

# 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 12:30 p.m., 1 to 3 p.m.; Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

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✠ **Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time** ♦ **September 10, 2023** ✠

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

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The Parochial Pen

My dear parishioners,

I am happy to invite you to a series of talks given by Mr. William D. Jones in our School of Religion on three consecutive Wednesdays, September 27, October 4 and October 11, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. His topic will be: “Confession of an Ordained Lutheran Pastor or Why I Believe in One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.” This series is free and open to the public.

William Dwight Jones is a graduate of King’s College in Theology and Religion. He holds the earned professional degree of Master of Divinity from the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Gettysburg, PA. Reverend Jones was called to serve in the ordained ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and was ordained a Minister of the Church of Christ in the Office of Word and Sacrament on August 24, 1988.

In recognition of Outstanding Scholarship in Religious Studies of Theology, William was admitted to full membership in the Theta Alpha Kappa National Honor Society of Religious Studies of Theology in 1985. He was a member of the editorial board of the “Bride of Christ” and was chairperson for the Bishop’s Task Force for weekly Eucharist.

Reverend Jones was received with eleven other Lutheran, Catholic and Anglican Theologians into a private audience with Pope St. John Paul II in 1992, celebrating 25 years of Roman Catholic and Lutheran dialog at the Vatican.

In recognition of 30 years of service to Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Middleburg, PA, he was awarded the honorary title of Pastor Emeritus by Bishop Craig A. Miller.

Bill is the father of three children and the proud grandfather of two grandchildren.

On April 3, 2021, William Dwight Jones was confirmed as Patrick at St. Thomas More Catholic Parish, Scranton, by Fr. Eric Bergman. Formerly of Gettysburg, Bill currently resides in Pittston. He often attends Sunday Mass at our parish.

As a former Lutheran minister who converted to Catholicism, I know that he will have many interesting things to share with us about his conversion experience, as well as unique insights into what many of us “cradle Catholics” may sometimes take for granted about the Catholic Faith. Please join me in welcoming Bill as a speaker at Sacred Heart Church!

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
*Father Petro*

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**This Monday** is the anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on our country. A special Mass for the Preservation of Peace and Justice will be celebrated that day at 7:30 a.m. in our church. All are invited to pray for all those who lost their lives and for those who protect us on this “Patriot Day.”

**The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross** is celebrated on Thursday, September 14. During the 7:30 a.m. Mass in our church, a relic of the True Cross will be exposed for public veneration. Also, during that Mass, devotional materials promoting the Rosary of Our Lady of Sorrows will be blessed and freely distributed.

**An Open House** to celebrate the recent renovation of our School of Religion will be held on Sunday, Sept. 17, following the 10:30 a.m. Mass. All are invited to tour the school and see the good work that has been done by our dedicated volunteers, and the functional beauty that has been restored thanks to parishioner contributions to our “Picnic Rebuilding Year” campaign.

**The Church celebrates the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi** on Tuesday, Oct. 4. Fr. Petro will administer a special blessing to all pets on Sunday, Oct. 1, at 9:30 a.m. in the picnic grove. Parishioners and friends of our parish are invited to bring their animals to the church to pray for the intercession of the saint who loved nature and all of God’s creatures. Members of our Holy Name Society will host a light outdoor social following the blessing. To provide a safe environment for all who attend this event, please be sure that all pets are properly restrained.

**Is your child missing the sacraments?** Sometimes children miss the traditional timing for receiving the Sacraments. Whatever the reason, we are always happy to welcome these children and their families and will guide them through the process. For more information, email Nancy Beccaloni at [sacredheartccd@comcast.net](mailto:sacredheartccd@comcast.net)

**Children and Student Envelopes:** If you would like your child to receive a boxed set of donation envelopes for 2024, please contact the parish office. Envelopes will be available in the narthex during the month of December for those who have requested them.

**CCD Registration** for our parish has begun. CCD registration forms are available in the narthex as well as online at [www.sacredheartdupont.com](http://www.sacredheartdupont.com). After filling out the form for each child you may deposit it in the weekend collection basket or mail it to the Parish Office. Please include the required fee and a copy of your child’s baptismal certificate (if they are a new student and were not baptized in our church). CCD begins on Sunday, Sept. 24 from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. *Please be reminded that all school-aged children who do not attend Catholic schools in grades 1 to 8 are required to attend CCD classes.* A few of our Catholic school students have attended our classes and are most welcome! Contact DRE Mrs. Nancy Beccaloni with questions at 570-451-1903.

**HNS Corporate Communion Mass** will be celebrated on Sun., Sept. 10, 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.

**The St. Vincent de Paul Society:** this parish account is used solely to support the charitable work of our parish. An annual envelope appears in your packets, around the September 27 feast day of St. Vincent de Paul, which you may use to make a direct donation to support the charitable needs of our local parishioners. Anyone wishing to make a monetary donation toward this much needed outreach apostolate is asked to place their donation in the envelope marked “St. Vincent de Paul Society” and drop it in the basket or send it to the parish office.

**The Catholic Light** updated its subscription record database. Any person who donates at least \$10 to the Diocesan Annual Appeal automatically receives a complimentary copy of The Catholic Light newspaper for the following year. Gifts to the Diocesan Annual Appeal will soon be requested of our parishioners as we begin again the process of conducting the Appeal throughout the diocese. Please consider giving at least \$10 which will give you an annual subscription to our diocesan monthly newspaper.

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

**Novena in honor of the Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Start with 9 Hail Marys on September 7 in honor of Our Lady's birthday and continue with 9 Hail Marys for nine days ending on September 15 (the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows) in honor of the nine months spent in the womb of her mother, St. Ann. At the end, the Hail Marys will become roses presented to Our Lady.

**Pre-Arranging a Funeral Mass:** If you would like to plan your Mass of Christian Burial in advance, then contact the parish office to request a funeral planning booklet so that you can make a record of what you have designated (readings, hymns, etc.) for your funeral to be celebrated in our church. You are encouraged to keep it in a confidential file to be shared with your family at the appointed time, who will then share it with the undertaker and the priest.

**The 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** of the Wyoming Valley Knights of Columbus "Tomb of Unborn" will be held on Respect Life Sunday, Oct. 1 at 2pm. Prayerful commemoration at the Knights' Tomb of the Unborn, located at the top of Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Carverton. Fr. Petro, chaplain of the Greater Pittston Knights of Columbus Assembly #948 will celebrate the Order for Visiting a Cemetery followed by Rosary. All are invited to attend.

**The 2024 Mass book is now open.** Anyone wishing to request a specific date on which Mass may be celebrated for their deceased loved one may visit the parish office during office hours or make use of the Mass Intention envelope in the narthex. The stipend is \$10 per requested Mass. *To accommodate all parishioners, there is a limit of 10 Masses per requesting person per year.*

**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 Anthony George, music director, if you are interested.

**Columbarium niches and Mausoleums plots now available for advanced sale:** A columbarium for the interment of cremains will be constructed by year's end 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 St. If you would like to purchase a columbarium niche or a mausoleum plot, or would like more information, contact Kathy Vojta at our Parish Office to make an appointment.

**Scranton Mental Health Ministry** at St. Peter's Cathedral, 315 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, hosts a mental health support group for anyone experiencing mental illness. Meetings are held at 10 a.m. on the second and fourth Saturday of the month. The Family Mental Health Group Support meets on the first Tuesday of each month. Both groups meet in the Bishops Hall (lower level of the cathedral rectory). For details, contact Deacon Ed Shoener at 570-344-7231.

**Are you interested** in the Catholic faith and becoming Catholic, or do you know someone who is interested in becoming a Catholic? The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.) is a process through which new members are welcomed into the Catholic faith. If you are interested in entering the Church, please contact Fr. Petro.

**40 Days for Life** Pro-Life Rosary Gathering will take place September 27 to November 3, offered for the special intentions of ending abortion and closure of Planned Parenthood, 101 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre. The rosary will be prayed weekdays at 10 a.m. in front of the offices of Planned Parenthood. This pro-life campaign draws attention to the evil of abortion through prayer & fasting, constant vigil, and community outreach.

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Pennsylvania March for Life Rally** will be held at our state Capitol in Harrisburg on Mon, Oct. 16. Join the many from across our state in praying, proclaiming, and lobbying for the respect of all human life. Hear great Pro-Life Speakers. Bus transportation is available by calling Chris Calore at 570-824-5621.

**On Sunday, Sept. 24** from 2 to 5 p.m., St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 William St., Pittston, will hold a "Designer Bag Bingo" in the auditorium. Doors open at noon. Tickets are \$30 each and include 20 regular games. Extras may be purchased. Special games are \$5 each. There will be door prizes, a raffle, 50/50, and food for sale. Bingo prizes include designer bags by Coach, Dooney & Bourke, Kate Spade, Vera Bradley, Versace, Zac Posen, and more. Call 570-654-0053 for tickets.

**Our Lady of This House**

O Sweet and gentle Lady, Immaculate Mother of God, we choose you this day to be the Mistress and Lady of this house. Guard it, dear Mother from pestilence, fire, lightning, and tempests; from schisms and heresies, from deprivations of burglars and the malice of enemies. Protect its inmates, sweet Mary; watch over their going out and their coming in, and preserve them from sudden death. Keep us from all sin and harm, and pray for us to God, that we may live in His service and depart this life in His grace. Amen.

**Monday (Sept. 11) Weekday**

7:30 am Patrick McDermott  
by *Thomas and Dorothy Sheridan*

**Tuesday (Sept. 12) the Most Holy Name of Mary**

7:30 am Dorothy Trolio  
by *Roseann Trolio*

**Wednesday (Sept. 13) St. John Chrysostom**

7:30 am Anna Corcoran  
by *Delphine Mattei*

**Thursday (Sept. 14) the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

7:30 am Intentions of Joseph Nagy  
by *Maria Vojta*

**Friday (Sept. 15) Our Lady of Sorrows**

7:30 am Rose and Nicholas Loncala  
by *Marian Wanielista*

**Saturday (Sept. 16) Vigil: 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

4:00 pm Elaine Czarnecki  
by *husband, Henry*

**Sunday (Sept. 17) Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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

*"His Heart... WEEKLY OFFERING ...Our Hands"*  
**Last Sunday: \$6,079.00**  
**Building Fund: \$770.00**  
**Care and Education of Priests: \$488.00**  
**Maui Wildfire Relief: \$709.00**  
*May the Lord reward your generosity.*

*The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of:*  
Tabernacle: *Rose and Nicholas Loncala, by Marian Wanielista*  
Blessed Mother: *intentions of Nicholas and Charlotte Nebraska, by Mary Ann Pistack and family*  
St. Joseph: *John Zboraj, Sr. and Jr., by Maria Vojta*  
St. Therese: *Edward and Frances Milewski, by family*  
St. Francis: *Beverly Moletsky, by Michele and Brian Moletsky.*

*The offertory gifts of bread & wine this Sunday are donated for the intentions of Nicholas and Charlotte Nebraska, by family.*

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Sept. 11, 7:30am, "Patriot Day" Mass  
Sept. 14, 7:30am, Mass & veneration of relic of the Holy Cross  
Sept. 14, 6:30pm, Choir practice, loft  
Sept. 17, 11:30am, School of Religion Open House  
Sept. 20, 6:30pm, Pastoral/Finance Councils meet, church hall  
Sept. 24, 9:15-10:15am, First day of CCD, school  
Sept. 27, 6:30-7:30pm, Former Lutheran Pastor speaks, school  
Sept. 28, 6:30pm, Choir practice, loft  
Oct. 1, 9:30am, St. Francis pet blessing, Picnic Grove

**Liturgical Volunteer Schedule**

**September 9-10**

**4pm:** EM: B. Purdy, Lector: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolyte: C. Purdy

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

**10:30am:** EM: C. Wesley, Lector: A. Buffalino, Acolyte: A. & JJ Rupprecht

**September 16-17**

**4pm:** EM: *volunteer*, Lector: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolyte: E. & J. Lyons

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

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

**The Catholic Men's Conference** will be held Sat., Oct. 7, 8am-3pm at Holy Redeemer High School, Wilkes-Barre. To attend, register either online at [www.BeACatholicMan.com](http://www.BeACatholicMan.com), or by mail to: Be a Catholic Man, Inc, P.O. Box # 669, Wyalusing, Pa. 18853. Include your name, address, email and parish name with your check payable to "Be a Catholic Man, Inc" with "Men's Conference" on the memo line of the check. Cost is \$40/adults and \$15/students. For details, contact Mike Kilmer at 570-721-0872.

**There will be** a special Memorial Mass on Monday, Sept. 11, at 7pm at Queen of the Apostles Parish in Avoca. A parade of first responders beginning at the fire house and ending at the church will take place before the Mass. All are invited to attend.

**JMJ Catholic Radio** has moved from 98.9 FM to 104.5 FM. The new station will reach over 300,000 listeners. JMJ Radio is an EWTN affiliate.