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# Diocese of Scranton News Briefing

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## 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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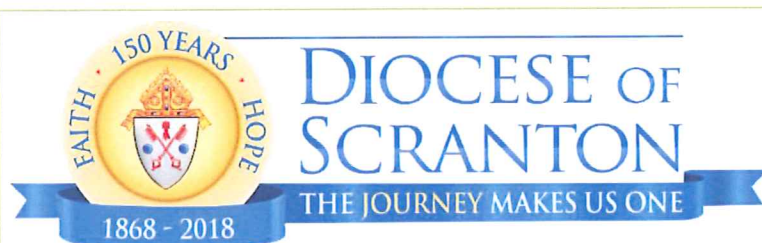
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**Bishop Leading Pilgrimage to National Shrine of the  
Immaculate Conception**

Another milestone on the year-long celebration of the Diocese of Scranton's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will be reached on Saturday, September 22, when Bishop Joseph C. Bambera leads a pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

"As we continue to celebrate the founding of our Diocese, I invite all to join me on a journey to this special place of worship, pilgrimage, evangelization and reconciliation," Bishop Bambera said. "It is my hope that by contemplating the work of divine grace in the life of the Blessed Mother, all the faithful of the Diocese of Scranton will be inspired anew by her example and assisted by her prayers."

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception is the largest Roman Catholic church in the United States and North America, and is one of the ten largest churches in the world. Designated by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops as a National Sanctuary of Prayer and Pilgrimage, the Basilica is the nation's preeminent Marian shrine, dedicated to the patroness of the United States - the Blessed Virgin Mary under her title of the Immaculate Conception. It is oftentimes affectionately referred to as "America's Catholic Church."

This will be the 17<sup>th</sup> Diocesan pilgrimage to the Basilica. Father Andrew HvozdoVIC, the Diocesan Director of Pilgrimages, in collaboration with the deans, pastors, parish life coordinators and parish pilgrimage promoters, have planned the events of the day and coordinated transportation to and from the National Shrine for all regions of the Diocese.

Buses will begin to depart from various locations at 6:00 a.m., with Morning Prayer recited during the ride. Arrival is estimated at 11:00 a.m. and Father HvozdoVIC will welcome the pilgrims in the Upper Church at noon.

The afternoon proceeds in the Upper Church with a Tour of Faith and Rosary for World Peace, followed by free time for lunch, touring and private prayer from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

There will be opportunity for Confession at 2:00 p.m. in the Crypt Church. Pilgrims will gather at 3:00 p.m. in the Upper Church to prepare for a Pontifical Mass at 3:15 p.m. with Bishop Bambera as principal celebrant and homilist.

Buses will depart from the National Shrine at 4:45 p.m. and Evening Prayer will be said at 5:30 p.m.

Information about the pilgrimage has been sent to all parishes. Each parish is asked to take its own registration and to collect the \$55 fee per person - then send their full participant list and one check to the Office for Parish Life. If a parish has at least 50 participants, a single bus will be assigned to the parish and will depart from the parish grounds. For those parishes with a smaller delegation, arrangements will be made for combined buses and multiple points of departure throughout the Diocese.

There is also an overnight option for interested parishes - the program, reservations and all arrangements for this will be made by each parish directly with John Madden of Travelworld. If interested in an overnight pilgrimage package, please contact Travelworld directly at 570-342-5790.

### **Catholic Men's Conference on Saturday**

All Catholic men who want to grow in their faith are invited to the Diocese of Scranton Catholic Men's Conference scheduled for this Saturday, May 5 at King's College in Wilkes-Barre.

The conference will feature inspirational speakers, Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and a concluding Mass celebrated by Bishop Joseph C. Bambera. Many ministries will be represented and a variety of books, CDs and other material will be available.

The Catholic Men's Conference will bring together hundreds of Catholic men for good fellowship and a re-commitment to promoting and living out our Christian heritage in our homes, workplaces and society.



You can register on line at: [www.beamanconference.com](http://www.beamanconference.com) or call the Diocesan Pastoral Center at 570-207-2213. For more information or to volunteer, please call or email Michael Kilmer at 570-746-0100 or [mkilmer@thekilmergroup.com](mailto:mkilmer@thekilmergroup.com).

### **Altus for Women Groups Holding Spring Meetings**

Altus for Women, a Catholic women's ministry in partnership with the Diocese of Scranton Office for Parish Life, is sponsoring a series of gatherings throughout the Diocese during the spring season for 16 Altus groups - 15 onsite meetings and one online.

The women's gatherings will begin during the week of April 16 and continue on a weekly basis for six sessions.

The small-group meetings are led by a reading of the book *Mary's Way* by Judy Landrieu Klein, which tells the heart-warming story of her empowerment through hopeful trust in God and the Blessed Mother in dealing with family members' struggles with drug addiction and emotional anxiety.

In addition to being the featured author for the spring Altus group gatherings, Ms. Klein will also serve as the keynote speaker for the Diocese's first Catholic Women's Conference, to be held on June 23 at the University of Scranton.

Registration fee for participation in the meetings is \$20 per person (plus the cost of the book). The cost also includes access to the online Altus Facebook group and admission to the ministry's Tea Party Finale on Wednesday, May 23, at the Diocesan Pastoral Center in Scranton.

For a complete listing of Altus group gatherings, including times and locations, and to register, visit: [www.altusforwomen.com](http://www.altusforwomen.com).

### **First Annual Catholic Women's Conference June 23**

The First Annual Catholic Women's Conference will be held Saturday, June 23, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the University of Scranton, Byron Complex.

The conference, intended to inspire women at all levels of faith, will include several noted speakers, uplifting music, the Sacrament of Penance, Eucharistic Adoration and a Mass with Bishop Joseph C. Bambera. Participants can also enjoy a continental breakfast, lunch and shopping at the Catholic Vendor Marketplace.

The keynote speakers are Judy Landrieu Klein, a speaker, theologian and author; and Father Richard McAlear of Ministry of Hope and Healing. Megan Murphy, a local speaker, teacher and evangelist, will serve as master of ceremonies.

The conference will also feature the Christian music group, "His Own," from Nashville, Tenn.

The cost is \$40 for an early-bird ticket, and \$50 after June 1. Student tickets are \$20. Women religious can attend at no charge.

For registration and information, go to [www.dioceseofscranton.org/catholic-womensconference](http://www.dioceseofscranton.org/catholic-womensconference)



**Catholic  
Communication  
Campaign**

CONNECT WITH CHRIST

Through Internet, social networks, television, radio, and print, the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC) helps the Church spread the

Gospel message through the media locally and nationally. This collection will be taken up in the Diocese of Scranton the weekend of May 12-13.

Half of all donations to the CCC collected in each diocese stay in that diocese to support local communications needs, such as radio and television programming and diocesan publications.

In the Diocese of Scranton, these include *The Catholic Light* newspaper that is mailed to more than 50,000 readers; CTV: Catholic Television, which has a potential audience of 250,000 households; the Diocesan website; *News Briefing* electronic newsletter; social media such as Facebook and Twitter; and interaction with public media.

This campaign supports global, national and local communication efforts. For example, the Catholic Communication Campaign collection supports projects in developing nations where the local Church lacks resources to spread the Gospel message.

Catholic Communication Campaign funds have also made possible media campaigns supporting marriage, family communications, service to others, and reconciliation, that reached millions on radio and television. Other projects have included the acclaimed public television documentaries *Picturing Mary* and *The Face: Jesus in Art*. The Catholic Communication Campaign helps connect people at home and abroad with Christ.

### **XLT (Exalt!)**

XLT (Exalt!) will be held Friday, May 18, from 7-9 p.m. at Saint John Bosco Parish, 2 Charles Avenue, Conyngham. The event, sponsored by the Diocesan Offices for Parish Life and Vocations, will consist of Eucharistic Adoration; praise & worship music led by Roni & Sylvia Smith; a talk by Scott Williams, graduating senior, Holy Redeemer High School; reconciliation, and a social. All are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Dominick Costantino at 570-780-2996.

### **Mother's Day Adoption Mass**

The annual Mother's Day Adoption Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, May 13, at 10:00 a.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton. This liturgy recognizes all mothers, with a special emphasis on adoptive and foster mothers. Bishop Joseph C. Bambera will be the principal celebrant.

Planning for the Mass is coordinated by the Diocesan Office for Parish Life, and Saint Joseph's Center in Scranton.

All are welcome to attend. CTV: Catholic Television will broadcast the Mass live.

### ***Quo Vadis Days***

June 24-27

Misericordia University, Dallas

*Quo Vadis Days 2018* is a camp for young Catholic men in High School (9-12<sup>th</sup> grade) to:

- + Deepen their faith
- + Learn more about all vocations
- + Better discern God's call in their lives

The camp will feature dynamic talks, prayer, games, sports, activities, music and more. Participants will have the opportunity to meet priests and seminarians of the Diocese of Scranton.

Register Online: [www.vocations.dioceseofscranton.org](http://www.vocations.dioceseofscranton.org)

For more information, call 570-207-1452.



## **Catholic Charismatic Renewal Pentecost Celebration May 19**

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the Diocese of Scranton will host its annual Pentecost Celebration on Saturday, May 19. The event will be held at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 330 Wyoming Avenue in Scranton, beginning with registration and coffee/donuts from 9:00 to 9:30 a.m. The main program will be offered from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The program will feature times of song and praise, as well as presentations by Pastor Dave Twiss, Theresa Dinunzi and Bob Valiante.

Pastor Dave Twiss has served as the lead pastor at Green Ridge Assembly of God since 2005, and has served full-time as a staff pastor there since 1986. He recently had the honor of preaching the sermon at the 2018 Ecumenical Celebration of the Word of God at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton, hosted by Bishop Joseph C. Bambera during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

Theresa Dinunzi is a member of Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish in Brodheadsville, where she serves on the Parish Pastoral Council, teaches RCIA and 7th Grade CCD, sings in the contemporary choir and serves in numerous other ways. Theresa is a member of the Service Team for the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of the Diocese of Scranton.

Bob Valiante has been involved in the Charismatic Renewal of the Catholic Church in various capacities for 47 years. He is a past coordinator of the Service Team for the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of the Diocese of Scranton. He is the founder and past coordinator of the annual Catholic Charismatic Conference held every summer in Scranton, which is in its 36th year. A member of Saint John Neumann Parish in Scranton, Bob has been appointed by Bishop Joseph C. Bambera to be his Liaison to the Charismatic Renewal in our Diocese, and also as the overall Coordinator of the Charismatic Renewal for the Diocese of Scranton.

There is no cost to attend the Pentecost Celebration, which includes a free lunch (hoagie and beverage). However, you must register by May 14 for the free lunch, and specify your preferred hoagie. For more information and registration, contact Bob Valiante, Catholic Charismatic Renewal, P.O. Box 3306, Scranton, PA 18505-0306; phone (570) 344-2214; or email [ccrenewal@comcast.net](mailto:ccrenewal@comcast.net).

### **Office for Parish Life**

#### ***DRE Network Meetings***

*May/June 2018*

As the Catechetical Year winds down, please plan to get together for another round of DRE Network Meetings. Meet other DREs in your region and share successes, new ideas and plans for next year. At these meetings, we will look forward to the week of Catechist Camp in August, brainstorming ideas for topics and locations.

All DRE Network Meetings will be held from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Please choose a location convenient to you, and RSVP to Mary Anne Malone: [Mary-Anne-Malone@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:Mary-Anne-Malone@dioceseofscranton.org) or (570) 207-2213, ext. 1100.

#### **Thursday, May 24 (Eastern Region)**

St. John Parish  
5171 Milford Road  
East Stroudsburg, PA 18302

#### **Tuesday, May 29 (Western Region)**

St. Ann Parish  
1220 Northway Rd  
Williamsport PA 17701

#### **Tuesday, June 5 (Northern Region)**

St. John Neumann Parish  
633 Orchard Street  
Scranton, PA 18505

### **Wednesday, June 6 (Southern Region)**

Gate of Heaven Parish  
40 Machell Avenue  
Dallas, PA 18612

#### ***Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church***

Pope Francis recently added a Memorial for "The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church" to the General Roman Calendar. It will be celebrated each year on the Monday after Pentecost. This year that will fall on **May 21**.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Secretariat for Divine Worship has now posted information on the [USCCB website](#) about the readings and orations for Mass. It also provides information about the celebration of the Liturgy of the Hours on this new Memorial.

The new Memorial supersedes the rubric at the end of the Pentecost Mass that suggests that a Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit be celebrated on the Monday after Pentecost.

Please note that the readings will be proper to the day, not optional. They are slightly different than what is in the *Lectionary for Mass* (Lectionary Number 1002- I). The Secretariat has produced a PDF of the readings which may be found at the above link.

#### ***Adult Confirmation at the Cathedral***

Bishop Bambera will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for Adults on Sunday, May 20, 2018 at 10:00 AM at the Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton. If your parish has any adult baptized Catholics who need to complete their Sacraments of Initiation by attending this Mass, the proper forms must be returned to the Office for Parish Life by Friday, April 27. All information concerning the Adult Confirmation has been updated on the Diocesan website: [Parish Life and Mass Times/Christian Initiation Resources/Confirmation](#).

#### ***Extraordinary Minister of Communion Training***

The Office for Parish Life will offer an all-day training session for new Extraordinary Ministers of Communion on **Saturday, July 21 from 9:00AM to 2:30PM at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, Scranton**. Candidates for the training should have the approval of his or her pastor/parish life coordinator. There is no fee for the training and lunch will be provided. To register, please complete the [Extraordinary Minister of Communion registration form](#).

#### ***May Is Mental Health Month***

Many people will have a form of mental illness at sometime in their lives. Often "hidden," it nevertheless carries a stigma. Show support for those with mental illness in one of the following ways:

- Visit these two particular pages within the National Catholic Partnership on Disability website:  
[www.catholicswithmentalillness.org](http://www.catholicswithmentalillness.org) Theological background and various resources specifically for mental illness, such as the Four Legs of Recovery;  
[Resources specifically for Mental Health Month](#), such as bulletin articles and networks.
- Consider offering a parish or area support group.
- Publish information on local service agencies that offer support for those with mental illness or their families.

#### ***Social Justice Trust Fund Grants***

The Social Justice Trust Fund Grants are designed to assist parishes in their efforts to reach out to the hurting, the poor, and the most vulnerable in our midst. **Parish-Based Grants** (up to \$5,000) provide individual parish teams with the financial support needed to implement programs designed to deal with social justice issues directly affecting the local community and/or people of the parish. Additional resources from the Diocesan Annual Appeal are available through **Challenge Grants** (up to three grants will be awarded in the range of \$5,000- \$25,000) which have greater impact for launching or stabilizing a program whose scope includes a partnership between faith



communities and/or a collaboration between a parish and local human services agencies.

For more information or to receive the Social Justice Trust Fund Application packet, please contact Catherine Butel, Diocesan Secretary for Parish Life at 570-207-2213 x 1148 or [catherine-butel@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:catherine-butel@dioceseofscranton.org). The application deadline for the basic grants is May 25, 2018 and application deadline for the Challenge Grants is July 1, 2018.

***Pope Francis: A Man of His Word***  
**New Film Opens in Theatres Nationwide May 18th**

Pope Francis is coming to America! Perhaps not in person, but at least in a one-of-a-kind new movie co-produced and endorsed by the Vatican.

Wim Wenders' new documentary, "Pope Francis-A Man of His Word" is intended to be a personal journey with Pope Francis, as he sets out to present his work of reform and his answers to today's global questions. From his deep concern for the poor, to his involvement in environmental issues and social justice, Pope Francis engages the audience face-to-face in a way never seen before. The Vatican has said, "The film masterfully shares the tenderness, humanity, and revolutionary thinking of Pope Francis, and shows that he is a man who practices what he preaches.

To arrange a screening in your area, please call 615-414-8827, or to reserve discounted tickets for your church, school or other group, please call 800-585-1892 or visit [www.PopeFrancisTickets.com](http://www.PopeFrancisTickets.com). This website lists East Stroudsburg and Moosic as venues for showings, but no details yet: <http://focusfeatures.com/pope-francis-a-man-of-his-word/groupsales>

***Religious Freedom Week 2018***

Catholics across the United States are encouraged to pray and act in support of religious liberty at home and abroad during Serving Others in God's Love: Religious Freedom Week 2018, which runs from June 22 to 29. During the Religious Freedom Week, Catholics are encouraged to pray and act each day for religious freedom.

Resources for Religious Freedom Week including bulletin inserts, talking points, a Pray-Reflect-Act series, and social media downloads with the prayer intention of each day, and other religious liberty resources can be found at [www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek](http://www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek) and [www.usccb.org/freedom](http://www.usccb.org/freedom).

***LIGHT THE FIRE 2018***  
**Featuring Guest Speaker:**  
**Cooper Ray**

**Wednesday, June 27, 2018**  
**Misericordia University - Dallas, PA**

**Registration opens at 9:00AM**

**Closing Mass with Bishop Bambera at 7:00PM**

**Visit [www.light-the-fire.org](http://www.light-the-fire.org) to register**

***Misal Romano, Tercera Edición***

Publishers are now printing ritual editions of the U.S. *Misal Romano, Tercera Edición* available on May 1, 2018. This new edition may be used beginning on the weekend of Pentecost (May 20, 2018), and usage is mandatory as of the First Sunday of Advent (December 2, 2018). Publication information, as of mid-February 2018, is as follows:

¢ **Catholic Book Publishing Co.** ([CatholicBookPublishing.com](http://CatholicBookPublishing.com) 877-228-2665)-Altar and Chapel editions

¢ **Liturgical Press** ([LitPress.org](http://LitPress.org) 800-858-5450)-Altar and Chapel editions

¢ **Magnificat** ([Magnificat.net](http://Magnificat.net) 970-416-6670)-Altar edition

Please visit the USCCB website ([USCCB.org/cultodivino](http://USCCB.org/cultodivino)) for articles and other resources on the new *Misal*.

### **Roman Missal "Book of the Chair"**

Upon the request of pastors to provide a lighter book for altar servers to hold, the Holy See has authorized a "Book of the Chair" edition of the *Roman Missal, Third Edition* entitled, *Excerpts from the Roman Missal*, and is now available from the following publishers:  
¢ **Catholic Book Publishing Co.** ([CatholicBookPublishing.com](http://CatholicBookPublishing.com) 877-228-2665)  
¢ **Liturgical Press** ([LitPress.org](http://LitPress.org) 800-858-5450)  
¢ **World Library Publications** (<http://www.wlp.jspaluch.com/> 800-566-6150)  
¢ **Magnificat** ([Magnificat.net](http://Magnificat.net), 970-416-6670)

### **Misal Romano Workshops**

The Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions (FDLC) will host a series of workshops on the *Misal Romano* for clergy, music ministers, and lay leaders. The schedule features a three-hour afternoon session for clergy and lay leaders, and a separate evening session for music ministers, and all sessions will be bilingual. The nearest workshops will be held on June 11 in Baltimore, Md. and June 27 in Trenton, N.J. For more information, please visit <https://fdlc.org/misalworkshops>

### **Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation**

Looking to learn more about your faith, or gain enrichment for your parish ministry during the early Summer months? Members of the faithful across the Diocese of Scranton are invited to consider taking a course through the University of Dayton's Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation! The next learning session runs from May 27, 2018 through June 30, 2018 (Registration is open until May 23). A variety of courses are available in English and Spanish at <https://vlcff.udayton.edu/> . "

### **Up and Over Youth Retreat**

Up and over is a weekend retreat for 6th, 7th and 8th grade students taking place on June 1-3, 2018 at Camp Orchard Hill, Dallas. This experience is a team-building and problem solving retreat for middle school students. Join us for a weekend of fun, friendship, & faith at the beautiful wooded Camp Orchard Hill. Spend time outdoors, meet new friends & learn how your God-given gifts can be used when you work with others as a team! Built into the weekend are opportunities to deepen your faith and a number of fun activities and events including a movie, free time, & an outdoor obstacle course!

Register online at [www.dioceseofscranton.org](http://www.dioceseofscranton.org), or contact the Office for Parish Life at 570-207-2213, ext. 1155 for more information.

### **NPM National Convention Bus Trip**

The Scranton Chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians will be sponsoring a bus trip to the NPM National Convention in Baltimore, Maryland, July 9-13. The NPM National Convention features keynote presentations and concerts from renowned speakers and liturgical musicians, and offers clinics, exhibits, vendors and workshops for choir members, cantors, organists, keyboardists and other parish musicians and liturgical coordinators. To see all that the NPM National Convention has to offer, please visit the [NPM Convention website](#).

The bus will leave on Sunday, July 8 at 3:00PM from the Scranton area and stop in the Wilkes-Barre area for additional passengers before heading to Baltimore. The bus will leave the NPM Convention on Friday, July 13 around 1:00PM and return to our area around 5:00PM. Cost for the bus is \$85 per person, and does not include convention registration or hotel costs. Deadline for bus reservations is Thursday, May 31, and seating is limited.

To make your reservation, [click here](#) or visit the Scranton NPM website at [ScrantonNPM.com](http://ScrantonNPM.com) or contact David Baloga, Scranton NPM Program Director, at 570-207-2213, ext. 1158.

### **Parish Sponsor Couple Program for Marriage Preparation Available**

Pairing engaged couples with sponsor couples is an effective way to prepare engaged couples for marriage, because it gives them personal



attention, builds a bridge into your parish community and gives them mentors to rely on through the early years of marriage. A parish sponsor couple program also helps the married couple strengthen their own marriage. The Office for Parish Life now offers a program for parish use. In four sessions, couples will explore and discuss the same topics currently covered in the popular Diocesan Pre-Cana Days of Reflection. Contact Jennifer Housel, Coordinator for Marriage and Family Life, to discuss starting this in your parish. ([jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org), 570-207-2213 x 1104)

#### ***FOCCUS Pre-Marriage Inventory Training***

The Office for Parish Life will be offering FOCCUS Pre-Marriage Inventory Training on June 28, 2018. This training is for parish staff and representatives who will be responsible for facilitating the FOCCUS Inventory with engaged couples. Class size is limited. Please contact Jennifer Housel, Coordinator for Marriage and Family Life, if you are interested in registering. ([jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org), (570) 207-2213 x 1104)

#### ***Worldwide Marriage Encounter celebrates 50 Years***

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend Experience is a retreat for those couples who want to learn tools to improve their marriage. It is an opportunity to take time away, to focus on the marital relationship. During these weekends couples recommit to their relationship, finding renewed passion and intimacy.

The next weekend, closest to Scranton, runs from July 13-15. It will be held in Czestochowa, Doylestown, PA. Interested persons can apply for the weekend by phone, or call WWME® for more information: 610-449-1859. Additional information about the weekend, and about WWME, can be found at <http://www.wwme.org/>

#### ***Catholic Engaged Encounter***

An Engaged Encounter is a retreat weekend for engaged couples. It is an opportunity to gather with other engaged couples, to enjoy time both in groups and alone as a couple, and to dialogue about your future married life together.

A team of married couples, as well as a priest, present ideas related to many pertinent topics. The weekend concludes with a Sunday Mass celebration. With your pastor's permission, an Engaged Encounter Weekend can qualify as PreCana preparation.

Engaged Encounter Weekends are held throughout the year, both through the Diocese of Camden and through the Diocese of Harrisburg. To learn more about Engaged Encounter, or to register for a weekend, go to <http://www.engagedencounter.org/>

#### ***Looking to Have a Workshop for Your Liturgical Ministers?***

Are your cantors or choir members in need of training on the basics of the ministry? Could your lectors or Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion use a "refresher" course or a day of reflection? Board Members of the Scranton Chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians are here to help and are willing to travel to provide a workshop or session for your parish ministers. Please contact David Baloga at 570-207-2213 or at [David-Baloga@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:David-Baloga@dioceseofscranton.org). for more information.

#### ***Harrisburg Beginning Experience Weekend***

The ecumenical Beginning Experience weekends are an approved program designed for those suffering the loss of a spouse through death, divorce or separation. The weekend is led by persons who have experienced the loss of a spouse and are trained in facilitating a weekend. Each Beginning Experience Team is certified by the International Beginning Experience Organization. Beginning Experience is your Church at work to provide help, healing and spiritual restoration.

A Beginning Experience weekend sponsored by the Diocese of Harrisburg will be held May 4-6, 2018 at Camp Hebron located at 957 Camp Hebron Rd, Halifax, PA 17032. See the Harrisburg Diocesan website: <http://www.hbgdiocese.org/> and go to marriage and family or

check [www.beginningexperience.org](http://www.beginningexperience.org). Information can also be obtained by contacting the Harrisburg Beginning Experience Team, Julie, at 717-379-0800 or Eva, at 717-495-9586.

### **150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Scranton**

¢ **A liturgical resource to assist parishes in commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Scranton all year long** is available on the Diocesan website. This resource includes hymn suggestions, an introduction to the liturgy, homily topic points, and intercessions for the Universal Prayer. This resource also includes the Anniversary logo, a calendar of events for the year, suggestions for local parish participation, and a parish liturgical resource to help commemorate the Anniversary year. Go to <http://www.dioceseofscranton.org/media/diocese-of-scranton-150th-anniversary/> and scroll down to "Parish Participation Kit."

¢ **Be sure to "like" Diocese of Scranton 150th Anniversary on Facebook.** This is the central location on social media with all information about the anniversary, pictures, videos and events going on in the different parishes and schools throughout the Diocese. Help us spread the word by sharing the page! We encourage everyone to use the hashtag **#DoS150** on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram when posting about Diocesan, parish and school events related to the 150th Anniversary Year.

¢ Thanks to the parishes who have been notifying us of your Anniversary related events so we can post these on the 150th Anniversary Facebook page. **We are also collecting photos and visual effects** from your various Anniversary activities for an exhibit to conclude the year.

¢ **The hymn, "There Is One Body and One Spirit"** commissioned specifically for the 150th Anniversary is now available for parishes to sing throughout the year and beyond. [Click here](#) to download the assembly edition and choral arrangement, as well as the solo voice/guitar arrangement and instrumental parts from the diocesan website.

¢ **Historic Sites in the Diocese - there's an app for that!** One of the ways we can partake in the celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese is through a visit to some of the historic sites here. The Office of Parish Life 2018 calendar features a number of those locations, and now there is a free app to guide you there. *The Diocese of Scranton Pilgrimage app* includes directions to each site, a description of what you will find when you arrive, a brief history, some photos and a "punch card" to help you keep track of the sites you have visited. Get the app and get on the road! (You can also use the app to enjoy a virtual pilgrimage without leaving home.) The app is easy to get: simply search for "Diocese of Scranton" on the **Android/Google Play App Store** or the **iOS/App Store**.

### **Mark Your Calendar**

For a listing of Diocesan and parish events, go to: [Calendar](#)

### **Follow the Diocese on Social Media**

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