



DIOCESE
OF SCRANTON
CATHOLIC
SCHOOLS

LIVING THE S.T.R.E.A.M.

SCIENCE
TECHNOLOGY
RELIGION
ENGINEERING
ART &
MATHEMATICS



The kickoff of the second annual "Living The S.T.R.E.A.M." virtual competition for Diocese of Scranton middle-schoolers is quickly approaching, and our students need your support! Hundreds of sixth- through eighth-graders in our Catholic schools will showcase their best ideas for improving the world through a **Science**, **Technology**, **Engineering**, **Art**, or **Mathematics** concept presented in a three- to five-minute video. All projects are required to have **Religion** as an overarching theme and clearly demonstrate how our Roman Catholic faith inspired the idea.

Please join us on
www.dioceseofscranton.org from Feb. 2-10 and vote for your favorite BIG IDEAS FOR A BETTER WORLD!



CAN YOU HELP? WE NEED PRIZE SPONSORS!

This year's Awards Ceremony will give students the chance to win educational technology prizes for their schools. **If you can donate a prize, scan the QR code at left to view our Amazon wish list and send a prize directly to the Catholic Schools office or call Sandra Snyder at 570-591-5004 (or email ssnyder@dioceseofscranton.org) to find out how to help offline.** All prize donors will be recognized as **Incentives Sponsors** at the awards ceremony.

IMPORTANT DATES CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK SPECIAL EVENT!



Thursday, Jan. 29, 6:30-8 p.m.: Pre-launch mixer & inspiration session with our competitors and our Catholic schools alumni who are future doctors now studying at The Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine in Scranton.

Monday, Feb. 2: Website opens for voting!

Tuesday, Feb. 10: Voting ends at 3 p.m. People's Choice winners based on total dollars raised as of this timestamp.

Wednesday, Feb. 11: Awards ceremony from 6-8 p.m. at the Diocesan Pastoral Center. Scholarships & technology prizes awarded to top-vote getters in both the People's Choice and Judges' Choice categories.

"There are 28 teams registered from GSA. ... As soon as they started producing a video, the spark ignited.

Overall, their favorite task is making the video. It's like I have 28 tiny independent production studios working out of my classroom.

I am excited to see what the students come up with.

There are always some unique ideas, and their concepts focus on what's important to them. None of them match my own ideas, which is refreshing.

As an adult it's fascinating to spectate, and I do learn a tremendous amount from the students. I would wholeheartedly endorse this endeavor to all other adults.

Even if it was just for fun."

-JESSE HOPPE,
FACULTY ADVISOR,
GOOD SHEPHERD ACADEMY,
KINGSTON

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.



The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, celebrated Mass for the community at **Saint Clare/Saint Paul School in Scranton** on Jan. 8, 2026. Reflecting on why the Christmas season lasts a couple weeks beyond December 25, the Bishop told the students that this gives us more time to think about the gift of Jesus. He also encouraged them to become saints like recently canonized Carlo Acutis and shared the words of St. Teresa of Calcutta, "You don't have to do great things, just small things with great love."



Eighth grade students at **Saint Nicholas/Saint Mary School in Wilkes-Barre** shared the Living Nativity with the rest of the school at the December 18 Mass.



The students and faculty at **Good Shepherd Academy in Kingston** recently celebrated their Christmas Liturgy with Father Andrew Hvozdovic, Pastor of Gate of Heaven Parish, Dallas, and Our Lady of Victory Parish, Harveys Lake. Pictured with Father Hvozdovic are Gavin Kravulski, Emily Ratchford, Max Budzilek, and Sophia Jones who portrayed the Nativity Scene.



Mrs. Harbach's kindergarten class from **Saint John Neumann Elementary School in Williamsport** visited the Meadows Nursing Home to spread some Christmas cheer by performing carols for the residents.



The eighth grade class at **All Saints Academy in Scranton** share the true meaning of Christmas with their presentation of The Nativity Story.



Mrs. Jessica Zugel's students sang Christmas carols, in Latin, throughout the halls of **Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School in East Stroudsburg**.



TJ Grego, Colton Kowalski and Bert Marcalus, seventh grade students at **Saint Jude School in Mountain Top**, proudly show off their creation as part of the school's STREAM Gingerbread House Challenge.



Mrs. Geralyn Durham from **Notre Dame Elementary School in East Stroudsburg** smiles with some students as they enjoy the school's annual "Cookies and Milk with Santa" celebration.



On the Feast of the Epiphany, students and teachers at **Saint Agnes School in Towanda** gather to bless the doors of their school and classrooms and to pray for God's blessings on all in 2026.



Middle school students from **Saint John Neumann Jr./Sr. High School in Williamsport** wrote Christmas letters for homebound neighbors in the Williamsport area to help spread Christmas cheer.



Luna Esty, JJ Rupprecht, and JJ Galvin, students at **Holy Rosary School in Duryea**, participated in the Diocesan Band's Winter Concert.



Mr. Tolerico and the Christmas crew at **Holy Cross High School in Dunmore** were in the local area spreading cheer and thanking those who serve the HCHS community. Students Kevin Vincent, Katie Apolinario, Claire Polishan, and Alessandra Lynn had a chance to visit Alec Shattin, HC Class of 2016, and the Dunmore Fire Department.



The first grade at **Epiphany School in Sayre** celebrated Christmas in the Convent with Sister Anne Quigley, IHM.



The Viking Council from **La Salle Academy in Jessup** decorated a tree at the trolley museum to display their school heritage and a variety of Christmas traditions from around the world—it was so fantastic, it won first place!



The second Agape Retreat recently concluded for half of the Class of 2026 from **Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre**. The soon-to-be graduates are left with a challenge, which is to go forth to love and dignify all they encounter, and this call to action is already being demonstrated by this remarkable group of students.



What cuties! Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students at **Saint Mary of Mount Carmel School in Dunmore** danced and sang for family and friends at the school's annual Christmas concert.



In the days before his big trip around the world, Santa and Mrs. Claus stopped by **Holy Family Academy in Hazleton** to express their gratitude to the cafeteria team for the great service and dedication they provide to the HFA students and faculty.