



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

February 6, 2025

Saint Francis of Assisi Kitchen launches 'Host for a Day' campaign



With more people than ever requiring its services, Saint Francis of Assisi Kitchen in Scranton has launched its 47th annual Host-for-a-Day campaign to support its mission of feeding and clothing individuals and families in need.

For a donation of \$100 or more, an individual, family, business, community organization or faith-based group can help to fund a day's meal. Major sponsorship levels are also available starting at \$500.


In effect, each contributor becomes a "host" for a day. Contributors may then select a date on which they or someone they designate or memorialize will be recognized as helping to provide that meal.

Rob Williams, Kitchen Executive Director, noted that the Kitchen recently had the highest single month serving counts in its history. In just one month, the Kitchen served nearly 10,000 meals, provided more than 1,000 family servings through the Client Choice Food Pantry and had nearly 1,000 visits to the Free Clothing operations.

In 2024, a total of 96,000 meals were provided.

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Diocese of Scranton to hold Mass for persons with disabilities on Sunday

Diocese of Scranton 

Mass for Persons With Disabilities

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2025

10:00AM

CATHEDRAL OF ST. PETER

315 WYOMING AVE. SCRANTON, PA 18502

CELEBRANT: BISHOP JOSEPH C. BAMBERA

All are welcome to join us as we honor the many gifts those with physical, developmental, or intellectual disabilities bring to the Church and the community.

**A lite reception will follow Mass in the
Diocesan Pastoral Center.**

For more info, contact
Shannon Kowalski at
(570)207-2213

In advance of National Disability Awareness Month in March, the Diocese of Scranton will hold its annual Mass for Persons with Disabilities this coming Sunday, Feb. 9, 2025, at 10 a.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

All people, including those with special abilities, have gifts to contribute to the life of the Church. The Diocese of Scranton embraces and welcomes the talents of all individuals in building up the Kingdom of God.

The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will serve as principal celebrant and homilist at this special Mass.

The Mass is open to everyone. It will be broadcast live on CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton. The Mass will also be livestream on

the Diocese of Scranton website, YouTube channel and links will be provided on all Diocesan social media platforms.

A lite reception will be held following the Mass at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 330 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton.

Partners in the annual Mass for Persons with Disabilities include Saint Joseph's Center in Scranton and the Order of the Alhambra. For more information, visit dioceseofscranton.org.

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

King's College to host annual Moreau Lecture on Feb. 19

You are cordially invited to attend the
**45TH ANNUAL
MOREAU LECTURE**

Sponsored by the Congregation of Holy Cross at King's College

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

*Burke Auditorium,
William G. McGowan School of Business*



Elizabeth Lev, Ph.D.

*Faculty member of the Pontifical University of
St. Thomas Aquinas, art historian, owner of Rome-
based “Liz Lev Tours”, consultant to the Vatican
Museums, and author*

presents

**“Can Beauty be Trusted? Looking for
Truth and Goodness in Art”**

at 7:30 p.m.

In-person attendance with a live Zoom option

*For further information, contact Rev. Michael Wurtz, C.S.C., S.L.D.,
at michaelwurtz@kings.edu or (570) 208-5900 ext. 5482.*



KING'S COLLEGE
TRANSFORMATION. COMMUNITY. HOLY CROSS.

The public is invited to attend the 45th annual Moreau Lecture at King's College on Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2025.

The Annual Moreau Lecture has welcomed leading theological voices to speak at the King's College campus since 1979.

Sponsored by the priests and brothers of the Congregation of Holy Cross at King's College, the lecture animates theological thought among college faculty, staff, and students.

The 2025 presentation will focus on the theme: "Can Beauty be Trusted? Looking for Truth and Goodness in Art."

[Click Here for Information on Past Moreau Lecture Speakers](#)

In its first week, more than 250 donors support 'Living the STREAM' fundraiser



In its first week, the Diocese of Scranton's inaugural 'Living the STREAM' fundraiser has already raised more than \$40,000 to support Catholic education.

Students in Grades 6-8 at Catholic schools across the Diocese were invited to participate in the fundraiser - in which they put their imagination into action and share a faith-infused big idea that will meet a community, national, or global need.

Everyone is invited to view the project videos and vote for the entries that they'd like to move onto further rounds, where the students can compete for valuable scholarship dollars.

Currently, the schools that have received the most support include Our Lady of Peace School in Clarks Green, Good Shepherd Academy in Kingston, Wyoming Area Catholic School in Exeter, Notre Dame Elementary School in East Stroudsburg, and Saint Nicholas - Saint Mary School in Wilkes-Barre.

[Click Here to Watch all of the 'Living the STREAM' videos and vote for your favorite](#)

Bishop Bambera to celebrate 'World Day of the Sick Mass' on Tuesday



World Day of
the
Sick Mass

Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2025
12:10 p.m.
Cathedral of Saint Peter

The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will celebrate Mass for the 33rd World Day of the Sick on Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2025, at 12:10 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

The commemoration of the World Day of the Sick not only provides an opportunity to devote special attention to those who are ill, but is also a celebration of God's works of mercy, especially through those who work tirelessly in the healthcare field.

The World Day of the Sick Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter will feature the Liturgy of the Anointing. Any person who wishes to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be invited to approach the bishop/priest with their hands open and palms facing up. The bishop/priest will anoint both the forehead and hands of the sick person.

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

Pope: Like Mary, respond to God's love with action



Christians are called to follow Mary's example by responding to God's love with action, reaching out to others instead of withdrawing from the world, Pope Francis said.

Reflecting on Mary's visit to her pregnant cousin Elizabeth after learning that she will bring the Messiah into the world, he said that "this young daughter of Israel does not choose to protect herself from the world, does not fear the dangers and judgments of others, but goes out to meet others."

The pope began his general audience in the Paul VI Audience Hall Feb. 5 by apologizing for being unable to read his catechesis due to a lingering cold, and explained that an aide, Msgr. Pierluigi Giroli, would read his prepared text.

"It is difficult for me to speak," Pope Francis said before ceding to the floor to his aide. However, he did read the summary of his catechesis in Spanish and spoke without clear signs of difficulty.'

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

Pope will prepare papal document to help church promote children's rights



Wrapping up a Vatican summit on the rights of children, Pope Francis announced he was going to publish a papal document dedicated to children.

He called the Feb. 3 summit venue in the frescoed halls of the Apostolic Palace, a kind of “open observatory” in which speakers explored “the reality of childhood throughout the world, a childhood that is unfortunately often hurt, exploited, denied.”

Some 50 experts and leaders from around the world, who shared their experience and compassion, he said, also “elaborated proposals for the protection of children’s rights, considering them not as numbers, but as faces.”

“Children are watching us,” he said, “to see how we are going about living” in this world.

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

Ceasefire overshadows Gaza's humanitarian crisis, pontifical charity says



The long-awaited and elusive ceasefire between Israel and Hamas has silenced bombs and halted air raids on the Gaza Strip, for the time being, but the humanitarian situation there is dire, the regional director of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association reported.

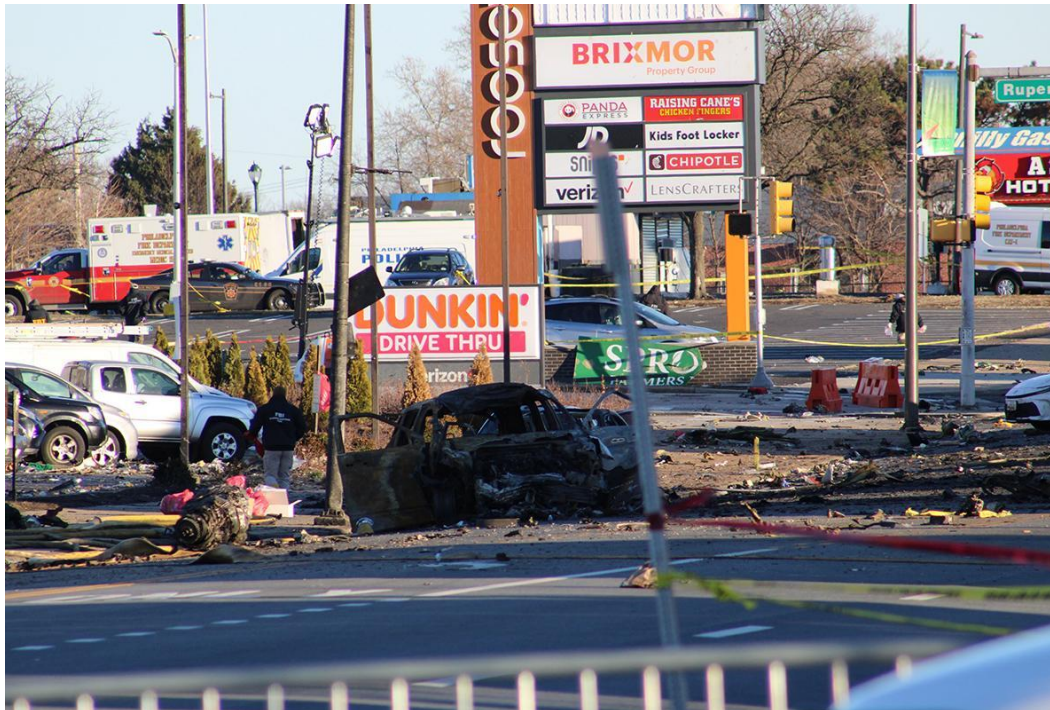
CNEWA, established in 1926 by Pope Pius XI to support the Eastern churches, administers the Pontifical Mission, which was founded as the Pontifical Mission for Palestine by Pope Pius XII in 1949 to care for Palestinian refugees. The mandate of the mission, which was subsequently

placed under CNEWA's direction, has been extended by several pontiffs to care for all those affected by war and poverty in the Middle East.

CNEWA is tending to the needs of thousands of people including children left without families, pregnant women, new mothers and the chronically ill in desperate need of health care.

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

Archbishop Perez calls for prayer after medical jet crash in Philadelphia



Archbishop Nelson J. Pérez of Philadelphia is calling for prayer, saying his “heart sank” after learning of a fatal air crash in that city Jan. 31, just two days after a midair collision between a commercial jet and an Army helicopter near a Washington airport killed 67.

“This shocking tragedy comes with great loss, pain, and anxiety for the families of the crew and passengers as well as neighborhood residents and

business owners whose evening was shattered with sudden violence,” said Archbishop Pérez in a statement. “We pray fervently that God will bring comfort and healing in this time of anguish.”

The archbishop issued his statement a few hours after a medical flight departed Northeast Philadelphia Airport Jan. 31 at approximately 6 p.m. Minutes after takeoff, the Learjet 55 plunged into a major intersection in the city’s northeast section.

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

New report gives insights into men and women religious making perpetual vows



Those who embrace consecrated life “bring the hope of the Gospel to the world in both visible and hidden ways,” said Bishop Earl A. Boyea of Lansing, Michigan, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations.

Bishop Boyea shared his thoughts in a Jan. 29 statement released by the USCCB ahead of the World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life on Feb. 2, the feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple. The day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life was instituted by St. John Paul II in 1997.

Along with Bishop Boyea's statement, the USCCB also announced the release of a new report on men and women religious in the U.S. who professed their perpetual vows in 2024.

The annual survey is conducted for the bishops by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University.

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

Kansas City bishop eyes 'three-peat' for charity in bishops' Super Bowl LIX wager



When it comes to the pressures associated with being the shepherd of a diocese, it doesn't get much easier than advocating for your community's football team.

Such is the situation for Bishop James V. Johnston, who has spearheaded the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, Missouri, since 2015. On Feb. 9, Bishop Johnston's favorite football team, the Kansas City Chiefs, meets the Philadelphia Eagles in Super Bowl LIX at Caesars Superdome in New Orleans.

To the dismay of every other NFL fan base, watching the Chiefs grapple for the Lombardi Trophy has almost become an annual occurrence. No team has won more games than Kansas City since two-time NFL Most Valuable Player quarterback Patrick Mahomes assumed the reins in 2018.

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Catholic Ministries Appeal supports parish life efforts to support families and marriages



Donate now at
AnnualAppeal.org,
call (570) 207-2250 or
click this QR code



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