



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

July 10, 2025

August workshops to focus on discipleship and evangelization

GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES

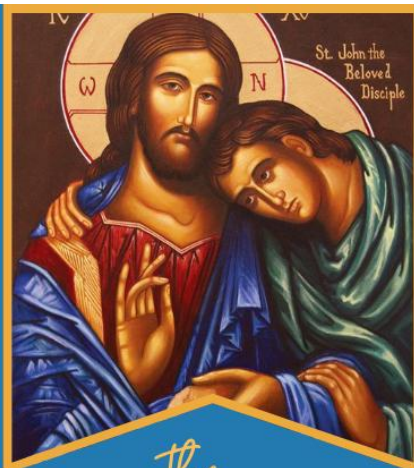
MATTHEW 28:19



FR. JON BIELAWSKI
GENESIS MISSION, FOUNDER



MICHELE THOMPSON
GENESIS MISSION, FOUNDER



The
CHARACTERISTICS
of a DISCIPLE

AUGUST 6, 2025

6:00 PM - 8:30 PM



DIOCESE OF SCRANTON | OFFICE FOR PARISH LIFE



DIOCESE OF
SCRANTON

CREATING A
CULTURE OF
ENCOUNTER



“HOW TO” EVANGELIZE

FORMING A DEEP AND DYNAMIC SENSE OF DISCIPLESHIP



Just before He ascends to heaven, Jesus leaves His disciples with final directions: “Go and make disciples” (Matthew 28:19).

The Diocesan Office for Parish Life invites you to two different events next month focused on discipleship and evangelization.

1. "The Characteristics of a Disciple" - Wednesday, Aug. 6

What does it mean to be a disciple? What does a disciple look like, think like, act like? How can we know if we are making disciples?

This evening workshop with Fr. Jon Bielawski and Michele Thompson, Genesis Mission founders, will answer these questions and more.

Join us for an evening of inspiration whether you are a new disciple, a disciple-in-progress, or someone who wants to be a disciple maker.

Date: Wednesday, August 6, 2025

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Location: Diocesan Pastoral Center, Scranton

Cost: \$10, payable at the door

2. "How to" Evangelize - Thursday, Aug. 7

We know we are supposed to share our faith, but how comfortable do we feel? What if we don't use the right words, or say the right thing? Even the word "evangelization" makes most of us cringe!

This workshop with Fr. Jon Bielawski and Michele Thompson, Genesis Mission founders, will show you how to build a culture of encounter. Throughout the day, they will illustrate methods to introduce our faith into everyday conversations.

You will be introduced to the Genesis Method, a practical way of helping others to encounter Christ, which respects the individual but offers the love and peace of Christ. A series of simple steps, which begin with listening and asking questions, will open the door to a heartfelt encounter that speaks into the specific circumstances of the person you meet.

This workshop is perfect for parish staff, catechetical leaders, catechists, youth ministers, adult formation leaders, and disciples of all ages and stages!

Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location: Diocesan Pastoral Center, Scranton

Cost: \$30, payable at the door. Includes lunch and materials.

[Click Here to Register for the Aug. 6 & 7 Genesis Mission Workshops](#)

Catholic Charismatic Conference to be held Aug. 1-3 in Scranton

Catholic Charismatic Renewal Diocese of Scranton
University of Scranton, Scranton, Pennsylvania



Conference 2025 *REPENT – RENEW – REVIVE*

Say “No More!!” to the darkness that seems to surround us!

Experience the transforming love of God;
a renewed commitment to faith; a new mission!

Let God work in you leading you to holiness;
empowering your daily walk with Him!

Find rest, joy, strength, peace, and grace!

“Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning.”
Joel 2:12

Come and see the difference a weekend spent with God can make!

August 1, 2, & 3, 2025

Celebrating the Scranton Conference’s 43rd year serving the Church “the Charismatic Renewal is a current of grace, a renewing breath of the Spirit for all members of the Church” - Pope Francis



Bishop Bambera



Deborah DeRosia



Fr Ed. Fride



Fr John Gordon



Dr. John Gresham

What is it like to be at a conference, to hear firsthand, inspired teaching & sharings?

What is it like to be at Eucharistic Adoration with hundreds of worshippers?

**Can you experience a personal relationship with Jesus Christ? Find out –
for yourself – in person!!**

Full weekend or single session registration, meal plans and overnight housing on campus, and single meal purchases on campus - during the weekend are all available! For information: Use the QR code at the right or call 570-344-2214 or visit our website:
[HTTPS://WWW.CCRSCRANTON.ORG/CONFERENCE](https://www.ccrscranton.org/conference)



All people of faith are invited to come and see the difference a weekend spent with God can make!

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal of the Diocese of Scranton will hold its annual conference at The University of Scranton from Aug. 1-3, 2025.

This year's conference theme is "Repent - Renew - Revive."

As Christians, sometimes we feel guilty when we have questions about God, His Word, or how to live as believers. But God isn't surprised when we have questions. He wants to help us find answers and clarity through the Holy Spirit.

By attending this conference in early August, you will be able to experience God's forgiveness and renewal. He will send you out restored and revived, ready to share His love with the world.

For more information on this year's conference, or to register, click on the link below.

[Click Here for More Information on the Catholic Charismatic Renewal's 2025 Conference](#)

**Third annual Holy Spirit Parish
walking pilgrimage scheduled for
July 26**



The third annual Holy Spirit Parish Walking Pilgrimage is scheduled for Saturday, July 26 - the Memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary - starting at St. Mary Church in Mocanaqua and ending at St. Adalbert Church in Glen Lyon.

The pilgrimage begins at 8:00 a.m. with Confessions and prayer at St. Mary's Church, 130 Rectory Road, Mocanaqua.

Pilgrims will depart at 9:00 a.m. for the six mile journey through the Mocanaqua Tract of the Pinchot State Forest. Mass will be offered around 12:00 noon at St. Adalbert's Church; those who cannot walk the pilgrimage route are welcome to attend the Mass.

Lunch will be served and bus transportation back to Mocanaqua will be available.

There is no cost to participate; the public is invited to walk or submit or prayer requests.

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

Bishop Bambera announces new clergy appointments



The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton announced several more clergy appointments this week. The latest appointments took effect on July 1 and July 7, 2025.

[Click Here to See the Clergy Appointments Announced By Bishop Bambera](#)

Priest with ties to King's College is one of three named to Vatican

Dicasteries for ecumenism, interreligious dialogue



Three North Americans are among recent appointees to Vatican dicasteries that address issues of ecumenism and interreligious dialogue.

On July 3, Pope Leo XIV appointed Archbishop Mitchell T. Rozanski of St. Louis and Cardinal Frank Leo of Toronto as members of the Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue, along with 19 other bishops from around the world.

The same day, Pope Leo appointed Holy Cross Father Russell McDougall as a consultant of the Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity. Father McDougall is executive director of the U.S.

Conference of Catholic Bishops' Secretariat for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs.

As an administrative body of the Roman Curia, the Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue “promotes and supervises relations with members and groups of non-Christian religions, with the exception of Judaism, competence for which belongs to the Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity,” according to the Vatican website.

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

Walking, suffering with Texas flood victims crucial, says San Antonio Archbishop



Deadly July 4 flash floods in western Texas have so far claimed at least 107 lives, including those of 27 children at a Christian summer camp.

After his pastoral visit to flood-ravaged Kerr County, Texas, over the July 4 holiday weekend – which included the celebration of Mass at Notre Dame Catholic Church in Kerrville – Archbishop Gustavo García-Siller of San Antonio spoke with OSV News about faith, suffering and compassion amid the tragedy.

"As a shepherd, the main element that I bring – and it's so important – is accompaniment," he said. "I was with them on Friday (July 4) where the reunification of families was taking place. Many of them I didn't know; I knew a few people there – parents, grandparents – but just to be with them (all) at that moment, there is a connection."

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

Pope prays for conversion of those resisting climate action at new Mass



“We must pray for the conversion of many people, inside and outside of the church, who still do not recognize the urgency of caring for our common home,” Pope Leo XIV said while celebrating a new formulary of the Mass “for the care of creation.”

Far from the pounding organ of St. Peter’s Basilica or the throngs of faithful sprawled across St. Peter’s Square, the pope celebrated Mass July 9 to the accompaniment of chirping birds in the gardens of the papal villa in Castel Gandolfo, the traditional summer residence of the popes some 15 miles southeast of Rome.

The Mass was attended by the staff of the Borgo Laudato Si’ ecology project — a space for education and training in integral ecology hosted in the gardens — as well as Vatican officials and Holy Cross Father Daniel Groody, an expert on migration and associate provost for undergraduate education at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana.

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

Catholic Church holds firm on not taking stand on political candidates, despite possible IRS shift



The Catholic Church “maintains its stance of not endorsing or opposing political candidates,” said U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops spokesperson Chieko Noguchi, following a recent court case in which a long-standing federal ban against such activity appeared to have been partly relaxed.

Noguchi issued the statement July 8, a day after the Internal Revenue Service agreed in a court filing that a house of worship addressing its congregation about electoral politics in the context of religious faith does not violate the Johnson Amendment.

Approved by Congress in 1954, the amendment prohibits 501(c)(3) organizations – a type of tax-exempt nonprofit under U.S. tax code, and the typical corporate structure for churches, worship communities and charities in the nation – from engaging

in political campaign activity. In 1987, Congress clarified that the ban includes statements opposing candidates.

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

Illinois town officials vote to buy, renovate Pope Leo's childhood home as 'historical site'



An Illinois town intends to purchase the childhood home of Pope Leo XIV, hoping to turn the property and its surroundings into a historical site.

The board of trustees of the Village of Dolton voted unanimously July 1 to buy the modest, one-story brick dwelling located at 212 E. 141st Pl. in Dolton.

Since the election of the first U.S.-born pope, the 75-year-old home – in which the former Robert Prevost was raised – has become a tourist attraction and even a place of pilgrimage.

“So many people are coming to the block,” Nakita Cloud, spokesperson for the Village of Dolton, told OSV News. “You see tour buses (here).”

Next-door-neighbor Donna Sagna Davis previously told CBS News Chicago that visitors are “bringing rosaries, flowers.”

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

Parish festivals taking place this weekend in Carbondale, Drums, Duryea, Swoyersville, White Haven, and Wyalusing

The Feast '25

July 10th, 11th, 12th

5pm to 10pm



FOOD

Homemade Italian, American, & Polish Foods

Church Picnic Food Favorites
(Potato Pancakes, Fried Dough,
Candy Apples, Funnel Cakes,
Picnic Pizza, Steamed Clams,
and much more....)

Cannoli Stand

Homemade Baked Goods

37 Farview
Street
Carbondale, PA

FUN

Themed Baskets

Expanded Kid's Games

Facepainting & Balloon Animals

Polish Poker

Big 6 Wheel

Grand 50/50 Cash Raffle

Procession with the Statue of Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Sunday, July 13 after 10 am Mass

ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, July 10

5pm ~ Irish Step
Dancing
by
Joyce School of
Irish Dance

7pm to 10 pm
Music from
Mystic Rulers

Friday, July 11

5:45pm ~ Performance
by
Lynette's Twirlerettes

7pm to 10 pm
Music from
The Wanabees

Fireworks @ Dusk
(weather permitting)

Saturday, July 12

5pm to 7 pm
Polkas from
Joe Stanky &
His Cadets

7pm to 10 pm
Music from
The Mark Montella
Project

**ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON
PARISH**

FESTIVAL

**THURSDAY • FRIDAY • SATURDAY
5 PM 'til 11 PM NIGHTLY**

JULY 10-11-12

**116 HUGHES ST. SWOYERSVILLE
GAMES — PRIZES — REFRESHMENTS
DELICIOUS HOMEMADE FOOD**

Thursday — JOHN STEVENS' DOUBLESHOT

Friday — PICTURE PERFECT

Saturday — DADDY-O & THE SAX MANIAX

Everyone Welcome!!



We invite you to support our parishes throughout the summer months as they hold various picnics, bazaars and festivals.

The Diocese of Scranton Communications Office invited all parishes to share details of their upcoming events - and all of the submissions are posted on the Diocese of Scranton website.

If you do not see your local event listed yet, please submit it to info@dioceseofscranton.org.

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

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