

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., 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.

✠ Fourth Sunday of Lent ♦ March 19, 2023 ✠

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

The Parochial Pen

My dear parishioners,

The Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is celebrated March 19. This year, however, its observance is transferred to March 20 since the 19th falls on the Fourth Sunday of Lent, which supersedes it. I invite you to join me in celebrating Mass on his feastday in our church at 7:30 a.m. I also invite you to make a visit to the beautiful side altar in our church dedicated to St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Additionally, Bishop Joseph Bambera will be the principal celebrant and homilist at the 12 p.m. Mass at the Oblates of St. Joseph Seminary Chapel in Yatesville on March 20. The local faithful are invited to attend.

I encourage you to renew your 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 153rd 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!

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

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.

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who either executed or supported our annual St. Joseph’s Day Lenten Polish Food Sale!

In the dioceses of the United States, crosses in the church may be covered from the conclusion of the Mass for the Saturday of the Fourth Week of Lent until the end of the Celebration of the Lord’s Passion on Good Friday. Images in the church may be covered from the conclusion of the Mass for the Saturday of the Fourth Week of Lent until the beginning of the Easter Vigil. We shall observe this ancient custom in our parish so as to focus our senses on the Lenten liturgy and instill a longing for the festive celebration of Our Lord’s Resurrection.

Gorzkie zale, the traditional Polish-language Lenten devotion known as the “Bitter Lamentations,” will be held on Sunday, March 26, at 3 pm in our church. The devotion is a sung reflection on the Passion of Christ and his Sorrowful Mother. Our choir will lead us in the singing. Fr. Eric Fasano, V.G. of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, N.Y. 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, March 26. Please drop off donations in the church hall by 3pm on Sunday, March 26. Thank you for your generosity!

EASTER TRIDUUM SCHEDULE

Thursday (April 6) Holy Thursday

7:00 pm Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper

10:00 pm Eucharistic Reposition & Night Prayer

Friday (April 7) Good Friday

3:00 pm Liturgy

7:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday (April 8) Holy Saturday

11:30 am Blessing of Easter food baskets

1:00 pm Blessing of Easter food baskets

8:00 pm Easter Vigil Mass

Sunday (April 9) Easter Sunday Masses:

7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am

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

A GIANT INDOOR FLEA MARKET

Will be held in our church hall on

Saturday, March 18, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Sunday, March 19, 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Baked goods and food will be available for purchase!

All proceeds benefit our church Building Fund.

A solemn blessing and procession of palms will be held prior to the 10:30 am Mass at our church on Palm Sunday, April 2. The faithful are asked to report to the school on Sunday, April 2, by 10:30 am. The palms will be blessed there and all present will process into the church for Mass. The choir will lead us in song as we process through the rectory driveway, up the ramp and into the church.

The blessing of Easter food will be held on Holy Saturday, April 8, at 11:30am and 1 pm in the church hall. The faithful are invited to bring the cooked food that they will eat on Easter Sunday in baskets for blessing. This Eastern European custom spiritually links the nourishment we receive from our table with the nourishment we receive from the Eucharist. **Our Holy Name Society will distribute the pre-ordered *kolaczki* in the hall that day, 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

A Lenten Food Drive is being sponsored by our 6 and 7th grade CCD students. Parishioners are invited to bring non-perishable foods to church and place them in the bin located in the narthex until Sunday, April 2. This drive is done with the help of the Knights of Columbus, Council 372.

Please make use of the Easter Flower envelope in your offertory envelope pack. Donations will help defray the cost of purchasing flowers to adorn our sanctuary for Easter.

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.

Congratulations to the March 12 HNS 300 Club winners: 1st prize: \$100, David Smithonic, 2nd prize: \$50, Tony Ferretti, 3rd prize: \$25, Jerry Renfer, 4th prize: \$25, Corey Roberts. The winner of the February HNS Match the Daily Number raffle was Barbara Sito.

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 20, 27. The deanery penance service will be on April 3, 7pm, at St. John the Evangelist Church, Pittston.

A **columbarium** for the interment of cremains will be constructed in the recently developed Holy Sepulchre section of our cemetery. It will be a 120 niche octagonal marble structure that will be accessible by way of a sidewalk from Pine Street. Surrounding the columbarium in a semi-circular fashion will be an area for ground burials of urns. These smaller in-ground plots will accommodate only cremated remains and each of the individual granite markers will look identical and will all be flush with the ground. More information about the pricing and advanced sale of these burial spaces will appear in the bulletin at a future date.

All the faithful of the Diocese are invited to attend the Chrism Mass at St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, on Tues., Apr. 4 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.

“**SACRED CHANT: Latin Hymns from Dupont**”: These CDs can be purchased for \$10 each in the narthex. All proceeds benefit our parish Building Fund.

Road to Resurrection will be held on Wednesdays during Lent with Mass at 7 p.m. and Confessions at 6:15pm. Mar. 22 – Corpus Christi, W. Pittston; Mar. 29 – Nativity of Our Lord, Duryea.

2023 Wedding Anniversary Mass for couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversaries will be celebrated by the bishop at St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, on Sunday, June 4, at 2:30 p.m. A reception will follow. Requests for an invitation should be made by registering online at www.dioceseofscranton.org or calling Jennifer Andres at 570-207-2213 ext. 1102.

Adult Religious Education is an educational and spiritual series being held this Lent at our Sacred Heart of Jesus School. For more details, contact Nancy Beccaloni at sacredheartccd@comcast.net.

Lenten CCD Confessions will be heard in the church during the school period: Mar. 19 – grades 4 and 5, Mar. 26 – grade 3.

“**Operation Rice Bowl**” cardboard boxes can be found in the narthex that you can take home and in which you can place your pocket change during Lent. All money collected aids the poor.

An American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held in our church hall on Thursday, May 4, 12-5pm. Please save the date!

The **Slovak Heritage Society** of NE Pennsylvania presents a Lenten Slovak Hymn Sing and Traditional Stations of the Cross in Slovak on Sunday, March 26 at 2 p.m. in St. Ignatius Church, 339 N. Maple Ave., Kingston. The service will conclude with Benediction. Refreshments will follow. A free-will offering will be accepted. For more details, call Anna Hudock at 570-822-1926.

Holy Redeemer High School is now hiring a Maintenance Staff member for Monday-Friday 7am-3pm. This full-time, salaried position includes benefits and a competitive salary. Send resume to: Holy Redeemer High School, Attn: Doreen Dougherty, 159 S. Pennsylvania Blvd., Wilkes-Barre, PA 1870.

JMJ Radio has moved to 104.5FM Scranton/Wilkes-Barre.

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! Please access Rada via the parish website and click on the tab that says “Order Here.”

“**Asceticism and mortification** are not the ends of a Christian life; they are only the means. The end is charity. Penance merely makes an aperture in ego into which the light of God can pour. As we deflate ourselves, God enters. As we empty ourselves, God fills us. And it is God's arrival that is the important thing.”
– *Lenten Meditations with Fulton Sheen*

MARRIAGE BANNS

III. **Fausto Toalongo**, our parish, to **Lupe Toalongo**, our parish, on June 17, 2023, in our church.

III. **Eric Michael Papiercavich**, our parish, to **Nicole Marie Wesley**, our parish, on June 24, 2023, in our church.

III. **Jason Daniel Davis**, Methodist, to **Kellie Lynn Catherine Fuehrer**, our parish, on July 14, 2023, in our church.

† MASS INTENTIONS †

Monday (Mar. 20) St. Joseph, Spouse of the BVM

7:30 am Connie Crockenberg
by John and Amy Renfer

Tuesday (Mar. 21) Lenten Weekday

7:30 am James Jones
by family

Wednesday (Mar. 22) Lenten Weekday

7:30 am Helen Ciali
by Scott Hilenski

Thursday (Mar. 23) St. Turibius

7:30 am Rose Marie Brogna
by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Burke

Friday (Mar. 24) Lenten Weekday

7:30 am Robert Levandoski
by Carol Ricceppi

7:00 pm Stations of the Cross & Benediction

Saturday (Mar. 25) Vigil: Fifth Sunday of Lent

4:00 pm George Vojta
by Len and MaryJane Peters

Sunday (Mar. 26) Fifth Sunday of Lent

8:30 am Our Parishioners (*Missa pro populo*)
10:30am Deceased members of our CCM
by Sacred Heart CCM

WEEKLY OFFERING

Last Sunday: \$5,933.50

Building Fund: \$526.00

May the Lord reward your generosity.

The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of:
Tabernacle: *Kenneth Battista, by children and grandchildren*
Blessed Mother: *Faye Renfer, by John and Amy Renfer*
St. Joseph: *the Lopata family, by Bob and Jim Lopata*
St. Therese: *Richard Kuchinski, by Tony and Marie Ferretti*
St. Francis: *Anthony Ferretti, Jr., by Tony and Marie Ferretti.*



The offertory gifts of bread & wine this Sunday are donated in memory of Joseph and Josephine Pistack, by the Pistack family.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar. 19, 8:30-11:30am, Flea Market, church hall
Mar. 20, 5:30-6:30pm, Confessions, church
Mar. 22, 6-7pm, Adult religious education, school
Mar. 23, 6:30pm, Choir practice, church
Mar. 24, 7pm, Stations of the Cross, church
Mar. 26, 3pm, *Gorzkie Zale* devotions, church
Mar. 27, 5:30-6:30pm, Confessions, church
Mar. 29, 6-7pm, Adult religious education, school
Mar. 30, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft
Mar. 31, 7pm, Stations of the Cross, church

Liturgical Volunteer Schedule

March 18-19

4pm: EM: M. Pistack, Lector: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolyte: E. & J. Lyons

8:30am: EM: *volunteer*, Lector: H. Vogue, Acolyte: JJ Rupprecht

10:30am: EM: D. Suchecki, Lector: A. Devlin, Acolyte: C. Purdy

March 24: Stations of the Cross

7pm: Acolytes: E. & J. Lyons, JJ Rupprecht

March 25-26

4pm: EM: C. Wesley, Lector: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolyte: JJ Rupprecht

8:30am: EM: *volunteer*, Lector: J. Roche, Acolyte: A., E. & M. Collins

10:30am: EM: B. Purdy, Lector: G. Purdy, Acolyte: C. Purdy

March 26: Gorzkie Zale

3pm: Lector: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolytes: E. & J. Lyons, C. Purdy

The Wyoming Valley Chapter of Pennsylvanians for Human Life are in need of used baby items, in good and in clean condition for those in need. Also needed are diapers size 5-7, pack and plays, bassinets, high chairs, umbrella strollers, diaper genies, diaper bags and onesies all sizes newborn to 18 months. Call 570-826-1819 to make a donation.

Join in praying the St. Michael Prayer at the conclusion of all Masses: *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.*