



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

April 10, 2025

You're Invited! *Join us for the 2025 Chrism Mass on Tuesday*

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE 2025
Chrism Mass

WITNESS THE BLESSING OF THE HOLY OILS
AND RENEWAL OF PRIESTLY PROMISES

TUESDAY, APRIL 15
4:00 P.M.
CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PETER

All parishioners of the Diocese of Scranton are invited - and encouraged - to attend the annual Chrism Mass on Tuesday, April 15, at 4:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

This sacred liturgy, one of the most beautiful of the year, gathers all priests of the Diocese together to witness the blessing of the Holy Oils that will be

used in sacraments throughout the year and the Mass also includes the renewal of priestly promises.

The Chrism Mass is a powerful celebration of unity, service, and the presence of the Holy Spirit in our local Church.

During this 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope, attending the Chrism Mass is a wonderful opportunity to attend Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter - which has been designated as one of the local pilgrimage sites!

[Click Here for a Full Listing of Pontifical Liturgies to Celebrate Holy Week 2025 at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton](#)

On Holy Thursday, all parishioners are encouraged to 'Get Up and Pray!'

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

VOCATIONS



“Get Up and Pray”

Luke 22:46

Join us in praying for vocations on Holy Thursday, April 17th!

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



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

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

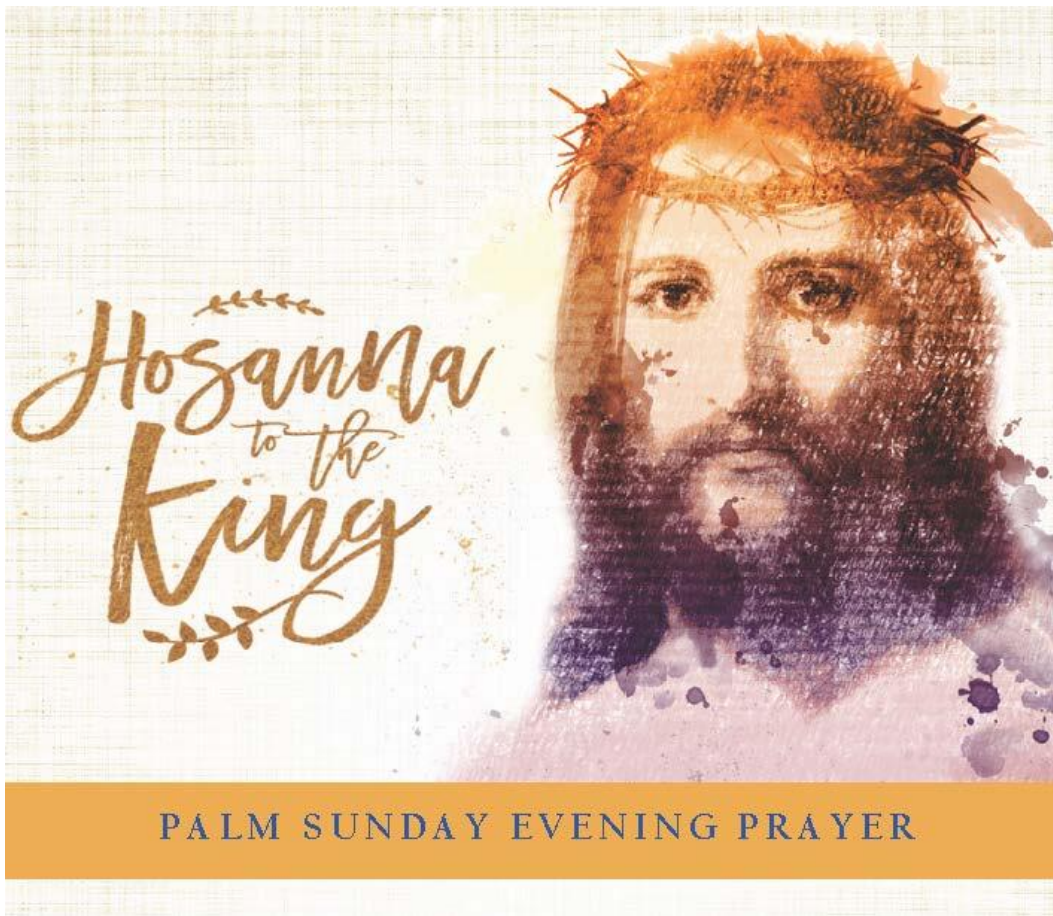
On Holy Thursday in particular, Catholics are encouraged to pray for priests and seminarians – that they be holy messengers of hope, reconciliation and peace.

This Holy Thursday, April 17, the Diocese of Scranton is once again inviting you to participate on a prayer journey and is asking you to share that journey on social media.

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

[Click Here to See a Full List of Parishes \(By County\) That Welcome You to Visit the Altar of Repose](#)

Catholic Television to broadcast Palm Sunday Evening Prayer & Morning Prayer during Triduum



In the days leading up to Easter, the most joyous day in the Church year, Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton will be broadcasting several additional prayer opportunities for the faithful of our community.

On Palm Sunday, April 13, CTV will not only broadcast the Pontifical Liturgy celebrated by Bishop Bambera live at 12:15 p.m. from the Cathedral of Saint Peter - but will also broadcast the 5 p.m. Palm Sunday Evening Mass, followed by Palm Sunday Evening Prayer at approximately 6:15 p.m.

In addition to Palm Sunday Evening Prayer, during the three most sacred days of the Church's liturgical year, the Sacred Paschal Triduum, CTV will also broadcast Morning Prayer each day at 8:00 a.m. Those broadcasts will be on:

- Holy Thursday, April 17
- Good Friday, April 18
- Holy Saturday, April 19

On Holy Thursday, CTV will also broadcast Evening Prayer live from the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton at 9:00 p.m., following visitation from parishioners at the Altar of Repose.

Rectory, Set, Cook! IV ends today at 5:00 p.m.



LAST CALL - RECTORY, SET, COOK! 2025 ENDS TODAY!

Vote **TO MOVE YOUR PASTOR CHEF UP THE LEADERBOARD AND HELP HIM REACH HIS PERSONAL MILESTONE!**

"POLLS" CLOSE AT 5 P.M. TODAY, APRIL 10!

HALF THE MONEY YOUR PASTOR RAISES RETURNS TO YOUR PARISH/ES, AND HALF HELPS FEED THE HUNGRY AND HOUSE THE HOMELESS!

If you need help or would like to vote by phone, please call Sandra Snyder at 570-591-5004. Checks mailed now will not arrive in time.

SCAN TO VOTE OR VISIT DIOCESEOFSCRANTON.ORG

MATTHEW 25:35

PRESENTED BY: **HawkFamily** FOUNDATION

REC/DRY, SET, COOK! 2025
TECHING IT UP A NOTCH!

After weeks of fundraising, Rectory, Set, Cook! IV will officially come to a conclusion today, April 10, 2025.

The final votes must be cast by 5 p.m. to support your favorite pastor chef, recipe, or video.

Since the beginning of Lent, approximately 30 pastor chefs have been vying for the title of "top pastor chef" - and in these final hours - anyone could still capture those bragging rights.

For the last four years, Rectory, Set, Cook! has been a fun way that priests of the Diocese of Scranton have been raising money to support anti-hunger and anti-homelessness initiatives of Catholic Social Services. Half of the money raised through donations goes to that cause - and the other half stays in the parish of the pastor chef.

Who will win this year's annual "food fight?" Only your votes will determine that!

[Click Here to Vote for Your Favorite Pastor Chef or Recipe by 5 p.m. TONIGHT!](#)

'March Madness' event supports Wyoming Valley Catholic Youth Center



Hundreds of people came together April 5, 2025, for a night of fun with great food and exciting basketball games, all to benefit the programs and services of the Wyoming Valley Catholic Youth Center.

The CYC will held its annual 'March Madness' event at the Westmoreland Club, South Franklin Street, Wilkes-Barre, from 6 to 11 p.m.

The Wyoming Valley Catholic Youth Center is the largest 24-hour, single-site childcare center in Luzerne County. The facility serves children and families throughout Wilkes-Barre and beyond.

The CYC March Madness event is one of the CYC's largest fundraisers of the year. The Wyoming Valley Catholic Youth Center has been a fixture in downtown Wilkes-Barre for decades, providing a solid foundation and serving as a home away from home for area youths and families.

[Click Here to Watch a Short Video of the 'March Madness' Event from Catholic Television](#)

Ailing pope surprises pilgrims during Jubilee of the Sick



With thousands of infirmed people and those who care for them gathered in St. Peter's Square, Pope Francis, seated in a wheelchair and wearing a nasal cannula, made an unexpected appearance to greet the crowd.

"A happy Sunday to you all, many thanks!" the pope said to them with a strained voice.

Appearing at the end of the closing Mass of the Jubilee of the Sick and Health Care Workers April 6, the pope shocked the thousands gathered in the square who broke out in cheers upon seeing his nurse, Massimiliano Strappetti, wheel him out of St. Peter's Basilica and into the square.

After his brief greeting, doctors in white lab coats, some wearing red clown noses, and infirmed people in wheelchairs applauded as Pope Francis was taken through the crowd to leave the square.

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

Pope begins to receive very limited visits; Britain's royal couple among them



Although they postponed their official state visit to the Vatican because of Pope Francis' health, Britain's King Charles and Queen Camilla met privately with the pope April 9, the Vatican press office said.

The pope congratulated the royal couple on the 20th anniversary of their wedding and "reciprocated His Majesty's wishes for a speedy recovery of his health," the press office said.

King Charles was hospitalized briefly March 27 for what was described as "temporary side effects" from his cancer treatment. Pope Francis has been convalescing at the Vatican since being released from the hospital March 23 after more than five weeks of inpatient treatment for breathing difficulties, double pneumonia and a polymicrobial infection in his airways.

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

U.S. Bishops ask President Trump to pursue global debt relief in Jubilee Year



In a world economy rocked by the whiplash of American trade tariffs that has spared few countries, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and Jubilee USA Network, an interfaith development group, have a proposition for President Donald J. Trump: Forgive some debts.

In a joint letter dated April 8, the two organizations wrote Trump, encouraging him to build on global debt relief efforts from his first term.

According to the United Nations, the external debt – money owed to foreign creditors – of developing countries has quadrupled in two decades to a record \$11.4 trillion in 2023, equivalent to 99% of their export earnings.

“Debt relief and restructuring make effective economic and security policy, strengthening our country’s global leadership,” said Bishop A. Elias Zaidan, chair of the USCCB’s Committee on International Justice and Peace, and Eric LeCompte, Jubilee USA Network’s executive director, in the joint letter.

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

In historic Assisi, pilgrims seek modern witness of Holiness



For centuries, pilgrims came to Assisi to walk in the footsteps of a saint who preached to birds, embraced poverty and wandered the hills barefoot.

But today, many arrive in search of a different model of holiness: that of a teenager in Nike sneakers who built websites and coded for Christ.

“I came to Assisi for Carlo,” said Anne-Sophie, a mother of three from France, speaking outside the Church of St. Mary Major in Assisi, where the tomb of Blessed Carlo Acutis draws a steady stream of visitors. “Not only Carlo, but St. Francis, of course,” she added April 1, mentioning the town’s patron saint almost as an afterthought.

Individual devotees, pilgrim groups and students on school field trips visited Blessed Carlo’s tomb in the church, which stands next to the site where St. Francis famously stripped off his fine clothing to embrace a life of poverty.

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

Join us tonight for Theology on Tap!



DIOCESE OF SCRANTON
YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

THEOLOGY ON TAP

A YOUNG ADULT SPEAKER SERIES FOR 21-40 YEAR OLDS

TRAVELING WITH CHRIST: THE GRACES THAT FLOW FROM PILGRIMAGE



GUEST SPEAKER:

FR. ANDREW S. HVOZDOVIC

PASTOR OF OUR LADY OF VICTORY & GATE OF
HEAVEN PARISHES

DIOCESAN COORDINATOR OF PILGRIMAGES

THURSDAY, APRIL 10
7:00PM \$5 COVER
@ SABATINI'S
BOTTLESHOP



Our next Theology on Tap event is this evening, April 10, at 7 p.m. at Sabatini's Bottleshop in Exeter.

Theology on Tap is a young adult speaker series for ages 21-40 to discuss topics of the Catholic Faith.

This month, we will be hearing from Fr. Andrew Hvozdovic, Diocesan Coordinator of Pilgrimages, who will be discussing the graces that flow from going on pilgrimages.”

Please plan to join us later tonight!

Follow us on Social Media...



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