

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 on 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.

✠ Second Sunday of Lent ♦ February 25, 2024 ✠

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

The Parochial Pen

My dear parishioners,

Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen was an American bishop of the Church known for his preaching and especially his work on television and radio in the 1950s. The cause for his canonization was officially opened in 2002. In 2012 Pope Benedict XVI declared that he lived a life of “heroic virtues,” a major step towards beatification, and he is now referred to as Venerable. During his life Sheen was well-known for his catechetical efforts, his anti-Communism, and his social commentary. I recently came across this quote from Venerable Fulton Sheen that I find particularly poignant for our times:

It is a characteristic of any decaying civilization that the great masses of the people are unaware of the tragedy. Humanity in a crisis is generally insensitive to the gravity of the times in which it lives. Men do not want to believe their own times are wicked, partly because they have no standard outside of themselves by which to measure their times. If there is no fixed concept of justice, how shall men know it is violated? Only those who live by faith really know what is happening in the world; the great masses without faith are unconscious of the destructive processes going on, because they have lost the vision of the heights from which they have fallen.

I ask you as people of faith to analyze our world at this grave hour of human history. These sad times see war, persecutions, upheavals, mass migrations and economic uncertainty. What is the Catholic response? I think it begins with us not willing to make excuses for ourselves and ends with us willing to live as witnesses for Christ - no matter what. Perhaps this Lent can be a good time for us to ask for a renewal of strength from on high to do spiritual combat.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Father Petro

Congratulations to Thia Rose Spitzman and William Garey Jones who recently celebrated the sacrament of matrimony in our church.

Parish Flea Market – save the date! On June 1/2 we plan to hold a flea market in the church hall. If you have items in good condition that you no longer want or need, you are kindly asked to hold onto them until May, at which time we will begin accepting donations. Items that will be accepted include household items, kitchen items, toys, holiday decorations, and more. Please note that electronics, clothing, bedding, cassette tapes and VHS tapes will not be accepted. Baked goods and food will be available for purchase! All proceeds benefit our church Building Fund. If you can help at this year’s flea market, please contact Gene or Sharon Bartosiewicz.

We will conduct a one-day picnic this year on Saturday, August 3, 2024 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. in our Picnic Grove. The picnic will aim to be “family friendly” and feature the delicious homemade Polish foods and live polka band music that we have customarily enjoyed. Games of chance, theme baskets, kids’ games, beer, soda, funnel cakes, etc. will remain among our typical offerings. Charyl Nagy and Joe Petro are serving as Picnic Chairmen this year. Our next picnic meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 20, at 6 p.m. in the church hall. Other chairs are needed, especially for food production and distribution. Please make plans to attend next month’s meeting. Thank you!

The net profit from our Holy Name Society Super Bowl Sunday Hoagie Sale was \$342.04.

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.

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU: on Mondays of Lent, Confessions will be heard in our church from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. on these dates: Feb. 26, March 4, 11, 18. The deanery penance service will be on March 25, 6:30pm, at St. John the Evangelist Church, Pittston.

Lenten Communion Calls: Fr. Petro will soon visit the home-bound members of our parish to administer Confession, Anointing of the Sick and Holy Communion. If you would like to be added to the monthly home visitation list, please call the Parish Office.

An American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held in our church hall on Thursday, May 9, 12-5pm. Please save the date!

“Rectory, Set, Cook!”, a Catholic anti-hunger and anti-homelessness fundraising initiative, has begun! The 2024 theme for this Lenten fundraiser is “Collars + Scholars,” in which children from our diocesan Catholic school have joined priests from the eleven counties of our diocese in the making of cooking videos. Viewers are invited to vote for their favorite videos online by contributing \$10 per vote. *We hope you take a moment to watch and vote for “Team Dupont” as Candice Kelly, along with her daughters, Chloe and Grace, have joined Fr. Petro in the making of a tater-tot hot dish, a popular meal in Candice’s home state of Minnesota.* You can donate any time from February 13 through March 26, 2024. All proceeds will benefit Catholic Social Services’ food kitchens, food pantries, men’s and women’s shelters and our parish. To watch the video and place your vote, go to <https://fundraise.givesmart.com/vf/2024PASTORCHEF>

Gorzkie zale, the traditional Polish-language Lenten devotion known as the “Bitter Lamentations,” will be held on Sunday, March 17, 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. Michael Drevitch, parochial vicar of Corpus Christi and St. Barbara Parishes, 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 17. Please drop off donations in the church hall by 3pm on Sunday, March 17. Thank you for your generosity!

You’re invited to Fr. Petro’s 50th birthday party! Join us as we begin in thanksgiving to God at Mass on Thursday, March 7, at 5:30 p.m. Following Mass there will be a catered dinner in our church hall. Please make use of the RSVP form in the bulletin so that we can adequately prepare for your presence at the reception.

RSVP for Fr. Petro’s 50th Birthday Party!

Thursday, March 7

Mass will be celebrated at 5:30pm

Reception to follow in the church hall.

Name: _____

Number attending: _____

Please return to the Parish Office by March 3.

Holy Saturday HNS Kolache Sale

~ Only \$14 each, freshly made by Bakery Delite! ~

Pick-up date: Saturday, March 30, 11am - 1:30pm in the church hall during the blessing of Easter baskets. *Return this form with payment to the Parish Office no later than March 5.* Please write quantity of each on the line provided:

NUT ROLL: _____

POPPY SEED ROLL: _____

CHEESE ROLL: _____

Name: _____

Phone No.: _____

I have enclosed \$ _____ for my order.

Payment must accompany all orders. Thank you!

Adult Religious Education will be held for four weeks this Lent at our Sacred Heart of Jesus School of Religion. Adults will study the Faith and share knowledge. The meetings will take place on Wednesday evenings at 6 pm, on February 28, March 6, 13 and 20. If you are interested in joining our Adult Religious Education, please register your name, phone number and address to Nancy Beccaloni at sacredheartccd@comcast.net.

“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.

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.

“SACRED CHANT: Latin Hymns from Dupont” is the title of an audio CD produced by our church organist, Anthony George. It features some of the Latin language hymns that have been sung in our church for the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, Holy Week and Easter, as well as Eucharistic chants and seasonal Marian antiphons and chants. These CDs can be purchased in the narthex for \$10. All proceeds benefit our parish Building Fund.

Please join the 8th grade Confirmation class as they present a Poor Man’s Supper on Friday, Mar. 1 from 6 to 6:50 pm. This is a meatless potluck dinner and gathering for the parish to come together before Stations and be in community before praying the Stations. If you want to bring a dish that is fine, if not just join us. All are welcome, old and young! We hope to see you there!

An Easter Food Drive is being sponsored by our 3rd grade CCD students during Lent. Parishioners are invited to bring non-perishable foods to church and place them in the bin located in the narthex from February 14 until Sunday, March 10. This drive is done with the help of the Knights of Columbus, Council 372.

Lenten CCD Confessions: Fr. Petro will be hearing the confessions of our CCD students in church during the school period. CCD confessions will be heard as follows: Feb. 25 – grade 6, Mar. 3 – grades 4 and 5, Mar. 10 – grade 3. *Our children will receive the Sacrament of Penance for the first time on Saturday, March 2 at 2:30 p.m. in the church.*

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.

2024 Wedding Anniversary Mass for couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversaries with be celebrated by the bishop at St. Peter’s Cathedral, Scranton, on Sunday, June 23, at 2:30 p.m. A reception will follow. Requests for an invitation can be made by registering online at www.dioceseofscranton.org or calling Bridget Guarnieri at 570-207-2213 ext. 1113.

A Lenten Holy Hour with Bishop Bambera will be held for the Pittston Deanery on Tuesday, Mar. 5 at 7pm at St. Josph Marello Parish, 237 William St., Pittston. All are invited to attend.

The Wyoming Valley Chapter of the Pennsylvanians for Human Life invites everyone to receive their monthly newsletter at *no charge*. Membership to the Pennsylvanians for Human Life is only \$10 per year or a one-time donation of \$100 for lifetime enrollment. To sign up for the newsletter or to join, call 570-826-1819.

An Open House will be held at Holy Redeemer High School, 159 S. Pennsylvania Blvd., Wilkes-Barre, on Saturday, Mar. 9, from 12-2pm. To register, call 570-829-2424.

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

Monday (Feb. 26) Lenten Weekday
7:30 am Frank Kolankiewicz
by his family

Tuesday (Feb. 27) Lenten Weekday
7:30 am Adam Chmiel
by Sharon Plisko

Wednesday (Feb. 28) Lenten Weekday
7:30 am Cassie Barnak
by her family

Thursday (Feb. 29) Lenten Weekday
7:30 am William Kull
by Thomas and Maria Elena Petro

Friday (Mar. 1) Lenten Weekday (First Friday)
7:30 am Frank Crockenberg
by John and Amy Renfer

7:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday (Mar. 2) Vigil: 3rd Sunday of Lent
4:00 pm Irene and Robert Myers
by Roberta Kashuba

Sunday (Mar. 3) Third Sunday of Lent
8:30 am Our Parishioners (*Missa pro populo*)
10:30 am Geraldine and Paul Sovinsky
by Rita Tubridy and family

“His Heart... WEEKLY OFFERING ...Our Hands”

Last Sunday: \$4,955.00

Fuel: \$465.00

Building Fund: \$205.00

Ash Wednesday: \$1,348.00

Church in Central and Eastern Europe: \$279.00

May the Lord reward your generosity.

The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of:
Tabernacle: Margaret Cichocki, *by Diane and Raymond Cichocki*
Blessed Mother: Alex and Mary Skrzysowski, *by family*
St. Joseph: intentions of Marie & Joe Pistack, *by Mary Ann Pistack*

✦

The offertory gifts of bread & wine this Sunday are donated in memory of the Sellock and Celusniak families, by Anna Sellock.

UPCOMING EVENTS
Feb. 26, 5:30-6:30pm, Confessions, church
Feb. 28, 6-7pm, Adult Education, school
Feb. 29, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft
Mar. 1, 7:30 am, 1 st Friday Mass and devotions, church
Mar. 1, 7pm, Stations of the Cross, church
Mar. 2, 2:30pm, First Penance, church
Mar. 2, 2:45-3:45pm, 1 st Saturday Adoration/devotions, church

Liturgical Volunteer Schedule
<i>February 24-25</i>
4pm: EM: C. Wesley, Lector: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolyte: A., E. & M. Collins
8:30am: EM: <i>volunteer</i> , Lector: A. Bufalino, Acolyte: A. & J. Rupprecht
10:30am: EM: B. Purdy, Lector: M. Ferretti, Acolyte: C. Purdy, E. & J. Toalongo
<i>March 1, Stations of the Cross:</i> M. Collins, A. & J. Rupprecht
<i>March 2-3</i>
4pm: EM: B. Purdy, Lector: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolyte: C. Purdy
8:30am: EM: <i>volunteer</i> , Lector: J. Roche, Acolyte: E. & J. Lyons, T. Papiercavich
10:30am: EM: D. Suchecki, Lector: T. Satkowski, Acolyte: A. & J. Rupprecht

The traditional Slovak Stations of the Cross and Lenten Hymn Sing sponsored by the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern PA will be held on Sunday, Mar. 17 at St. Ignatius of Loyola Church, 339 N. Maple Ave., Kingston. The service will conclude with Benediction. Refreshments will follow. A free will offering will be accepted. For more information call Anna at 570-510-1655.

“40 Days for Life” a pro-life rosary gathering, will take place Feb. 14 – Mar. 22, and will be offered for the intentions of ending abortion and the closure of the Planned Parenthood location in Wilkes-Barre. The rosary will be prayed each weekday at 10 a.m. in front of the offices of Planned Parenthood, 101 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre (across from King’s College). This pro-life campaign draws attention to the evil of abortion through prayer & fasting, constant vigil, and community outreach.

Save the date! Wednesday, April 24, at 6:30 p.m. Dr. Larry Chapp will give a talk in our church hall. Light refreshments will follow.