



# *The Catholic Light*

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

June 25, 2026

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**CTV: Catholic Television  
broadcasts 'Conversation with the  
Called' featuring Rev. Mr. Jan  
Carlo Perez ahead of Ordination**



*Ordination Mass  
of  
Rev. Mr. Jan Carlo Perez*

*Saturday, June 27, 2026  
10:00 a.m.*

*Cathedral of Saint Peter  
315 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton*

 **DIOCESE OF  
SCRANTON**

From encountering Sacred Scripture as a student at Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School to developing a deep love for Jesus Christ during Eucharistic Adoration at Saint Matthew Parish in East Stroudsburg, Rev. Mr. Jan Carlo Pérez reflects on his journey to the priesthood in an interview with CTV: Catholic Television.

This Saturday, June 27, that journey will reach a significant milestone when the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, ordains Pérez to the Priesthood for service in the Diocese of Scranton during a 10:00 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

All are invited to attend.

The Ordination Mass is one of the most significant celebrations in the life of the local Church.

During the Rite of Ordination, Pérez will publicly promise obedience to Bishop Bambera and his successors, prostrate himself before the altar during the Litany of the Saints, and receive the laying on of hands and Prayer of Ordination. His hands will then be anointed with Sacred Chrism, setting them apart for priestly ministry and the celebration of the sacraments.

[Click Here to Watch the Full CTV: Catholic Television Interview with Rev. Mr. Jan Carlo Perez](#)

## **New priests share journeys of discernment and discipleship that led to 2026 ordinations**



Father James Musgrave III, 39, a Detroit native who is one of more than 400 men ordained to the priesthood in the United

States this year, came late not only to his discernment, but also to faith itself.

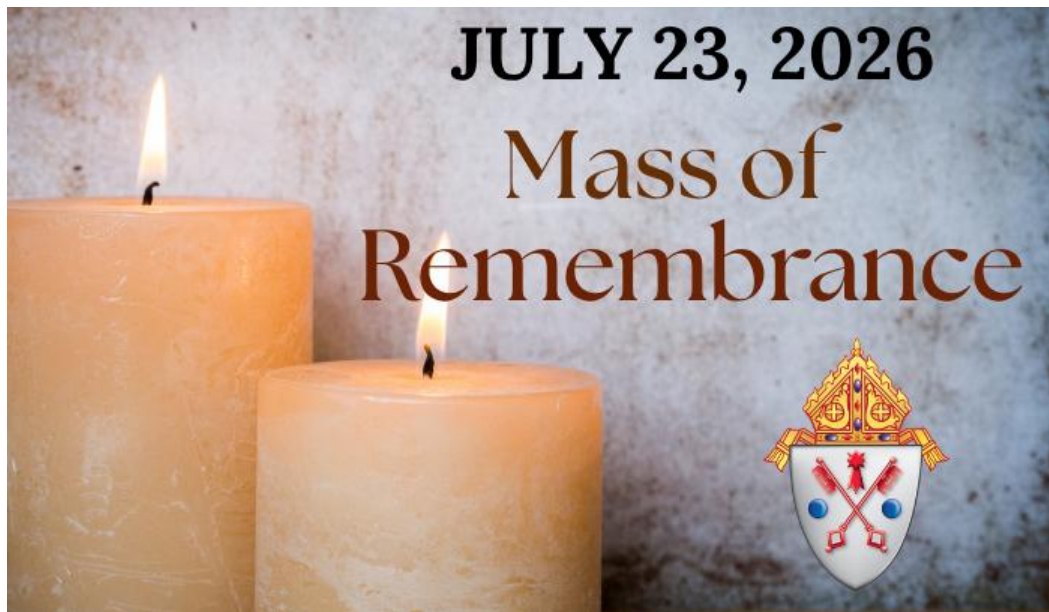
He grew up as a “none” and was not baptized until he was 25.

That, according to the annual survey of new priests conducted by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University, puts him in a tiny group. Overall, 93% of the survey respondents said they had been baptized Catholic as infants.

Although Father Musgrave attended Detroit Catholic Central High School, “I had different priorities at the time,” he told OSV News. “I didn’t take it seriously,” but recalls now that he “always felt most at home in the Catholic Church.”

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

## **Bishop Bambera to celebrate annual Mass of Remembrance July 23**



The Diocese of Scranton's annual Mass of Remembrance will take place on Thursday, July 23, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

This Mass is offered for family and friends of those who have died in tragedy, especially through murder, suicide and accident.

The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will serve as principal celebrant of the Mass.

To register the name of your loved one for this liturgy, please contact the Diocesan Office for Parish Life at (570) 207-2213, no later than Friday, July 10, 2026.

CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton will provide live coverage of the Mass of Remembrance. The Mass will also be livestream on the Diocese of Scranton website, YouTube channel and across all social media platforms.

[Click Here to Share this Information from the Diocese of Scranton website](#)

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## **Sunday's Wedding Anniversary Mass to celebrate marriages of 163 couples**



# WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Sunday, June 28th, 2026

2:30pm

Cathedral of St. Peter

315 Wyoming Ave, Scranton PA 18503

Celebrating Milestone Anniversaries:

10  
YEARS

25  
YEARS

40  
YEARS

50  
YEARS

To register, please visit [www.dioceseofscranton.org](http://www.dioceseofscranton.org)  
or call the Office for Parish Life at (570) 207-2213

A total of 163 couples who are celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries this year will be recognized at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton on Sunday, June 28, 2026.

The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will serve as principal celebrant and homilist for the Diocese of Scranton's annual Wedding Anniversary Mass that this year recognizes married couples who are celebrating their 10th, 25th, 40th and 50th anniversaries.

The Mass will begin at 2:30 p.m.

In all, the couples registered to attend the Mass will signify 6,250 years of married life.

Marriage is a vocation to holiness. All marriages can grow in knowledge, faith, joy, and love. Whether a married couple is just starting out or has fifty years (or more) under their belt, the Church can always help strengthen and bless your marriage.

This year, a couple who has been married for 69 years is planning to attend the Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass.

In all, couples from 69 different parishes plan to participate.

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

## **Hundreds participate in World Refugee Day 2026 in Scranton**



Hundreds of people came together on Saturday, June 20, 2026, to join together for an afternoon of unity, culture, and belonging at the annual World Refugee Day Celebration in Scranton.

This year's event was held at the Diocese of Scranton Pastoral Center, 330 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, from 2-5 p.m.

The free, family-friendly event offered a number of festivities, including a lively mix of cultural music, dance performances, international food, refreshments, games, giveaways, and engaging activities for children.

World Refugee Day is an annual commemoration established by the United Nations to honor the strength and resilience of refugees and displaced persons who have been forced to flee their homes due to conflict, persecution, and violence. It is also a moment to reaffirm our shared responsibility to support and welcome displaced individuals seeking safety and a new beginning.

The theme of the 2026 World Refugee Day Celebration in Scranton remained, "A World Where Refugees Are Always Welcomed." This theme remains critical because it is a call to action, urging us all to embrace refugees as neighbors, friends, and contributors to our shared future.

More than 25 community agencies worked together to put on the 2026 World Refugee Day celebration.

[Click Here to Watch a Video from CTV: Catholic Television from World Refugee Day 2026](#)

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**First faith250 multifaith gathering  
planned for July 13**

# AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL

KATHARINE LEE BATES  
1895, 1911

**Before America turns 250, let's talk to one another.**

Join neighbors from across Northeastern Pennsylvania for an evening of meaningful conversation, fellowship, and light refreshments as we explore America the Beautiful and the values that unite us.

**All faiths. All backgrounds. All are welcome.**

**Monday, July 13 | 7:00 PM**

**Temple Hesed | 1 Knox Road | Scranton**

Free to Attend  Kindly RSVP  
[tinyurl.com/faith250-7-13-26](http://tinyurl.com/faith250-7-13-26)

or scan the code 



 **faith250**

Imagine rooms full of people from multiple faiths enjoying respectful dialogue, food and fellowship; gatherings to consider the meaning and blessing of our country's founding. We can create this together: a once-in-a-generation opportunity for

neighbors to meet neighbors, a chance to regain unity through conversation about some of America's most inspiring words.

### **What is faith250?**

faith250 is a program that invites faith leaders and communities across the country to form clusters of congregations to act as sacred spaces for listening to one another, clarifying our shared civic values, and celebrating our hopes for America.

We can shore up the bonds between citizens because houses of worship are one of the few places where neighbors, friends, citizens, and newcomers can regularly meet face to face; where we study text and seek truth together; and where our varied faith traditions each remind us to see the Divine in every human being.

Our work centers on some of America's sacred texts — The Declaration of Independence, Emma Lazarus's The New Colossus, America the Beautiful, and Frederick Douglass's address, What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?

### **How can I participate?**

The first gathering is July 13, 2026, 7PM at Temple Hessed, 1 Knox Road, Scranton. All are welcome to attend!

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

[Click Here to Register for the faith250 Session on July 13](#)

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**Catholic Charismatic Renewal to  
host 44th annual Conference July  
31-Aug. 2 in Scranton**



# Catholic Charismatic Renewal Diocese of Scranton

P.O. Box 3306 • Scranton, PA 18505-0306



## CONFERENCE 2026

### University of Scranton

Scranton, Pennsylvania

**JULY 31, AUGUST 1 & 2, 2026**

Full weekend and Single day  
registrations, on-site meals, and  
overnight accommodations available.



Together let us *experience*  
the transforming love of God;  
a renewed commitment to faith;  
a new mission!



He will lead us to *holiness*  
and empower our daily  
walk with Him!



In Him we find *rest, joy,*  
*strength, peace, and grace!*



Come and *experience* the  
difference an entire weekend  
spent with God can make!

**NEW THIS YEAR!**  
**SPANISH TRACK**  
**ON SATURDAY,**  
**AUGUST 1**



*“Let everything that has breath  
praise the Lord.”* — Psalm 150:6



For Information:

**570-344-2214**



[ccrscranton.org/conference](http://ccrscranton.org/conference)

The Scranton Catholic Charismatic Conference will be held on  
July 31 and August 1 & 2, at the University of Scranton.

National and International speakers will be sharing the Word of God. Contemporary music ministry from Baltimore will be joining us. Mass is celebrated daily; Adoration and a service of prayer will be held on Saturday night.

More information and full weekend registrations are available at [ccrscranton.org](http://ccrscranton.org) and day registrations are available all weekend at the John Long Center on campus.

Meals are also available for purchase on campus.

Bishop Bambera will be celebrating Mass on Sunday at 1:30 pm.

Call the CCR office (570-344-2214) for additional information.

All are welcome!

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

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## **Previously unpublished homilies of Pope Benedict XVI released in English**



An English edition of a book of Pope Benedict XVI's previously unpublished homilies has been released by the Vatican.

“The Lord Holds Us by the Hand” offers readers a collection of Pope Benedict’s homilies, allowing them to hear once again the voice of Joseph Ratzinger as preacher, theologian and pastor.

The volume, originally published in Italian by the Vatican Publishing House, is titled, “The Lord Holds Us by the Hand.” It is a compilation of homilies delivered between 2005 and 2017 during the liturgical seasons of Advent, Lent and Easter.

The book includes a preface by Archbishop Georg Gänswein, Pope Benedict’s former personal secretary, and an introduction by Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, president of the Joseph Ratzinger-Benedict XVI Vatican Foundation.

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

## Religious, civic leaders to join Pope Leo for Liberty Medal Award ceremony



As the U.S. marks its 250th anniversary, a number of faith and civic leaders will be on hand as Pope Leo XIV accepts – via livestream from the Vatican – a major honor for his efforts to promote religious liberty, along with freedom of expression and conscience.

The National Constitution Center will bestow its Liberty Medal on Pope Leo July 3 during a public ceremony outside its location at Independence Mall in Philadelphia, part of Independence National Historical Park, home to several sites of historical significance in the nation’s founding.

Established in 1988 to mark the bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution, and hosted by the center since 2006, the Liberty Medal honors both individuals and organizations “who strive to

secure the blessings of liberty to people around the globe,” said the National Constitution Center in a June 22 media advisory listing the event’s key speakers.

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

## USCCB and pro-life leaders: Abortion pills remain key post- Dobbs challenge



On the fourth anniversary of the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* decision by the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Catholic bishops’ conference and pro-life leaders pointed to abortion pills as among key challenges for the cause of protecting the right to life of unborn children.

The Supreme Court issued the Dobbs ruling June 24, 2022, in a case involving a Mississippi law banning abortion after 15 weeks, where the state directly challenged the high court's previous abortion-related precedents in Roe v. Wade and Planned Parenthood v. Casey. The high court ultimately overturned its own prior rulings, undoing nearly a half-century of its own precedent that held abortion to be a constitutional right.

In the years since that ruling, efforts to restrict or protect access to abortion have stalled in Congress. As a candidate in 2024, President Donald Trump stated his view that abortion should be a matter for the states rather than Congress, and said he would veto abortion restrictions if they reached his desk.

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

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**Final weekend of June to feature  
parish festivals and events in  
Ashley, Brodheadsville, Dorrance,  
Dupont and Dushore**

# ST. LEO THE GREAT

## Summer Festival!

PARISH GROUNDS  
33 Manhattan Street, Ashley



**June 26 & 27**  
**FRIDAY • 6-11PM**  
**SATURDAY • 5-10PM**

*Live Entertainment!*

Friday: Flaxy Morgan  
Saturday: Hangin' With F.O.G.



### **STANDS INCLUDE:**

**Ashley Boutique • Children's Arts & Crafts**  
**Fun For Kids • Groceries & More**  
**Grandma's Liquor Closet • Kay's Kids**  
**Lollipop Stand • Instant Bingo • Pot Luck**  
**Show Me The Money • Corn Hole • Cup Stand**

**AIR CONDITIONED BINGO**

~ **HOMEMADE FOOD** ~

~ **BAKE SALE** ~

~ **CHILDREN'S GAMES** ~

*Rain or  
Shine!*

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE

*Rain or  
Shine!*

# ANNUAL FLEA MARKET

**June 26 • 27 • 28**

**Friday: 8 AM-3 PM • Saturday: 9 AM-3 PM • Sunday: Noon-4PM**

*Something for everyone! Collectibles & Vintage, furniture, jewelry, handbags, tools, toys, shoes, holiday, books, crafts, frames, prints, lawn & garden, electronics, and much more!*

***Don't forget our delicious foods and be sure to check out the basket raffle!***

**Turkey BBQ, Haluski, Kielbasa on a stick, Empanadas, Fries, Hamburgers & Hotdogs, Baked Goods, and so many more tasty treats!**

The Church is accepting Donations of gently used goods on  
Fri., June 5/Noon-6PM • Sat., June 6/9AM-2PM • Mon., June 8/10AM-4PM

**[www.qopchurch.org](http://www.qopchurch.org) or 610-681-6137. • Our Lady Queen of Peace Church  
Route 209 & Weir Lake Road. Brodheadsville, PA.**

*St. Mary's of Dorrance*

# **SUMMER BAZAAR**

**HOMEMADE ETHNIC FOODS & FAMILY FUN!**

**GPS: 3529 St. Mary's Road, Wapwallopen • 868-5855**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 27 • 4:00 - 10:00 PM**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 28 • 2:00 - 9:00 PM**

*Enjoy homemade pierogi, halushki, potato pancakes,  
clam chowder, bake sale treats, & more!*



**Saturday: The Untouchables**  
6:00 - 10:00 pm

**Sunday: The Legends Band**  
5:00 - 9:00 pm



# Sacred Heart of Jesus Church

215 LACKAWANNA AVENUE, DUPONT PA

*Join us for  
Mass at  
4 pm!*

## POLISH PICNIC

Saturday, June 27  
1 PM - 8 PM

Located in the Picnic Grove

### FOOD OFFERINGS INCLUDE:

Pierogi • Golombki • Halushki • Kielbasi  
Potato Pancakes • and more!

### THIS FAMILY FRIENDLY PICNIC OFFERS:

Delicious Ethnic Foods • Theme Baskets • Games of Chance  
Beer Tent • Polka Music and much more!



IHM Parish, Dushore

# ANNUAL PICNIC

and

## Fireworks Show

**Saturday, June 27, 5-10pm** - Fireworks Show @ 9:30pm.  
Food stands and adult games will be open.

**Sunday, June 28, Noon-5pm** - All stands open.  
Chicken BBQ Dinner available.



Under the tent in Dushore above St Basil's Church on the Hill  
*Shuttle service to & from church parking lot*

Donations appreciated to offset the cost of the Fireworks Show.  
<https://ihmdushore.com/donate> or by mail at P.O. Box 307, Dushore, Pa 18614

**DJ & Music, Theme Baskets, Cash & Whiskey Raffles, Big 6, Instant Bingo**

The 2026 summer festival, picnic and bazaar season has kicked off and you and your family are invited to enjoy great food and fellowship all summer long!

All parishes in the Diocese of Scranton have been invited to send their picnic information to the Diocese of Scranton Communications Department for promotion.

[Click Here for the Full Listing of 2026 Parish Festivals, Picnics and Bazaars](#)

Follow us on Social Media...



Diocese of Scranton

300 Wyoming Avenue,  
Scranton, PA 18503-1279  
(570) 207-2238  
[www.dioceseofscranton.org](http://www.dioceseofscranton.org)