



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

June 12, 2025

Hundreds of women attend 2025 Catholic Women's Conference at Marywood University



On Saturday, June 7, 2025, several hundred women gathered for the 2025 Catholic Women's Conference at Marywood University.

This year's conference theme was "Heart to Heart Prayer."

The conference began with Mass celebrated by Bishop Joseph Bambera. Keynote speakers included Sister Maria Kateri of the Sisters of Life, Kara Kardell of the Draw Near podcast, award-winning singer and composer Sarah Hart, and Reverend Bryan Wright of Holy Child Parish in Mansfield.

Attendees also had the opportunity for Reconciliation, a fellowship lunch, and browsing a vibrant marketplace.

[Click Here to Watch a Short Video from CTV: Catholic Television on the 2025 Catholic Women's Conference](#)

Mass for 2025 Priest Jubilarians held at Cathedral of Saint Peter



Thirteen priests who are celebrating milestone anniversaries of their ordination year were recognized during the 2025 Mass for Priest Jubilarians on Thursday, June 12, at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, served as principal celebrant and homilist. During the Mass, the Bishop recognized a combine 625 years of service to the priesthood.

Reverend John J. Turi was recognized for the longest service. This year he celebrates 70 years of priestly service. Father Turi was ordained a priest on June 4, 1955.

In addition to Rev. Turi, priests who are celebrating 65, 60, 50, and 25 year ordination anniversaries were honored at the Mass.

[Click Here to Watch a Short Video from CTV: Catholic Television from the 2025 Priest Jubilarian Mass](#)

While the U.S. Bishops go on retreat this June, business follows them



Most Junes, the U.S. bishops convene for what is commonly called their spring plenary — a mid-year assembly to tend to affairs concerning their episcopal conference, and a way to move forward policies, plans and committee work ahead of the more robust November plenary assembly.

This June, however, the ordinary work of a plenary assembly is set aside, leaving behind a business agenda for a triennial, weeklong retreat in California.

While some conference committees meet ahead of the gathering, the bishops are not scheduled to be dealing with ordinary business as a body. Still, there will be no shortage of items to talk about when the bishops are together. Since the bishops last met in Baltimore last November, the United States has sworn in a new president and the College of Cardinals has elected a new pope.

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

**Call out to Jesus for healing; he will
hear you, Pope Leo says**



When anyone cries out to God for healing or help, God always listens, Pope Leo XIV said.

“There is no cry that God does not hear, even when we are not aware we are addressing him,” the pope told thousands of people gathered under a hot sun in St. Peter’s Square June 11.

At his weekly general audience, the pope spoke about the Gospel story of the healing of Bartimaeus (Mark 10:46-52) as he continued a series of talks about how the life and ministry of Jesus is a source of hope.

And, noting that June is the month devoted to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Pope Leo invited people “to bring before the heart of Christ your most painful and fragile parts, those places in your life where you feel stuck and blocked. Let us trustfully ask the Lord to listen to our cry, and to heal us!”

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

Last Call! Join us for the Diocese of Scranton night at PNC Field

**ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF SCRANTON NIGHT
SWB RAILRIDERS**

Mets **VS** **RailRiders**

**FRIDAY
JUNE 13TH
PNC FIELD
6:35PM**

\$14 TICKETS

**POST GAME
FIREWORKS**

Join us tomorrow night as the Diocese of Scranton holds a community night at PNC Field. More than 130 of your friends and neighbors have already registered!

We will enjoy the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders game as the team takes on the Syracuse Mets.

Gates open at 5:35 p.m. with first pitch at 6:35 p.m.

Don't run out too quick, either, as the RailRiders will be shooting off Post-Game Fireworks into the summer sky that is a sure fire way to end a perfect night at PNC Field!

[Click Here for More Information on the Diocese of Scranton's Night at PNC Field in Moosic](#)

Bishops urge lawmakers to protect Medicaid as Senate considers Trump's 'Big Beautiful Bill'



As the Senate began its consideration of a sweeping package for President Donald Trump's agenda, the U.S. bishops and other Catholic leaders urged lawmakers not to cut programs such as Medicaid or SNAP.

In May, House Republicans passed what Trump calls his "one big, beautiful bill" — and as such, later named the One Big Beautiful Bill Act — which would enact key provisions of his legislative agenda on tax and immigration policy, and Trump has called for the Senate to follow suit by July 4.

But whether the Senate will do so remains to be seen, as some rural state members of the Republican majority have raised objections to Medicaid cuts, among other sticking points, such as artificial intelligence regulation.

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

Report: Abuse allegations and costs down, but complacency a threat

2024 Annual Report

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS



SECRETARIAT
OF CHILD
AND YOUTH
PROTECTION

NATIONAL
REVIEW BOARD

UNITED STATES
CONFERENCE OF
CATHOLIC BISHOPS

JUNE 2025

Report on the Implementation of the

Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People

The U.S. Catholic bishops' latest annual report on child and youth protection shows abuse allegations continue to decline — but authors warned of the dangers of complacency among dioceses

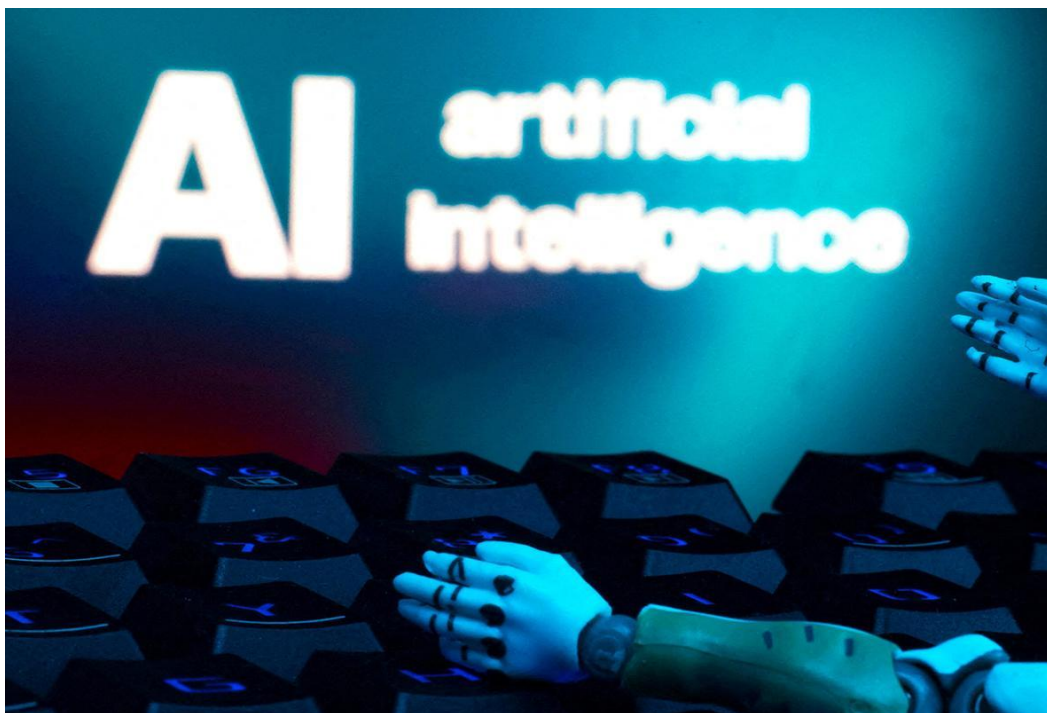
and the laity in upholding key aspects of bishops' safe environment protocols.

In particular, said the report, lack of functioning diocesan review boards to review protocols and allegations, along with an increase in parents opting their children out of safe environment training, could erode progress in addressing and preventing abuse.

On June 6, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection released the "2024 Annual Report — Findings and Recommendations on the Implementation of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People."

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

**AI offers opportunities, but should
be governed by ethical policy
framework, Bishops say**



The U.S. bishops urged House and Senate leaders in a June 9 letter to remember that while artificial intelligence presents opportunities, it also presents challenges.

The bishops said policy considerations surrounding AI should be governed by an ethical framework.

The bishops noted Pope Leo XIV has made his concerns about AI an early focus of his papacy, writing, “As our new Holy Father Pope Leo XIV reminds us, AI requires ‘responsibility and discernment in order to ensure it can be used for the good of all, so that it can benefit all of humanity.’”

The letter acknowledged the bishops “are not technical experts,” but said that as pastors, they are “entrusted with concern for the life and dignity of the human person and the common good.”

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

LA Archbishop calls for prayer, restraint, immigration law reform amid ICE protests



Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angeles is calling for prayer, while urging “restraint and calm” as clashes have broken out in that city over recent immigration arrests. President Donald Trump has deployed the National Guard amid pushback from California officials and is threatening to mobilize Marines.

Protests broke out on June 6 after several raids by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, which along with Customs and Border Protection is the law enforcement arm of the Department of Homeland Security.

The raids — part of Trump’s promised crackdown on illegal immigration — took place in predominantly Latino areas of Los Angeles, with demonstrations forming at the Federal Building in the city’s downtown, on Highway 101 and in front of a Home

Depot in Paramount, 20 miles south of the city's downtown. Several driverless taxis were set on fire, with dozens arrested and 60 taken into custody at related protests in San Francisco.

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

Church picnic, festival and bazaar season begins this weekend in Scranton

Mary, Mother of God Parish at
Holy Rosary Center

W. Market Street and Wayne Avenue, North Scranton

BLOCK PARTY

Friday June 13

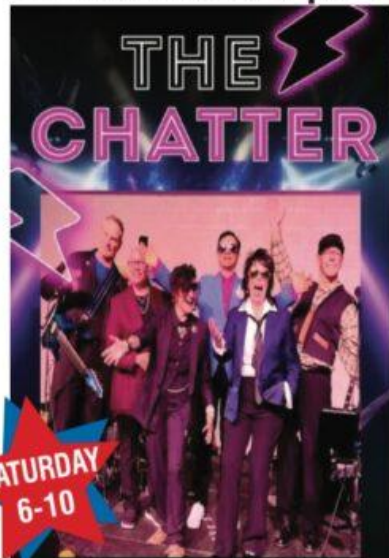
6-11 p.m.

Veteran's Ceremony: 6 p.m.

Saturday June 14

5-10 p.m.

Jim Cerminaro: 5 p.m.



- **Great Food**
- **Beer Tent**
- **Games**
- **Raffles**
- **Live Music**

The first of dozens of church picnics, festivals and bazaars will begin this weekend with the annual Mary, Mother of God Block Party in North Scranton.

With a Veterans Ceremony to kick off the celebration planned for 6 p.m. on Friday night (June 13) - the block party will officially open and continue on Saturday evening.

All parishes in the Diocese of Scranton have been invited to send their festival information to the Diocese of Scranton Communications Office. For the full listing received so far, please click the link below.

[Click Here to for the List of 2025 Church Festivals, Picnics and Bazaars](#)

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