



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

May 22, 2025

**CTV: Catholic Television
broadcasts interview with
seminarian Jan Carlo Perez
ahead of Diaconate
Ordination**

DIACONATE ORDINATION 2025

**SEMINARIAN
JAN CARLO PEREZ**

**SATURDAY, MAY 24
10:00 A.M.
CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PETER
SCRANTON**



**ALL ARE WELCOME
TO ATTEND!**



As he prepares for his ordination to the diaconate, Jan Carlo Perez has spent a lot of time praying and reflecting on the promises he will make during the Mass this Saturday. Those promises include celibacy, obedience to the Diocesan Bishop, and increasing his prayer life by praying the Liturgy of the Hours.

“One of the promises is to continue configuring myself to Christ and that is really all I want,” Perez said. “I want to be more like Jesus. I want to be Jesus for other people.”

On May 24, Perez will be ordained as a transition deacon, which generally occurs after a seminarian has completed at least three years of study in theology and takes place usually one year prior to priestly ordination. A transitional deacon can be an ordinary minister of Baptism, and will be able to preside at weddings,

assist the priest at Mass, proclaim the Gospel and preach, as well as preside at wakes and funeral services.

The faithful of the Diocese of Scranton are invited to attend the Diaconate Ordination Mass for seminarian Jan Carlo Perez on Saturday.

The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will celebrate the 10:00 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter, 315 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton.

The celebration will be broadcast live on CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton and livestream on the Diocese of Scranton website, YouTube channel, and all over Diocesan social media platforms.

[Click Here to Watch the CTV: Catholic Television Interview with Seminarian Jan Carlo Perez Ahead of his Diaconate Ordination Mass](#)

Registration deadline for 2025 Quo Vadis and Fiat Days is June 16



QUO VADIS DAYS

• HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER CAMP •

JUNE
23-25



- Location: Marywood University
- Open to rising sophomores through graduating seniors in high school
- Adventure, Prayer, Dynamic Talks, Mass, Adoration, and Outdoor Activities
- Learn about vocations, better discern where God is calling you, & chat with priests, seminarians, and Bishop Bambera
- Cost is \$25.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JUNE 16TH

Diocese of Scranton
VOCATIONS





FIAT DAYS

• HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER CAMP •

JUNE
23-25



- Location: Marywood University
- Open to rising sophomores through graduating seniors in high school
- Adventure, Prayer, Dynamic Talks, Mass, Adoration, and Outdoor Activities
- Learn about vocations, better discern where God is calling you, and chat with religious sisters, priests, & Bishop Bambera
- Cost is \$25.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JUNE 16TH

Diocese of Scranton
VOCATIONS



High school men and women (rising sophomores through graduating seniors) are invited to join the Diocesan Vocations Office for our tenth annual Quo Vadis Days, and the second annual Fiat Days, June 23-25, 2025, at Marywood University!

Both Quo Vadis and Fiat are a three-day summer camp for high school men and women respectively that is designed to teach them about vocations and enrich their faith through prayer, fellowship, speakers, and activities.

Participants will have the opportunity to connect with other faithful young men and women in the Diocese of Scranton through games, sports, music, and small group discussion. The event also includes a visit from Bishop Joseph Bambera and the seminarians of the Diocese of Scranton.

Those interested in participating must have a recommendation from their Pastor, a Religious Sister, Youth Minister, Director of Religious Education, Deacon, Teacher, or other parish minister.

The cost is \$25. Deadline to register is Monday, June 16th.

[Click Here for More Information or to Register for Quo Vadis Days or Fiat Days 2025!](#)

Registration opens for Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to National Shrine

JUBILEE YEAR

Pilgrimage



Schedule for October 1, 2025

- 6:00 a.m. (approx) - **Buses depart from locations throughout Diocese**
- 9:30 a.m. - **Morning Prayer prayed on individual buses**
- 11:00 a.m. - **Bus Arrival begins at the National Shrine in Washington**
- Noon - **Welcome by Msgr. Vito Buonanno
(Vice Rector of National Shrine)**
- 12:15 pm. - **Free time for lunch, individual tours and private prayer**
- 1:15 p.m. - **Confessions begin in lower Crypt Church**
- 2:00 p.m. - **Eucharistic Holy Hour with Rosary in Upper Church**
- 3:00 p.m. - **Pontifical Mass celebrated by Bishop Bambera**
- 4:00 p.m. - **Depart the National Shrine for home**

With deep joy and great anticipation, the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, is inviting all faithful from the Diocese of Scranton to participate in a Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in

Washington, D.C., on Wednesday, Oct. 1, 2025, in celebration of the ongoing Jubilee Year of Hope.

The 2025 Jubilee Year is a sacred time of renewal, reconciliation, and grace for the entire Church – a time to rediscover the hope that only Christ can give in a world marked by anxiety, division, uncertainty, and fear.

This Pilgrimage will be a visible sign that hope is alive in our hearts, in our families and in the Church of Scranton.

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception – affectionately known as “Mary’s House” to honor Our Blessed Mother – has been designated as a special place of pilgrimage during Jubilee Year 2025 by the Administrative Committee of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The Pilgrimage will include a welcome by the Vice Rector of the National Shrine, the opportunity for tours, private prayer and Confessions, along with a Eucharistic Holy Hour with Rosary in the Upper Church and a Pontifical Mass celebrated by Bishop Bambera.

Bus transportation is being planned from various communities throughout the Diocese. The cost per participant is \$80.

Registration is open now and will close on Aug. 18.

[Click Here for More Information - or to Register - from the Oct. 1 Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to the National Shrine in Washington, D.C.](#)

**U.S. Bishops support bill easing
immigrant religious workers' path
to permanent residency**



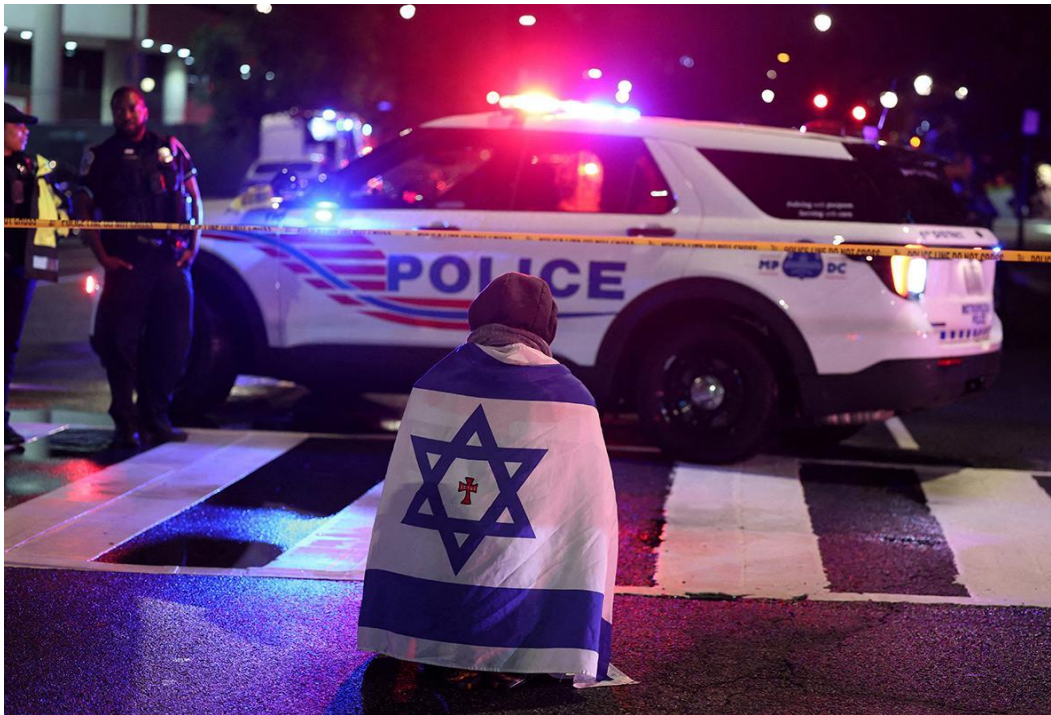
The U.S. bishops on April 10 told congressional lawmakers they support bipartisan legislation that would ease some immigration restrictions on religious workers from other countries, allowing them to stay in the U.S. while they wait for permanent residency.

The legislation, titled the Religious Workforce Protection Act, was introduced in the Senate by Sens. Susan Collins, R-Maine, Tim Kaine, D-Va., and Jim Risch, R-Idaho, and in the House by Reps. Mike Carey, R-Ohio, and Richard Neal, D-Mass.

If signed into law, it would permit religious workers already in the U.S. on temporary R-1 status with pending EB-4 applications to stay in the U.S. while waiting for permanent residency, Collins' office said. All five of those members are Catholic.

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

Bishop calls for prayer after deadly attack outside DC's Capital Jewish Museum



Bishop Michael F. Burbidge of Arlington, Virginia, called for prayers after two Israeli Embassy staff members were slain late May 21 outside the Capital Jewish Museum in Washington.

Sarah Lynn Milgrim and Yaron Lischinsky were leaving an event at the museum when they were shot at close range.

“May we unite in prayer for the souls of two Israeli embassy staff members who were fatally shot last night in Washington, DC,” Bishop Burbidge, whose diocese is across the Potomac River from the nation’s capital, said in an early May 22 post on X. “Please God, grant strength to their families and all who loved them.”

The young couple were set to become engaged in Jerusalem next week, with Lischinsky purchasing the ring only days ago, according to Yechiel Leiter, Israel's ambassador to the U.S.

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

Vatican warns about fake Pope quotes, videos



All the speeches and messages Pope Leo XIV has given since becoming pope May 8 are available on the Vatican website, which should be checked before sharing supposed quotes and videos, Vatican News said.

The Vatican News site published the warning in several languages May 21 after a 36-minute “deep fake” – AI-generated – video was posted on YouTube.

The post, which used manipulated video of Pope Leo and an AI-generated voice with an accent that is not Pope Leo's, praises Ibrahim Traoré, the military ruler of Burkina Faso.

Vatican News said the post was “produced using footage from Pope Leo XIV’s audience with journalists on Monday, May 12. A ‘morphing’ technique was used – that is, transforming the image so that the movement of the lips matches the AI-generated words.”

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

God's love is generous, not calculating, pope says at first audience



The Gospel parable of the “wasteful sower” who casts seeds on fertile soil as well as on a rocky path “is an image of the way God loves us,” Pope Leo XIV told visitors and pilgrims at his first weekly general audience.

The parable can strike people as odd because “we are used to calculating things — and at times it is necessary — but this does not apply in love,” the pope told an estimated 40,000 people gathered in St. Peter’s Square May 21.

Pope Leo read his full prepared text in Italian and also read the summaries of the talk in English and in Spanish.

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

Every vocation, even the pope's, springs from God's love, Pope Leo says



God's love, mercy and goodness lie at the foundation of every vocation, including that of the pope, Pope Leo XIV said.

"Let us ask the Lord for the grace to cultivate and spread his charity and to become true neighbors to one another," he said, paraphrasing his predecessor, Pope Francis, in a homily at Rome's Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls May 20.

"Let us compete in showing the love that, following (St. Paul's) encounter with Christ, drove the former persecutor to become 'all things to all people,' even to the point of martyrdom," he said.

The pope visited the basilica and tomb of St. Paul two days after the Mass for the inauguration of his Petrine ministry in St. Peter's Square. It was part of a series of visits to the city's major papal basilicas after his election.

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

Pope Leo begins papacy calling for 'united church' in a wounded world



Launching his papacy with a call for reconciliation and communion, Pope Leo XIV formally began his ministry as the successor of St. Peter by calling for “a united church, a sign of unity and communion, which becomes a leaven for a reconciled world.”

“In this our time, we still see too much discord, too many wounds caused by hatred, violence, prejudice, the fear of difference and an economic paradigm that exploits the Earth’s resources and marginalizes the poorest,” the new pope said in his homily during his inauguration Mass May 18.

“For our part, we want to be a small leaven of unity, communion and fraternity within the world,” he told the estimated 150,000 people gathered in and around St. Peter’s Square. “We want to say to the world, with humility and joy: Look to Christ! Come closer to him! Welcome his word that enlightens and consoles! Listen to his offer of love and become his one family: ‘In the one Christ, we are one.’”

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

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