

The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

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Shine His Light

*Catholic schools prepare for
a new year of faith, growth
and opportunity*

SCRANTON – In the coming days, classrooms in the Diocese of Scranton’s 19 Catholic schools will once again be filled with students, teachers, and the excitement of a new academic year.

This year, a simple invitation will serve as a guiding light for the year ahead: *Shine His Light*.

That is the theme for the 2026-2027 school year, calling students, families, faculty, staff, and administrators to live out their Catholic faith not simply in words, but through acts of service, compassion and love.

Rooted in Jesus’ words from the Gospel of Matthew – “Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven” (5:16) – the theme will be highlighted throughout the school year through the principles of Catholic Social Teaching.

Each month, students will explore a unique way of shining Christ’s light, beginning with solidarity. Throughout the rest of the school year, they will also



focus on respect for life and the dignity of the human person; care for the poor and vulnerable; call to family, community and participation; rights and responsibilities; care for God’s creation; and ending with the dignity of work and rights of workers.

The goal is not simply to teach students about the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching, but to help them put their faith into action.

“Catholic education is about forming the whole person,” Kristen Donohue, Diocesan Secretary for

Catholic Education/Superintendent said. “As we continue to implement our Catholic Schools Strategic Growth Plan, we want our students to understand their faith is not something they simply learn about in a classroom or experience at Mass on a weekend. It is something they live. Focusing on the theme ‘Shine His Light,’ we will help our students see Christ in others, serve those in need and recognize they have a responsibility to bring His light into the world.”

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Pennsylvania March for Life to bring thousands to Harrisburg on Sept. 21



HARRISBURG – When people from across Pennsylvania gather at the State Capitol next month for the 2026 Pennsylvania March for Life, they will do more than simply march.

They will publicly affirm the dignity and God-given worth of every human life.

The sixth annual Pennsylvania March for Life is scheduled to take place on Monday, Sept. 21, 2026, bringing people from throughout the Commonwealth together for a day of prayer and public witness on behalf of life.

Organized by the Pennsylvania Family Institute and the national March for Life organization, the event invites participants to “be a voice for the voiceless” and stand for

the dignity of every person, beginning in the womb.

For Catholics attending from the Diocese of Scranton and elsewhere, the day will offer an opportunity to unite that public witness with prayer and the celebration of the Eucharist.

The Diocese of Harrisburg will host overnight Eucharistic Adoration at the Cathedral of Saint Patrick beginning at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 20, and continuing through 9:00 a.m. Monday.

On Monday morning, Benediction will be celebrated at 9:00 a.m., followed by the March for Life Opening Mass at 9:30 a.m. at the Cathedral.

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The Catholic Light

(ISSN 0164-9418)

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE
DIOCESE OF SCRANTON



DIOCESE OF SCRANTON MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Catholic community of the Diocese of Scranton, are called through Baptism to imitate the servant leadership of Jesus Christ. In union with Our Holy Father, the Pope, we proclaim the Gospel faithfully, celebrate the sacraments joyfully, and boldly promote life, justice and peace in northeastern and north central Pennsylvania.

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Diocese continues to invest in school facility work

SCRANTON - The Diocese of Scranton Catholic School System is continuing to invest money in much-needed infrastructure projects. With 19 schools across five counties, and with many of those buildings approaching a century old, the Catholic Schools Strategic Growth Plan made it clear that deferred maintenance had accumulated for many years.

For the second summer in a row, renovations have been underway across multiple schools with the help of \$8 million in financing.

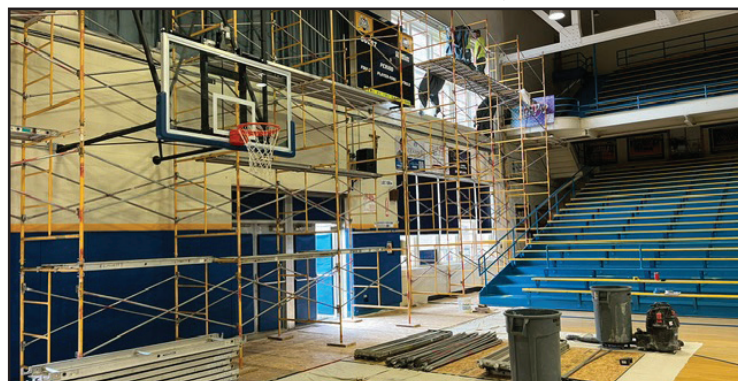
After concentrating on roofs last summer, this year many projects were focused on heating/cooling systems and replacing windows. Some of the more significant projects completed over the summer are highlighted below.

HOLY REDEEMER HIGH SCHOOL, WILKES-BARRE



Multiple projects have been completed, including eliminating storm water back-up in the basement, replacing 97 windows and providing enhanced lighting in the school auditorium.

GOOD SHEPHERD ACADEMY, KINGSTON



New windows were installed in the school gymnasium and stairwells. The new windows have transformed the gym by restoring natural light, creating a brighter, more welcoming environment.

SAINT JUDE SCHOOL, MOUNTAIN TOP



Site work, including storm water drainage improvements, were made across the school campus. The school also received a new boiler for its lower classroom wing and heating/cooling upgrades for its gym.

OUR LADY OF PEACE SCHOOL, CLARKS GREEN



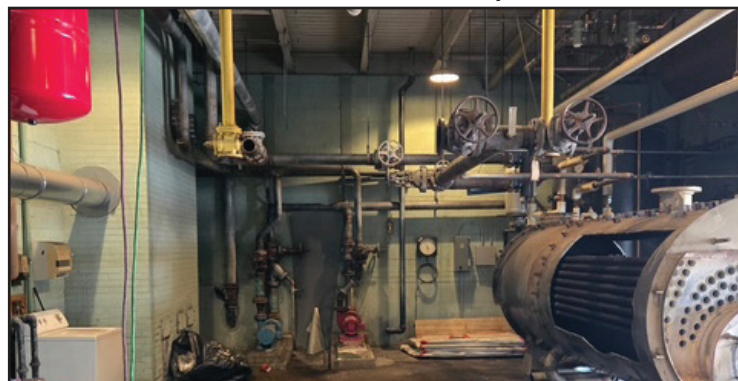
The back parking lot has been resurfaced and designed to drain storm water which will create a safer environment for students. New walkways between the school and Saint Gregory Parish were installed.

NOTRE DAME SCHOOLS, EAST STROUDSBURG



The boiler was replaced, and the elementary and high school heating and cooling systems were separated. The fire alarm system also was upgraded, replacing an outdated system from the 1960s.

HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL, DUNMORE



The school's two original boilers from the 1960s are being replaced with energy efficient boilers along with upgrading its hot water. In addition, the school's fire alarm system received an upgrade.

Diocese welcomes three new Catholic school principals this year

SCRANTON – As the new school year begins, three Catholic schools in the Diocese of Scranton are welcoming new principals.

Kathy Maguire will serve as principal of All Saints Academy in Scranton, Jason Schlingman has taken the helm at Holy Family Academy in Hazleton, and Michael Catrillo has become principal of Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School in East Stroudsburg.

While their paths to Catholic school leadership are different, the three new principals share a common desire to place students at the center of their work while strengthening the faith and academics in their buildings.

For Catrillo, becoming a Catholic school principal is a dream that came unexpectedly after five years of retirement.

A veteran educator entering his 40th year in education, Catrillo spent much of his career in public education, most recently serving as principal of East Stroudsburg High School South. He retired in 2021 and spent the next several years traveling with his wife.

In June, during a conversation with his parish priest, Father Brian J.T. Clarke of Saint Matthew Parish, Catrillo casually mentioned that he had always wanted to lead a Catholic school.

When Father Clarke asked if he was interested in Notre Dame, Catrillo said he felt the Holy Spirit urging him to take the opportunity.

“I want to do this to continue my work with teachers and young people and be able to share my faith with them,” he said.

Catrillo is particularly looking forward to the smaller school environment at Notre Dame, where he hopes to know students and staff personally – greeting students outside, visiting classrooms and talking with them in the cafeteria.



The Diocese of Scranton is welcoming three new principals for the 2026-2027 academic year. Pictured, from left: Charlene Haggerty, Assistant Superintendent; Jason Schlingman, Holy Family Academy; Kathy Maguire, All Saints Academy; Michael Catrillo, Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School; Kristen Donohue, Diocesan Secretary of Catholic Education/ Superintendent; and Christopher Tighe, Assistant Superintendent.

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New initiatives, investments and renewed Catholic identity mark year ahead

Continued from Page 1

The implementation of the ‘Shine His Light’ initiative reflects one of the central priorities outlined in the Diocese’s “Our Faith. Our Students. Our Future” Strategic Growth Plan, which was released in January 2025 following two years of consultation. The plan outlined goals in seven areas for continued growth: Catholic Mission & Identity, Academic Excellence, Governance & Leadership, Enrollment Management, Development, Infrastructure and Financial Stability.

Now in its implementation phase, the plan is increasingly visible throughout the Catholic School System, with work underway to strengthen student support and expand development efforts.

SUPPORTING INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS

Brittany Krupski, the former principal of All Saints Academy in Scranton, has joined the Catholic Schools Administrative Office in a new role of Director of Student Services.

Krupski will oversee student data and enrollment while also working with special programs, including the ABC Council and Individualized Instruction Program.

Her work will further advance the Strategic Growth Plan’s goal of ensuring

that student support services are clearly defined, assessed, and refined so that data can help inform student learning.

“Our goal has always been to look at each student as an individual and use the information we have to understand where that student is and where he or she needs to go next,” Krupski explained.

The Diocese’s use of NWEA Map Growth assessments several times throughout the school year provides educators with valuable information about individual student progress and helps teachers determine what students are ready to learn next.

“Growth data gives our teachers a valuable tool to differentiate instruction and make sure we are meeting students where they are, while helping them reach their full potential,” Krupski added.

The approach reinforces the Diocese’s commitment to academic excellence while recognizing that every student brings different gifts, needs, and challenges into the classroom.

CREATING SAFER SCHOOLS

The new school year will also bring significant investments in safety.

Diocesan Catholic schools recently received more than \$1.1 million in Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) safety grant funding.

This money will support a wide range of projects designed to strengthen security throughout individual school communities.

The awards will support projects including new security cameras, access-control systems, door and classroom locks, exterior lighting, bollards and school resource officers.

The funds will help fulfill the Strategic Growth Plan’s commitment to infrastructure and ensuring that Catholic schools provide safe, secure environments where students can learn and grow.

NEW MODEL FOR LEARNING

The new school year will also bring a notable change to the academic calendar at Saint John Neumann Jr./Sr. High School in Williamsport, where students in grades 6 through 12 will begin a four-day school week.

With the innovative learning model, students will attend classes Monday through Thursday, with extended school days allowing the school to meet and exceed Pennsylvania’s required instructional hours.

Fridays are being reimaged as opportunities for enrichment rather than simply an additional day away from school. Students will have opportunities for academic support, tutoring, internships, college visits, field trips, guest speakers, and other experiences designed to

complement classroom learning.

In line with the Strategic Growth Plan, school leaders believe the change will create new opportunities for academic and personal growth.

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

The Diocese is also continuing to strengthen the financial foundation of Catholic education through advancement and development initiatives.

A new Diocesan advancement and development position specifically for Catholic schools has been established to assist individual schools with third-source funding, philanthropy, and fundraising.

Sandra Snyder is overseeing this effort, concentrating on growth of the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) Program, which provides scholarships for eligible students and makes a Catholic education more accessible to families.

“The EITC Program is an incredible opportunity for individuals and businesses to invest in the future of our students. By redirecting state tax dollars you’re already paying to scholarships, donors can make a Catholic education possible for more families while receiving a 90 percent tax credit,” Snyder said. “We are so grateful for the support we have already received and encourage even more people to take advantage of this opportunity.”

Faith takes to the streets in Old Forge during annual Rosary Procession

OLD FORGE – With a statue of the Blessed Mother leading the way, the faithful of Prince of Peace Parish took their faith beyond the walls of Saint Mary Assumption Church on Sunday, Aug. 9, 2026, participating in an outdoor Rosary Procession.

Following the 10:00 a.m. Mass, parishioners gathered for the annual event, held each year in anticipation of the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The procession is put together by the Knights of Columbus Council 5940 in Old Forge and features a statue of the Blessed Mother mounted on a float designed by the Knights.

“We are celebrating early on patronal feast,” Father Walter

Jenkins, C.S.C., Pastor of Prince of Peace Parish, said. “Our church building is named for the Blessed Virgin Mary under the Assumption, so we had our annual Rosary walk through Old Forge.”

For Father Jenkins, the procession represents more than a cherished tradition. He said it reflects the heritage of the community, particularly its Eastern European and Italian immigrant roots, while offering a visible expression of the Catholic faith.

“We saw our own Bishop recently do the great walk on the Camino in Spain and (highlighted) that sense of being on a journey of faith,” Father Jenkins added. “We’re also making sure that our

presence as a faith community in Old Forge is obvious to the people.”

Deacon James DiSimoni noted that many residents came out of their homes as the procession passed, even if they did not join the walk.

“We were making our presence in the community known,” he said.

Parishioner Robert Gillette, who is also a member of Knights



A float containing a statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary makes its way through the streets of Old Forge on Aug. 9, 2026, as part of an annual Rosary Procession held by Prince of Peace Parish. (Photo/Dan Piazza)

and is something many in the parish and community look forward to.

“That is why we do this outdoors, to bring our faith outside of the church building to members of the community so that they know that we are here for them,” Gillette said.

As participants put one foot in front of the other walking down borough streets and praying the Rosary, participants lifted up in prayer the sick, deceased, downtrodden, and all people of Old Forge, entrusting the community to the intercession of Mary, who always leads the faithful toward her Son.

“She is our mother,” Deacon DiSimoni added. “Who has Jesus’ ear better than Mary?”

of Columbus Council 5940, said the Rosary procession is a tradition that dates back decades

Rosary event to be held Aug. 24 in Scranton

SCRANTON - In a time marked by uncertainty and division, Catholics are being invited to rediscover the power of a familiar prayer that has brought generations closer to Christ and His Blessed Mother.

The Diocese of Scranton will host “Rosary: The Way to Peace, Conversion and Deeper Love of Christ” on Monday, Aug. 24, at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 330 Wyoming Ave., Scranton.

The program will be offered twice, at 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., with a meal provided at each session.

The event will offer participants an opportunity to reflect more deeply on the Rosary and explore practical ways the powerful devotion can foster discipleship and help bring others into a closer relationship with Jesus and Mary.

“The Rosary is one of the most powerful devotions entrusted to us by Our Lady, and in these turbulent times, it remains a sure path to peace, conversion, and deeper love of Christ,” Pope

Leo XIV has said.

The presenter will be Craig Dyke, Director of Programs and Mission Outreach for Holy Cross Family Ministries, a ministry founded by Venerable Patrick Peyton.

Dyke travels throughout the country speaking with ministry leaders, adults and young people about the power of prayer and the Rosary.

The event is intended for anyone who has

a devotion to Mary, loves praying the Rosary or hopes to encourage others to discover the spiritual richness of the devotion.

There is no cost to attend, and the meal will be catered by Caravia in South Abington Township.



FREE Rosary

The Way to Peace, Conversion and Deeper Love of Christ

August 24, 2026

Choose either session

1:00 - 2:30 pm (includes lunch)

6:00 - 7:30 pm (includes dinner)

Diocesan Pastoral Center, Scranton

Register at
ScrantonPrays.com

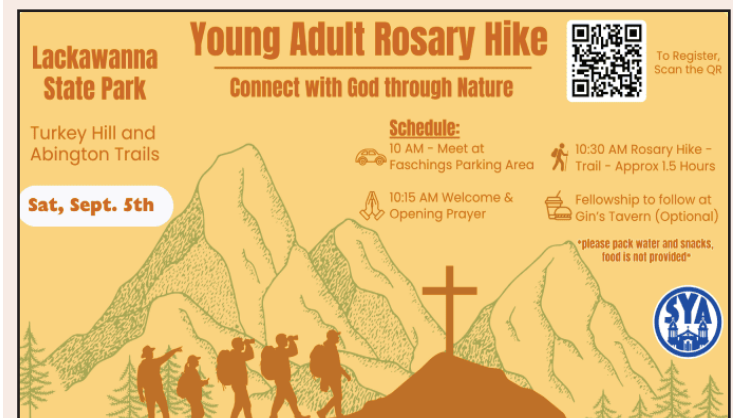
This event is offered at **NO COST** thanks to the generosity of Holy Cross Family Ministries

Advance registration is required. Those interested in attending the Aug. 24 program can register at ScrantonPrays.com.

For additional information call the Diocesan Office for Parish Life at (570) 207-2213.

The event is sponsored by Holy Cross Family Ministries.

Young adults invited to Rosary Hike on Sept. 5



Lackawanna State Park

Young Adult Rosary Hike

Connect with God through Nature

Turkey Hill and Abington Trails

Schedule:

- 10 AM - Meet at Faschings Parking Area
- 10:30 AM Rosary Hike - Trail - Approx 1.5 Hours
- 10:15 AM Welcome & Opening Prayer
- Fellowship to follow at Gin's Tavern (Optional)

Sat, Sept. 5th

please pack water and snacks, food is not provided

To Register, Scan the QR

NORTH ABINGTON TWP.- Young adults from across the Diocese of Scranton are being invited to connect with God through nature!

On Saturday, Sept. 5, 2026, members of the young adult community are being encouraged to participate in a Rosary Hike at Lackawanna State Park.

Hikers will meet up at 10:00 a.m. at the Faschings Parking Area, hold an opening prayer at 10:15 a.m., and begin the hike around 10:30 a.m.

The plan is to hike the Turkey Hill and part of the Abington Trail, which spans about 2.7 miles. Depending on speed, the loop will take approximately 1.5 hours to complete.

Following the hike, all young adults are welcome to join together for fellowship at Gin's Tavern.

Participants are asked to RSVP in advance by visiting the Diocese of Scranton website at dioceseofscranton.org or calling Bridget Maille at (570) 207-2213, ext. 1133.

Mass in Italian, part of La Festa Italiana, to be celebrated Sept. 6

SCRANTON - The annual Mass in Italian will be celebrated on Sunday, Sept. 6, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. in the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

All are welcome to attend.

The liturgy is celebrated in conjunction with La Festa Italiana, which occurs over the Labor Day weekend, Friday through Monday, Sept. 4-7, on Courthouse Square, only one block away.

The Mass in Italian is one of the most cherished traditions of La Festa Italiana, which is celebrating the 50th anniversary of its founding. Priests and volunteers from Italian parishes played a prominent role in organizing and conducting La Festa from its inception in 1976.

The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will preside at this year's liturgy and give the homily.

Reverend David P. Cappelloni, La Festa Chaplain and pastor of Saint John Paul II Parish in Dunmore, will be the principal celebrant.

Concelebrants will include Monsignor Constantine V. Siconolfi, La Festa Chaplain Emeritus, and Reverend Joseph J. Adonizio, who just celebrated his 100th birthday and has been a priest for 70 years.

Deacons from the Diocese will also participate.

The Mass will be broadcast live by CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton and will be rebroadcast on Tuesday, Sept. 8, at 10:30 a.m. and 8 p.m., and Friday, Sept. 11, at 10:30 a.m.

In addition to airing live on CTV, the Mass will be livestream on the Diocese of Scranton website, YouTube channel and on social media platforms. It will also be

available on demand after the live broadcast concludes.

This year's Italian Mass is being offered in memory of all those members and friends of La Festa Italiana who passed away since the last Mass was celebrated, including Carlo J. Celli, Lawrence Chiorazzi, Rocco Cipriano, Vince Marrone, Michael Musheno, Melanie Naro, Ann Marie Noto, Gene "Dempsey" Passarella, Chuck Romano, Charles "Rocky" Sabatelle, Helen Siconolfi, Sam Tomaino, "Uncle" Floyd Vivino and Mayor David Wenzel.

Music ministry for the Italian Mass will be provided by the Saint John Paul II Parish Choir, Dunmore, accompanied by a brass quartet, all directed by Joseph Moffitt.

Dominick DeNaples, mandolin; Patrick Loungo, Nicholas Luongo, Eugene Mentz, organist, and Monica Spishock, timpani, will also accompany.

Ashley Yando-DeFlice is the cantor and the leader of prayer. The featured soloist will be T.J. Capobianco from the New York City Metropolitan Opera.

The lector in Italian will be Anna Gallo, and the lector in English is the Honorable Joseph F. Saporito, Jr.

The Prayer of the Faithful will be led by Diane Alberigi, Atty. Frank T. Blasi and Atty. Frank Castellano.

The offertory gifts will be presented by the Honorable Robert Mazzoni; Robert W. Pettinato, La Festa Founder; Sister Catherine Iacouzze, M.P.F.; along with Mrs. Mary Marino and Mrs. Rosann Bordo Piraino Zaleski, both 100 years old, who never missed a La Festa.

Serving as flag bearers are Mike Linko, UNICO National; Dino Darbenzio, President, Scranton Chapter of UNICO;

and Rich Pirrami, Saint Ubaldo Society.

Patrick Caramanno, Joshua Cillo, Carmen DiPietro Jr., Jonathan A. Eboli, Stephen A. Eboli, Richard Garofalo and Joseph Wentline will be ushers.

At the conclusion of Mass, members of The Italian Colony of Saint Lucy will process out of the Cathedral with a statue of Saint Lucy onto the festival grounds to the Heritage Piazza on Spruce Street.

For news and updates on La Festa Italiana, including the festival entertainment schedule, visit lafestaitaliana.org or visit La Festa's official social media pages on Facebook and Instagram.



WE'RE HAVING A PARTY!

You are invited to Scranton's La Festa Italiana's 50th birthday! Join us for Mass in Italian, Sunday, Sept. 6th, 10 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. Peter. Afterwards, enjoy Italian food, entertainment, culture and much more.

Labor Day Weekend. 

FRIDAY, SEPT. 4TH *To* MONDAY, SEPT. 7TH

INFO & DAILY SCHEDULE: WWW.LAFESTAITALIANA.ORG
COURTHOUSE SQUARE, DOWNTOWN SCRANTON, PA

PRESENTED BY
Lehigh Valley Hospital - Dickson City
part of  **Jefferson Health**

Hispanic Heritage Mass to be held Sept. 19 in Brodheadsville

BRODHEADSVILLE – The Diocese of Scranton will bring together Hispanic Catholics from across northeastern and north central Pennsylvania on Saturday, Sept. 19, 2026, for the sixth annual Hispanic Heritage Mass & Celebration at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish in Brodheadsville.

This year's theme, "Unidos Somos Más" - "United We Are More," reflects both the rich diversity of the Diocese's Hispanic communities and the Catholic faith that unites them. Hispanic Catholics throughout the Diocese represent many countries, cultures and traditions, but together they form one community of faith and one Body of Christ.

The celebration will begin with a noon Mass, with the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, serving as principal celebrant.

A Marian procession following Mass will recognize the deep devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary found throughout Hispanic and Latino cultures. Different communities may honor Mary through

distinct titles and traditions, but their devotion points to the same Mother of Christ and offers a beautiful expression of unity within the Church.

International Catholic evangelist and speaker Salvador Gómez will also be in attendance, sharing a message of faith and hope for families and young people.

The celebration will last well into the afternoon with fellowship featuring food, music, folkloric dance, cultural activities and a youth soccer tournament.

The gathering will take place during National Hispanic Heritage Month, observed Sept. 15 through Oct. 15. First established nationally as a weeklong observance in 1968, Hispanic Heritage Month took its current form two decades later, when Congress expanded the commemoration to a 30-day period. Its mid-September beginning also coincides with the independence anniversaries of several Latin American nations.

For the Diocese of Scranton, Hispanic Heritage Month provides an opportunity not only to celebrate where



**MASS AND CELEBRATION OF
HISPANIC HERITAGE**

SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE PARISH
1402 ROUTE 209, BRODHEADSVILLE, PA

MASS AT NOON
MARIAN PROCESSION & BIG FAMILY FESTIVAL FOLLOWING MASS

our communities come from, but also to recognize the gifts Hispanic Catholics bring to the life and future of the Church.

That is the deeper meaning of "Unidos Somos Más."

It is an invitation to strengthen

relationships across cultures and parishes, celebrate the traditions that make each community unique, and recognize that our shared faith in Jesus Christ is greater than anything that separates us.

Misa por la Herencia Hispana se celebrará el 19 de septiembre en Brodheadsville

BRODHEADSVILLE – La Diócesis de Scranton reunirá a los católicos hispanos de todo el noreste y centro-norte de Pensilvania el sábado 19 de septiembre de 2026, para la sexta Misa y Celebración Anual de la Herencia Hispana en la Parroquia Nuestra Señora Reina de la Paz en Brodheadsville.

El tema de este año, "Unidos Somos Más", refleja tanto la rica diversidad de las comunidades hispanas de la Diócesis como la fe católica que las une. Los católicos hispanos de toda la Diócesis representan a muchos países, culturas y tradiciones, pero juntos forman una sola comunidad de fe y un solo Cuerpo de Cristo.

La celebración comenzará con una Misa al mediodía, con el Reverendísimo Joseph C. Bambera, Obispo de Scranton, como celebrante principal.

Una procesión mariana después de la Misa reconocerá la profunda devoción a la Santísima Virgen María presente en las culturas hispanas y latinas. Las diferentes comunidades pueden honrar a María bajo distintos títulos y mediante diversas

tradiciones, pero su devoción señala a la misma Madre de Cristo y ofrece una hermosa expresión de unidad dentro de la Iglesia.

El evangelista y conferencista católico internacional Salvador Gómez también estará presente y compartirá un mensaje de fe y esperanza para las familias y los jóvenes.

La celebración se extenderá hasta bien entrada la tarde, con un encuentro fraterno que incluirá comida, música, bailes folclóricos, actividades culturales y un torneo de fútbol juvenil.

El encuentro tendrá lugar durante el Mes Nacional de la Herencia Hispana, que se celebra del 15 de septiembre al 15 de octubre. Establecido por primera vez a nivel nacional como una celebración de una semana en 1968, el Mes de la Herencia Hispana adoptó su forma actual dos décadas después, cuando el Congreso amplió la conmemoración a un período de 30 días. Su comienzo a mediados de septiembre también coincide con los aniversarios de independencia de varias naciones latinoamericanas.

Para la Diócesis de Scranton, el



**MISA Y CELEBRACIÓN DE
HERENCIA HISPANA**

19 DE SEPTIEMBRE DE 2026

PARROQUIA NUESTRA SEÑORA REINA DE LA PAZ
1402 RUTA 209, BRODHEADSVILLE, PA

MISA AL MEDIODÍA
PROCESIÓN MARIANA Y GRAN FESTIVAL FAMILIAR DESPUÉS DE LA MISA

Mes de la Herencia Hispana ofrece una oportunidad no solo para celebrar los lugares de donde provienen nuestras comunidades, sino también para reconocer los dones que los católicos hispanos aportan a la vida y al futuro de la Iglesia.

Ese es el significado más profundo de

"Unidos Somos Más."

Es una invitación a fortalecer las relaciones entre culturas y parroquias, celebrar las tradiciones que hacen única a cada comunidad y reconocer que nuestra fe compartida en Jesucristo es más grande que cualquier cosa que nos pueda separar.

Rescued from fire scene, statue of Blessed Mother finds new home of honor

LARKSVILLE – More than three years after a devastating fire destroyed the former Saint Hedwig’s Church in Kingston, a cherished symbol of the parish has found a new home.

On Sunday, July 19, 2026, former parishioners and members of the Knights of Columbus gathered at Saint Hedwig’s Cemetery in Larksville to dedicate and bless a statue of the Blessed Mother, which was rescued from the fire scene, preserving an important piece of the parish’s history for future generations.

The statue, which now stands near the entrance to the cemetery, has been placed on a new base that is inscribed with the words, “Mother of Hope ... Pray for Our Loved Ones.”

When fire engulfed the vacant church in February 2023, many people praised the quick-thinking of members of the Edwardsville Public Works Department who saved the special statue which had graced the church grounds for decades.



On July 19, 2026, Knights of Columbus participate in a blessing ceremony for a statue of the Blessed Mother at Saint Hedwig’s Cemetery in Larksville. The statue was rescued from a church fire in 2023. (Photo/Dan Piazza)

For decades, people paused at the statue outside the church to offer prayers and seek the Blessed Mother’s intercession. It had become one of the parish’s most recognizable landmarks.

“As the church was being torn down, the statue was on the ground and the people that were watching the demolition wanted the statue to be saved. They didn’t want the rubble and things to engulf it, so the folks from Edwardsville borough were kind enough to come with equipment and they took the statue out of the wreckage,” Ed Raver of the Knights of Columbus said.

Over the next two years, members of the Assumpta Council 3987 and Our Lady of Czestochowa Assembly 1928 of the Knights of Columbus worked alongside borough officials and local craftsmen to secure the statue, construct a permanent pedestal, and relocate it to Saint Hedwig’s Cemetery.

The cemetery was chosen as a fitting location because it is the final resting place for generations of parishioners from the parish.

“This is the cemetery for the parish. The statue was purchased by a former pastor (Father Richard Zavacki) as a tribute to his mother,” Raver added. “We see it as a place for people who were members of the parish to come and reflect and find peace.”

For former parishioner Michael Stretanski, who became a member of Saint Hedwig’s Parish when he married in 1969, the dedication brought back memories of a parish known for its close-knit community, vibrant choir, and popular annual bazaar.

“It gives us a memory to hang onto,” Stretanski said. “We no longer have a church. The church was closed and now it’s just an empty lot, and there is nothing to remind us ... But to have Mary here is just a lovely gesture. It’s a beautiful spot for her.”

Continued on Page 14

Speakers announced for 2026 Pennsylvania March for Life

Continued from Page 1

The March for Life Rally will begin at 11:00 a.m. on the steps of the Capitol, followed by the march through Harrisburg at noon. A Closing Mass will then be celebrated at the Cathedral of Saint Patrick at 1:30 p.m.

The rally will feature former Pennsylvania U.S. Senator Rick Santorum as its featured speaker. Other scheduled speakers include Dr. Monique Ruberu, an OB/GYN and board member of 40 Days for Life; Michael Geer, President of the Pennsylvania Family Institute; and Archbishop Nelson Perez of Philadelphia.

The March for Life is open to people of all ages and backgrounds who wish to stand together in support of the sanctity of human life.

For those traveling from northeastern Pennsylvania, the Diocese of Scranton’s Office for Parish Life once again is coordinating a bus trip to Harrisburg, with pick-up locations in both Scranton and Wilkes-Barre. Space is limited and advance registration is required.

Details about the Diocesan bus trip and other transportation options are included in the accompanying information boxes.

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON BUS TRIP

The Diocese of Scranton’s Office for Parish Life is coordinating transportation to the Pennsylvania March for Life from two locations.

A \$20 registration fee includes round-trip bus transportation, a hat, snacks and water. Participants should bring a lunch, as meals will not be provided.

SCRANTON

Divine Mercy Parish, 312 Davis St.

Pickup: 7:15 a.m.

Bus Departs: 7:45 a.m.

WILKES-BARRE

Saint Nicholas-Saint Mary Parish, 226 S. Washington St.

Pickup: 8:15 a.m.

Bus Departs: 8:30 a.m.

The bus is scheduled to arrive at the Capitol Complex at approximately 10:30 a.m. and will depart Harrisburg at 3:00 p.m. following the Closing Mass, returning to Wilkes-Barre at approximately 5:00 p.m. and Scranton at approximately 5:40 p.m.

Space is limited, so early registration is encouraged.

Cars are allowed to remain at both locations until the bus returns.

Register online at dioceseofscranton.org or contact Bridget Maille, Program Coordinator for Family Life, at (570) 207-2213, ext. 1133.

ADDITIONAL BUS TRANSPORTATION

POCONO PINES

Saint Maximilian Kolbe Parish, 5112 Pocono Crest Rd.

Departure: 8:30 a.m.

Cost: \$35

Contact: Stephen G. Glinane, Bus Captain

(570) 977-4617

sglinane2013@yahoo.com

SUGARLOAF TOWNSHIP

Upper Lot of St. John Bosco Parish, 573 State Route 93

Departure: 8:30 a.m.

Cost: \$20

Contact: Maryann Lawhon, Bus Captain

Sponsored By: The Voice of John Ministry

(570) 788-5646

maryannlawhon@yahoo.com

SAYRE/WYSOX

Pickup Locations: Valley Shopping Plaza in Sayre; Grace Christian Academy in Ulster; Bradford Towne Centre in Towanda

Departure Times Beginning at 6:30 a.m.

Cost: Free

Sponsored By: Knights of Columbus/Bradford County Pennsylvanians for Human Life/Rep. Dan Meuser

Contact: Frank Socha, Bus Captain

(570) 772-6524

fes701@yahoo.com

Father William Culnane dies at age 91; served the Diocese of Scranton for 66 years

SUSQUEHANNA — The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, served as principal celebrant of a Pontifical Mass of Christian Burial for Father William R. Culnane on what would have been the late priest's 92nd birthday, Aug. 3, at Saint John the Evangelist Church in Susquehanna.

Pastor emeritus of the former Saint Dominic Parish in Wilkes-Barre and a priest of the Diocese of Scranton for 66 years, Father Culnane died July 13 at Allied Services Skilled Nursing Center in Scranton.

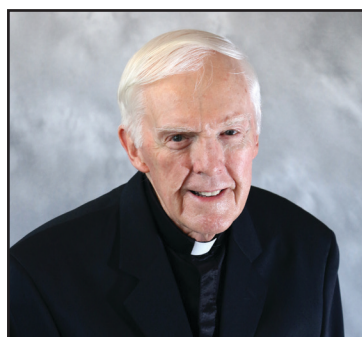
Born Aug. 3, 1934, in Susquehanna, son of the late Charles Sr. and Mary Jane Moran Culnane, Father Culnane was a graduate of Laurel Hill Academy, Susquehanna, and attended Mount Saint Mary's College in

Emmitsburg, Md.

He completed his seminary education and preparatory formation for the priesthood at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, Philadelphia, and was ordained a priest for the Scranton Diocese on June 11, 1960, in the Cathedral of Saint Peter by the late Most Rev. Jerome D. Hannan, fifth Bishop of Scranton.

Following ordination, Father Culnane served in a summer assignment as assistant pastor *pro tem* at Saint Matthew Parish, East Stroudsburg, after which he was appointed assistant pastor at Annunciation Parish, Williamsport.

He would subsequently serve in assistant pastorships at the parishes of Saint Rose, Carbondale, and Saint Dominic, Wilkes-Barre.



Father William R. Culnane

In September 1971, Father Culnane was named director of religious formation for Dunmore Central Catholic High School, while residing at Saint Paul Parish in Scranton. During this time, he pursued further studies and received a master's degree from Marywood College (now University), Scranton, eventually earning his doctorate from Boston College in Massachusetts.

Father Culnane would receive his first pastoral appointment, to Saint Francis Xavier Parish in Friendsville, in June 1978. He subsequently served as chaplain for College Misericordia in Dallas, where he was assigned in August 1980.

A year later, Father Culnane was named pastor of Saint Dominic's in Wilkes-Barre, where he shepherded the parish flock for 28 years until his retirement and appointment as pastor emeritus in July 2009.

During his leisure time, the Scranton Diocesan priest enjoyed fishing and sailing, making memories with his expansive family and loved ones, and following the college basketball scene — especially his beloved Boston College Golden Eagles.

"Father Bill had a passion for

sailing and his time spent at Coxton Lake," funeral Mass homilist Father Bob Simon remarked, adding that his close friend and confrere captained his own sailboat since 1964. "It was here he could enjoy the beauty of nature, harness the wind as few can, renew himself near his hometown of Susquehanna, and spend time with and really show his care, love, and interest for his family."

Father Culnane is survived by numerous nieces and nephews, Chuck, Mare, Bill (Nancy), Tom (Kay), Jane (Tony), Mary (Tig), John (Lori), Cathy (Randy), and their extended families.

In addition to his parents, he also was preceded in death by two brothers, Thomas and Charles Jr. (Jane).

Interment was held at Saint John's Cemetery in Susquehanna.

Father Kevin Mulhern, priest of the Scranton Diocese for 50 years, dies at age 80

DUNMORE — The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, served as principal celebrant of a Pontifical Mass of Christian Burial for Father Kevin P. Mulhern on July 30 at Saint Mary of Mount Carmel Church in Dunmore.

Father Mulhern, who celebrated his Golden Jubilee of Holy Ordination this year and recently marked his 80th birthday, died July 24 at Hospice of the Sacred Heart in Dunmore.

Born May 30, 1946, in Wilkes-Barre, son of the late John and Elizabeth Collins Mulhern, Father Mulhern was a graduate of Saint Mary's High School, Wilkes-Barre, and attended nearby King's College, where he earned his bachelor's degree in sociology in 1969.

He continued his post-graduate studies at Seton Hall University in New Jersey, obtaining a master's degree in elementary education in 1972.

Having completed his theological training and preparatory

studies for the priesthood at Saint John Seminary in Brighton, Mass., and Boston Theological Institute, Father Mulhern was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Scranton on May 1, 1976, in the Cathedral of Saint Peter by the late Most Rev. J. Carroll McCormick, sixth Bishop of Scranton.

Following ordination, Father served in his summer assignment as assistant pastor of Saint Thomas More Parish, Lake Ariel, after which he was appointed assistant pastor at Saint Ignatius Parish, Kingston.

During 1978-1982, he served as hospital chaplain and spiritual head of the Pastoral Department at Mercy Hospital in Scranton. He subsequently ministered as an assistant pastor at Holy Rosary Parish, Scranton, until 1986, when he was appointed as assistant pastor of Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace Parish in Hawley.

In September 1988, Father Mulhern received his first pastorate, at Saints Peter & Paul Parish in Towanda, where he



Father Kevin P. Mulhern

served until being assigned as pastor of Saint John the Evangelist Parish in Honesdale in June 1992.

After shepherding the Honesdale parish community for nine years, he was named pastor of Saint Rose Parish in Carbondale, in July 2001, serving until 2003, when he was appointed pastor of Gate of Heaven Parish in Dallas.

While remaining as the Gate of Heaven pastor, Father Mulhern was assigned the administrative duties at Our Lady of Victory Parish in Harveys Lake in June 2006. Three years later, he was named pastor of Our Lady of the Abingtons Parish in Dalton.

After serving as senior priest at Our Lady of the Snows Parish, Clarks Summit, for one year (2010-11), he received the pastoral assignment for the parishes of Saint Robert Bellarmine, Wilkes-Barre, and Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Buttonwood, Hanover Township.

In November 2017, Father Mulhern was granted early retirement for reasons of health, but accepted the appointment as sacramental minister at Saint Rita Parish, Gouldsboro, where he served until March 2020.

In addition to his parochial duties, Father served the Scranton Diocese as spiritual moderator of Catholic Cemeteries and Dean of the Wayne Deanery. He was also a proud Fourth Degree member of the Knights of Columbus, Pittston Council 372.

While serving in his favorite ministry — fulfilling the sacramental and spiritual needs of his large family as their personal "chaplain" — Father Mulhern enjoyed traveling extensively.

Most notably, he cherished family trips to New York City; his ancestral visit to Ireland, where he had the opportunity to celebrate Mass at the venerable Shrine of Our Lady of Knock; and, especially, his private audience with Pope Saint John Paul II at the Vatican.

Father is survived by his four sisters, Beth Ann Draminski (Edward), Columbia, Md.; Mary Alice Gallagher, Dallas, Tex.; Jeanne Mulcahy, Forty Fort; and twin Kathleen Storz (Erwin), Rockaway, N.J.; two brothers, John Mulhern (Patricia), Palatine, Ill.; and Charles Mulhern, Myrtle Beach, S.C.; sister-in-law Kathie Mulhern, Novato, Calif.; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

In addition to his parents, he was also preceded in death by a brother, Robert Mulhern; and two brothers-in-law, Thomas Gallagher and Jerry Mulcahy.

Interment was conducted at Saint Mary's Cemetery in Wilkes-Barre.

With gratitude, a century of faith remembered at Our Lady of Grace Church

HAZLETON – For more than a century, Catholics walked through the doors of Our Lady of Grace Church in Hazleton to grow in their faith.

Over its history, thousands of children were baptized, received First Holy Communion and Confirmation in the church, while weddings were celebrated beneath its soaring arches, and funerals brought together loved ones to pray for those who died.

On Sunday afternoon, Aug. 2, 2026, those same doors closed for the final time.

A standing room-only crowd, filled with hundreds of parishioners and former parishioners filled Our Lady of Grace Church for a Closing Mass that brought together memories spanning more than 115 years of faith.

“It is, in fact, the most difficult moment in my 27 years of priestly ministry,” Father Anthony Generose, Pastor of Our Lady of Peace Parish, told the faithful at the start of his homily for the Closing Mass. “Recently, someone asked me if I’m feeling sad. Yes, I’m feeling the sorrow of one in mourning.”

Father Generose acknowledged the profound grief many parishioners have experienced throughout the past year as they prepared for the church’s closure.

“I mourn with others among us or over those whose very reference to life as an individual and as a family are deeply rooted in this sanctuary,” he said. “How often I have heard in this last year and a half, ‘I lived up the street from this church all my life,’ or ‘I received all my



Parishioners stand for the reading of the Gospel during the Closing Mass of Our Lady of Grace Church in Hazleton on Aug. 2, 2026. (Photo/Dan Piazza)

sacraments from here,’ or ‘This just breaks my heart.’”

While recognizing the sadness of the day, Father Generose encouraged parishioners not to lose sight of the hope found in Jesus Christ.

“There is hope,” he said. “Without Christ, this church would not have been a place of grace and holiness.”

Reminding those gathered that they don’t go to Mass because of a building or priest – but because of Jesus – Father Generose emphasized that God’s grace continues wherever the faithful gather to celebrate the Eucharist.

The closing of Our Lady of Grace Church follows more than a year of consultation and discernment that began after the July 2025 consolidation of Most Precious Blood Parish and Queen of Heaven Parish into the newly established Our Lady of Peace Parish. Throughout that process, parish leaders evaluated financial data, demographic trends, sacramental activity and the long-term condition of parish facilities.

Among the most significant findings was an independent facility assessment estimating

that Our Lady of Grace Church would require more than \$3.6 million in repairs over the coming years, including nearly \$2.5 million in immediate needs. At the same time, changing demographics within Hazleton have reshaped the pastoral needs of the community. While the city’s growing Hispanic Catholic population has outgrown the available space at Our Lady of Grace and will now worship at Saints Cyril and Methodius Parish, participation among the church’s English-speaking community has steadily declined.

For many people who attended the Closing Mass, it marked the end of a deeply personal chapter in their faith lives.

“It was very emotional,” Robert Umbriac, whose family connection to the church stretches back to its construction.

Umbriac, who now lives in Danville, recalled that his grandfather was among several men who placed their homes up as collateral to help finance the church’s construction in the early 1900s.

“He was the father of 15 children, and he still put the house up as collateral,” Umbriac said. “I was baptized in that church. I made my First Communion in that church.”

His wife, Mary Susan, reflected on attending kindergarten at the parish school and how those early years shaped her faith.

“It solidified my Catholic faith, even back when I was just five years old,” she said. “I hope the church’s legacy lives on. This world really needs God right now.”

Following the Liturgy of the Eucharist, the priests and deacons in attendance, numbering more than a dozen in all, recited special prayers over many parts of the church.

Everyone in attendance was then invited to approach and venerate the altar by touching or kissing it or offering a final prayer. Afterward, the deacon locked the church doors for the final time the church’s long-time sacristan tied a bow across the doors.

Although worship at Our Lady of Grace Church has come to an end, Father Generose said its spirit will continue to live on through the people whose faith was formed within its walls.

One specific example of this took place on the weekend following the closure. Our Lady of Peace Parish at Most Precious Blood Church renamed its annual festival which marked its 127th anniversary this year.

“We’re bringing along the saints that were mentioned in the final prayers, Saint Mauro, which is Our Lady of Grace’s patronal saint, and Saint Nazarius and Saint Aniello, who belonged to the other Italian parishes that closed in 2009 and came here. Since they’re all from the same region of Italy, now we’re calling it the ‘Madonna del Monte & Saints of Cilento Festival.’”



As part of the closing ritual, Father Anthony Generose, right, recites a prayer at the baptismal font. (Photo/Dan Piazza)



Before leaving Our Lady of Grace Church, parishioners were invited to reverence the altar. (Photo/Dan Piazza)

102 years later, Solemn Novena to Saint Ann continues to unite generations

SCRANTON – For more than a century, generations of faithful have made their way to West Scranton each summer, carrying with them prayers, petitions and hopes – and the Solemn Novena to Saint Ann continues to give them a place to bring it all.

From July 17-26, 2026, thousands of people once again gathered at Saint Ann Basilica for the annual Solemn Novena to Saint Ann, filling the grounds for nine days of prayer and preaching and culminating with the Feast Day of Saint Ann and a Closing Mass celebrated by the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton.

This year's Novena challenged attendees to consider how faith speaks to a rapidly changing world.

The theme for the 2026 Novena was "Reading the Signs of the Times," with Passionist priests Father Rick Frechette, C.P., and Father Jack Conley, C.P., offering reflections throughout the observance.

Father Rick encouraged the faithful to look honestly at the blessings and challenges surrounding them and to consider how they could live the Gospel faithfully in an increasingly complicated world.

He spoke about the ways technology, artificial intelligence and constant connectivity can contribute to alienation, while also emphasizing the distinctly



Bishop Joseph C. Bambera celebrates the Liturgy of the Eucharist at the Closing Mass of the Solemn Novena to Saint Ann on July 26, 2026. (Photo/Mike Melisky)

human gifts of compassion and community.

"We are made in the image of Trinity, a togetherness, a community," Father Rick said in his reflection for the Novena's first day, urging those gathered to bring their personal and collective needs to Saint Ann and seek God's guidance in navigating the difficulties of the times.

Father Jack similarly challenged the faithful not to allow their faith to remain something learned only in childhood, but instead to continue growing in understanding and wisdom. His reflections explored faith formation, doubt, and the importance of listening for the voice of God amid the many competing messages of life.

As the Novena ended, Father Jack reminded pilgrims that faith is not static.

"As we conclude our Novena this year, we allow God to continue to transform us," he said.

Domenica Matuszewski of Saint Ann Basilica Parish has attended the Novena since she was a child. She describes it as a highlight of her family's summer and said she has experienced prayers answered through Saint Ann's intercession.

"There is a peacefulness and a sacredness when you are here," she said.

James Kryzanowski of Saint Teresa of Calcutta Parish in Scranton said he first started attending the Novena with his parents, aunts and uncles when he was young. Now a parent himself, he said it is important for future generations to understand the significance of Saint Ann and the Novena.

"It's almost like a family get-together," he said. "You see people that you haven't seen for a while. It has become a family tradition."

Young people also played an active role in this year's celebration. Many volunteered to serve the crowds who visited the parish's food pavilion.

"I love the environment here. I love the people here. Everybody is so sweet and so nice," Olivia Wasp, a young adult from Visitation of the Blessed Virgin



Faithful gather on the grounds of the Basilica of the National Shrine of Saint Ann in West Scranton for the Closing Mass of the 102nd Solemn Novena to Saint Ann on July 26, 2026. (Photo/Mike Melisky)

Mary Parish in Dickson City said.

"You definitely meet new people," Gregg Russo, a young adult from Saint Patrick Parish in Scranton, added. "It's very fun to do. You make friends."

At the July 26 Closing Mass of the Novena, Bishop Bambera reflected on the parables of the buried treasure and the pearl of great value – proclaimed during the 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time – as a fitting conclusion to the Novena.

The true treasures of life, the Bishop explained, are not things that can be bought, built or brokered, but the values rooted in Jesus Christ, including love, justice, mercy, faithfulness,



Very Rev. James Price, C.P., Provincial, Saint Paul of the Cross Province, blesses Lizzie Breznay with a relic of Saint Ann on July 26, 2026. (Photo/Mike Melisky)

gratitude and peace.

"For as much as we struggle to find our way," Bishop Bambera said. "Your presence on this hillside for the past nine days is a powerful sign to our complicated world about where we are willing to invest our lives."

That investment, he said, is ultimately not in a place or thing, but "in the person of Jesus Christ."

Novena reflections available in print and video

Did you miss an important moment from one of this year's Novena reflections, or do you simply absorb information better by reading it?

Full text versions of all the Novena preaching talks are now available online. The reflections are also available through on-demand video.

Visit StAnnsNovena.org/#PREACHERS to dive deeper into this year's messages!



Rev. Paul R. Fagan, C.P., offers a special blessing for young people during the Children's Mass of the Novena on July 25, 2026. (Photo/Dan Piazza)

WALKING WITH THE CRUCIFIED OF TODAY

Passionist Father Rick Frechette continues mission of serving Haiti's most vulnerable

SCRANTON – Father Rick Frechette, C.P., D.O., was in West Scranton in late July to preach during the 102nd annual Solemn Novena to Saint Ann. While his visit gave him a chance to reconnect with fellow priests and longtime friends, it was only a brief break from the work that has consumed his priesthood for nearly four decades.

As founder of the Saint Luke Foundation for Haiti, Father Rick has spent much of his life serving some of the poorest and most vulnerable people in the world, providing medical care, building schools and providing much needed humanitarian outreach.

“Over these 37 years that I’ve been there, we’ve built two hospitals, 35 schools and seven clinics,” he said.

While those numbers are impressive and significant, Father Rick’s own ministry remains intentionally close to the people he serves.

“I don’t work in our institutions. I don’t want to take employment away from a Haitian physician,” he explained. “I work front-line work, medical work off the back of a truck in poor areas.”

That firsthand ministry has given Father Rick a unique perspective on the worsening humanitarian crisis gripping Haiti – a crisis he says has placed millions of innocent people in the



Father Rick Frechette, C.P., D.O., blesses a woman with a relic of Saint Ann during the 2026 Solemn Novena. (Photo Courtesy: St. Ann’s Solemn Novena)

hands of armed gangs.

“I think primarily for Passionists, our number one concern is the crucified people of today. The people of Haiti, because of their history, certainly qualify as crucified today,” Father Rick said. “When I had the chance to be able to work with them and for them, I embraced it.”

Since the end of the COVID-19 pandemic, Father Rick says international terrorist gangs have expanded their control across Haiti, particularly in and around the capital of Port-au-Prince.

The international airport in the capital has also been closed to American carriers for nearly two years, he said, forcing missionaries and other traveling in and out of Haiti to find alternate routes through the northern part of the country.

But the disruption of travel is only a small part of the crisis.

“More importantly, huge areas of the city

have been devastated by attacks and fires,” Father Rick said.

Among the places destroyed by gang violence was the original home for the dying established by Mother Teresa. More recently, a chapel associated with that ministry was also destroyed.

The impact on Haiti’s health care system has been devastating. Father Rick said approximately 70 percent of hospitals are now closed, while many missionaries have been forced to leave the country.

More than 1 million people have also been internally displaced.

“There has been no major success in trying to curtail the activity of the gangs,” he said.

For Father Rick, the tragedy is particularly painful because of the people caught in the middle. Yet, he is quick to point out that the story of Haiti cannot be reduced to poverty, violence and despair.

One of the things that has struck him throughout his years of ministry is what happens when Haitians are given an opportunity to flourish outside the conditions that have constrained them at home.



Saint Luke’s Hospital in Haiti offers emergency and critical care services and features a cholera treatment center. (Photo/St. Luke Foundation for Haiti)



For more than 20 years, the Saint Luke Education Program in Haiti has provided free academic and professional training. (Photo/St. Luke Foundation for Haiti)



Those who would like to help Father Rick and the Saint Luke Foundation continue working in Haiti can learn more about the mission and ways to provide support at StLukeHaiti.org.

“Almost any Haitian that can get themselves out of Haiti, thrives where they go,” he said, pointing to Haitians succeeding in medicine, culture, music and even politics in places such as Canada.

“Haiti stifles life for the Haitian person, so that is what our circumstances are,” he continued.

After recognizing the immense need in Haiti, Father Rick founded the Saint Luke Foundation which provides health care, education and humanitarian assistance to some of Haiti’s least-served populations.

Today, the Saint Luke Foundation operates independently while collaborating with international partners to strengthen its efforts in agriculture, community development, and disaster relief.

Even as the security crisis has intensified, the work has continued.

This summer, for example, the foundation launched a series of camps for children living in displacement sites around Port-au-Prince. The initiative began June 8 when approximately 150 children and vulnerable community members participated

in a three-week camp.

The children received nutritious meals, refreshments, participated in recreational activities, prayer and received support from a dedicated team.

For Father Rick, these efforts are about more than simply meeting immediate needs. They are about restoring dignity and hope to people who have endured extraordinary suffering.

That same message was at the heart of what he shared with the faithful during the Solemn Novena to Saint Ann July 17-26, as he urged people to resist the forces that divide and dehumanize them and instead embrace the authentic life that Christ offers.



Life in Haiti is difficult and dangerous as children are often lured into gangs. Volunteers work to uplift the most marginalized children in society. (Photo/St. Luke Foundation for Haiti)



The Saint Luke outreach teams deliver food and clean water, bringing humanitarian aid to areas marginalized by poverty and unemployment. (Photo/St. Luke Foundation for Haiti)

Catholic Men's Conference to be held in October

WILKES-BARRE - Members of the 'Be A Catholic Man Conference' recently gathered to plan for its eleventh annual Catholic Men's Conference.

This year's theme will be "Just Be Catholic."

The event will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 10, 2026, at Holy Redeemer High School, 159 South Pennsylvania Avenue, Wilkes-Barre.

The conference will feature nationally known speakers and conclude with Mass offered by the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton.

This year's conference speakers include the Most Rev. Joseph Coffey, Auxiliary Bishop for the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA; author and evangelist John Martignoni; and commentator Brian Holdsworth.

All men are invited and encouraged to attend to go further in their imitation of Christ for the sake of themselves and their loved ones.

Tickets are available now.

Tickets are \$30 if ordered before Sept. 21, and \$40 if ordered after that date.

Student tickets are \$15.

Priests, Deacons, and Seminarians are free.

To order tickets, mail a check to "Be A Catholic Man," P.O. Box 669, Wyalusing, PA, 18853.

Write "Men's Conference" on the check memo and include one's contact information, e-mail, and parish.

Participants can also register online at BeACatholicMan.com.

For more information, call (570) 721-0872.

JUST BE CATHOLIC



Stand fast with the Church founded by Jesus Christ, Who "is the same yesterday, today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8).

Through the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church, God has called men, not to be lukewarm, but to become strong in order to contend with a hostile world.

Christus Vincit!

11TH ANNUAL DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

BE A CATHOLIC MAN CONFERENCE



Saturday, OCT. 10, 2026

8 AM - 3:00 PM Holy Redeemer High School
159 South Penna. Ave., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701



Bishop Joseph Bambera



Bishop Joseph Coffey is the auxiliary bishop for the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA. He has dedicated his life to ministry, focusing on spiritual guidance and pastoral care, especially for military personnel and their families. His compassionate leadership and commitment to strengthening faith communities have earned him widespread respect.



John Martignoni, author of Blue Collar Apologetics, is a full time evangelist. He hosts the "EWTN Open Line" radio show. He is the founder/president of Queen of Heaven Catholic Radio; 1480 AM in Birmingham, Alabama. He's founder/president of Bible Christian Society and director of the Office of the New Evangelization in the Diocese of Birmingham. He is married and has four children.



Brian Holdsworth, a convert to the Catholic Church, is a writer, speaker, commentator, and evangelist producing content in the service of the mission of the Church. He has a substantial online and social media presence including Youtube videos. He lives in Edmonton, Alberta with his wife and 7 children.

Information & Online Registration: **BeACatholicMan.com**

Contact: Mike Kilmer 570-721-0872 • mkilmer@thekilmergroup.com
\$40 (Early Bird \$30 until 9/15/26), Student \$15, Priest/Deacon FREE Morning coffee & box lunch included



Pope Leo says Sunday is ‘foundation and kernel’ of liturgical year

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Pope Leo XIV urged Catholics to gather in person for Sunday Mass and called for working conditions that allow people to attend, saying Sunday is “the foundation and kernel of the whole liturgical year.”

“To sanctify Sunday, it is essential to celebrate the Eucharist,” the pope said at his Aug. 12 general audience in St. Peter’s Basilica. “In this regard, I urge everyone to

seek the best possible conditions so that even those who are unable to take time off work on Sundays may take part in Holy Mass.”

Continuing his series on the documents of the Second Vatican Council, Pope Leo reflected on ‘Sacrosanctum Concilium,’ the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy. The liturgical year is not a static representation of past events, but an ongoing encounter with Christ, he said.

At its core is Easter, when Christ rose from the dead, and for that reason, the pope said, it is “essential for the faithful to sanctify the Lord’s Day by gathering to celebrate the Eucharist.”

“May our active participation and steadfast witness help us to enter ever more deeply into the reality of belonging to Christ, and may we anticipate with hope his coming in glory,” he said in his remarks to English-speaking pilgrims.

Pope Leo recalled St. John Paul II’s description of Sunday as the “weekly Easter” and “the day of the Lord, the day of the Church, the day of man and, finally, the ‘day of days.’”

Even in languages such as English and German, where the name for Sunday refers to the “day of the sun,” Pope Leo said Christians can discern a reference to Christ, “the true ‘sun of righteousness’ who enlightens every person.”

Listening to the word of God, receiving

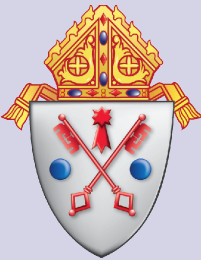
the body of Christ and gathering together on Sundays, the pope said, allow “the Christian community” to make “visible its communion with the Lord” and bear witness to its fidelity to Christ and the Church.

“This assembly cannot be substituted by a solely virtual presence, nor can it be reduced to a merely passive gathering,” he said, stressing that the liturgical assembly is fulfilled through the active participation of the faithful.

Addressing Spanish-speaking pilgrims, Pope Leo also expressed his closeness to people affected by the powerful earthquake that struck western Colombia Aug. 10, killing hundreds and leaving many others injured or missing. Rescue efforts are still underway.

“While I pray to the Lord for the eternal rest of the deceased, I assure you of my prayers for their families and all those affected by this tragedy,” he said. “I express my gratitude to all those working in the rescue efforts.”

Notice to the Christian Faithful of the Diocese of Scranton



Mr. Christopher R. Clay, formerly an incardinated priest of the Diocese of Scranton, has been dispensed from the clerical state, effective July 24, 2026, following credible accusations of sexual abuse of a minor.

Mr. Clay is no longer a member of the clergy, nor has any of the privileges or responsibilities of the priesthood. A priest who has been dispensed from the clerical state may not celebrate Mass or confer the Sacraments. He may no longer be called “Father” or wear clerical attire.

Mr. Clay was ordained to the Priesthood in June 1998, by the Most Rev. James C. Timlin, Eighth Bishop of Scranton, and was a member of the Oratory of Saint Philip Neri, a religious community founded in Mount Pocono by Reverend Peter M.J. Stravinskis.

Mr. Clay was originally removed from the exercise of priestly ministry in June 2004, in response to a credible accusation of sexual abuse of a minor. In July 2024, the Diocese became aware of another accusation of sexual abuse of a minor made against Mr. Clay. In both instances, the Diocese of Scranton followed its established protocol of notifying law enforcement of the allegations and reporting all findings to the Holy See.

To be clear, since the original accusation in 2004, Mr. Clay has been prohibited from the exercise of priestly ministry and celebrating the sacraments with any member of the Christian Faithful or anyone else. He has not possessed the faculties to preach the Word of God or hear confessions. He was also placed – and remains – on the Diocese of Scranton’s list of “Credibly Accused Individuals” suspected of sexually assaulting minors.

In March 2026, Mr. Clay submitted a petition to the Most Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, requesting dispensation from the clerical state, which has been granted and is final.

Mr. Clay now lives privately in Dallas, Texas, and is no longer affiliated with the Diocese of Scranton in any official capacity.

The Diocese of Scranton has contacted both the Diocese of Dallas and the Diocese of Fort Worth to make them aware of the Holy Father’s decision and Mr. Clay’s status.



BISHOP BAMBERA’S SCHEDULE

- August 20** - Catholic Ministries Appeal 2026 Regional Kick-Off Reception
Communion of Saints Parish, Pittston, 6:00 p.m.
- August 25** - Catholic Ministries Appeal 2026 Regional Kick-Off Reception
Most Holy Trinity Parish, Cresco, 6:00 p.m.
- August 27** - Catholic Ministries Appeal 2026 Regional Kick-Off Reception
Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Peckville, 6:00 p.m.
- August 30** - 50th Anniversary Mass for Saint Vincent de Paul Church
Dingman Township, 11:00 a.m.
- September 6** - Mass in Italian
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 10:00 a.m.
- September 8** - 80th Anniversary of King’s College First Mass
Chapel of Christ the King, Wilkes-Barre, 4:00 p.m.
- September 14** - Diocesan Teachers Institute Mass
Holy Redeemer High School, Wilkes-Barre, 9:00 a.m.
- September 14-16** - USCCB Administrative Committee Meetings
Washington, D.C.
- September 17** - Mass of the Holy Spirit for Chancery Staff
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, 12:10 p.m.

For 44 years, Catholic Charismatic Conference has renewed hearts and souls

SCRANTON – For more than four decades, Catholics searching for an encounter with Christ have made the journey to Scranton each summer for a weekend of prayer, worship, and renewal.

That tradition continued July 31 through Aug. 2, 2026, as hundreds of people from across the east coast gathered at The University of Scranton for the 44th annual Catholic Charismatic Renewal Conference.

Through inspiring speakers, praise and worship, the celebration of the Eucharist, and time for fellowship, participants were invited to deepen their relationship with Jesus and return home renewed in faith.

For many, the conference has become a cherished annual pilgrimage.

“My prayer group usually comes every year to Scranton to praise the Lord, to learn about the Holy Spirit, and to be in fellowship with each other,” Thereze Hargraves of Brooklyn, N.Y., said.

She described the weekend as an opportunity to step away from everyday responsibilities and focus entirely on God.

“It’s like an oasis,” Hargraves explained. “It gives you encouragement that despite what is going on in your life, God is good and His presence is amazing.”

Michele Guerrier, who also lives in Brooklyn, has been making the trip to Scranton for approximately 25 years.

“It is a wonderful place to come to renew, to reflect, and to revitalize my own spiritual life,” she said.

Guerrier believes one of the conference’s greatest strengths is the sense of family that has developed over the years.

“The Holy Spirit is alive,” she said. “Most of us have been coming here for so long that you



Donica Allen raises her hands in joyful praise during the Closing Mass of the Catholic Charismatic Conference on Aug. 2, 2026 at The University of Scranton. (Photo/Mike Melisky)

look forward to seeing everyone. I think that brings a whole other dimension to our faith as Catholics.”

While many attendees have made the conference an annual tradition, organizers were especially encouraged by the number of first-time participants who discovered the event this year.

“I came not really knowing what to expect,” Christy Ghigiarelli of Saint John Paul II Parish in Dunmore, said. “I came to just spend the day with God and be around people and be able to praise Jesus.”

Walking into the conference for the first time quickly made an impression.

“The best part was walking in and just everyone singing and literally praising Jesus,” Ghigiarelli added. “It’s just uplifting, it’s incredible ... I’ll definitely be back.”

Karen McLain, who helped coordinate this year’s conference, said the annual gathering invites participants to express their faith with joy and openness to the Holy Spirit.

“The Catholic Charismatic Renewal is regular Catholics who love the Mass, who love the tradition and love the liturgy and the ritual, but they

also like to be more expressive sometimes in their worship,” McLain explained. “We raise our hands when we praise. We sing more contemporary songs. Sometimes we dance and we clap.”

McLain said that some Catholics are uncertain about what “charismatic” means, but she emphasized that the movement is firmly rooted within the life of the Church.

“Our popes have been wonderfully supportive and have spoken to the Renewal many times over the last 50 years,” she said. “They’ve said this is a grace for the whole Church.”

Throughout the weekend, participants heard presentations from speakers that included Father Anthony Abraham of the Diocese of Saint Thomas in the U.S. Virgin Islands; Father Joe Freedy of the Diocese of Pittsburgh; Father August Ricciardi, spiritual moderator for the Diocese of Scranton’s Catholic Charismatic Renewal; evangelist Caroline Gambale-Dirkes; Timmy McCaffery of Pentecost Today USA; and Leonor and Genry Batista of Inmaculada Radio and TV.

The conference ended with a Closing Mass on Sunday celebrated by the Most Rev.



Hundreds of people from around the east coast participated in the 44th annual Catholic Charismatic Renewal Conference at The University of Scranton which was held July 30-Aug. 2, 2026. (Photo/Mike Melisky)

Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton.

Reflecting on his recent pilgrimage along Spain’s Camino de Santiago, the Bishop connected his own journey with the readings for the Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, reminding the faithful that every Christian is searching for lasting fulfillment.

Drawing from the prophet Isaiah and the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves

and fishes, Bishop Bambera encouraged participants to seek satisfaction not in temporary things but in the life-giving grace offered through Jesus Christ and the Eucharist.

“Jesus is present,” Bishop Bambera said. “See Him here before us. Feel His love poured forth from the cross for you. Know that there is nothing in your past or in your life at this moment that cannot be forgiven and healed by Jesus.”

Blessed Mother statue preserved

Continued from Page 7

The dedication ceremony reunited several former choir members who spontaneously sang a traditional Polish hymn, the first time many of them had sung together since the parish closed in 2007.

Father Michael Boris, Assistant Pastor of Saint Ignatius Loyola Parish in Kingston, said the statue represents far more than a piece of salvaged stone.

“They realized that it is part of the heritage of the parish and people are very passionate about their roots,” Father Boris said. “They wanted to help keep that legacy going – not forgetting what

was – but also looking ahead now.”

Father Boris said the preservation of the statue serves as a reminder of God’s providence and the Blessed Mother’s loving intercession.

“When people see her, driving out or coming in, they will remember that Our Blessed Mother is praying for our loved ones,” he added.

Michael J. Berish, a past grand knight who helped with the project, said the dedication also brought a long-awaited sense of closure.

“A lot of people didn’t know where it (the statue) was at,” Berish said. “Now she’s home. It just goes to show that from a fire, you can rise again.”

Young Catholics travel to NEPA to serve others, put faith into action



Young adults and their chaperones participating in Catholic HEART Workcamp 2026 pose for a photo with staff from Saint Clare/Saint Paul School in Scranton.

SCRANTON – While many teenagers spend their summer vacation sleeping in, hanging out with friends, or simply scrolling through social media, dozens of young Catholics from across the country spent a week rolling up their sleeves and putting their faith into action in northeastern Pennsylvania.

As part of Catholic HEART Workcamp, a national Catholic youth mission program, the young adults traveled to the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre area July 12-17, volunteering at nearly 30 sites, including schools, parishes, nonprofit organizations, and other outreach ministries.

At Saint Clare/Saint Paul School in Scranton, volunteers painted walls and playground areas, stained door frames, cleaned classrooms, organized school merchandise, and tackled numerous projects at both the primary and main campuses, helping to prepare the school for the upcoming academic year.

“We come here to serve others, but primarily we come here to grow closer to Christ through our service,” Father Matthew Conley, a priest from the Archdiocese of Boston who was serving as the group chaplain, said. Catholic HEART Workcamp fundamentally is an organization that exists to give teenagers an opportunity to serve while being uplifted by Christ Himself. It’s service through Christ.”

For Deacon Timothy Dolan, Director of Social Concerns for the Diocese of New Ulm in Minnesota, the week is about far more than just completing projects.

“Catholic HEART Workcamp is a mission to empower our youth to understand who Christ is in their life, enhance their faith, build relationships with others and be able to see Christ in whoever they meet,” he said. “These projects always seem to be able to build character in the kids and camaraderie.”

For many of the young volunteers, the opportunity to give back was just as meaningful as the work itself.

“I love taking part in Catholic HEART Workcamp. I did it last year and had a lot of fun. It’s nice to see the joy that we see in the people we’re helping,” Eva Cox, a senior from Aurora, Illinois, said. “At the Primary campus, we painted a bunch of door frames. We dusted all the lights and fans in the school. We painted dots on the playground that were faded. We brought color back into the playground.”

“I love serving and I love seeing the smiles and happiness that we bring,” Layla Vilone, a sophomore from Dover, Delaware, added.

Throughout the week, the students stayed at King’s College and faith remained at the center of their experience. Participants celebrated Mass each morning and had many other opportunities for prayer, Eucharistic Adoration and Reconciliation.

Olivia Chapman, an eighth grader from Poquoson, Virginia, said the experience reminded her that even ordinary tasks can become an act of discipleship.

“It’s giving back to the community and working for God and His servants,” she said.

Parish’s summer swim drive makes a splash in the community



Jennifer Pitts, left, from Mary, Mother of God Parish in North Scranton helps to distribute swim supplies at Connell Park in Scranton on July 11, 2026. (Photo/Dan Piazza)

SCRANTON – Under two pop-up tents near the Connell Park pool, children and families browsed through brightly colored beach towels and swimsuits on Saturday, July 11, 2026, searching for just the right size and design.

But the display wasn’t a summer sale.

It was another act of quiet generosity by parishioners from Mary Mother of God Parish, who were distributing free swim supplies to local kids as part of the parish’s 10th annual Summer Swim Drive.

The giveaway at Connell Park was the third of several poolside distributions coordinated by volunteers from the parish’s Community and Service Coordinating Team. Throughout late spring, the group collected hundreds of new towels and swimsuits, along with sunscreen, goggles, flip flops, and other swimming essentials from parishioners.

“It is our tenth anniversary that our group has collected swim supplies for children and families that don’t necessarily have what you and I have,” Jennifer Pitts, Coordinating Team leader, explained.

The colorful display included everything from Bluey-themed towels to striped swim trunks and bathing suits carefully organized by size, making it easy for children to find just what they needed before enjoying a day at the pool.

The ministry effort began a decade ago after Pitts’ daughter took her first summer job as a lifeguard at Weston Park.

“She would come home at night and say there were people swimming in their

clothes, people swimming in their pajamas, people swimming in their jeans, and they would go home dripping wet because they had no towels,” Pitts recalled. “That is how it all started. She came and told us about a need and our group decided to get together and do mission that is now 10 years strong.”

Prior to the Connell Park distribution, volunteers had already visited Weston Park and Weston Field, distributing at least 120 towels at each location along with many other swimming essentials.

For volunteer Lisa Michaels, the outreach reflects what parish life is meant to be.

“This is important because it’s part of being Church in the community, doing good things for people who might be less fortunate, but just being kind and doing random acts of kindness,” Michaels said. “It is such a wonderful feeling to give back to the community, to do God’s work and help others.”

Pitts credits the generosity of fellow parishioners for making the ministry possible year after year.

“We’re very grateful for our parish which has come through once again to donate all these items,” she said. “They do it year after year.”

**Know of Good News Story
Happening in Your Parish?**

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info@dioceseofscranton.org*

Celebrating a century of life, seven decades of priesthood

PITTSTON – For Father Joseph J. Adonizio, reaching 100 years old was never something he expected.

Neither was the sight of hundreds of people, many coming from across the country simply to celebrate with him.

Yet on Sunday, Aug. 16, 2026, the beloved priest who has spent 70 years serving the Diocese of Scranton found himself surrounded by friends, former parishioners and families whose lives have been touched by his priestly ministry.

An open house at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Hall at Communion of Saints Parish in Pittston drew roughly 250 people between 2 and 5 p.m. for an afternoon of fellowship and friendship honoring Father Adonizio, who celebrated his 100th birthday on Aug. 13.

“I was absolutely amazed and so thankful to God that I was able to enjoy so many years of serving people in the name of Christ,” Father Adonizio said. “That was my vocation and it was a gift.”

The celebration was only the latest gathering to mark a remarkable milestone. On Wednesday, Aug. 12, Father Adonizio gathered with the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, and many brother priests for dinner, cake and fellowship.

But Sunday’s open house offered something different – a living testament to the generations of people who have remained connected to a priest who has spent much of his life connecting with them.

“It is something that I never expected,” Father Adonizio said. “It’s absolutely phenomenal.”

Former parishioners traveled from Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Texas and Florida to be there.

“Parishioners from 50 years back and from all different parishes have come without formal invitation,” he added.

For Father Adonizio, their presence was not simply a celebration of his birthday. It was a reminder of the gift he believes his entire life has been.

“My years of living is a gift from God. I don’t attribute it to myself,” he said. “I am so blessed and I always have a heart of gratitude to the Lord and Our Lady, for their goodness to me.”



Father Joseph J. Adonizio, lower right, celebrates his 100th birthday with his brother priests on Aug. 12, 2026.

VOCATION ROOTED IN GRATITUDE

Born in Hughestown, Father Adonizio is the son of Gaetano Adonizio and Concetta Lello. He was baptized at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Pittston on Aug. 29, 1926, the same parish where he later received his First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

After attending grammar school and high school in Hughestown, he continued his education at Scranton University and Bucknell University before entering Christ the King Seminary in St. Bonaventure, N.Y.

He was ordained a priest at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton in May 1956.

Over the next seven decades, Father Adonizio served Catholics in communities throughout northeastern Pennsylvania in a variety of pastoral and educational roles.

His assignments included assistant pastorates in Bear Creek, Nanticoke, Dunmore and Wilkes-Barre. He served as principal of Dunmore Central Catholic High School from 1964 to 1968, director of campus ministry at Wilkes College in 1972, and was also dean of the West Pittston Deanery for many years.

His pastorates included Saint Mary’s Assumption Parish in Jessup beginning in 1973, Immaculate Conception Parish in West Pittston beginning in 1985 and

Blessed Sacrament Parish in Hughestown beginning in 1999.

FAITHFUL SHOW GRATITUDE

Cynthia Owens traveled from Massachusetts to celebrate Father Adonizio’s 100th birthday.

For her, the long-time priest has been much more than someone who simply served her parish.

“He has been a source of inspiration, support and love,” she said. “He is the epitome of what you think of when you think of a wonderful priest – or just a wonderful person.”



Father Joseph J. Adonizio, left, greets a friend during his 100th birthday celebration at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Hall at Communion of Saints Parish in Pittston on Aug. 16, 2026.

Owens said Father Adonizio has remained a source of spiritual and personal guidance even after his active parish assignments ended.

“Every time we come back to visit, we are sure to go and see him at his home for his support,” she added. “He actually calls us at home to offer his blessing and support for us.”

Ann Sorick of Corpus Christi Parish in West Pittston also came to celebrate Father Adonizio, who has been a part of her family’s life for decades.

“He married us 40 years ago, seven years ago he concelebrated when our children got married and he baptized my twins in 1991,” Sorick recalled. “He has just been a life-long friend.”

She described the celebration as a fitting tribute.

“It is amazing. I can’t believe how big it is,” she said. “It’s a well-deserved tribute to Father. He is just a great guy. He has been a loyal and faithful priest first, and then a friend to everyone.”

Saint Boniface Welcomes the World!



WILLIAMSPORT- With the Little League Series beginning this week in Lycoming County, Saint Boniface Parish in Williamsport was thrilled to welcome the team from Mexico at its 11:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, Aug. 16, 2026.

Following Mass, the team and its coaches posed for a photo with Assistant Pastor, Rev. Dias Antony Valiamarathungal.

Blessed Rother film sparks hope for new saints inspired by his life

OKLAHOMA CITY (OSVNews) - “He didn’t go back to Guatemala to die. He went back to Guatemala to live.”

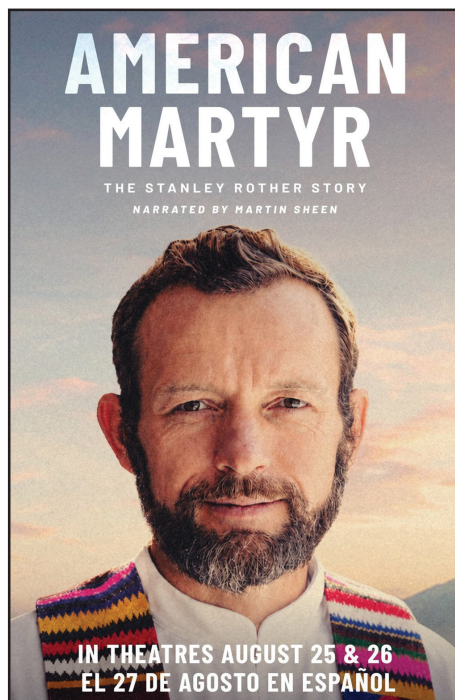
Msgr. Don Wolf, rector of the Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine and a cousin of Blessed Rother, shared these words in a documentary “American Martyr: The Stanley Rother Story.”

This scene still makes Archbishop Paul S. Coakley of Oklahoma City choke up every time he sees it.

“He knew that death awaited him, but he knew that not going back would mean a different kind of death, and only by going back there would he live life to the full, the life that the Lord had called him to, even though that meant laying down his life,” Archbishop Coakley said during a panel discussion. It followed the documentary’s world premiere at the Regal Warren Moore Theater in Moore, Oklahoma, a suburb of Oklahoma City, on July 28, the feast day of Blessed Stanley Rother.

More than 600 people filled three theaters to watch the documentary - one for the English version narrated by award-winning actor Martin Sheen, and two for the Spanish version.

Sheen narrated the documentary for free, said Maria Scaperlanda, one of the executive producers of the documentary



and promoter for the cause. Sheen “fell in love with Father Stan,” she told OSV News.

“I want to help you get Blessed Stanley across the line, have him become a saint. And this is my way of helping,” she recalled Sheen - himself a devout Catholic - telling her.

“We showed up at his house, finished

American Martyr: The Stanley Rother Story will be in two theaters locally on Friday, Aug. 25 & Saturday, Aug. 26

Watch the Trailer and Purchase Reserved Tickets Now at:
fathomentertainment.com/releases

Cinemark Montage Mountain 20 and XD

7:00 p.m. Both Nights

Regal Dickson City

7:00 p.m. Both Nights

all the audio with him. It’s his gift to the cause,” she said.

Scaperlanda, who also wrote the definitive biography on Blessed Rother, “The Shepherd Who Didn’t Run: Father Stanley Rother, Martyr from Oklahoma,” said that people often ask her when a movie will be made.

“There’s a lot of people, very excited, who have been waiting for something visual. God is putting me where he wants me,” she said. “I hope that more and more people will be able to hear the story.”

“American Martyr: The Stanley Rother Story” is scheduled to be released in theaters nationwide Aug. 25-27.

Archbishop Coakley told OSV News that he hopes by spreading the word about Blessed Rother, more people will turn to

him in prayer.

“The Church needs saints, and we have a Catholic priest missionary martyr who’s on the threshold of being declared a saint. But in order for people to have the confidence to turn to him - to seek his intercession - they have to know his story,” he said. “My primary interest and concern is to introduce people to the life of this heroic missionary priest, so that they might imitate his faith in turning to the Lord in seeking what they need.”

For Blessed Rother to be canonized, there must be a verified miracle attributed to his intercession before God. The Rome-based postulator for Rother’s cause, Cristiana Marinelli, said that while she can’t provide details, there are active investigations.

New principals bring experience, faith and fresh energy to Catholic schools

Continued from Page 3

He also plans to make prayer a more visible part of daily life at the school, leading morning and afternoon prayer and utilizing a simple message he hopes students will carry with them: “Pray on it, pray over it, pray through it.”

His goals also include increasing student engagement in the classroom, providing additional help for struggling students and strengthening relationships with families.

Catrillo currently serves as president of the East Stroudsburg School Board and as Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus at Saint Matthew Parish.

At Holy Family Academy, Schlingman brings 24 years of experience in education and leadership, including time in both Catholic and public schools.

“Returning to Catholic education was more than a career decision,” Schlingman said. “It felt like coming home to an environment where education is about more than academics.”

He hopes to build upon Holy Family Academy’s family-centered atmosphere while creating a school where students are excited to learn, teachers feel supported and families know they are genuine partners in their children’s education.

His vision extends beyond the classroom. Schlingman hopes to grow enrollment and create new opportunities for students through sports, clubs and extracurricular activities.

Most importantly, he wants the entire school community to develop a renewed sense of pride.

“I want people to be excited about coming to school, excited about what we

are building, and proud to say, ‘This is my school,’” he said.

Schlingman also brings a personal appreciation for perseverance and teamwork to his new role. A graduate of King’s College, he was an All-American wrestler and is on the college’s Sports Wall of Fame. He credits wrestling with teaching him lessons in discipline, perseverance and never giving up – lessons that continue to influence his leadership today.

At All Saints Academy, Maguire brings more than two decades of experience in education and a commitment to lifelong learning. She has earned two master’s degrees and is currently pursuing a Doctor of Education degree.

As her career developed, Maguire said she increasingly felt drawn toward school leadership, particularly within the Diocese of Scranton.

“I am looking forward to meeting students and families. I am beyond excited to be a part of the All Saints Academy community,” she said.

For Maguire, her new job also represents a chance to give back to the Catholic educational community that played an important role in her own life. A graduate of Saint Paul’s School, she fondly remembers her experience as a Catholic school student as one that shaped who she has become.

“It was an incredible experience for me personally, academically and socially,” Maguire said. “I am thankful to be able to give back to the Catholic community within the Diocese of Scranton.”

As she begins her first year, Maguire hopes to foster an exceptional school environment where both students and staff can grow academically and spiritually.



SUMMER PARISH PICNIC, FESTIVAL AND BAZAAR LISTING



Ascension in Forest City — **Aug. 22.** A Family Fun Day will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. outside of Saint Joseph Church, 739 Delaware St., Forest City. All youth from the surrounding communities are welcome to participate in activities & games. Summer cookout will be provided for all in attendance.

Saint Michael's in Canton — **Aug. 29.** Canton parish is sponsoring its "St. Michael the Archangel Motorcycle Rally," beginning with registration at 8 a.m. at Saint Michael Church. Breakfast follows, with kickstands up at 9 a.m. for the nearly 80-mile ride on paved roads. Event concludes with BBQ chicken lunch and "Show Me the Money" bingo party at the Troy American Legion. Cost, including breakfast, ride & lunch: \$35/rider & \$10/passenger, in advance (online); \$45/rider & \$15/passenger at the door.

Queen of the Apostles in Avoca — **Aug. 29.** The Avoca

parish at Saint Mary Church will host an "Irish Night" starting at 6 p.m. in Queen of the Apostles Hall, 742 Spring St., Avoca. The evening features an authentic Irish buffet dinner created by Chef Eugene Philbin, including classic Irish sausage, slow-cooked tender beef with a Guinness stout gravy, roasted garlic mashed potatoes with cabbage & Irish butter, seasonal vegetables roasted with local herbs, mixed green salad and Irish soda bread; homemade desserts & soft drinks. Patrons may provide their own additional beverages. Live musical entertainment by The Quietmen, featuring classic Irish & Celtic folk tunes, popular acoustic songs & all-time favorites. Event also includes a theme basket raffle and cash prize drawing. Tickets cost \$45 each or \$320 for table of eight. For reservations, contact Jim McMahon at (570) 881-5068.

Saint Mary of the Lake in Lake Winola — **Sept. 2-7 (10 a.m. to 10 p.m.).** Lake Winola parish will sponsor a basket raffle at the annual Wyoming County

Fair, held through Labor Day on the county fairgrounds at 9141 US 6 in Meshoppen. Saint Mary of the Lake Booth at the Wyoming County Fair will feature raffle drawings on a variety of bountiful theme baskets. For more information, contact Lucy Ziman at (570) 563-1622.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Hunlock Creek — **Sept. 4-6.** Saint Martha's Annual Festival will be held over the Labor Day Weekend on Friday, 5 to 10 p.m.; Saturday, 5 to 10 p.m.; and Sunday, noon to 10 p.m., at Saint Martha Church, 260 Bonnierville Road, Fairmount Springs. Masses celebrated on Saturday (4 p.m.) & Sunday (10:30 a.m.). The holiday weekend festival features Polish and American picnic foods, a "Sweet Spot" bakery stand with cakes, pies & coffee; ice cream stand, children's games, dime pitch, basket raffle & large indoor flea market. Weekend dinner features include barbecue ribs on Saturday, and full barbecue chicken dinners on Saturday & Sunday. Live music nightly from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. with Caleb Diltz (Friday), Lance Thomas Band (Saturday), and 404 Band (Sunday).

Saint Faustina Kowalska in Nanticoke — **Sept. 5 & 6.** Hosted by the parish's Saint Mary Church in Mocanaqua, the annual Labor Day Weekend "Homecoming Picnic" will be held Saturday, 5 to 9:30 p.m., and Sunday, 1 to 9:30 p.m., at Saint Mary Park, Lee Road, Mocanaqua. Weekend Vigil Mass celebrated at the park on Saturday at 4 p.m. Summer festival features homemade ethnic and classic picnic foods & refreshments, including pierogi, halushki, piggies, potato pancakes, turkette, and dessert items. Live musical

entertainment nightly from 5 to 9:30 p.m., featuring The Music Room (Saturday) & Flaxy Morgan (Sunday).

Immaculate Conception in Bastress — **Sept. 7.** The Bastress parish's 118th annual Labor Day Picnic will be held on Monday, Sept. 7, on the parish grounds. Family-style dinner served from noon until 5 p.m., with take-outs starting at 12:30 p.m. (Meal tickets go on sale at 11 a.m. in front of the parish hall.) Menu includes turkey, ham, stuffing, mashed potatoes, noodles, gravy, corn, cole slaw, homemade bread, and soft beverages. Cost: \$14 for adults; \$6 for children (ages four to 12). Holiday picnic also features homemade fudge, jams & jellies, and candy in the "Summer Kitchen"; sandwiches, fries, funnel cakes, pies, ice cream, and milk shakes. Games for all ages.

Saint Boniface in Williamsport — **Sept. 10-12.** The 58th annual Parish Carnival held on the grounds of Saint Boniface Church, 326 Washington Blvd., Williamsport. Featuring nightly sit-down dinners (take-outs available) in the school gym; white elephant sale; and annual raffle drawings on the final night. Carnival includes homemade ethnic/picnic foods & treats, games, rides and bingo.

Immaculate Conception in Freeland — **Sept. 12.** The parish will host a Polish Festival from 6 to 9:30 p.m. in the hall at Saint Patrick Church, featuring ethnic foods, live Polka music, and tricky trays. Outside beverages welcome. Cost: \$25 per person.

Our Lady of Lourdes in Montoursville — **Sept. 18 & 19.** Annual Parish Festival on the parish grounds, 100 Walnut

St., Montoursville, held Friday & Saturday from 5 to 9 p.m. Featuring live music, basket raffle, cake wheel, pumpkin stand, wine wheel & children's games. Nightly dinner specials (tickets available at parish office): Friday — Barbecued chicken, potato, cole slaw, roll & dessert; cost: \$15. Featured entertainment: Leo & KG with Family Traditions; Saturday — Spaghetti & homemade meatballs, salad, roll & dessert; cost: \$15. Featured entertainment: Kevin Mix, local musician. Traditional picnic foods include hot sausages, pizza, fries, funnel cakes, fresh lemonade & ice cream. Basket raffle in the parish hall on Sunday at 11:30 a.m.

Our Lady of the Abingtons in Dalton — **Sept. 19 & 20.** Annual Fall Festival hosted at Our Lady of the Abingtons Church, 207 Seminary Road, Dalton, on Saturday, 5 to 10 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 6 p.m. Event features a pork barbecue dinner on Saturday; and chicken barbecue dinner on Sunday. Festival includes bountiful theme baskets, homemade clam chowder, pizza, hot dogs/hamburgers, pierogi, and homemade desserts; children's games, grand prize raffles, wheelbarrow of cheer, beer tent, silent auction & white elephant sales. Live music provided by Megaband Duo (Saturday) & The Quietmen (Sunday).

Resurrection in Muncy — **Sept. 25 & 26.** Resurrection Parish will host its annual Fall Festival on Friday, from 4 to 7 p.m., and Saturday, from 1:30 to 7:30 p.m., on the parish grounds. Festival features homemade ethnic foods, games for all ages, and raffle drawings. Live musical entertainment both days.

ST. FAUSTINA PARISH AT ST. MARY MOCANAQUA

Homecoming Picnic

St. Mary Park, Lee Road, Mocanaqua, PA

LABOR DAY WEEKEND

Saturday, September 5 - 5:00-9:30 PM

Sunday, September 6 - 1:00-9:30 PM

HOMEMADE ETHNIC FOODS

(pierogi, haluski, piggies, potato pancakes, turkette, desserts), refreshments, basket raffles, prize stands and much more!

Live Entertainment: 5-9:30pm

Saturday - The Music Room
Sunday - Flaxy Morgan

Holy Mass at 4:00 PM at the park on Saturday, September 5

• FREE PARKING & ADMISSION •

Summer, fellowship, and a whole lot of pierogies

LARKSVILLE – 39,156 pierogies.

That is how many dumplings parish volunteers at Saint John the Baptist Parish in Larksville made and sold during this year's annual summer bazaar.

If that number seems impressive, it is, but it is only part of the story!

Across northeastern and north central Pennsylvania, summer weekends have long been marked by parish picnics, bazaars and festivals – gatherings where the smell of ethnic food fills the air, familiar music plays and families reconnect.

While the festivals certainly help support parish ministries and expenses, if you ask those who volunteer and attend, it quickly becomes clear that these events are about much more than fundraising.

They are about coming home.

In Larksville, the 82nd annual bazaar once again brought parishioners and visitors together for food, prizes, music and plenty of fellowship.

"It is a community gathering," Father Thomas Augustine, Pastor, said. "People like to come here to have the ethnic foods, and it is also faith oriented. We can see how people are coming together and having a good time."

Judy Lucchino, who helped



A volunteer cooks up potato pancakes during Communion of Saints Parish's Summer Fest '26 in Pittston on Aug. 7, 2026. (Photo/Dan Piazza)

oversee the bake sale and 67 raffle baskets, said the bazaar has become a reunion of sorts, attracting former parishioners and families from near and far.

"It's a community parish and we all get together and make friends and see old friends that come in from all over the northeast," she said. "People also come in from Virginia, South Carolina, and they come home just for this bazaar."

The same spirit could be found in Pittston, where Communion of Saints Parish recently held its second festival of the summer – Summer Fest '26 – following the consolidation of three historic Pittston parishes.

Father Joseph Elston, Pastor, said the festival gives parishioners an opportunity to

build relationships that might not otherwise develop.

"Even though our three churches are in close proximity, a lot of people don't know each other," he explained. "But they come together – working together here at the picnic in various places."

For Stephanie Lynch, who was busy preparing fresh chicken wings with homemade sauce, Summer Fest provides a rare chance to meet the people who sit nearby at Mass each weekend.

"In church, you don't really



Visitors wait in line during the annual summer bazaar at Saint John the Baptist Parish in Larksville on Aug. 7, 2026. (Photo/Dan Piazza)

get a chance to talk to anybody," she said. "But for these three days in the summer, whether it's hot or raining, we all come together and enjoy feeding the community."

In Throop, Saint Carlo Acutis Parish celebrated its annual Family Festival with food, music, raffle baskets and bingo.

Father Scott Sterowski, Pastor, described it as a celebration of "our oneness in Christ," while parishioner Joseph Butash called it a time for sharing stories, laughter and memories.

"It's a very relaxed

atmosphere," Butash said. "It's fun to get to know people in the community. It is showing how vibrant our parish community is."

That vibrancy may be the greatest gift of the festival tradition that takes place in many parish communities.

While the work is considerable – planning, cooking, setting up, cleaning up and relying on countless volunteers – it is all about community.

"It's about sharing stories, sharing laughter, sharing time together," Butash added.



Young adults enjoy a game of volleyball during the Saint Carlo Acutis Parish Family Festival on Aug. 15 in Throop. (Photo/Dan Piazza)

Lebanese Heritage Festival



Saint Ann Maronite Church
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Noon-7 p.m.

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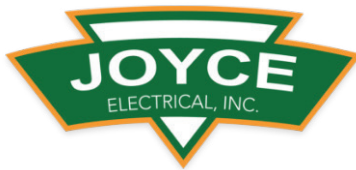


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Bishop Bambera co-chairs International Catholic-Pentecostal Dialogue

ROME – From June 18-22, 2026, the Catholic Pentecostal International Dialogue met in Rome to finalize its report on the seventh phase on “*Lex orandi, lex credendi*.”

The goal of this Dialogue, co-sponsored by the Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity and the Pentecostal World Fellowship, is to promote mutual understanding and respect, in light of Jesus’ call to Christian unity.

After its document “Do Not Quench the Spirit. Charisms in the Life and Mission of the Church,” the Dialogue decided to focus on *keygma*/proclamation, prayer/worship and sacramentality as lived by Catholics and Pentecostals.

During the Angelus Prayer, Pope Leo XIV greeted the members of the dialogue and said, “Reflecting together on the principle *lex orandi, lex credendi* is particularly relevant nowadays.”

Exploring aspects of each other’s spiritual lives and engaging in open dialogue about their beliefs and liturgical and devotional practices is a learning experience to be accomplished by all Christians.

The agenda of the dialogue included a general introduction to the topic *lex orandi, lex credendi*, followed by sessions on



While in Rome for the Catholic-Pentecostal International Dialogue in June, members attended Mass at the Basilica of Saint Peter. The goal of the Dialogue, which started in 1972, is to promote mutual respect and understanding in matters of faith and practice.

kerygma/Proclamation and the Christian life (Rome, Italy, 2022), Prayer/Worship and Christian life (Kasoa, Ghana, 2023), and Sacramentality and Christian living (Lisbon, Portugal, 2024).

Co-chairs of the Dialogue were Rev. Cecil M. Robeck Jr. (Assemblies of God, Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA, USA) and the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Diocese of Scranton.

In meeting Dialogue members for the first time, Archbishop Flavio Pace, Secretary of the Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity, thanked them for their ecclesial service, insisted on the importance of

reception, and expressed the readiness of the Catholic Church to pursue it in agreement with the Pentecostal World Fellowship.

Concluding the meeting the Catholic Co-chair, Bishop Bambera affirms: “As we bring this 7th Phase of the Dialogue to a close, the depth of our shared faith in Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit at work in the lives of believers have proven to be a source of consolation and hope as we have journeyed together these past few years. Through study, our shared reflections and prayer and through the fellowship that we have experienced, we have come to a deeper respect and

understanding of each other as fellow believers in Christ. While we acknowledge that many differences remain between Catholics and Pentecostals, we celebrate a genuine, albeit imperfect, unity rooted in our shared faith in Christ, a commitment to bearing witness to God’s redeeming presence in our world, and a deep desire to continue to work together to fulfill Jesus’ prayer for the unity of all believers.”

The Pentecostal Co-chair, Rev. Cecil Robeck, Jr., who has participated in the dialogue since 1985, noted with great appreciation the advances that the two sides have made in their mutual trust, understanding and relationship with one another.

“This latest round has demonstrated how deep our relationship has become over the years. Sharing how we pray, and what we believe, not only on the macro level, but also at the local and personal levels of our spirituality during this round has profoundly affected how we think about each other. Our common concerns, beliefs, and interests far outweigh our differences, those places where we need to keep working. This round holds great relevance for the present, and provides us with equally great hope for our shared future,” he said.

Father Polednak honored



FOREST CITY - On Aug. 1, the Forest City Area Historical Society gave its 2026 “Forest City Area Former Resident Distinguished Citizen Award” to Father John V. Polednak, retired Diocese of Scranton Vicar for Clergy (2021-2025).

Along with a commemorative plaque, Father Polednak also received the “key to the borough” and Pennsylvania Senate and House resolutions.

The presentation was made by Patricia Striefsky, publisher of the Forest City News, and his niece, Jessica Polednak, who thanked Father Polednak for his fifty years of priestly ministry and service.

Cross for Unborn Refurbished



CONYNGHAM - The Knights of Columbus Our Lady of Fatima Council 8613 recently refurbished the Cross for the Unborn in the dedicated Unborn Garden at Saint John Bosco Parish in Conyngham.

The Council erected the Cross in April 2018.

The Knights working on the Cross above are Al Olshefski, left, and Tom Jones. Also helping were Knights Bob Hoppy and Tom Pandolfi.

‘God’s Wonder Lab’ success



WILKES-BARRE - The children of Saint Nicholas - Saint Mary Parish in Wilkes-Barre enjoyed a week-long Vacation Bible School from July 27-31.

With the theme ‘God’s Wonder Lab,’ the students performed science experiments, played games, made crafts, and sang and danced in praise of God’s wonderful creation.

Sacred Hearts Enthronement Mass Aug. 25 in Scranton

SCRANTON — The Diocesan Enthronement Guild of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary will host a special Mass of Enthronement on Tuesday, Aug. 25, at 7 p.m. at Divine Mercy Parish in the Minooka section of Scranton.

Father Dan Toomey, spiritual moderator of the Enthronement Guild, will serve as principal celebrant for the Mass.

Concelebrating the liturgy will be Saint Joseph Oblate Father Paul McDonnell, host pastor of Divine Mercy Parish.

The Sacred Heart Music Ministry, directed by Ernie Pappa, will provide music for the



Father Dan Toomey

celebration, beginning with a musical prelude at 6:45 p.m.

Light refreshments will follow the Mass in the parish center.

The Enthronement of the Sacred Heart apostolate enables families and individuals to consecrate their homes to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Homes that have been enthroned become an extension of the liturgy, whereby faithful

can follow up their Eucharistic celebration in church with prayerful devotion in their own private settings.

Anyone interested in enthroning their home to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary may contact Maria Pappa, coordinator of the Enthronement Guild, at (570) 241-8171, to register and receive more information.

Registration will reserve an Enthronement packet, which includes images of the Sacred Heart and Immaculate Heart, a prayer booklet, and complete instructions for home Enthronements.

Enthronement renewals are also available.

Oblates to host Labor Day Triduum, Mass honoring Saint Joseph the Worker

LAFLIN — The Congregation of the Oblates of Saint Joseph, located at 1880 Route 315, Laflin, is preparing for the annual Triduum and special Labor Day Mass honoring Saint Joseph the Worker in September.

A three-day preparation of Masses during the Labor Day weekend will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 4-6, with liturgies celebrated at noon in the Saint Joseph Oblates chapel in Laflin.

Devotions to Saint Joseph will be offered after each Mass, especially for all workers and the unemployed. A blessing with the first-class relic of Saint Joseph Marelllo, founder of the Oblates religious order, will conclude the devotions.

A special Mass is planned for Labor Day morning, Monday, Sept. 7, at 11 a.m., honoring Saint Joseph as the Patron Saint of Workers. Bread will be blessed and distributed following the Mass to all faithful in attendance as a symbol of the “fruit of our labor.”

Serving as celebrant and homilist for this year’s Labor Day Eucharistic celebration will be Saint Joseph Oblate Father



Paul McDonnell, a member of the OSJ religious community in the Pittston area, who also serves as pastor of Divine Mercy Parish in the Minooka section of Scranton.

The Triduum devotions and Labor Day morning Mass will be broadcast live on JMJ Catholic Radio 104.5 FM.

For further information, contact the main office at (570) 654-7542 or email: osjseminary@comcast.net.

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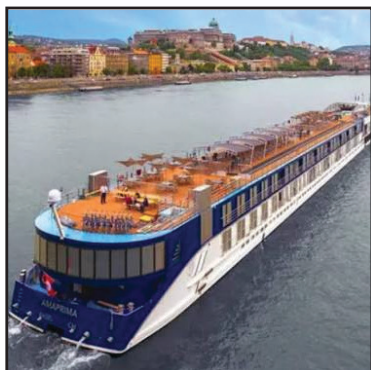
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National Remembrance Day for Aborted Children observances slated for Sept. 12 in Diocese

SCRANTON —The Diocese of Scranton will participate in the 14th annual National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children on Saturday, Sept. 12, when pro-life Americans will honor the memory of the more than 66 million unborn victims of abortion since its legalization in 1973.

Mount Olivet Cemetery, 612 Mount Olivet Road, Carverton, will be the site for a National Remembrance Day service at 1 p.m.

The pro-life gathering will take place at Mount Olivet's Wyoming Valley Knights of Columbus "Tomb for the Unborn," located at the top of the hill on the cemetery grounds.

During the memorial observance, the Rosary will be recited in remembrance of all aborted babies. All faithful are welcome.

Earlier in the day, a Memorial Service honoring victims of abortion will be hosted at noon at Cathedral Cemetery, 1798 Oram St., West Scranton. All are welcome.

Serving as guest speaker for the annual solemn observance will be Holy Cross Father Michael Wurtz of King's College in Wilkes-Barre. Those planning to attend are requested to provide their own lawn chairs.

For more information, contact Theresa Baux at (570) 687-5329, or Geri Featherby at (570) 878-3397.

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For more information, please contact Mary Boretsky at 570-780-3452 or Judy Menago at 215-630-2738.



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Prayer Requests for Priests Serving the Diocese

August 20, Holy Cross Father Michael Wurtz; August 21, Father Michael Zipay; August 22, Father Joseph Adonizio; August 23, Saint Peter Priestly Fraternity Father Zachary Akers; August 24, Father Patrick Albert; August 25, Father John Albosta; August 26, Father James Alco; August 27, Father Andrew Amankwaa; August 28, Father Boniface Ameyaw; August 29, Father Michael Amo Gyau; August 30, Father William Asinari; August 31, Father Thomas Augustine; September 1, Pope Leo XIV; September 2, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera; September 3, Monsignor Thomas Banick; September 4, Father David Bechtel; September 5, Father Richard Beck; September 6, Monsignor John Bendik; September 7, Monsignor John Bergamo; September 8, Father Eric Bergman; September 9, Father Rafael Ofarril Bermúdez Gonzalez; September 10, Father Jacek Bialkowski; September 11, Monsignor David Bohr; September 12, Father Michael Boris; September 13, Father Stephen Bosomafi; September 14, Father John Boyle; September 15, Father Michael Bryant; September 16, Passionist Father Richard Burke; September 17, Jesuit Father

Timothy Cadigan; September 18, Father David Cappelloni; September 19, Passionist Father Robert Carbonneau; September 20, Father Sean Carpenter; September 21, Father Edward Casey.



Knights of Columbus
Monsignor Joseph P. McDonough
Council # 7403

13th Annual Golf Outing

Saturday, September 26, 2026

Honesdale Golf Club
121 Golf Hill Road
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<https://www.honesdalegolfclub.com>

**** Rain Date if schedules allow ****

Entry Fees: \$100.00 per golfer
Includes Lunch, Buffet Dinner & Prizes

Registration - 10:30 AM

Lunch - 11:00 AM

Shotgun Start - 12:00 PM

\$125 Hole Sponsorship
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Milford Knights Council Elects New Officers

Knights of Columbus Our Lady of the Mountain Council 9832, at Saint Vincent de Paul Church in Dingman Township, recently elected a new slate of officers. New Council officers pictured are, front row from left: Abel Peltro, trustee; Fred Seidler, treasurer; Deputy Grand Knight Ed Norey;



Father Binesh Joseph Kanjirakattu, chaplain; Grand Knight Bryan Bolehala; Jason Fell, chancellor; Jack Kauffman, inside guard; and John Actisdano, trustee. Back row: Don Board, lecturer; Deacon John Hanley, representing Ed Ward, trustee; Mark LaBruna, recorder; Joe Brice, warden; Bill Opfer, outside guard; Don Breder, advocate; and Peter Briody, financial secretary.

Notice Regarding Reporting Sexual Abuse of a Minor

It is the policy of the Diocese of Scranton to report any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to law enforcement. If you are a victim of sexual abuse committed by a priest, deacon, religious or lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton, you are encouraged to immediately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, including child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law enforcement.

It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. To this end, the Diocese is equally committed to adhering to the norms of the *Code of Canon Law* and to upholding the tenets of the USCCB *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, which includes supporting victims of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being. As such, information regarding an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor should also be reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator, Mary Beth Pacuska at (570) 862-7551.

Aviso al Respecto de Reportar el Abuso Sexual de Un Menor de Edad

Es la norma de la Diócesis de Scranton reportar cualquier alegación de abuso sexual de un menor de edad a las autoridades. Si usted es una víctima de abuso sexual cometido por un sacerdote, diácono, religioso o empleado laico, o voluntario de la Diócesis de Scranton, usted está obligado a reportar el asunto inmediatamente a las autoridades de la ley.

Si algún sacerdote, diácono, religioso, empleado laico o voluntario de la Diócesis de Scranton tiene sospecha de que un menor de edad ha sido sujeto a cualquier forma de abuso, incluyendo abuso sexual de menor de edad, el asunto será reportado a las autoridades de la ley.

Es la norma de la Diócesis defender todas las regulaciones civiles y del estado. Al fin de que la Diócesis esté comprometida igualmente a defender las normas del Código de Derecho Canónico y defender los principios de la Carta Para la Protección de Niños y Jóvenes (Conferencia de los Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos), lo cual incluye apoyar a las víctimas de abuso sexual en pos del bienestar emocional y espiritual.

Por eso, información respecto a una alegación del asunto sexual de un menor de edad, debe ser reportada a la Coordinadora Diocesana de Asistencia para Las Víctimas, Mary Beth Pacuska, a (570) 862-7551.

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MISSION MESSAGE

Mission in the Movies: Just How Far will You Go for the Gospel?

By Shannon Ruiz
Diocesan Director,
Pontifical Mission Societies



Every summer, my Goddaughter and I have a girls' weekend together. What started as a way to give the middle child some space away from her brothers has become an annual tradition we both cherish. Whether it's a trip to Knoebels, a day at the aquarium, or even a spa day at home, I always seem to end our time together with a grateful heart, and this year was no exception.

June's heat wave pushed us to stick to air-conditioned activities, so to the movies we went! The live-action version of the Disney classic, "Moana" was calling us... (IYKYK)! We settled in with our snacks, and somewhere in the middle of the movie, I found myself thinking that Moana would have been a great missionary.

For readers less familiar with the film, Moana is based on stories from Polynesian mythology and follows a teenage girl who sails beyond her people's protected waters to save her village from famine. Guided by her grandmother's memory and the reluctant help of a demigod named Maui, she navigates the dangers of the open ocean to fulfill the ancient quest of her ancestors.

Moana spends a good part of

the story not really understanding the pull she feels toward the ocean. She just knows it's there, and she has to decide whether to trust it or ignore it. I don't think that is very different from how a lot of people describe their own sense of calling, whether it's to religious life, to a ministry, or to some work they can't fully explain yet. The call usually shows up before the clarity does.

When Moana finally leaves her island, she doesn't go to conquer or to prove herself. She goes because her people are struggling, and she cannot stand by without doing something to help. That's mission in its truest sense! We don't evangelize to win arguments; we go out into the world because love compels us to take the Good News to people who are hurting.

What struck me the most was how much of Moana's journey depends on memory. She only finds the courage to move forward once she remembers who her people really are: voyagers, not just islanders who never sailed beyond the reef out of fear. Our faith works the same way. We are a missionary people by our baptism, called to carry the Gospel

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outward. Sometimes we need to be reminded of that identity before we can live it.

In the end, Moana finds what she is looking for and sets things right for her island and her people. She comes back a changed person, finally understanding where she comes from and where she is meant to go. What a fitting image to end on since going out on mission usually changes the one who goes just as much as it changes anything else.



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Apostleship of Prayer

Pope's Intention for August 2026

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Catholic Happenings Around the Diocese

Book, Puzzle & CD/DVD Sale — AUG. 22 & 23, hosted by St. Andrew Parish in Wilkes-Barre; held in the parish church basement at 316 Parrish St., Wilkes-Barre, on Saturday, 1 to 7 p.m., and Sunday, 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sale features a large selection of gently used items; cash payments required for all purchases. For more information, call Alaina Lutz at (570) 332-1832.

Weekly Pierogi & Soup Sale — AUG. 23 & 26, sponsored by SS. Peter & Paul Church, 1309 West Locust St., West Scranton; sale of homemade pierogi and various soups held each week following the church's Sunday morning Mass at 11 a.m. and Wednesday morning Mass at 9 a.m. Cost: pierogi, \$10/dozen; soup, \$8/quart.

Holy Cross Theatre Auditions — AUG. 25 & 26, hosted by Holy Cross High School in Dunmore for the Theatre Ensemble's production of "The Little Mermaid" in November; cast auditions are open to all Scranton Diocesan school students in grades 3 to 8. Auditions will be held Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons at 2:45 p.m. Call-backs for lead roles are on Aug. 27. All students who audition will be cast in the performance.

Outdoor Family Movie Night: "David: The Animated Movie" — AUG. 29, hosted by St. Therese Parish, 64 Davis St., Shavertown; family movie presentation begins at dusk on the lawn of St. Therese Church. Popcorn & refreshments provided; movie-goers should bring their own blankets and lawn chairs. All are welcome.

Venerable Father Patrick Peyton Monthly Rosary — SEPT. 2, hosted by the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton; Rosary devotion is held on the first Wednesday of each month following the 12:10 p.m. Mass at the Cathedral. Recitation of Rosary prayers is offered for the special intention of furthering the cause for canonization of Venerable Father Patrick Peyton.

Bi-Weekly Rosary-Making Workshop — SEPT. 2 & 16, hosted by St. John the Baptist Parish, 126 Nesbitt St., Larksville; lessons in the creation of homemade Rosaries are offered every other Wednesday,

from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the parish church basement. All men and women are welcome to attend and learn the art of Rosary-making for Rosaries to be distributed around the world. All materials are free of charge. Class teacher is Barbara Morris, with more than 30 years' experience. For information, call (570) 287-0555.

26th Annual Parish Golf Tournament — SEPT. 9, sponsored by Our Lady of Victory Parish in Tannersville; held at the scenic Hideaway Hills Golf Club in Kunkletown. Golfer registration begins at 10 a.m., with shotgun start at noon. Cost: \$110 per player, includes 18-hole tournament, riding cart, boxed lunch, and buffet awards dinner. Event includes "hole-in-one" contests, putting competition with \$50,000 prize, and raffle drawings. For more information/registration, contact Maureen Shindle, (570) 242-1681 or mpshindle54@gmail.com.

34th Annual Parish Golf Tournament — SEPT. 11, sponsored by Our Lady of Victory Parish, Harveys Lake; hosted at Stonehedge Golf Club in Tunkhannock. Registration & breakfast at 9 a.m., followed by 10 a.m. shotgun start. Player fee: \$120 per golfer, includes 18-hole tournament w/cart, food, beverages, prizes & awards dinner. For more details and registration information, contact Mike & Merry Ann at (570) 639-5426, or email: olvhl309@aol.com.

Continued on Page 29

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Apostleship of Prayer

Pope's Intention for September 2026

For the Care of Water —

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

Catholic Happenings Around the Diocese of Scranton

Diocesan Catholic Charismatic Prayer Breakfast — **SEPT. 12**, sponsored by the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of the Scranton Diocese; hosted from 9 to 11 a.m. in Queen of the Apostles Parish Hall, 742 Spring St., Avoca. Breakfast followed by guest speaker presentation. Cost: \$20; all are welcome. For more information, call (570) 344-1120.

Annual Flea Market — **SEPT. 12-13 & 19**, sponsored by St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church in Old Forge; held in the church hall, 320 Vine St., Old Forge. Three-day flea market hours: Saturday, Sept. 12, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday, Sept. 13 (half-price sale), 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; and Saturday, Sept. 19 (bag & box sale), 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sale features antiques, household goods, furniture, children's items, and gift card raffle; includes a variety of ethnic foods, baked goods and refreshments for purchase.

"Toss to Save Lives" Cornhole Tournament — **SEPT. 13**, sponsored by the Mental Health Ministry at Divine Mercy Parish in Minooka, Scranton; all proceeds support suicide prevention awareness and Catholic mental health ministry. Team check-ins at 1:30 p.m. on the grounds of Divine Mercy Parish, 312 Davis St., Scranton; tournament play begins at 2 p.m. Team divisions: two Youth Divisions (ages 14 & under) &

(ages 15-18), \$20 per team of two; one Adult Division (ages 18+), \$50 per team of two. Guaranteed minimum of four games per team; all division winners awarded \$150 cash prize. Complimentary food & refreshments for all participants. For more information, call the parish office (570) 344-1724.

Secular Discalced Carmelites Meeting — **SEPT. 13**, monthly meeting of the Holy Annunciation Secular Community of Discalced Carmelites (OCDS); the community gathers on the second Sunday of the month, from noon to 4 p.m., at the Oblates of St. Joseph Seminary in Laflin. New members are most welcome. For more information and inquiries, contact Gina Romancheck at (570) 956-9272.

"Praise4Life" Celebration — **SEPT. 13**, annual celebration of faith, family, community & life sponsored by the Scranton Pennsylvanians for Human Life; held 1 to 3 p.m. at the Whitetail Pavilion at Lackawanna State Park. Afternoon gathering features live praise music, family activities, fellowship, casual picnic setting & foods, and inspirational message from foster and adoptive mother Megan Jennings. All are welcome.

Chicken Barbecue Dinner — **SEPT. 13**, sponsored by St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church in Scranton; served from 11 a.m.

to 4 p.m. at St. Mary's Center, 320 Mifflin Ave., Scranton. Dinner cost: \$15 (dine-in or take-out). Event includes bake sale and raffle drawings. Pre-orders suggested; tickets at door until sold out. Call (570) 343-5151.

Monthly Parish Bingo — **SEPT. 16**, sponsored by Our Lady's Guild of Our Lady of

Victory Parish in Tannersville; bingo held on the third Wednesday of every month. Games hosted in the church hall, 327 Cherry Lane Road, Tannersville; doors open at noon. Bingo game cards cost 25 cents each. For more information, contact Antoinette Martinelli at (570) 466-0830 or antoinette248@gmail.com.

Continued on Page 30

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Alhamar to host Rosary devotion

WILKES-BARRE — Local Alhamar 4 Caravan, of the Order of Alhambra, will host a Marian devotion Rosary prayer service on Tuesday, Sept. 29, from 6 to 7 p.m. at Christ the King Chapel on the campus of King's College, 29 W. North St., North Wilkes-Barre.

Recitation of the Rosary

prayers, accompanied by chanted Scriptural mysteries for the devotion, will also include Fatima prayers and Marian hymns. Devotional music will be led by Ernie Pappa.

All are welcome to unite in prayer to honor Our Lady of Fatima, patroness of the Alhambra Order.



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Catholic Happenings Around the Diocese

“Theology on Tap” Series —
SEPT. 16 & OCT. 13, sponsored by the Catholic Community of Epiphany Parish, Sayre; events begin at 6:30 p.m. at Sam’s Bar & Grill in Sayre. Open to youth adults, ages 21 to 40. Cover charge: \$5; additional drinks and meals are available for purchase.

St. Lucy’s Drive-Thru Pasta Dinner — SEPT. 17, sponsored by St. Michael Parish, Scranton, in conjunction with The Italian Colony of St. Lucy; held from 3 to 6 p.m. in the parking lot of St.

Lucy Church, 949 Scranton St., West Scranton. Dinner cost: \$15, includes penne w/meatballs, salad, bread, and two biscotti. St. Lucy’s “famous” pasta sauce available for sale. For ticket information, call Joe Guido (570) 955-7469.

Lourdes Virtual Pilgrimage Experience — SEPT. 19, sponsored by Gate of Heaven Parish in Dallas; virtual experience of Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine in France begins at 1 p.m. in Gate of Heaven Church, 40 Machell Ave., Dallas. Devotional experience includes Eucharistic adoration & benediction, and Rosary prayers. Free-will offering accepted. For more information, call the parish office, (570) 675-2121.

Monthly Meeting of the Lay Carmelites — SEPT. 19, hosted by Our Lady of the Mountains Lay Carmelite Community on the third Saturday of each month; gatherings are held from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Oblates of St. Joseph Seminary/Chapel, 1880 Highway 315, Laflin. For more information, contact Chris at (570) 239-8094.

31st Annual Lebanese Heritage Festival — SEPT. 20, hosted by St. Ann Maronite Church, 1320 Price St., West Scranton; held from noon to 7 p.m. Heritage festival features authentic Lebanese food & pastries; live music and entertainment.

St. Joseph Fraternity of Third Order Secular Franciscans — SEPT. 20, Lay Franciscan Canonical Order gathers on the third Sunday of each month; meetings hosted from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Oblates of St. Joseph Seminary/Chapel, 1880 Highway 315, Laflin. All interested men, women and visitors are welcome. For more information, contact Michele Sisak, OFS, at (570) 807-7996, or visit the Facebook page.

“40 Days for Life” Pro-Life Rosary Gatherings — SEPT. 24-OCT. 30, offered for the special intentions of an end to abortion and closure of the Planned Parenthood location in Wilkes-Barre; Rosary is prayed each weekday, Monday

Continued on Page 31

Who makes house calls?

As of October 2015, I will now meet clients either at their home, or at a location they choose and no longer require clients to meet at my office. I have decided that I would change the way I meet with people so it will be as easy and as convenient as possible for the client.

Based on my practice, which consists of estate planning and administration along with elder law, I find that clients are more comfortable discussing such matters in familiar surroundings. While I know this may seem unconventional to some, I believe I will be able to serve clients much better in this fashion.

If anyone is uncomfortable with home visits, I have a few locations where I can meet in an office setting. I look forward to meeting with my existing clients and especially meeting new clients that are looking for any assistance in estate or elder law matters.



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- Medicaid Application Assistance

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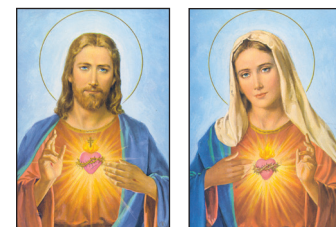
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Blue Army Reparation Vigil

The next monthly First Friday Reparation Vigil, dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary and sponsored by the Blue Army, will be held **Sept. 4** at Saint Joseph’s Oblate Chapel, 1880 Highway 315, Laflin (Pittston).

Devotions begin Friday evening at 8 p.m. with recitation of the Rosary, during which time confessions are heard. Mass of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is celebrated at 8:55 p.m., followed by benediction and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and consecration to the Sacred Heart.

The vigil continues with the crowning of the Blue Army



Pilgrim Virgin Statue, the Blue Army Pledge, Fatima prayers and Marian hymns, followed by litany and consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The vigil concludes with scapular enrollment at 10:15 p.m.

Music for the First Friday devotion is provided by Marian Devotion Ministries, led by Ernie Pappa.

Catholic Happenings Around the Diocese of Scranton

Continued from Page 30

to Friday, at 10 a.m. in front of the Planned Parenthood offices at 101 North Main St., Wilkes-Barre. The pro-life campaign draws attention to the evil of abortion through prayer & fasting, constant vigil, and community outreach.

13th Annual Knights Golf Outing — **SEPT. 26**, sponsored by Knights of Columbus, Monsignor Joseph P. McDonough Council 7403; hosted at Honesdale Golf Club, 121 Golf Hill Road, Honesdale. Registration at 10:30 a.m., followed by lunch at 11 a.m. and noon shotgun start. Entry fee: \$100 per golfer, includes lunch, buffet dinner & prizes. For registration information, contact Kevin Scollan, (917) 710-8031.

Drive-Thru Potato Pancake Fest — **SEPT. 26 & 27**, sponsored by the Men's Club of Exaltation of the Holy Cross Parish, 420 Main Road, Hanover Township; held on the parish grounds Saturday, noon to 5 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m. (vehicles may enter drive-thru from the Sans Souci Parkway). Cost: six potato pancakes for \$10. Cash raffle drawing with \$25,000 in prizes held Sunday at approximately 5 p.m.

Annual Parish Altar & Rosary Society Birthday Tea — **SEPT. 27**, honoring the 75th Anniversary of Gate of Heaven Parish in Dallas; annual event

will be held from noon to 3 p.m. at Appletree Terrace at Newberry Estates, Dallas. Tickets cost \$35 and include dinner, desserts, coffee & teas, and musical entertainment by Changing Habits; event also features basket raffle and cash raffle drawings, and cash bar. All are welcome.

Holy Dormition Secular Franciscans Retreat — **OCT. 4**, sponsored by the Holy Dormition Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order in the Greater Hazleton area (St. Katharine Drexel Region); Franciscan afternoon retreat held from 1 to 4 p.m. at St. John Bosco Parish, 573 PA Route 93, Sugarloaf. Retreat leader: Father Brian J.W. Clarke, pastor of SS. Cyril & Methodius Church in Hazleton. Event marks the 800th anniversary of the "Transitus" — the earthly passing of St. Francis of Assisi on Oct. 3, 1226. All are welcome free of charge; reservations appreciated. Call Joan Pesta (570) 926-0326, or email: ofs.franciscan@gmail.com.

'Respect Life Sunday' Mass & Holy Hour — **OCT. 4**, sponsored by Pennsylvanians for Human Life; hosted at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Swoyersville. Respect Life Sunday Mass celebrated at 8:30 a.m. in Holy Trinity Church, 116 Hughes St., Swoyersville, followed by a Holy Hour; concluding with Benediction at 10:30 a.m. All faithful welcome to join in offering prayers for the sanctity of all human life.

"Fall in Love with Cash" Bingo — **OCT. 4**, sponsored by the Ladies of Mary Society of Exaltation of the Holy Cross Parish in Hanover Township; hosted at the Warrior Run Fire Hall, 316 Academy St., Warrior Run. Doors open at 11 a.m.;

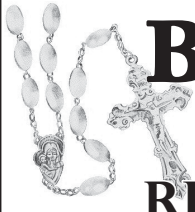
games begin 1 p.m. Admission cost: \$25 (in advance) or \$30 (at door), includes 15 regular bingo games, with \$100 cash prize each; final cover-all special wins \$1,000. Games party also includes five specials, door prizes, basket raffle, food & bake sales, and cash drawing. For tickets and more information, visit www.exhc.org or call (570) 823-6242.

Parish Bingo Spectacular — **OCT. 11**, hosted by Mother, Mary of God Parish in Scranton; doors open at noon and games begin at 1 p.m. in Holy Rosary Center, 316 Market St., North Scranton. Admission fee: \$30, includes 16 regular games with \$150 prize each. Event features four mystery special games (\$5 each with \$300 to \$1,000 in prizes); homemade foods,

door prizes, cash & lottery ticket raffle drawings. Advance reservations only; for tickets, call the parish rectory (570) 342-4881.

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\$120/person includes: Green Fees, Motor Cart, Lunch, Dinner, Beverages, & Prizes!

Registration & Breakfast: 9:00 A.M.
10:00 AM - Shotgun Start
Dinner at Stonehedge Golf Club
Awards & Prizes to follow
Dinner Guests welcome: \$25.00/person

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Email: olvhl309@aol.com
Make Check Payable to Our Lady of Victory
Mail to: OLV, 16 2nd St., Harveys Lake, PA 18618

CAPTAIN & CREW GOLFER REGISTRATION FORM

1.) Name & Phone

2.) Name & Phone

3.) Name & Phone

4.) Name & Phone



Catholic Social Services hosting 'Back to School' event

WILKES-BARRE TOWNSHIP - Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton and its 'Parents as Teachers' Program will host a free Back to School community event on Saturday, Aug. 22, 2026.

The event will be held at the center court of the Wyoming Valley Mall from noon until 4:00 p.m.

There will be free school supplies, dental exams for children, nail painting and face painting, all while supplies last.

There will also be amazing door prizes for those who attend.

Among the local agencies scheduled to attend:

- Children's Service Center
- Maternal Family Health Services
- Smiles 4 Keeps (Dental Exams)
- Sweet Cheeks (Face Painting)
- BarberLife Barbershop
- ISA Magic Nails
- Clear Vision Health & Wellness
- Wilkes-Barre Health Department
- Luzerne County Children & Youth Services
- Commission on Economic Opportunity
- Volunteers of America
- Forward Thinking
- Family Service Association
- Domestic Violence Shelter
- Geisinger
- Pathway to Recovery
- Jefferson Health Plans
- Pristine Home Care
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- By His Grace & Love
- CareerLink
- Healthy Families of America
- Youth Move PA
- And Many More!

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BUILDING YOUR CATHOLIC LEGACY



Review Your Beneficiaries

A simple review of your beneficiary designations can help ensure your plans reflect both your wishes and your faith. Retirement accounts, life insurance policies, and other financial assets often pass directly to the beneficiaries you name.

As you review your plans, consider naming your parish, Catholic school, a ministry, or the Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Scranton in your estate. It's a simple way to leave a lasting legacy of faith and support the Church's mission for generations to come.

To learn more about creating your Catholic legacy, contact
The Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Scranton.

Contact: Mark DiPippa, Executive Director
Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Scranton
300 Wyoming Ave, Scranton, PA 18503
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