

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.

✠ Third Sunday of Lent ♦ March 15, 2020 ✠

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

The Parochial Pen

My dear parishioners,

The Feast of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is celebrated March 19. Last Sunday I encouraged you to join me in praying the *Novena to St. Joseph* from March 10 to 18. I also invited you to join me in celebrating Mass on his feastday in our church at 7:30 a.m. I invited you to make a visit to the beautiful side altar in our church dedicated to St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

This Sunday, I am happy to announce that Bishop Joseph Bambera has declared this year as a “Year of St. Joseph” to be observed in the Diocese of Scranton from March 19, 2020 to March 19, 2021. Bishop Bambera invites the faithful to renew their devotion to St. Joseph and seek his powerful intercession to safely guard the Church from all evils, just as he protected the Holy Family from harm. This year marks the 150th Anniversary of the decree, *Quemadmodum Deus*, by Pope Pius IX declaring St. Joseph as the Patron of the Universal Church. In commemoration of this anniversary and recognizing the fitting time for the Church to invoke the intercession of this guardian, I invite you to kneel at the prie-dieu set before his side altar in our church and recite the following prayer. St. Joseph, our guide and patron, pray for us!

The Novena to St. Joseph:

O good father Joseph! I beg you, by all your sufferings, sorrows and joys, to obtain for me what I ask. (Here name your petition). Obtain for all those who have asked my prayers, everything that is useful to them in the plan of God. Be near to me in my last moments, that I may eternally sing the praises of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Amen.

Our Father..., Hail Mary..., Glory be...

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Petro

You are invited to attend the Evenings of Reflection that Fr. Petro will present on Wednesday evenings in the church from 7 to 8 p.m. 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.

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!

Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius: 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. We will meet on Monday nights in the church hall from 6 -7 p.m. Led by Dr. Jayne Klenner, 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 join us.

Our next picnic meeting will be held Wednesday, April 22, at 6:30 p.m. in the church hall. All are invited to attend!

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!

Thank you to all who donated bottles of liquor in February to help defray the cost of the bar raffle for this year’s picnic. Because of your generosity we have collected **47 bottles!** *Donations of liquor are still being accepted until the picnic!*

An American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held in our church hall on Tuesday, May 19. Please save the date!

New parishioners: Please welcome to our parish Stanley and Vivian Barket of Everhart St., Dupont.

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 16, 23, 30 and April 6.

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.

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.

Lenten CCD Confessions: 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: in church, between Masses, Mar. 15 – grades 3&4.

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 21 – April 22 in the church hall. All proceeds benefit our parish Building Fund.

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.

The Dupont Lions food distribution will be held on Thur., Mar. 26, 4-5 p.m. in our church hall. All people in need are welcome.

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.*

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is traditionally known as *Laetare* Sunday, so-called from the first word of the antiphon at the Introit. *Laetare*, (“Rejoice”), taken from the Latin translation of Isaiah 66:10-11, sets a tone of joyful anticipation of the Easter mystery, as does the permitted use of rose-colored vestments. Likewise, instruments may be played at Mass and the altar may be decorated with flowers.

HNS 300 Club Raffle Winners – Congratulations to the following winners! 1st Award of \$100 – David Mackin, 2nd Award of \$50 – Austin Balent, 3rd Award of \$25 – Mike Walsh, 4th Award of \$25 – Joe Champi.

Due to Coronavirus (COVID-19) and widespread flu activity, the Diocese of Scranton is announcing new precautions for the celebration of Mass in its 11 counties. Effective immediately, Bishop Bambera is implementing the following directives:

- The distribution of the Precious Blood via the Chalice is temporarily suspended.
- The Sign of Peace will now be exchanged without physical contact.

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.

The Order of Alhambra is a Catholic organization dedicated to providing activities and support for special needs children and adults and assisting persons with intellectual disabilities. They will be selling \$5 raffle tickets before and after the weekend Masses of March 14/15. Grand prize: \$5,000 cash. Other prizes include: laptop computer, tablet and other cash prizes.

Couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2020 are invited to a diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 14. The event includes a 2:30 p.m. Mass at St. Peter’s Cathedral followed by a reception. Requests for an invitation must be made at the parish office by March 16.

Byzantine Vespers will be held on Sundays during Lent at 3 p.m. The schedule is as follows: Mar. 15 – St. Mary’s, Wilkes-Barre; Mar. 22 – St. Nicholas, Swoyersville; Mar. 29 – St. Mary’s, Kingston. Light refreshments served after each service.

The Catholic Choral Society will present their annual Lenten Concerts on Sunday, Mar. 22 at St. Aloysius Church 143 Division St., Wilkes-Barre at 3 p.m. and on Sunday, Mar. 29 at St. Mary’s Church, 1090 Carmalt St., Dickson City, at 3 p.m. Concerts are free of charge to the public.

A baked haddock fish dinner will be held at Ss. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church on Fri., Apr. 3, at The Regal Room, 216 Lackawanna Ave, Olyphant. Eat-in or take-out, 5-7 p.m. Tickets will be sold until Mar. 30 for \$13 which includes baked haddock, potato, vegetable, roll and dessert. Call 570-383-9487. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$15.

Volunteers who work with children and have not completed the mandated reporter training are required to do so. If you do not have internet access, a live mandated reporter training will be held on Thurs., Mar. 26 at Nativity of Our Lord Parish, 127 Stephenson St., Duryea, 6-9 p.m., in the church hall.

Monday (Mar. 16) Lenten Weekday

7:30 am Frank Drost

by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Budzilek, Sr.

Tuesday (Mar. 17) St. Patrick

7:30 am Elsie Sipko

by the Sipko family

Wednesday (Mar. 18) St. Cyril of Jerusalem

7:30 am Theresa Shemanski

by Frank and Dolores Shemanski

Thursday (Mar. 19) St. Joseph, Spouse of the BVM

7:30 am Sally Tomaszewski

by Edward and Karen Tomaszewski

Friday (Mar. 20) Lenten Weekday

7:30 am Special intentions of Nancy Beccaloni

by her family

7:00 pm Stations of the Cross & Benediction

Saturday (Mar. 21) Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Lent

4:00 pm Our Parishioners (*Missa pro populo*)

Sunday (Mar. 22) Fourth Sunday of Lent

8:30 am Richard Belles

by Mr. and Mrs. John Lizak

10:30 am Mary and Steve Starinsky

by Michael Ruane

WEEKLY OFFERING

Last Sunday: \$4,813.26

Building Fund: \$360.00

May the Lord reward your generosity.

The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of:

Tabernacle: *Gloria Scyrba, by Edward and Anna Zielinski*

Blessed Mother: *Delphine Tokash, by her children*

St. Joseph: *Stanley, Sr. and Anna Snopkowski, by daughter Jean*

St. Therese: *Helen Romanko, by her family*

St. Francis: *Mary Guzzi, by Jerry and Lynn Stanco*



The offertory gifts of bread & wine this Sunday are donated for the special intentions of Jerry and Lynn Stanco.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar. 16, 5:30-6:30pm, Confessions, church

Mar. 16, 6-7pm, St. Ignatius Spiritual Exercises, church hall

Mar. 18, 7-8pm, Lenten Evening of Reflection, church

Mar. 19, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft

Mar. 20, 7pm, Stations of the Cross, church

Mar. 23, 5:30-6:30pm, Confessions, church

Mar. 23, 6-7pm, St. Ignatius Spiritual Exercises, church hall

Mar. 25, 7-8pm, Lenten Evening of Reflection, church

Mar. 26, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft

Mar. 27, 7pm, Stations of the Cross, church

Mar. 29, 3pm, *Gorzkie Zale* devotions, church

Liturgical Volunteer Schedule

Mar. 14-15

4pm: EM: E. Supinski, Lector: H. Vogue, Acolytes: J. & T. Baiera

8:30am: EM: J. Renfer, Lector: J. Fink, Acolytes: J. & S. Hull, D. Cavello

10:30am: EM: B. Purdy, P. Stonikinis, Lector: M. Rinaldi, Acolytes: C. Purdy, M. Nagy

Mar. 20: Stations of the Cross

7:00pm: A. Krawczyk, Z. Elko, D. Cavello

Mar. 21-22

4pm: EM: C. Yablonski, Lector: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolytes: E. & M. Collins

8:30am: EM: D. Skrzysowski, Lector: J. Roche, Acolytes: A. Krawczyk, Z. Elko

10:30am: EM: J. LaFratte, D. Suchecki, Lector: T. Satkowski, Acolytes: E. & R. Savakinas

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

All the faithful of the Diocese are invited to attend the Chrism Mass at St. Peter’s Cathedral, Scranton, on Tues., Apr. 7 at 4 p.m. At this Mass priests from throughout the Diocese will renew their priestly promises before the Bishop, and the oils to be used for the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick and Holy Orders will be blessed. Participation in the Chrism Mass is a beautiful way to pray for our diocesan priests.