



# *The Catholic Light*

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

**Weekly E-Newsletter**

**June 20, 2024**

Wedding Anniversary Mass to recognize  
5,914 years of married life



A total of 135 couples who are celebrating milestone anniversaries in 2024 will be recognized at the Cathedral of Saint Peter this Sunday, June 23, 2024.

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

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

In all, the couples registered to attend the Mass will signify 5,914 years of married life.

Two couples who have registered to attend the Mass are each celebrating 67 years of marriage in 2024. The couples are from Nanticoke and Dickson City.

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

CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton will broadcast the Mass live and provide a livestream on the Diocese of Scranton website and all Diocesan social media platforms.

[Click Here to Read and Share This Information from the Diocese of Scranton Website](#)

---

**Tioga County church to celebrate 150th anniversary with dinner June 23**



The faithful of Holy Child Parish in Tioga County will celebrate the 150th anniversary of its secondary worship site – Saint Mary of Czestochowa Church in Blossburg – later this month.

On Sunday, June 23, 2024, parishioners and friends have been invited to a special celebration that will begin with Mass at 9 a.m. at Saint Mary's Church and will be followed by a dinner at 3 p.m. in Saint Mary's Hall.

"We're going to have Polish foods and most of the people who I see on the list are people that went here when they were kids themselves. They're all coming back," parishioner Ann Marie Davis of Blossburg, said.

Davis is one of several people helping to plan the anniversary celebration for the church which was established on March 15, 1874. A sign marking that date hangs above the main entrance for the church.

"It is hard to believe because when you look at the history of this town there aren't that many churches that are that old," Davis added.

Saint Mary of Czestochowa Church is the first church in the Diocese of Scranton that was established for the faithful of Polish descent.

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

---

**Catholic Social Services and other local non-profits to sponsor World Refugee Day celebration on Saturday in Scranton**



# World Refugee Day

A World Where **Day 2024**  
Refugees Are Always Welcomed



## Come Celebrate

World Refugee Day honors the **strength, resilience, and courage** of millions of refugees throughout the world. **Everyone is welcome** to come to this free event to share in the rich cultural heritage of the refugee communities in Northeast Pennsylvania.

**Saturday, June 22, 2024**  
2:00-4:00 p.m.

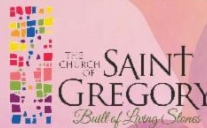
**Nay Aug Park**

(Mulberry Street Entrance,  
Across from GCMC Hospital  
& Everhart Museum)

**Free Family Event ♥ Cultural Music & Dance**  
♥ Giveaways, Games & Activities for Kids  
♥ Light Refreshments



DONBESE COMMUNITY SCRANTON  
Providing Housing • All-Seasoning All-Seasons



Questions? Contact the Office of Community Relations at 570.941.4419 or email [community@scranton.edu](mailto:community@scranton.edu)

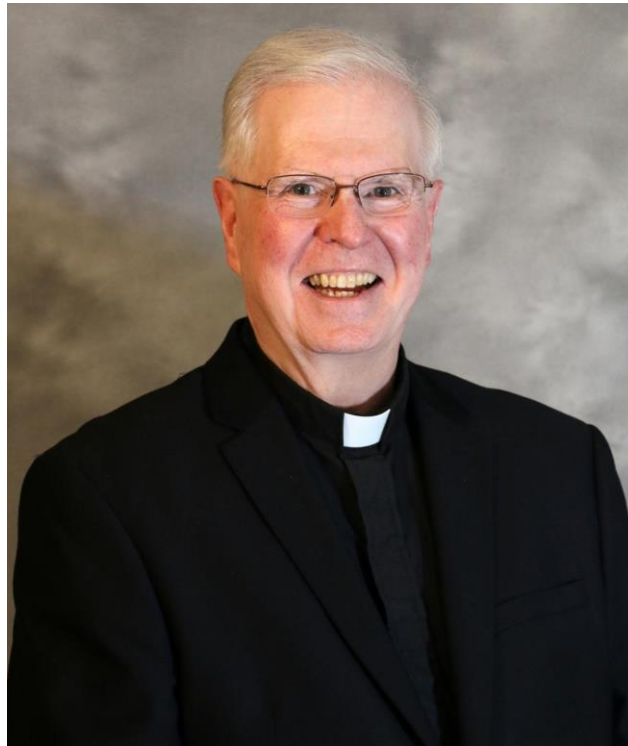
The public is invited to celebrate and honor World Refugee Day!

On Saturday, June 22, 2024, everyone is invited to join local Scranton refugee communities for a time of sharing, learning, fellowship and celebration that honors global refugees. This year's theme is "A World Where Refugees Are Always Welcomed," which focuses on the power of inclusion and solutions for refugees.

The free event will be held from 2-4 p.m. at Nay Aug Park in Scranton (on the Greenhouse side of Nay Aug Park). The celebration will include cultural music and dance performances, refreshments, giveaways, games and activities for kids.

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

## Rev. Thomas J. Maloney (1939-2024)



Reverend Thomas J. Maloney, Pastor Emeritus of Our Lady of the Eucharist, Pittston, died on June 19, 2024, at Marywood Heights,

Scranton, after having faithfully served the Diocese of Scranton for fifty-nine years.

Reverend Thomas J. Maloney, son of the late Thomas F. and Irene (Woods) Maloney, was born in Avoca on October 23, 1939. A graduate of Scranton Preparatory School, he continued his education at St. Charles Seminary, Catonsville, Maryland. He completed his studies for the priesthood at St. Mary's Seminary and University, Baltimore, MD receiving a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy in 1961 and a Bachelors of Sacred Theology in 1963. Father was ordained to the priesthood on June 12, 1965, by the Most Reverend Jerome D. Hannan, late Bishop of Scranton.

Viewing will take place on Sunday, June 23, 2024, at Our Lady of the Eucharist Parish, 535 N. Main Street, Pittston, PA, 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., followed by a Vesper Service.

A viewing will also be held at Our Lady of the Eucharist Parish on Monday, June 24, 2024, 9:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

A Pontifical Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton, on Monday, June 24, 2024, 11:00 a.m. at Our Lady of the Eucharist Parish, Pittston.

Interment will be in St. Mary's Cemetery, Avoca.

[Click Here to Read the Full Obituary for Rev. Thomas J. Maloney](#)

---

**Bishop Bambera announces clergy appointments  
to take effect July 1**



His Excellency, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, announced several clergy appointments that will be effective July 1, 2024.

Click the link below to see the full listing of appointments announced on Monday, June 10, 2024.

[Click Here to Read the Clergy Appointments Announced on June 10, 2024](#)

---

**'A Night Under the Stars' shines bright in Hazleton**





On Friday, June 14, 2024, more than 75 people came together in Hazleton to enjoy ‘A Night Under the Stars,’ an event organized by Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton.

The Power City Parking Lot provided the unique setting for an unforgettable evening of joy, which featured food, music and dancing. Attendees were treated to a four-course meal at the event, which included entertainment by ‘Six Shots.’

Proceeds from the event will be used to support the mission and services provided by Catholic Social Services, including Saint Joseph’s Food Pantry, Divine Providence Emergency Shelter and the Bridge to Independence Program.

“We are thrilled by the overwhelming response to ‘A Night Under the Stars,’ Danielle Matarella, Greater Hazleton Director of Catholic Social Services, explained. “It was wonderful to see people come together to enjoy a wonderful meal and fellowship. This event truly encapsulated the essence of our community.”

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

## U.S. Bishops discuss anti-poverty arm, pastoral frameworks, groundbreaking proposals at Spring meeting



Gathered in Louisville for their spring plenary assembly, the U.S. bishops' June 12-14 meeting saw a mix of important matters discussed — with some unexpected twists and moments of robust discussion — starting with how the bishops would continue to address the scourge of poverty in the U.S. and ending with a view to the future for the National Eucharistic Revival.

The first day of the bishops' public session June 13 was split between the morning executive session and an afternoon public session. Behind closed doors, the bishops discussed the future of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, their domestic anti-poverty initiative, which has suffered in recent years from declining donations and questions about grant-making decisions that had depleted its funding reserves.

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

## U.S. Bishops pass new youth, young adult pastoral framework; it's a first in nearly 30 years



Just days after the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops met June 12-14 for their Spring Plenary Assembly in Louisville, the bishops finally achieved the threshold needed to pass their national pastoral framework to guide ministries with youth and young adults.

Bishop Robert E. Barron of Winona-Rochester, Minnesota, chair of the bishops' Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth, presented the pastoral framework that will aid pastors, ministry leaders and families.

During his June 13 presentation, the bishop said his committee had engaged in “concerted listening” with youth and young adults, pastoral ministers, families and bishops.

“What we heard was a strong desire to develop a framework that was streamlined and straightforward — one that could be used not just by pastors and pastoral ministers, but also by families and by young people themselves who can evangelize and guide their peers to Christ,” said Bishop Barron. “We heard a desire to name and address issues including sexuality, mental health, disaffiliation, racial justice, polarization and the desire of so many young people to transform our society.”

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

## **Pope swaps jokes with comedy stars at Vatican**





As they waited for Pope Francis to arrive at the Clementine Hall in the Vatican Apostolic Palace for an early morning audience, late night comedy stars looked at each other and thought, “something’s wrong.”

“We’re in this beautiful, beautiful space in the Vatican and for some reason they’ve let comedians in, which is always a mistake,” comedian Conan O’Brien told reporters after meeting the pope June 14.

He was just one of 105 comedians from around the world who traveled to the Vatican for a papal audience and to “establish a link between the Catholic Church and comic artists,” according to the Dicastery for Culture and Education, which organized the meeting.

Comedians from the United States included Stephen Colbert, Chris Rock, Jimmy Fallon, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Whoopi Goldberg, Jim Gaffigan and Mike Birbiglia among others.

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

---

**Parish picnic, bazaar and festival season  
begins for the summer season**





Church picnics, bazaars and festivals are a summertime tradition in northeastern and north central Pennsylvania. They are much more than fundraisers, they bring together communities. Last weekend, Mary, Mother of God Parish in North Scranton helped to usher in the 2024 church picnic season with its annual Block Party.

We encourage you to watch a short video of the festivities by clicking the link above. For several years, the Diocese of Scranton's Communications Office has maintained a webpage for all of the summer festivals for parishioners to enjoy. There are four more events scheduled for this coming weekend at St. Faustina Parish in Nanticoke; St. Leo the Great Parish in Ashley; Divine Mercy Parish in Scranton; and St. Mary's Parish in Dorrance.

Parishes are invited to send information regarding their events to [info@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:info@dioceseofscranton.org) and the list will continue to be updated throughout the summer.

[Click Here to See the Full Listing of 2024 Parish Summer Picnics, Festivals and Bazaars that have been submitted to The Catholic Light](#)

HELP US MEET OUR GOAL FOR THE  
**DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL**



[Click Here to Give a Gift to the Diocesan Annual Appeal Now!](#)

Follow Us



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