



# *The Catholic Light*

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

April 2, 2026

*Happy Easter!*

## **Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper to begin Sacred Paschal Triduum**

### **Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper**

*Celebrated by  
Bishop Joseph C. Bambera*

Thursday, April 2

5:30 p.m.

Cathedral of Saint Peter



The three most sacred days of the Church's liturgical year, known as the Sacred Paschal Triduum, begin today with the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper.

The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will celebrate a Pontifical Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, which will include the Rite of the Washing of Feet, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

On Good Friday, by a most ancient tradition, the Church does not celebrate the sacraments at all, except for Penance and Anointing of the Sick.

The Commemoration of the Passion and Death of the Lord will be celebrated by Bishop Bambera at the Cathedral of Saint Peter on Friday at 12:10 p.m.

Holy Saturday, April 4, is the day that the Church waits at the Lord's tomb in prayer, meditating on his passion and death and awaiting his resurrection.

Bishop Bambera will be the principal celebrant of the Easter Vigil Mass at the Cathedral beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord is the most joyous day in the Church year. The joy overflows into the 50 days of the Easter season, which concludes on Pentecost Sunday.

On Easter Sunday, Bishop Bambera will celebrate a Pontifical Mass at 10:00 a.m. at the Cathedral.

[Click Here to Read About All of Bishop Bambera's Holy Week Masses at the Cathedral of Saint Peter](#)

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**Catholic Television to broadcast  
Pontifical Masses of the Sacred  
Paschal Triduum from Scranton  
and beyond**

# **HOLY THURSDAY CTV BROADCASTS**

**3:30 a.m.**

**Chrism Mass in Rome**

**8:00 a.m.**

**Morning Prayer from Cathedral of  
Saint Peter, Scranton**

**5:30 p.m.**

**Pontifical Evening Mass of the Lord's  
Supper from Cathedral of Saint Peter,  
Scranton**

**10:00 p.m.**

**Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper  
from Basilica of Saint John Lateran**



# **GOOD FRIDAY CTV BROADCASTS**

**8:00 a.m.**

**Morning Prayer from Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton**

**11:00 a.m.**

**Commemoration of the Lord's Passion from Rome**

**(Note: This broadcast will transition to local at 12:09 p.m.)**

**12:10 p.m.**

**Commemoration of the Lord's Passion from the Cathedral  
of Saint Peter, Scranton**

**3:00 p.m.**

**Commemoration of the Lord's Passion from the Basilica  
of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in  
Washington, D.C.**

**5:00 p.m.**

**Way of the Cross from the Cathedral of Saint Peter,  
Scranton**

**6:30 p.m.**

**Way of the Cross from Rome**

**8:00 p.m.**

**Commemoration of the Lord's Passion from Rome**

**11:00 p.m.**

**Torchlight Stations of the Cross from Lourdes, France**



# **HOLY SATURDAY CTV BROADCASTS**

**8:00 a.m.**

**Morning Prayer from Cathedral of Saint  
Peter, Scranton**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Easter Vigil from the Holy Sepulchre in  
Jerusalem**

**3:00 p.m.**

**Easter Vigil Mass from Rome**

**8:00 p.m.**

**Easter Vigil Mass from Cathedral of  
Saint Peter, Scranton**



# EASTER SUNDAY CTV BROADCASTS

**4:15 a.m.**

Solemn Mass of Easter Sunday from Rome

**6:00 a.m.**

Urbi Et Orbi: Message and Blessing to the World

**8:00 a.m.**

Solemn Mass of Easter Sunday from EWTN at Our Lady of the Angels Chapel in Irondale, AL

**10:00 a.m.**

Pontifical Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord from the Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton

**Noon**

Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord from the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

**5:00 p.m.**

Rebroadcast of Easter Sunday Mass from the Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton

**6:30 p.m.**

Easter Sunday Mass from the Passionists in New York

**7:00 p.m.**

Rebroadcast of Easter Sunday Mass from Rome



As the Sacred Paschal Triduum gets underway on Thursday, count on CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton to keep our sick and homebound parishioners connected through live broadcasts from the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton and beyond.

Please refer to the upcoming TV broadcasts for each day on the graphic above, or click the link below to view the information on the Diocese of Scranton website.

[Click Here to Share the CTV: Catholic Television Broadcast Schedule from the Diocese of Scranton Website](#)

**On this Holy Thursday, join us at the  
Altar of Repose in parishes across  
the Diocese this evening**

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON  
**VOCATIONS**

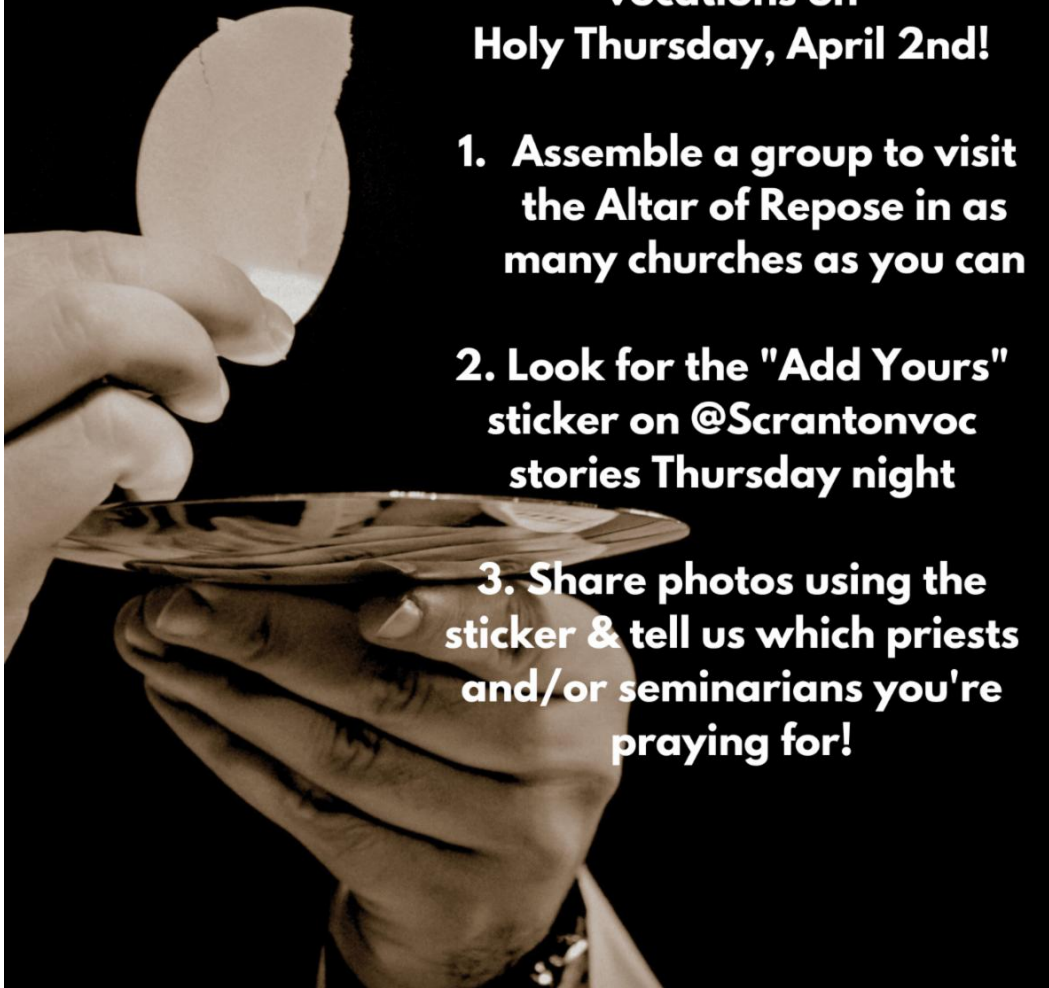


# “Get Up and Pray”

Luke 22:46

Join us in praying for  
vocations on  
**Holy Thursday, April 2nd!**

1. Assemble a group to visit the Altar of Repose in as many churches as you can
2. Look for the "Add Yours" sticker on @Scrantonvoc stories Thursday night
3. Share photos using the sticker & tell us which priests and/or seminarians you're praying for!



**“Why are you sleeping?” he asked them.  
“Get up and pray so that you will not fall into  
temptation” (Luke 22:46)**

At the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, the Church celebrates the institution of the Eucharist and Christ giving the Twelve Apostles and their successors the authority to be ministers of the Sacrament. At the end of Mass, the Eucharist is taken in solemn procession to an Altar of Repose.

At the Altar of Repose, parishioners keep vigil in silent prayer and adoration, recalling our Lord's agony in the Garden of Gethsemane and his rebuke to his disciples: "What? Could you not watch one hour with me?"

On Holy Thursday in particular, Catholics are encouraged to pray for priests and seminarians – that they be holy messengers of hope, reconciliation and peace.

This Holy Thursday, April 2, the Diocese of Scranton is inviting you to participate on a prayer journey and is asking you to share that journey on social media.

Invite your family, friends or assemble a group of people from your parish (young adults are especially encouraged to participate) to visit the Altar of Repose in several different churches in your community.

[Click Here For a Full Listing Parish-By-Parish of Times for the Altar of Repose](#)

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**'In this dark hour of history,' do not shy away from your mission, Pope Leo XIV said at Holy Thursday Chrism Mass**



Pope Leo XIV urged Catholics to reject comfort, power and domination and instead embrace a mission rooted in self-giving love, even when it requires risk, vulnerability and suffering.

As Catholics prepare for Easter on Holy Thursday, Pope Leo also called on the faithful in his homily to overcome fear and a sense of powerlessness in responding to the world's crises.

“In this dark hour of history, it has pleased God to send us to spread the fragrance of Christ where the stench of death reigns,” he said April 2 at St. Peter’s Basilica during Mass. “Let us renew our ‘yes’ to this mission that calls for unity and brings peace.”

While grounding his remarks in the teaching of his predecessors, saints and clergy, the pope in this homily placed particular emphasis on the Church’s mission through his own eyes as a missionary.

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

## **Pope Leo XIV to carry cross at all 14 Stations of Colosseum Way of the Cross**



Pope Leo XIV will carry the cross himself through all 14 stations of the Way of the Cross at Rome's Colosseum on the first Good Friday of his pontificate.

It will be the first time that a pope has carried the cross for every station in the Via Crucis since the tradition was revived at the site more than six decades ago.

The 70-year-old pope's predecessors Pope Benedict XVI and St. John Paul II carried the cross only at the opening and closing of the Way of the Cross at the Colosseum. Pope Francis presided over the Via Crucis from the nearby Palatine Hill and in his final years did not attend at all due to declining health.

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

## **Chrism Mass in Scranton draws priests together in unity and mission**



Priests from around the Diocese of Scranton gathered at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton on Tuesday, March 31, 2026, to celebrate one of the most anticipated liturgies of the year - the Chrism Mass.

In his homily, the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, acknowledged the many challenges facing the world today, including war, division, and personal suffering, while emphasizing that the Church's gathering is a powerful sign of hope rooted in Jesus Christ. He reminded the faithful that God remains present and active, offering grace and peace even in difficult times.

The Bishop also spoke directly to the priests gathered, encouraging them to remain steadfast in their ministry despite ongoing challenges. He reminded them that their role is not to carry the burden alone, but to trust in Christ, whose mission they are called to serve.

Highlighting signs of hope within the Diocese, the Bishop's homily also pointed to lives transformed through parish ministry, a growing number of individuals (more than 300) who will enter the Church this year in parishes at the Easter Vigil, and an increase in young men discerning a vocation to the priesthood.

[Click Here to Read Bishop Bambera's Homily from the 2026 Chrism Mass](#)

[Click Here to View a Photo Album from the 2026 Chrism Mass](#)

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**On first Palm Sunday, Pope Leo says  
Jesus cries out from the cross  
against war**



In his first Palm Sunday homily, Pope Leo XIV proclaimed that Jesus, the King of Peace, embraces all suffering in human history and cries out from the cross against war.

“Brothers and sisters, this is our God: Jesus, King of Peace, who rejects war, whom no one can use to justify war,” the pope said in St. Peter’s Square March 29.

“He does not listen to the prayers of those who wage war, but rejects them, saying: ‘Even though you make many prayers, I will not listen: your hands are full of blood’ (Is 1:15).”

Pope Leo repeated the phrase “King of Peace” seven times throughout his homily, weaving it through different moments of the Passion of Christ, pointing to Jesus as a victim of unjust violence who never took up arms in his own defense.

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

**Israel to allow Church leaders to  
celebrate Easter at Holy Sites, Latin  
Patriarchate says**



The Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem said an agreement has been reached with Israeli authorities to allow Holy Week and Easter celebrations to take place at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher after they were initially barred from celebrating Palm Sunday.

In a statement published March 30, the Latin patriarchate said that “access for representatives of the Churches has been secured in order to conduct the liturgies and ceremonies and to preserve the ancient Easter traditions at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher.”

“Naturally, and in light of the current state of war, the existing restrictions on public gatherings remain in force for the time being. Accordingly, the Churches will ensure that the liturgies and prayers are broadcast live to the faithful in the Holy Land and throughout the world,” the statement read.

The agreement was reached a day after Israeli police barred Cardinal Pizzaballa and Father Francesco Ielpo, the custos of the Holy Land, from entering the church March 29, drawing global condemnation.

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

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## **'Proclaim the Gospel of Life,' Pope Leo says in first papal visit to Monaco in modern era**



In the principality known for super yachts and sports cars, Pope Leo XIV urged Monaco's wealthy citizens to remember the poor and protect every human life, calling on them to remember that the Last Judgment "places the poor at its center."

"Within your community, many people hold positions of considerable influence in the economic and financial spheres," Pope Leo said in his speech from the balcony of the Prince's Palace of Monaco March 28.

"The kingdom of God, to which Jesus dedicated his life ... comes among us and shakes up the unjust configurations of power — those structures of sin that create chasms between the poor and the rich, between the privileged and the discarded," he said.

Pope Leo became the first pope in modern history to visit Monaco March 28, traveling the streets of the famed Formula 1 Monaco Grand Prix Circuit by popemobile, instead of by race car, to meet the faithful of the tiny Catholic Mediterranean principality.

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

## **Diocese to hold annual Healing Mass for Survivors of Abuse April 9**

### **HEALING MASS FOR SURVIVORS OF ABUSE**



**Thursday, April 9, 2026  
12:10 p.m.  
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton**

**Mass will be broadcast live on CTV: Catholic Television and livestream on the Diocese of Scranton website, YouTube Channel and social media platforms for those unable to attend.**

The month of April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. It is a time to recognize the importance of families and communities working together to prevent child mistreatment.

The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will celebrate a Healing Mass for Survivors of Abuse at 12:10 p.m. on Thursday, April 9, 2026, at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

The Healing Mass provides space for those affected by abuse to find solace, strength, and support. Through prayer, reflection, and healing, the Diocese of Scranton remains committed to offering care and compassion to survivors.

The Mass will be broadcast live on CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton and livestream on the Diocese of Scranton website, YouTube channel and social media.

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

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