

Sacred Heart of Jesus Church

215 Lackawanna Avenue, Dupont, Pennsylvania 18641

Phone: (570) 654-3713 ~ E-mail: shojesuschurch@gmail.com ~ www.sacredheartdupont.com

Rev. Father Thomas J. Petro, J.C.L., KHS, Pastor

Weekend Masses: Saturday Vigil at 4 p.m.; Sunday at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

Holy Day Masses: Vigil at 4 p.m.; 7 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Weekday Masses: 7:30 a.m.

Confessions are heard Saturdays at 3:15 p.m.

Parish Office hours: Monday – Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

✠ First Sunday of Lent ♦ March 1, 2020 ✠

Niech będzie pochwalony Jezus Chrystus! Na wieki wieków. Amen.

The Parochial Pen

My dear parishioners,

On the First Sunday of Lent, 2018, I announced the beginning of our church interior renovations which commenced May 21, 2018. On the First Sunday of Lent, 2019, I announced the conclusion of these renovations. Now, during the centennial year of our church building, we reflect on all that has been done to restore, beautify and preserve the architectural and artistic dignity of our house of worship. From the replacement of the pews and the carpeting, to the painting of murals and Stations of the Cross, to the securing of matching side altars and statues, to acquiring a new altar of sacrifice, ambo and hardwood floors for the sanctuary, to the restoration of our crystal chandelier and the placement of new light fixtures, all the way to bringing our original steeple bells back to life – we have together done much to glorify the dwelling place of the Lord!

On this First Sunday of Lent, 2020, we see placed upon our high altar six large candlesticks that are new to our church. These vintage high altar candlesticks were originally used in Sacred Heart of Jesus (German) Church on Stephenson Street in Duryea. After the closure of that church, these candlesticks were purchased by our parish. Recently, I asked David Hurst from Charles ‘n Mary Restoration in Duryea to polish and restore these heavily used candlesticks. I was amazed at their beautiful luster upon his completion! They now grace our high altar and, because they are simpler than our ornate marble and brass candlesticks, we will use them during the liturgical seasons of Lent and Advent. The ornate candlesticks will be used throughout the year during the other liturgical seasons. We are happy to give “new life” in Dupont to these candlesticks that were once used by the faithful in Duryea. By way of your regular contributions to the Building Fund, the restoration of these candlesticks was made possible. I appeal to your generosity to continue making regular use of the monthly Building Fund envelope in your contribution packs. We are saving for the next phase of our church maintenance plan: the conversion of our church furnaces to accept natural gas and the asphalt resurfacing of our parking lot. The five old and broken garage doors in the building where we make and sell our famous potato pancakes are also in the process of being replaced. Their replacement is made possible by our financially successful annual picnic. Our hard work pays off!

By working together, I know that we can do our best to be good stewards of the temporalities of our parish. I endeavor always to manage our parish’s finances in such a way that the integrity of our mission to advance the Kingdom of God is never compromised or forfeited. One very personal way that I have contributed to the financial benefit of our parish is by taking only two thirds of my salary from Sacred Heart of Jesus Church. As you know, in addition to serving as your pastor, I serve as a judge on our diocesan Tribunal. In payment for the time that I must dedicate weekly to my diocesan obligation, the Tribunal pays monthly one third of my salary. That is, I save our parish \$10,000 annually by this financial arrangement. This considerable savings has realized much good since I have made certain that this money remains in the parish general fund for the needs of the parishioners. As long as this arrangement with the diocese continues, my plan to use this monetary savings for the good of our parish will continue. I care deeply about you, my parishioners, and I know that you support your parish by offering your time, treasure and talent for the spread of the Gospel. Please continue to be as generous as your means allow so that we can continue to do amazing things for the greater glory of God!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Father Petro

You are invited to attend the four Evenings of Reflection that Fr. Petro will present on Wednesday evenings in the church from 7 to 8 p.m. On March 11, he will offer a reflection entitled “The Holy Face of Jesus” on the meaning and practice of making reparation. On March 18, he will offer a reflection entitled “The Sorrows of Mary” on the seven sorrows of the Blessed Mother. On March 25, he will offer a reflection entitled “The Seven Swords Chaplet” on the Seven Swords devotion. On April 1, he will offer a holy hour of Eucharistic adoration with a spiritual talk on the Eucharist and an opportunity for Confession. Our CCD students preparing for Confirmation will be in attendance.

Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius: Have you ever thought about taking a spiritual retreat, but you didn’t have the time? Have you desired to understand the Bible better, but didn’t know where to start? Why not try the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises in everyday life this Lent? One hour, once a week, and 15 minutes a day at your convenience will help you to learn new ways to pray using the methods of meditation and contemplation as taught by St. Ignatius Loyola. It’s right here at Sacred Heart of Jesus church, and it’s FREE!!! *We will meet on Monday nights in the church hall from 6 to 7 p.m.* We will be praying with the Scriptures to walk with Jesus as he moves through the Last Supper and His Passion. If you’re ready to come closer to Christ through the Scriptures, come and join us. Dr. Jayne Klenner will lead the group beginning Monday, March 2.

Requiescat in pace: please pray for the peaceful repose of the soul of Denise Dulny who was recently buried from our church.

Thank you to all who helped in any way to make our Lenten pierogi sale so successful – both our day shift and night shift workers! Because of our wonderful volunteers, we were able to finish over 1,200 dozen pierogi on time. *Dziękuję!*

Gorzkie zale, the traditional Polish-language Lenten devotion known as the “Bitter Lamentations,” will be held on Sunday, March 29, at 3 pm in our church. The devotion is a sung reflection on the Passion of Christ and his Sorrowful Mother. Fr. Michael Wurtz, C.S.C., will be the guest homilist. A light reception will follow in the church hall. All are invited to attend.

Finger foods are needed for the reception following *Gorzkie zale* on Sunday, Mar. 29. Please drop off donations in the church hall by 3pm on Sunday, Mar. 29. Thank you for your generosity!

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU

On Mondays of Lent, Confessions will be heard from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Fr. Petro will be available at Sacred Heart Church on these dates: March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and April 6.

Stations of the Cross will be prayed in common each Friday evening throughout Lent at 7 p.m. in our church. Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament will occur immediately after the Stations. You are invited to walk with Our Lord along the Way of Sorrows and gaze upon the beauty of his Presence. Do not miss the opportunity to be drawn closer to Him.

Free Lenten prayer booklets are offered on the table in the narthex of our church to assist with daily Lenten meditation.

Join in praying the St. Michael Prayer at the conclusion of all Masses during Lent: *St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.*

Lenten reflection music will be conducted by our choir 15 minutes prior to the start of the 10:30 a.m. Mass during the season of Lent. Musical instruments may be played only to give necessary support to the singing during Lenten liturgies.

Lenten CCD Confessions: Fr. Petro will be hearing the confessions of our CCD students in church during the school period. Please make sure your children attend CCD on Sunday mornings or take them to confession on Saturday prior to the vigil Mass. CCD confessions will be heard as follows: Mar. 1 – grades 7/8, Mar. 8 – grades 5/6, Mar. 15 – grades 3/4.

Children from our parish will make their First Confessions on Saturday, March 7, at 2:30 p.m. Please pray for their intentions.

Easter Duty: All Catholics have the serious obligation to make a worthy Confession and receive the Holy Eucharist during Paschal Time which runs from the beginning of holy Lent through Pentecost. Please do not neglect this.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting and abstinence from meat. All Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence from meat. Fasting prescribes that only one full meal be taken. Two smaller meals may be taken to maintain strength, but these taken should not equal another full meal. Fasting obliges from the 18th to the 59th birthday. Abstinence forbids the eating of meat. Abstinence obliges from the 14th birthday on.

Instant Lottery tickets sought for March: please deposit them in the collection basket. We do this as a means of reducing expenses for our Picnic lottery stand. Thank you!

The Parish Flea Market will be held on May 2/3 in the church hall. Items that will be accepted include household items, toys, holiday decorations, and more. Please note that electronics and clothing will not be accepted. We will be collecting items from March 23 – April 26 in the church hall. All proceeds benefit our parish Building Fund.

A New Mass setting will be used for the season of Lent. It is the Latin setting for the people’s sung responses at Mass. This Mass setting can be found in the Pew Missal beginning on page 26. Please sing along and learn this simple Mass setting.

HNS Corporate Communion Mass will be celebrated on Sun., Mar. 8, at 8:30 am. All members are to dress in suits and meet in the church hall prior to the Mass. HNS members will process and recess with Father at Mass.

Our next picnic meeting will be held Wednesday, March 11, at 6:30 p.m. in the church hall. All are invited to attend!

Rada Cutlery Fundraiser: Our parish has partnered with Rada Cutlery to offer you their famous knives, kitchen utensils and Quick Mixes. Rada Knives are 100% Made in the USA – construction and materials – and carry a Lifetime Guarantee. *When you order anything from their catalog, our parish receives a monthly check for 40% of all sales that have been obtained via the link on our parish website or through our catalog!* All proceeds benefit our parish Building Fund. There are two ways to order – online or via the printed catalog. Please follow these instructions so that our church receives credit for your purchases:

Online: Parishioners are asked to access Rada via the homepage of the parish website (www.sacredheartdupont.com) and click on the tab that says “Order Here.” The first time you click on the tab, a box will come up asking “Do you want your order to support Sacred Heart of Jesus Church?” Click “YES” and then you will be taken to the Rada Cutlery website where you can view and order their products. In order for the parish to receive a commission on any online sale, orders must be made via this tab on the website. When ordering online, payment is made directly to Rada and the order will be delivered to your home.

Catalog: Color catalogs are available for those who do not have internet access and orders can be placed at the parish office. Payment for orders made in person are due at the time the order is placed. Payment may be made in cash or by check made out to Sacred Heart of Jesus Church. All orders placed in this manner will be delivered to the office and not to the individual’s home. When the shipment has been received, the buyer will be notified that their items are ready for pick-up.

Monday (Mar. 2) Lenten Weekday

7:30 am Gabriel Novak
by Midge Melucci

Tuesday (Mar. 3) St. Katharine Drexel

7:30 am Shirley Kolankiewicz
by Jerry and Lynn Stanco

Wednesday (Mar. 4) St. Casimir

7:30 am Sophie Pribanic
by Kenneth Pribanic

Thursday (Mar. 5) Lenten Weekday

7:30 am Barbara Dudzik
by her brother, Paul, and Lucille Dudzik

Friday (Mar. 6) Lenten Weekday

7:30 am Robert Marsh
by his wife, Mary Ann, and family

7:00 pm Stations of the Cross & Benediction

Saturday (Mar. 7) Vigil: Second Sunday of Lent

4:00 pm Intentions of Fr. Petro
by Barbara Hopkins

Sunday (Mar. 8) Second Sunday of Lent

8:30 am Living/deceased members of our Holy Name Society
by Holy Name Society of Sacred Heart

10:30 am Our Parishioners (*Missa pro populo*)

WEEKLY OFFERING

Last Sunday: \$4,374.26

Building Fund: \$190.50

May the Lord reward your generosity.

The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of:
Tabernacle: Felix Skrzysowski, by his great grandchildren
Blessed Mother: Alex and Mary Skrzysowski, by their family
St. Joseph: Thomas Harvey, by Giles and Ava Moore
St. Therese: Terri Warunek, by Frank Skrzysowski and family

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mar. 1, 8:30am, K of C Corporate Communion Mass
- Mar. 2, 5:30-6:30pm, Confessions, church
- Mar. 2, 6-7pm, St. Ignatius Spiritual Exercises, church hall
- Mar. 3, 6pm, CCM Installation and meeting, church
- Mar. 5, 7pm, Holy Name Society, church hall
- Mar. 6, 7:30 am, 1st Friday Mass and devotions, church
- Mar. 6, 7pm, Stations of the Cross, church
- Mar. 7, 2:30, First Penance, church
- Mar. 7, 2:45-3:45pm, 1st Saturday Adoration/devotions, church
- Mar. 8, 10:30am, CCD Mass
- Mar. 9, 5:30-6:30pm, Confessions, church
- Mar. 9, 6-7pm, St. Ignatius Spiritual Exercises, church hall
- Mar. 11, 6:30pm, Picnic meeting, church hall
- Mar. 11, 7-8pm, Lenten Evening of Reflection, church

Liturgical Volunteer Schedule

Feb. 29-Mar. 1
4pm: EM: M. Pistack, Lector: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolytes: J. & T. Baiera
8:30am: EM: D. Skrzysowski, Lector: K of C, Acolytes: A. Krawczyk, D. Cavello
10:30am: EM: J. LaFratte, Lector: G. Beccaloni, Acolytes: J. & S. Hull
Mar. 6: Stations of the Cross
7:00pm: Michael Ostrowski, Josh & Taylor Baiera
Mar. 7-8
4pm: EM: M. Pistack, Lector: B. Collins, Acolytes: E. & J. Lyons
8:30am: EM: J. Stanco, Lector: HNS, Acolytes: Z. Elko, M. Ostrowski
10:30am: EM: D. Suchecki, C. Wesley, Lector: L. Lojewski, Acolytes: E. & M. Collins

Ukrainian Pysanky Egg Workshop for will be held at Ss. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church, 207 River St., Olyphant, on Mar. 1 and 15, 2 - 4 p.m. Cost: \$20 per person, supplies included. To register, call Sonia at 570-489-9608.

Our parish will once again participate in the “Operation Rice Bowl” during Lent. Envelopes can be found in your pack. All money collected aids the poor. Kindly return by the start of Lent.

Road to Resurrection will be held on Wednesdays during Lent with Mass at 7 p.m. The schedule: Mar. 4 – St. Joseph Marelo Parish, Pittston; Mar. 11 – St. Maria Goretti Church, Laffin; Mar. 18 – St. Barbara Parish, Exeter; Mar. 25 – Our Lady of the Eucharist Parish, Pittston; Apr. 1 – Queen of Apostles, Avoca.