

# 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-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time ♦ September 17, 2023 ✠

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

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The Parochial Pen

My dear parishioners,

The roots of Catechetical Sunday can be traced back to 1935 when the Vatican published a document stressing the importance of catechesis and honoring catechists. Beginning in 1971, the USCCB published annual materials to help local parishes celebrate Catechetical Sunday. Today, the USCCB's Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis continues this tradition by providing annual resources centered on a theme. By designating the third Sunday in September as Catechetical Sunday, the bishops underscore the Church's dedication to forming disciples through catechesis. The annual celebration gives us a chance to honor catechists, reflect on the role of faith formation and celebrate the centrality of catechesis in nurturing the Faith. This year, the Church celebrates Catechetical Sunday on September 17. The 2023 Catechetical Sunday theme is "Come to Me all you who labor and are burdened" (Matthew 11:28). On this day, catechists are formally commissioned for service to the parish. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each baptized person plays in handing on the Faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

Each Catechetical Sunday, we celebrate *catechists*. All those who teach the Catholic Faith and share the Church's teachings are catechists. The word *catechesis* is from a Greek word meaning "to echo." All those who teach in the Church's name are catechists. Parents and guardians are also catechists since they are the first and primary teachers of the Faith for their children. Catechists teach Christ's saving doctrine by word and deed.

This Sunday, at the start of the new academic year, I will bestow a blessing on our catechists during the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Our CCD catechists this year will be: Nancy Beccaloni, DRE, Tina Petcaugh, grade 1, MaryAnn Pistack, grade 2, Jada Exter, Grade 3, Gary Beccaloni, grades 4 & 5, Harry Lyons, grade 6 & 7, and Jayne Klenner, grade 8. Teacher's aide: Christina Wesley. Substitute catechists: Julie Bingham, Andrea Collins, Ann Marie Devlin, Kathleen Hudzinski, and Bethany Purdy. We are most grateful to them for sharing their gift of Faith with our youngest parishioners.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
Father Petro

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**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.

**You are invited** to a series of talks given by Mr. William D. Jones at Sacred Heart of Jesus 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. Mr. Jones is a former Lutheran pastor who was received into the Catholic Church in 2021. He will speak about his conversion experience and aspects of the Faith that "cradle Catholics" may take for granted.

**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.

**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.

**Do we have your email address?** Email is an easy way to communicate and receive updates on parish activities. If you would like your email to be added to your confidential parish census records, then simply write your email address on one of your offertory envelopes and we will update our records accordingly. We never sell or share your contact information with anyone. You may also have your home phone number or cell phone number included in your parish census data by following this same method.

**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.

**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.

**Diocese of Scranton Youth Rally: “Be an Original”** will be held Saturday, October 7, 10 am – 6:30 pm at the Diocese of Scranton Pastoral Center, 330 Wyoming Ave., Scranton. It is open to students in grades 7-12, catechists, parish leaders, and adults. \$20 per student, \$25 per adult. Come deepen your faith, make new friends, and experience a day of fellowship and fun! The rally includes Mass, adoration, speakers, activities, lunch and dinner. Our parish 8<sup>th</sup> grade CCD students will be required to attend this rally as their Confirmation Retreat. Our 7<sup>th</sup> grade CCD students are encouraged to attend. Our parish will cover the fee for our parishioners. Please contact our DRE, Nancy Beccaloni, if you wish to attend.

**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.

**Our parish fundraiser** with Rada Cutlery continues! Parishioners are invited to access Rada via the homepage of our parish website to order. 40% of the profits go to our church!

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**Parish Mission Statement:** “Sacred Heart of Jesus Church exists for the celebration of the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist, the proclamation of Christ’s saving doctrine and the promotion of Charity. Our mission, under the care of our pastor, our bishop and the Holy Father, is to attain Heaven.”

**Our church is open daily** for private prayer Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to Noon, Saturday, 2:45 p.m. to the conclusion of the 4 p.m. Mass, and on Sunday from 7:30 a.m. to the conclusion of the final Mass of the day.



**Monday (Sept. 18) Weekday**

7:30 am Arlene Sable  
*by sons*

**Tuesday (Sept. 19) St. Januarius**

7:30 am Mary Grabiec  
*by Frank and Georgette Harper*

**Wednesday (Sept. 20) St. Andrew Kim and Companions**

7:30 am Edward Romanko, Sr.  
*by family*

**Thursday (Sept. 21) St. Matthew**

7:30 am Intentions of Robert Schoennagle  
*by his mother*

**Friday (Sept. 22) Weekday**

7:30 am Mary George  
*by Judy George*

**Saturday (Sept. 23) Vigil: 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

4:00 pm Robert Koons, Jr.  
*by Jerry and Lynn Stanco*

**Sunday (Sept. 24) Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:30 am Our Parishioners (*Missa pro populo*)  
10:30 am Bernard Zielinski  
*by Joseph Halat*

*“His Heart... WEEKLY OFFERING ...Our Hands”*  
**Last Sunday: \$4,592.10**  
**Building Fund: \$537.00**  
*May the Lord reward your generosity.*

*The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of:*

- Tabernacle: Edward J. Romanko, Sr., *by family*
- Blessed Mother: intentions of Tina Petcaugh, *by Scott Hilenski*
- St. Joseph: John Lopata, *by Robert and James Lopata*
- St. Therese: Tony Pace, *by Michele and Brian Moletsky*
- St. Francis: Joan Jemiola, *by the McLaughlin family.*



The offertory gifts of bread & wine this Sunday are donated for the intentions of Roberta Kashuba.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

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  
Oct. 4, 6:30-7:30pm, Former Lutheran Pastor speaks, school  
Oct. 5, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft

<b>Liturgical Volunteer Schedule</b>
<b>September 16-17</b>
<b>4pm:</b> EM: <i>volunteer</i> , Lector: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolyte: E. & J. Lyons
<b>8:30am:</b> EM: J. LaFratte, Lector: J. Roche Acolyte: A., E. & M. Collins
<b>10:30am:</b> EM: B. Purdy, Lector: G. Beccaloni, Acolyte: C. Purdy
<b>September 23-24</b>
<b>4pm:</b> EM: <i>volunteer</i> , Lector: A. Devlin, Acolyte: T. Titton
<b>8:30am:</b> EM: <i>volunteer</i> , Lector: H. Vogue, Acolyte: A., E. & M. Collins
<b>10:30am:</b> EM: C. Wesley, Lector: T. Satkowski, Acolyte: A. & JJ Rupprecht

**Last Sunday,** Isabella Rose Bojnowski was baptized in our church. Pray for her and her family as they grow in God’s wisdom and grace.

**Requiescat in pace:** pray for the repose of the soul of Cassandra Bellas who was buried from our church.

**Marywood University** Students Organized to Uphold Life (SOUL) in conjunction with other campus organizations will be hosting “Cruisin’ for a Cause,” a car show benefiting St. Joseph’s Center, on Sunday, Sept. 24, 11am-1:30pm in the Nazareth Student Center parking lot on the campus of Marywood University. Hi-Lites Motor Club along with a bake sale, raffle, and refreshment stand will be present on the grounds. Cars will be judged at 1pm so stick around to see who rolls home with the win!

**St. Elizabeth Ann Seton** Knights of Columbus Council #12976 is sponsoring a Chicken Barbeque this Sunday, Sept. 17, from 11am to 3pm, in the school cafeteria, 116 Hughes St., Swoyersville. Take-outs only. Tickets available at the door while supplies last. Cost is \$12 per dinner, which includes 1/2 chicken, baked potato, homemade coleslaw, roll, butter and dessert.