pope Francis' Complete Homily From Wednesday](#)

Since Oct. 7 attacks and start of war, Pope calls Gaza every day, lifting up suffering people

Since Hamas' attack on Israel Oct. 7, 2023, and the immediate start of the Israel-Hamas war, Pope Francis has provided daily spiritual solace to Gaza Strip's only Catholic parish.



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

'Be a Catholic Man' conference to take place Oct 5 in Wilkes-Barre



Jesus calls each one of us to follow him. He summons us to die to self to find a new life with ultimate joy in him. Jesus promises to be with us every step of the way and will lead us to eternal life in heaven.

The ninth annual 'Be A Catholic Man' conference will be held on Saturday, Oct. 5, 2024, at Holy Redeemer High School, 159 S. Pennsylvania Avenue, Wilkes-Barre.

This year's theme is "Come Follow Me."

Members of the 'Be A Catholic Man' conference planning committee recently gathered to plan the Oct. 5 conference. Shown are, front row, from left: Dr. Chris Carr; Kurt Kushner; Tony DePaola. Second row: Jim Biondo; Raphael Micca; Kevin Berli; Jack Walsh; John Brzycki; Joe Adcroft; Frank Socha, Rev. Brian Van Fossen, conference chaplain. Third row: Mike Kilmer, conference chairman; Dr. Lou Guarnieri; Paul Binner; Alex Piochocki; David Sutton; Joe Alinoski; Ralph Marino; Tim Pawlik; Deacon Marty Castaldi; and John Leskosky. Taking the photo was committee member Christopher Calore.

This year's inspiring speakers include EWTN hosts Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers and Father Bill Casey. Also speaking will be John Edwards with his mission to encourage men to grow closer to Christ.

[Click Here for More Information on the 'Be A Catholic Man' Conference](#)

Bishop Bambera admits eight men as candidates for permanent diaconate



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.

[Click Here to Watch Video Highlights from the Rite of Candidacy Mass from Catholic Television](#)

Pope defends decision to give women, laymen voting rights at Synod



Pope Francis opened the second session of the Synod of Bishops defending his decision to give women and laymen votes at the assembly, saying it reflects the Second Vatican Council's teaching that a bishop exercises his ministry with and within the people of God.

"It is certainly not a matter of replacing one with the other, rallying to the cry: 'Now it is our turn!'" the pope said as the 368 synod members – including what the Vatican described as 96 "non-bishops" – began their work Oct. 2 in the Paul VI Audience Hall.

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

Vatican doctrinal chief tells Synod it's not time for women deacons



“Rushing” to open the diaconate to women in the Catholic Church would short-circuit a necessary reflection on the relationship between ordained ministry and charismatic leadership, particularly as it impacts the participation of women in the church, said the head of the Vatican’s doctrinal office.

On the question of women deacons, “we know the public position of the pope, who does not consider the question mature,” Cardinal Víctor Manuel Fernández, prefect of the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith, told members of the Synod of Bishops Oct. 2.

“The opportunity for a deepening remains open, but in the mind of the Holy Father, there are other issues still to be deepened and resolved before rushing to speak of a possible diaconate for some women,” he said. “Otherwise, the diaconate becomes a kind of consolation for some women, and the most decisive question of the participation of women in the church remains unanswered.”

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

New texts for Eucharistic Adoration, Communion outside Mass aim to promote unity



Three years after being approved by the U.S. Catholic bishops, updates to the ritual texts for distribution of holy Communion outside of Mass and for Eucharistic adoration will take effect.

The revised version of “Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharistic Mystery outside Mass” will be implemented on the First Sunday of Advent, Dec. 1, 2024. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops had signed

off on the fresh texts at their November 2021 General Assembly in Baltimore. The revisions were then reviewed by the USCCB's Secretariat for Divine Worship, with the Vatican confirming their liturgical use in the U.S. on March 7, 2023.

USCCB president Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services issued a Jan. 25 decree of promulgation for the timeline of the text.

The ritual editions – published by Catholic Book Publishing Co., Liturgical Press, Liturgy Training Publications, Magnificat and Midwest Theological Forum – went on sale Aug. 1, with optional use of the new version permitted as of Sept. 14, the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

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

Candlelight Rosary Novena to begin
Oct. 5 at Scranton parish



Now in its 45th year, the well-known Annual Candlelight Rosary Novena that has been offered in Lackawanna County to faithful celebrating the Marian month of October will be hosted this fall at Divine Mercy Parish in the Minooka section of Scranton.

The 2024 edition of the inspirational and moving devotion, which celebrates the month of the Holy Rosary and the annual Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary in October, will open on Saturday, Oct. 5, at the parish's Saint Joseph Church, 312 Davis Street.

Serving as host pastor for the popular Rosary Novena will be Saint Joseph Oblate Father Paul McDonnell, who also serves as rector of the Oblates of Saint Joseph community and chapel on Highway 315 in Laflin. He is assisted by the permanent deacon of Divine Mercy Parish, Deacon Martin Castaldi.

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

Blessed are the Peacemakers
*Pennsylvania and New Jersey Catholic Conferences
teaming up for special webinar on the upcoming election*

Your are invited to a special webinar on the upcoming election:

Blessed are the Peacemakers

Where you will learn how Catholics can prepare for the upcoming
election and restore civility to politics and public discourse

Wednesday, October 9, 2024, 6:30 p.m.

Panelists include:



James J. King
New Jersey
Catholic Conference



Emily Schumacher-Novak
USCCB



Eric Failing
Pennsylvania
Catholic Conference

To register, click [HERE](#) or scan code below

Space is limited!



This webinar is being jointly hosted
by the Pennsylvania and
New Jersey Catholic Conferences

You are invited to join the New Jersey and Pennsylvania Catholic Conferences on Wednesday, October 9, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. for a webinar on the upcoming election.

The webinar will focus on how Catholics play a vital role in restoring civility in public discourse. The panel includes representatives from the New Jersey and Pennsylvania Catholic Conferences and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

[Click Here to Register for the "Blessed Are the Peacemakers" Zoom Webinar](#)

Expose evil, denounce abuse, no more coverups, Pope Francis says in Brussels



Calling on the world's bishops not to cover up any instance or form of abuse, Pope Francis said the evil of abuse must be exposed. "There is room for everyone in the church," he said, and everyone will face God at the final judgment. However, there is no room for abuse and no room for cover-ups, he said on his final day in Belgium, a country that has been shaken by shocking revelations of abuse by church members, including a Belgian bishop the pope laicized this year, 14 years after the bishop resigned after admitting he abused minors, including his own nephew.

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

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