



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

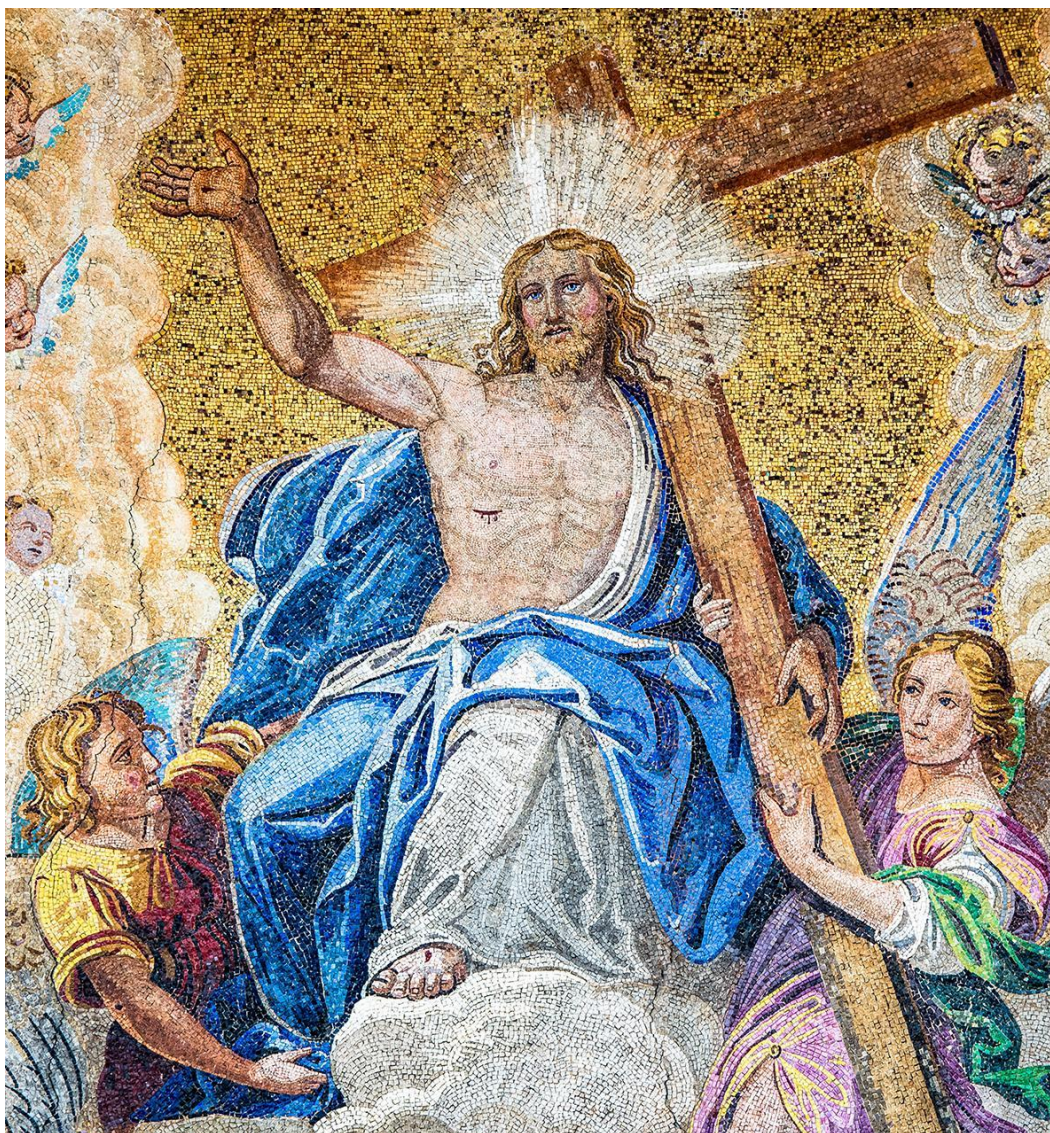
Weekly E-Newsletter

April 17, 2025

Happy Easter!

Anchored in Hope: Living the Promise of the Resurrection

Bishop Bambera's 2025 Easter Message



*“Why do you seek the living one among the dead? He is not here,
but he has been raised.”*

These words from Saint Luke proclaimed this year during the great Vigil of Easter, point to the foundation of our hope as Christians.

In his 2025 Easter message, the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, reflects on these words that beckon us forth - just as they did for the first followers of Jesus - to confront the reality of His resurrection and the miracle of Easter.

Click the link below to read Bishop Bambera's full Easter message to the faithful of the Diocese of Scranton.

[Click Here to Read Bishop Bambera's Full 2025 Easter Message](#)

**Catholic Television to broadcast
several Masses and services for
Paschal Triduum**

Paschal Triduum Broadcasts on CTV

Thursday, April 17, 2025

Morning Prayer from the Cathedral of Saint Peter, 8:00 a.m.

Father Jeffrey D. Tudgay, Pastor of the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton, celebrates Morning Prayer on Holy Thursday.

Praying with Jesus in the Garden of Olives, 2:00 p.m.

Accompany the Franciscans of the Holy Land at the Garden of Gethsemane in the Basilica of the Agony for a Holy Hour in Jerusalem.

Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper from the Cathedral of Saint Peter, 5:30 p.m.

On Holy Thursday, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera celebrates the Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper live from the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

Night Prayer from the Cathedral of Saint Peter, 9:00 p.m.

Father Jeffrey D. Tudgay, Pastor of the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton, celebrates Night Prayer on Holy Thursday.

Friday, April 18, 2025

Morning Prayer from the Cathedral of Saint Peter, 8:00 a.m.

Father Jeffrey D. Tudgay, Pastor of the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton, celebrates Morning Prayer on Good Friday.

Commemoration of the Lord's Passion from Rome, 11:00 a.m. (Rebroadcast at 8:00 p.m.)

Cardinal Claudio Gugerotti presides over the Solemn celebration of the Lord's Passion, live from St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City.

Commemoration of the Lord's Passion from the Cathedral of Saint Peter, 12:10 p.m.

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera presides over the Solemn commemoration of the Lord's Passion, live from the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

Commemoration of the Lord's Passion from Washington, D.C., 3:00 p.m.

From the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., His Eminence Christophe Cardinal Pierre celebrates the Solemn Mass of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday. (Choral Meditations begin at 2:30 p.m.)

Way of the Cross from the Cathedral of Saint Peter, 5:00 p.m.

From the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton, follow along with the solemn recognition of Jesus' last day on Earth as a man.

Way of the Cross from Rome, 6:30 p.m.

From within Rome's Colosseum, Cardinal Baldassare Reina leads the Via Crucis to meditate upon the 14 stations of the Passion.

Saturday, April 19, 2025

Morning Prayer from the Cathedral of Saint Peter, 8:00 a.m.

Father Jeffrey D. Tudgay, Pastor of the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton, celebrates Morning Prayer on Holy Saturday.

Easter Vigil Mass from Rome, 1:30 p.m.

Live from St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City, the Easter Vigil Mass will be celebrated, along with blessing the Paschal candle.

Easter Vigil Mass from the Cathedral of Saint Peter, 8:00 p.m.

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera serves as principal celebrant of the Solemn Easter Vigil Mass live from the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

Sunday, April 20, 2025

Solemn Mass of Easter Sunday and Urbi et Orbi from Rome, 4:30 a.m. (Rebroadcast at 7 p.m.)

He is Risen! The Solemn Mass of Easter Sunday in Vatican City will be celebrated and Pope Francis' traditional blessing to the world will be read.

Solemn Mass of Easter Sunday from EWTN (Rebroadcast at Midnight)

From Our Lady of the Angels Chapel in Irondale, Alabama, join the Franciscan Missionaries of the Eternal Word for the Solemn Mass of Easter.

Easter Sunday Mass from the Cathedral of Saint Peter, 10:00 a.m. (Rebroadcast at 5 p.m.)

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera serves as principal celebrant of the Easter Sunday Mass from the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

Easter Sunday Mass from Washington, D.C., Noon

Live from the Great Upper Church in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, His Eminence Robert Cardinal McElroy celebrates the Easter Sunday Mass.

Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton will be broadcasting numerous Masses and services from the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton, the Vatican, and Washington, D.C., for the Sacred Paschal Triduum.

To view the schedule in a larger format, click the link below.

[Click Here to See the Full CTV Broadcast Schedule for the Paschal Triduum](#)

During Jubilee Year, Bishop and Diocesan clergy gather in hope for annual Chrism Mass



As many of the more than 170 active and retired priests and nearly 100 permanent deacons who serve the Diocese of Scranton made their way in procession to the Cathedral of Saint Peter for this year's traditional Pontifical Mass of the Sacred Chrism on the Tuesday of Holy Week, the windy weather could have been likened to power of the Holy Spirit in their midst.

The heavens also looked kindly upon the processing clergy as rain showers gave way to sunny skies in time for their arrival at the venerable gathering.

As principal celebrant and homilist, the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, warmly welcomed all to the Mother Church of the Diocese.

“What a blessing to see the Church of Scranton gathered from among all its members for this Mass of the Sacred Chrism,” Bishop Bambera expressed, referring to “my brother priests, our permanent deacons and their wives, Parish Life Coordinators and parish leaders, religious women and men, our seminarians, and especially so many of you from parishes throughout our eleven counties, particularly members of our young Church who are here today.”

The traditional Holy Week observance and gathering of the priests of the Diocese — customarily the largest of its kind each year — celebrates their clerical brotherhood and shared divine vocation.

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



[Click Here to Read
the Full Story](#)

Be 'heralds of hope,' pope asks priests at Chrism Mass

Especially in a Jubilee Year, but also every day, priests are called to continual conversion so that they can authentically preach the good news of hope, Pope Francis wrote in the homily he prepared for the Holy Thursday chrism Mass.

Bishop reflects on the power of the Cross at Palm Sunday Mass



Only a slight breeze was blowing in the Cathedral Prayer Garden April 13, 2025, as the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, began Palm Sunday Mass with a blessing of the palms, surrounded by a crowd of faithful who held branches of their own.

With palms in hand, the congregation joined the Bishop in a procession into the Cathedral of Saint Peter, reenacting Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. It was a symbolic start to Holy Week, marking the beginning of a journey that would move from celebration to the solemn remembrance of Jesus' death.

Following the proclamation of the Passion from the Gospel of Luke, Bishop Bambera invited the faithful deeper – beyond the palm branches – into the very heart of the Cross.

The Bishop opened his homily with a historical reflection: the story of Emperor Heraclius, who, in the 7th century, recaptured the relic of the True Cross of Christ from Persia and sought to return it to Jerusalem's Church of the Holy Sepulcher.

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

Despite improved health, Pope Francis picks Cardinals to lead Holy Week liturgies

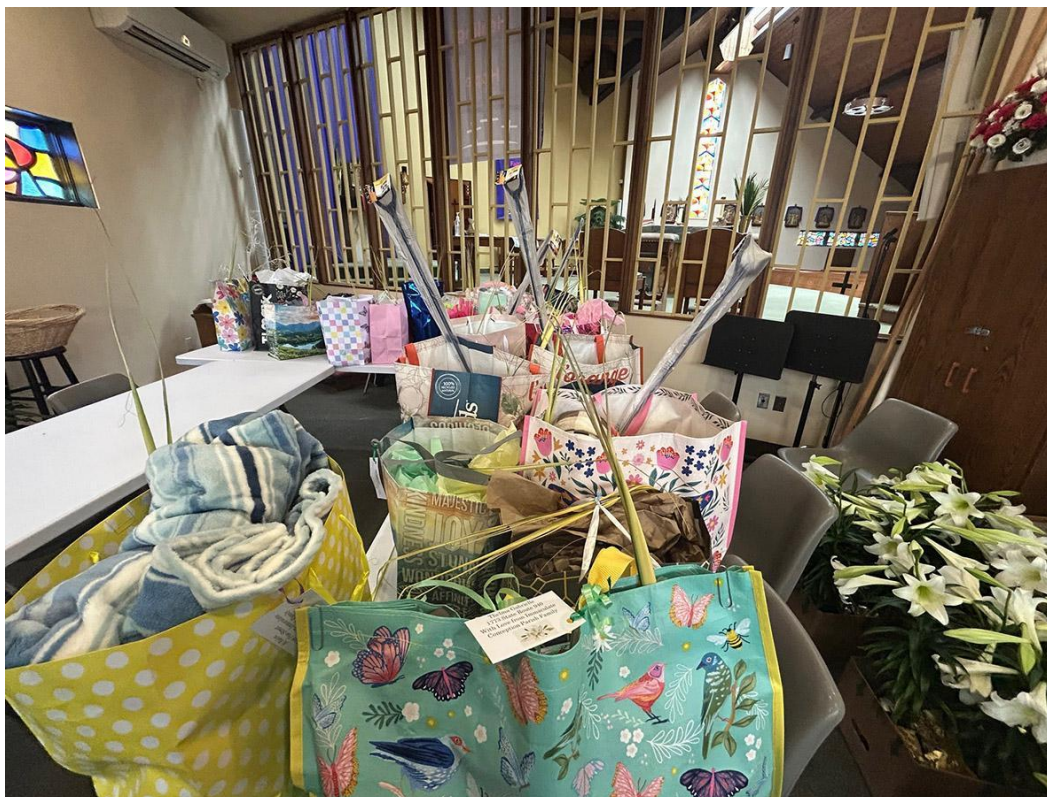


Pope Francis is going without supplemental oxygen for longer periods and is continuing therapy to recover his voice and to recover his physical strength, the Vatican press office said, but he also is increasing the number of private meetings he is holding with the heads of Vatican offices.

Briefing reporters April 15, Tuesday of Holy Week, the most liturgically significant and busy week of the year, the Vatican press office announced the names of the cardinals delegated by the pope to preside over the Liturgy of the Lord's Passion April 18 and the Way of the Cross at Rome's Colosseum that night.

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

Forget-Me-Not: A parish ministry of love and remembrance



As spring flowers blossom and Easter draws near, volunteers at Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception Parish have been remarkably busy.

Parish volunteers recently assembled dozens of “forget-me-not” gift bags for elderly and homebound parishioners. On Saturday, April 12, the bags, along with Easter lilies and palms, were delivered to nursing homes and residences.

“When we deliver the bags and lilies, we receive a lot of very positive feedback from the parishioners. They’re extremely grateful,” John Chuckra, chairperson of the parish community service team, said. “A common comment is ‘my parish family always remembers me’ and that is very, very great to hear.”

Tucked inside the thoughtfully prepared bags are more than just essentials— they also contain lotions, hand creams, stamps, warm blankets, and puzzles that are all carefully selected by parishioners.

Each bag is, in truth, a vessel of love, and a message of remembrance sent to the senior members of the parish.

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

Rectory, Set, Cook! breaks record; raises more than \$227,000 in fourth year



The Diocese of Scranton is proud to announce the results of its fourth annual Rectory, Set, Cook! competition – and this year's event was one for the record books.

Between March 4 and April 10, the popular fundraising competition brought together 32 priests from across the Diocese of Scranton in a spirited battle for culinary glory – all in support of anti-hunger and anti-homelessness initiatives through Catholic Social Services.

In a thrilling finale that came down to the wire, with last-minute donations tipping the scales, this year's event raised \$227,162, setting a record amount raised in the competition's history.

"This year's Rectory, Set, Cook! was the most exciting yet," event director Sandra Snyder said. "I love this project because it really unites people and priests in such a special – and fun – way. It's so inspiring to see so many pastor chefs willing to put themselves out there like this for the greater good."

This year's competition came down to the very last minute and a single time-stamped donation at 4:59 p.m. that made the difference between first and second place.

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

Bronze sculpture in St. Peter's Square offers message of hospitality



A new bronze sculpture installed in St. Peter's Square, near the showers and medical clinic the Vatican runs for people in need, invites visitors to reflect on the sacredness of welcoming others, especially the marginalized.

Titled "Be Welcoming," the work by Canadian artist Timothy Schmalz was unveiled April 15 in its place on the steps leading into the square from the colonnade.

Inspired by Hebrews 13:2 — "Do not neglect hospitality, for through it some have unknowingly entertained angels" — the sculpture depicts a weary traveler appearing as a homeless man. However, from another angle, his tattered belongings transform into angelic wings.

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

Catholic leaders, public officials condemn violence after attack on Governor's residence



Catholic leaders and public officials condemned violence and called for peace after an alleged arson attack on the Pennsylvania governor's mansion in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

In a statement, Bishop Timothy C. Senior of Harrisburg called the attack a "heinous act" that "struck at the very heart of our shared values as a society."

Pennsylvania law enforcement officials arrested and charged Cody Balmer of Harrisburg with attempted murder, arson and terrorism, after they said he scaled an iron security fence surrounding the governor's official residence in the middle of the night, eluded police officers and broke into the mansion, where he set a fire.

In a social media post, Gov. Shapiro said he and his family were awakened early in the morning of April 13 to "bangs on the door from the Pennsylvania State Police after an arsonist set fire to the Governor's Residence in Harrisburg."

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

**Registration Deadline for Wedding
Anniversary Mass is May 11**



WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Sunday, June 1st, 2025

2:30pm

Cathedral of St. Peter

315 Wyoming Ave, Scranton PA 18503

To register, please visit www.dioceseofscranton.org
or call the Office for Parish Life at (570) 207-2213

SCRANTON - The deadline for couples looking to register for the 2025 Wedding Anniversary Mass is quickly approaching. The Diocesan Office for Parish Life is requesting that all couples confirm their attendance by May 11.

The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will celebrate the 2025 Wedding Anniversary Mass at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 1, 2025, at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

Following the Mass, there will be a light reception across the street from the Cathedral at the Diocesan Pastoral Center.

Any couple that is celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2025 is invited to attend the Mass and reception.

To register, please go to the Diocese of Scranton website
(dioceseofscranton.org) and submit your information or contact Bridget
Guarnieri at (570) 207-2213, x1133, or email
familylife@dioceseofscranton.org.

Follow us on Social Media...



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