



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

April 3, 2025

Bishop to celebrate Holy Week/Easter Masses at Cathedral of Saint Peter



Parishes across the Diocese of Scranton, including the Cathedral of Saint Peter, are busy preparing for Holy Week and Easter. The faithful are invited and encouraged to attend Masses to experience the joy, hope and love of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will celebrate several Pontifical Liturgies at the Cathedral of Saint Peter for this holiest time of the year.

CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton will provide live coverage of all of the Pontifical Masses from the Cathedral of Saint Peter. In addition to being broadcast, the Masses will also be available via livestream on the Diocese of Scranton website, YouTube channel and all Diocesan social media platforms.

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

Second Mass honoring Bishop's Youth Award recipients takes place



After one final Mass this coming Sunday, more than 500 young people will have received the 2025 Bishop's Youth Award.

Since 1996, the Bishop's Youth Award has honored students in 8th and 12th grade for their commitment to the Catholic Church and service to their parish, school, and local community.

Students from the Southern Region of the Diocese gathered on March 30 at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton. This follows a Mass for students in the Western and Eastern regions on March 23. This coming Sunday, April 6, students from the Northern Region will receive their awards.

[Click Here to Watch a Short Video from Catholic Television Featuring some of the 2025 Bishop's Youth Award Recipients from the Southern Region](#)

Diocese to hold annual Healing Mass for Survivors of Abuse April 10

HEALING MASS FOR SURVIVORS OF ABUSE

Celebrated by Bishop Joseph C. Bambera



Thursday, April 10 at 12:10 P.M.
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton

Mass will be broadcast live on CTV: Catholic Television and livestream on the Diocese of Scranton website, YouTube Channel and social media platforms

SCRANTON – The month of April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. It is a time to recognize the importance of families and communities working together to prevent child mistreatment.

The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will celebrate a Healing Mass for Survivors of Abuse at 12:10 p.m. on Thursday, April 10, 2025, at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.

The Healing Mass provides space for those affected by abuse to find solace, strength, and support. Through prayer, reflection, and healing, the Diocese of Scranton remains committed to offering care and compassion to survivors

The Mass will be broadcast live on CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton and livestream on the Diocese of Scranton website, YouTube channel and social media.

[Click Here to View This Information on the Diocese of Scranton Website](#)

Final two Lenten Holy Hours with Bishop Bambera to be held in East Stroudsburg and Wilkes-Barre



Bishop Bambera will celebrate the last two Lenten Holy Hours this coming week in deaneries across the Diocese of Scranton.

Tonight, April 3, the Bishop will visit Saint Matthew Parish in East Stroudsburg at 7:00 p.m.

On Monday, April 7, the Bishop make his final stop at Saint Nicholas Church in Wilkes-Barre at 7:00 p.m.

All are invited to attend.

During this year's Holy Hour, Bishop Bambera is not only reflecting on the third and final year of the National Eucharistic Revival that remains underway, but also the 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope that the Church is celebrating.

[Click Here to Read More About the Impact of this year's Lenten Holy Hours](#)

Lackawanna County parishes create Easter baskets for Friends of the Poor



Our Lady of the Snows Parish in Clarks Summit & Saint Gregory Parish in Clarks Green are just two of many parishes that are working to brighten the Easter holiday for area children.

On March 29, young adult volunteers from both parishes came together to make Easter baskets using items donated by faithful parishioners.

The Friends of the Poor will distribute the Easter baskets created during its annual Easter food giveaway on Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at the Scranton Cultural Center in Scranton.

Food distribution begins at 8 a.m. (drive-thru or walk-up) until supplies last.

[Click Here to Read to Watch a Short Video from Catholic Television on the Generosity of Parishioners from Our Lady of the Snows and Saint Gregory Parishes](#)

'March Madness' event Saturday to benefit Wyoming Valley Catholic Youth Center

DID YOU KNOW?

The Wyoming Valley Catholic Youth Center in Wilkes-Barre served 687 children last year in its daycare/school-age program



Hundreds of people will gather Saturday evening, 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 hold its annual 'March Madness' event at the Westmoreland Club, South Franklin Street, Wilkes-Barre, from 6 to 11 p.m.

The spirit of March Madness will be everywhere, including with the Final Four basketball games broadcast live on large screens throughout the evening.

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. For those who cannot participate in person, there is an online auction available that opened on Wednesday. Dozens of items, including sports memorabilia, a trip to Walt Disney World, and much more, are available via online auction.

[Click Here to View the Items Available in the CYC 'March Madness' Silent Auction](#)

Vatican says Pope Francis is in stable condition, his lung infection has slightly improved



Pope Francis' condition remains stable, and an X-ray showed there has been a slight improvement regarding his lingering lung infection, the Vatican press office said.

The pope continues to show improvements in his mobility and ability to speak, the press office told reporters April 1. The pope continues to receive supplemental oxygen through a nasal cannula during the day and high-flow oxygen at night when necessary. He can remove the nasal tube for "brief periods" during the day.

A significant portion of his day is spent doing physical therapy to restore the level of movement he had before he was hospitalized Feb. 14 for breathing difficulties. The pope later was diagnosed with double pneumonia, as well as viral and fungal lung infections.

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

**Catholic aid organizations in a race
against time to provide relief in Myanmar**



As the death toll following the massive earthquake in Myanmar is expected to reach 3,000, humanitarian organizations in the region, like Catholic Relief Services, are working round the clock to get essential supplies to those in need.

Cara Bragg, country manager for CRS Myanmar, said that while it's "still too early to tell," the devastation wrought by the 7.7 magnitude quake is "sure to cause some major, long-term impacts for people here."

"Thousands have lost their homes, so there will be more people in need of temporary housing. Many have lost their businesses, so they won't have a source of income. We've already heard reports of people unable to find anywhere to buy food, so we are worried about hunger," Bragg said in an email to OSV News April 1.

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

Supreme Court hears case over effort to bar Planned Parenthood from Medicaid funds



The U.S. Supreme Court heard oral argument April 2 in a case concerning South Carolina’s attempt to prevent Planned Parenthood from participating in its Medicaid health program, in what could determine the nation’s largest abortion provider’s ability to use public funds in states that have restricted abortion.

Supporters of allowing Planned Parenthood to receive Medicaid funds point to that group’s involvement in cancer screening and prevention services — such as pap tests and HPV vaccinations — but critics argue the funds are fungible and could be used to facilitate abortion.

Efforts to strip Planned Parenthood of these or other taxpayer funds are sometimes called “defunding,” such as a 2018 executive order signed by Gov. Henry McMaster, R-S.C., stripping two Planned Parenthood clinics in the state of Medicaid funds, a federal program for health care for people with low incomes that is administered by the states.

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

As 'Laudato Si' turns 10, experts urge greater response to pope's urgent message on climate



In 2015, Pope Francis shared an urgent message with the world.

Writing in “Laudato Si’, on Care for Our Common Home,” he said the Earth “cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her.”

With the 10th anniversary of the release of “Laudato Si’” approaching May 24, experts wonder: Have we been listening?

Several Catholic ecological experts and organizations agree that good – even great – work is being done to address climate issues. But, they say, it is not enough.

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

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