

Sacred Heart of Jesus Church

215 Lackawanna Avenue, Dupont, Pennsylvania 18641

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Rev. Father Thomas J. Petro, J.C.L., KCHS, 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.

✠ The Epiphany of the Lord ♦ January 2, 2022 ✠

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

The Parochial Pen

My dear parishioners,

As we begin the new year of Our Lord, 2022, I am pleased to share with you some important progress that will be realized in the near future. Our parish Finance Council recently met and gave approval for two major improvements of parish property that I have proposed: the expansion of our cemetery and the installation of natural gas furnaces. Bishop Bambera then gave his permission for these major capital improvements to begin.

As many of you who live in Dupont are aware, natural gas pipelines have been laid in the borough and many homes and business have begun hooking up to them. Our parish properties currently make use of fuel oil for heating. The furnaces in the church and school are in working condition, but are old. The rectory does not have a furnace – heat is pumped into the rectory from the furnace in the church building. The contract for the installation of the three furnaces was awarded to Mark Slocum of Summit Mechanical of Clarks Summit. Parishioner Kevin Krawczyk will be working with him and UGI to oversee this large project. The expenses for this project will be completely covered by our Building Fund.

Also, as many of you may be aware, space in our parish cemetery is becoming very limited. We project that within five years the available cemetery plots will all be sold. Many years ago Fr. Olszewski purchased a large woodlot adjacent to the oldest section of the cemetery. The edge of this area has been the place where clean fill has been dumped for a number of years. A portion of this woodlot will now be cleared and leveled to provide for future burials. Work commenced on this project just prior to Christmas and it is expected to be finished by Memorial Day. The contract for the cemetery expansion was awarded to parishioner Mark Kowalczyk of Marek Landscaping. The expenses for this project will be completely covered by our Cemetery Account.

More details about these projects will be forthcoming, so watch the bulletin for updates! Please know that it is only through your generous support of your parish that these significant projects have been made possible. By means of your contributions to the Building Fund and the Cemetery Care envelopes, as well as our fundraisers, especially our annual Picnic, Pierogi Sales, Flea Market, Cookie Walk, and others, we are able to provide for the long-term survival of our parish without incurring any debt. I am personally grateful for your support and generosity. Let's make 2022 a great Year of Our Lord!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Father Petro

On the Solemnity of the Epiphany there is an ancient custom of announcing the dates of Easter and other movable feasts for the coming year. This custom originated in the age when calendars were not readily available for much of the population. This Sunday, the Epiphany Proclamation will take place after the proclamation of the Gospel. As this ancient announcement is read, simply be seated and listen to descriptions of the celebration of the central mysteries of our faith.

In Poland, the Epiphany is called *Święto Trzech Króli*, or the feast of the Three Kings. Caspar, Melchior and Balthassar (*Kacper, Malchior i Baltazar*) brought gold (*złoto*), frankincense (*kadzidło*) and myrrh (*mirra*) to the Christ Child.

Anyone wishing to add to their 2021 contributions may do so by January 2, 2022. Requests for 2021 Contribution Statements can be made by contacting Kathy at the parish office. These statements may be used for your tax purposes.

Holy water will be blessed at the 4:00 pm Vigil Mass of the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, Saturday, January 8. The Sprinkling Rite will be used in place of the Penitential Rite to remind us of our own baptisms at all Masses that weekend. Please bless yourself with the sign of the cross as the priest sprinkles you with holy water at the start of Mass. Please feel free to bring a container to church to take home some of the newly blessed water. The Christmas season ends with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

Free 2022 liturgical calendars are now available in the narthex. Every Catholic household should have one!

CCD News: There is no class on Sunday, Jan. 2. Classes will resume on Sunday, Jan. 9.

2021-22 HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE

(Mary, Mother of God) *Friday, Dec. 31:* 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, Jan 1: 9:00 a.m.

(Epiphany) *Saturday, Jan 1:* 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 2: 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

CCM Corporate Communion Mass will be celebrated on Sun., Jan. 2, at 8:30 am. Members are invited to wear their pins and sit in the front pews near the BVM side altar. They will pray the rosary in common prior to the Mass. At Mass, the Confraternity of Christian Mothers will give their annual fundraising donation for the parish to Father. Our CCM will not be holding their annual Wafer Dinner this year due to coronavirus concerns.

The Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus is Monday, January 3. Members of our parish Holy Name Society are encouraged to attend the 7:30 a.m. Mass on that day, their feast day. The HNS will meet Wednesday, January 5 at 7 p.m. in the church hall.

Raffle tickets for the Holy Name Society “300 Club” are available from any HNS member. The deadline for ticket returns is March 1. Tickets can be dropped in the collection basket in a marked envelope. Drawings will take place during Lent.

The Memorial of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is celebrated on Tuesday, Jan. 4. All the faithful will be blessed with her relic at the conclusion of the 7:30 a.m. Mass. Her relic will also be offered for individual veneration after Masses

Christmas “undecorating” - As we enter into winter Ordinary Time, volunteer help is needed on Sunday, Jan. 9, after the 10:30 a.m. Mass to help take down the Christmas decorations.

A “**New Sock Drive**” is being sponsored by our 6th grade CCD class to supply homeless men with new socks during winter. It runs until January 2. Any size or color men’s socks may be deposited in either the bin in the church narthex or the bin in the Sunday school.

If you have moved in the past year, have a new phone number, or e-mail address, please let us know so our records will be up-to-date by contacting the Parish Office.

2022 Children’s Envelopes are now available for pick-up in the church narthex for those who have requested them. Please find the boxed envelope set labeled with their name. If your child’s name is not found or you are new to the parish and would like them to receive envelopes, please contact the parish secretary.

Are you registered in our parish? If you are not receiving mail from the parish, chances are you are not registered. You are free to stop by the Parish Office to become a registered parishioner of Sacred Heart of Jesus Church. Parish registration is required to be a baptismal godparent or a confirmation sponsor.

Polish Christmas Music CDs have been recorded in our very own church and produced locally. This musical album includes a variety of our favorite Polish language Christmas carols. Our Lent and Easter CD, as well as our Sacred Latin Chant CD, are also for sale for \$15 each. You can buy a set of all three for \$40. This is a fundraiser for our parish Building Fund. These CDs can be purchased by contacting Tony George.

The annual dues for membership in our parish's Confraternity of Christian Mothers and Holy Name Society are collected during the month of January. Please make use of your labeled contribution envelope in the mailing. All dues are deposited directly into each organization's account.

Our parish is in need of more lectors and altar servers. More Eucharistic ministers are needed to visit the homebound and altar pappies to serve weekday Mass. If you believe that God is calling you to serve your brothers and sisters, please speak to Fr. Petro.

Sanctuary candle offerings for the Tabernacle, St. Joseph, the Blessed Mother, St. Francis and St. Therese are available for \$10. Please make use of the donation envelopes and the registry book in the narthex.

The monthly Church Dues for our parish will remain \$6 per person, per month in 2022. This amount is printed on the front exterior of the pink colored dues envelopes. All parishioners are reminded of their obligation to support their parish financially according to their means.

Our parish adult choir and cantors practice on Thursdays at 6:30 pm in the church choir loft. New members are encouraged to attend - contact Tony George, music director, if you are interested.

Our Rada Cutlery fundraiser continues, offering you their famous knives, kitchen utensils, baking pans and Quick Mixes. 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! You are invited to access Rada via the parish website (www.sacredheartdupont.com) and click on the tab that says "Order Here."

Parish families are needed to bring up the gifts of bread and wine in the offertory procession for the weekend Masses. Would you consider accepting this honor? *At least two volunteers are needed at each of the weekend Masses.* The ushers will continue to bring up the collection basket. Please go to the back of the church as soon as the ushers begin taking up the collection (this helps to expedite things without unnecessary delay!). You may place your offertory envelope directly into the main collection basket. Pick up the ciborium and the cruet from the table and wait near the front entrance to the church. As soon as the ushers return from collecting the contributions, walk down the aisle behind the usher carrying the basket. Upon approaching the sanctuary, give the priest the gifts, then bow to the altar once the priest moves to return to the altar. Return to your pew by walking back down a side aisle. Perhaps you could volunteer at a Mass that is being offered for a family member? To volunteer, notify an usher before Mass.

Sacramental Sponsors: If you are asked to be a sponsor for Confirmation or a godparent for a Baptism, you must: be a registered, participating member of Sacred Heart, have received all Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, First Eucharist and Confirmation), and if married, be married in the Catholic Church. If you have a question about your eligibility or are in need of a sponsor form, you may contact the parish office.

Requiescat in pace: please pray for the repose of the soul of Joseph Ferack who was recently buried from our church.

~ Pray the Spiritual Devotions of our Parish ~

The Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary is prayed in common before Masses.

The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy is prayed in common weekday at 6:45 am and Sundays at 7:45 a.m.

The Perpetual Novena of the Miraculous Medal is prayed in common Mondays after 7:30 a.m. Mass.

Eucharistic Adoration is held on the First Saturday of each month from 2:45 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Sacred Heart Devotions are prayed in common after First Friday Masses.

Devotions to the Immaculate Heart of Mary are prayed in common during First Saturday Eucharistic Adoration.

Monday (Jan. 3) The Holy Name of Jesus

7:30 am Steve Mazur

by wife, Betty, and children

Tuesday (Jan. 4) St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

7:30 am Walter and Sophia Wegrzynowicz

by daughter, MaryAnn Pistack

Wednesday (Jan. 5) St. John Neumann

7:30 am Albert Cocco

by Betty Belles

Thursday (Jan. 6) St. Andre Bessette

7:30 am Peter Sroka

by Thomas and Dorothy Sheridan

Friday (Jan. 7) St. Raymond of Penafort (First Friday)

7:30 am John and Catherine McCormick

by family

Saturday (Jan. 8) Vigil: The Baptism of the Lord

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

Sunday (Jan. 9) Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

8:30 am John Zboraj, Sr. and Jr.

by George and Maria Vojta

10:30 am Paul DePrimo

by Debra Boedeker

WEEKLY OFFERING
Last Sunday: \$6,099.00
Building Fund: \$198.00
Christmas: \$10,997.25
Christmas Flowers: \$1,552.00
May the Lord reward your generosity.

The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of:
Tabernacle: *Helen and Anthony Haduck, by daughter, Bernadette, and granddaughter, Ramona*
Blessed Mother: *Teofila Gall, by granddaughter, Linda*
St. Joseph: *Karol Gall, by granddaughter, Linda*
St. Therese: *Michael Rowan, by Georgann Gall*
St. Francis: *John Tetlak, by children, John, Ronald and Judith.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 1, 2:45-3:45pm, 1st Saturday Adoration/devotions, church
 Jan. 5, 7pm, Holy Name Society meeting, church hall
 Jan. 6, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft
 Jan. 7, 7:30am, First Friday devotions after Mass
 Jan. 9, 9:15-10:15am, CCD classes resume
 Jan. 9, 10:30am, CCD Mass, grade 5 assists
 Jan. 13, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft

Liturgical Volunteer Schedule

January 1-2: The Epiphany of the Lord

4pm: EM: B. Purdy, Lector: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolyte: C. Purdy
8:30am: EM: J. Stanco, Lector: H. Vogue, Acolyte: J. Stanco
10:30am: EM: J. LaFratte, Lector: A. Devlin, Acolyte: J. LaFratte

January 8-9

4pm: EM: B. Purdy, Lector: M. Pistack, Acolyte: C. Purdy
8:30am: EM: J. Stanco, Lector: J. Roche, Acolyte: E. & J. Lyons
10:30am: EM: C. Wesley, Lector: CCD, Acolyte: A., E. & M. Collins

The Diocese of Scranton is pleased to announce that the 2021 Diocesan Annual Appeal received \$3,647,707 in gifts and pledges from 17,623 donors, bringing it to 81% of its goal of \$4.5 million. We at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church donated a total of \$13,846.00 to the 2021 Appeal. Thank you for your support of last year's Appeal.

St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 William St., Pittston, will host a Take-Out Pasta Dinner on Wed., Jan. 19. Pickup time will be from 12 to 1:30 p.m. in the Pastoral Center (former Seton Catholic auditorium). The menu will include pasta with homemade meatballs, salad, bread, and dessert. Cost is \$15 per dinner. To place an order call Jane Roche at 570-905-0325 by Mon., Jan. 17.

JMJ Catholic Radio is the only Catholic radio station in the Scranton Diocese. There are four locations from which they broadcast; Wilkes-Barre/Scranton at 98.9FM & 750AM, Hazelton at 1490AM & 100.1FM and Dushore at 91.7FM.

After practicing Roman Catholics, the second largest religious grouping in our country is "fallen-away" Catholics, i.e., those who rarely or no longer practice the Faith. A website has been created to assist those who wish to become active Catholics once again: www.catholicscomehome.org. If you want to "come home" or know someone who needs some encouragement to do so, visit this site for some inspiration.