

New school year brings familiar faces to leadership roles at two Catholic schools

SCRANTON – As the 2025-2026 school year begins in the Diocese of Scranton Catholic School System, two Catholic school communities are welcoming new principals – both of whom bring deep roots and a strong commitment to Catholic education.

Jason Tribett has been named the new principal of Saint Nicholas-Saint Mary School in Wilkes-Barre, while Brenda Quatrinni has been appointed to lead Epiphany School in Sayre.

Both leaders are no strangers to the mission of Catholic education. Each has lived it both personally and professionally.

For Tribett, taking the helm of Saint Nicholas-Saint Mary School is a homecoming of sorts.

“My kids have gone to school at Saint Nicholas-Saint Mary School for the past six years, so when the opening happened there, I felt a connection to the school from being a parent,” he said. “I know the history through tradition and the quality of the staff, and I felt like it was a good fit to come back.”

Tribett previously served as principal of Holy Family Academy in Hazleton from 2018 to 2021, and has held other various roles in education, including assistant principal, dean of students, athletic director, and health and physical education teacher. Most recently, he worked in leadership at a cyber charter school.

“I got into education to help children, and I felt like my most rewarding years were when I was at Holy Family



As the 2025-2026 academic year gets underway, the Diocese of Scranton Catholic School System is welcoming two new principals. Jason Tribett has been named the new principal of Saint Nicholas-Saint Mary School in Wilkes-Barre, while Brenda Quatrinni has been appointed to lead Epiphany School in Sayre. Pictured, from left are: Christopher Tighe, Assistant Superintendent; Jason Tribett; Brenda Quatrinni; Charlene Haggerty, Assistant Superintendent; and Kristen Donohue, Diocesan Secretary of Catholic Education/Superintendent of Catholic Schools. (Photo/Eric Deabill)

(Academy), when I was principal there, and I wanted to get back to that,” he added.

As the new school year begins, Tribett looks forward to engaging with the entire school community.

“I’m just looking forward to meeting everybody as the educational leader of the school, figuring out what is going well and what things we might be able to do better, and trying to help our students continue to be the best versions of themselves they can

possibly be,” Tribett added.

A new chapter is also beginning this year at Epiphany School after the recent retirement of Sister Kathleen Kelly, I.H.M., who led the Bradford County Catholic school for 33 years.

For Quatrinni, the transition from second grade teacher came after a lot of prayer and reflection.

“I’ve been at Epiphany (School) for 26 years. This will be my 27th year. I started

there in second grade and I’ve been second grade ever since,” she shared. “When this opportunity came up, I decided, let’s try it, maybe I need a new challenge, maybe this would be good for me to be in a leadership position.”

Stepping into the big shoes of Sister Kathleen, Quatrinni says the transition has been smooth thanks to her predecessor’s organization and kindness.

“She left me lots of notes,” Quatrinni joked. “It has been wonderful because I know all the people. I know all the families.”

Epiphany School is known for its close-knit, family-oriented atmosphere – something that Quatrinni treasures deeply. While she’ll miss daily interaction with students in the classroom, she’s excited about the new perspective her role will bring.

“I know I’m going to miss the kids, being in front of them in the classroom, but I’ll get to see all of them that I’ve taught along the way, so that will be neat to see them in a different light and to see the teachers in a different light,” she added.

As the new school year begins, The Catholic Light offers prayerful best wishes to Tribett, Quatrinni, and all Catholic school administrators and educators across the region. May this year be filled with growth, learning, and joy – as our 19 Catholic schools continue to prepare our students to be faith-filled leaders and life-long learners dedicated to serving the church and society.

Don’t settle for less; God is waiting to transform your life, pope tells youth

ROME (CNS) - The fullness of life depends on how much one joyfully welcomes and shares in life while also living with a constant yearning for those things that only come from God, Pope Leo XIV told young people.

“Aspire to great things, to holiness, wherever you are. Do not settle for less. You will then see the light of the Gospel growing every day, in you and around you,” he said in his homily during Mass concluding the Jubilee of Youth Aug. 3.

The outdoor Mass, held in Rome’s Tor Vergata neighborhood on the outskirts of the city, marked the culmination of a week-long

series of events for the Jubilee of Youth.

More than 1 million people were estimated to be gathered across the 130 acres that had been prepared for the morning Mass, the prayer vigil the evening before, and for the hundreds of thousands of people sleeping overnight.

After touching down by helicopter less than 12 hours after leaving the evening vigil, the pope rode in the popemobile throughout the open areas - dotted with tents and tarps, and filled with young people, cheering, waving their nation’s flag, and sometimes launching at him shirts and gifts.



Pope Leo XIV waves to the crowd following Mass for the Jubilee of Youth in Rome Aug. 3, 2025. (CNS photo/Lola Gomez)

“Good morning!” he said in six languages from a massive stage set up for Mass.

“I hope you all rested a little bit,” he said in English. “We will shortly begin the greatest celebration that Christ left us: his very presence in the Eucharist.”

He said he hoped the concluding Mass would be “a truly memorable occasion for each and every one of us” because “when together, as Christ’s church, we follow, we walk together, we live with Jesus Christ.”

In his homily, the pope again highlighted the Eucharist, as “the sacrament of the Lord’s total gift of himself to us.”

It is Christ, he said, “who transforms our lives and enlightens our affections, desires and thoughts.”

The Diocese of Scranton is committed to educating our students in an environment that is academically excellent and facilitates the development of moral judgment and Christian decision-making. We are proud to share the following successes of our students in the classroom and in their service to others. Each day, our schools are fulfilling their mission of preparing today's youth and young adults to become tomorrow's faith-filled leaders.



Two students from the Individualized Instruction (II) program at **All Saints Academy in Scranton** proudly hold their certificates, which informed them that they received the Mrs. Doreen Dougherty Scholarship for the upcoming school year.



The summer maintenance team at **La Salle Academy in Jessup** excelled this year under the tutelage of Mr. Frank Ligi, who guided the crew as they prepared the school for the new academic year.



Students from **Our Lady of Peace School in Clarks Green** had a magical time at 'Wicked Camp' over the summer with their teachers, Mrs. Orr and Mrs. Yanul.



Delaney McGlynn, Pre-K 4 student at **Saint Nicholas/Saint Mary School in Wilkes-Barre**, enjoyed serving guests during orientation with the school's lemonade stand theme.



Students, their families, and the faculty of **Saint John Neumann Regional Academy in Williamsport** participated in the annual Little League World Series Grand Slam Parade, which celebrates the beginning of the Little League World Series. Rachell Abbott and her children, Liam, Lydia, and Louis, proudly wear their SJNRA "Family" shirts to the parade.



Students and their families, along with faculty and staff, gathered on a gorgeous summer evening for ‘Outdoor Movie Night’ at **Saint Mary of Mount Carmel School in Dunmore**.



Students at **Wyoming Area Catholic School in Exeter** take a break from their summer camp excitement for a quick photo to capture all the fun they are having!



With the start of the new school year already underway in the northern tier, students from **Epiphany School in Sayre** will surely reminisce about the ‘Beach Day Picnic’ they had at the end of 2024-25.



Students from **Holy Rosary School in Duryea** took part in a week-long baking camp this summer where they learned new recipes and prepared desserts for family and friends (and certainly utilized some of those all-important math skills).



Members of the Class of 2026 from **Holy Cross High School in Dunmore** traveled to The Romero Center in Camden, N.J., this summer for service work.



Congratulations to Emily Strand, third grader at **Notre Dame Elementary School in East Stroudsburg**, who placed first in a poster contest sponsored by the Pennsylvania Dental Association in the spring. Her artwork was chosen from more than 350 entries, earning her a custom framing of her poster and a monetary gift. Her poster and an accompanying article were featured in the May/June issue of the Pennsylvania Dental Journal.