

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.

✠ Fourth Sunday of Lent ♦ March 10, 2024 ✠

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

The Parochial Pen

My dear parishioners,

The film *Cabrini* was released on March 8, 2024. Several local movie theaters are showing it - *I encourage you to go see it!* It is a biographical drama film that details the life of Catholic missionary Francesca Cabrini, St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, as she encountered resistance to her evangelization and charitable efforts in New York City. The film explores the struggles she faced in the United States in the late 19th century. Mother Cabrini, as she was known to many during her life, visited our area in the summer of 1899. She and her Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart worked among the recently arrived Italian immigrants in Dunmore and Scranton. She met with Bishop Michael Hoban to express her desire to found a school in the Scranton area for the education of the children of the poor Italian immigrants. After several years of working together, Bishop Hoban purchased the old #16 school from the Scranton School District in 1901. That building would become a school, convent and church staffed by Mother Cabrini’s Sisters. This was a unique situation in our diocese where the need to create classroom space would lead to the creation of a parish, St. Lucy’s Church. A street in Scranton located near the current parish church was renamed “St. Frances Cabrini Avenue.” It was through the heroic and determined work of this saint that the first educational efforts among the Italian apostolate in the Diocese of Scranton were realized.

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.

Father Petro is grateful to everyone who organized and celebrated his 50th birthday party. He was overwhelmed with the beautiful cards, gifts, and fond wishes. The Mass was beautiful and 132 people filled the church hall for the dinner party! “THANK YOU!”

The Feast of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is celebrated March 19. The Novena to St. Joseph is prayed from March 10 to 18. The Novena to St. Joseph: *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...*

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.

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: March 11, 18. The deanery penance service will be on March 25, 6:30pm, at St. John the Evangelist Church, Pittston.

On Good Friday, our parish will take up the annual collection for the Holy Land. We ask you to be generous. Your financial contribution will support the works of the Catholic Church in the Middle East and to protect the Holy Places and Christian shrines.

EASTER TRIDUUM SCHEDULE

Thursday (March 28) Holy Thursday

7:00 pm Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper
10:00 pm Eucharistic Reposition & Night Prayer

Friday (March 29) Good Friday

3:00 pm Liturgy
7:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday (March 30) 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 (March 31) Easter Sunday Masses:

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

“Operation Rice Bowl” cardboard boxes may be returned before the end of Lent by placing them in the collection basket.

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 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 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!

A solemn blessing and procession of palms will be held prior to the 10:30 am Mass at our church on Palm Sunday, March 24. The faithful are asked to report to the school on Sunday, March 24, by 10:30 am. The palms will be blessed there and all 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, March 30, 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 *kołaczki* in the hall that day, 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

Homemade pizzelles by Mike Silla will be sold by our Holy Name Society on Saturday, Mar. 30, 11am - 1:30pm in the church hall during the blessing of Easter baskets. Pizzelles will be available in anise flavor, vanilla with sprinkles and chocolate. They will be sold in containers of 8 pieces for \$5 while supplies last.

All the faithful of the Diocese are invited to attend the Chrism Mass at St. Peter’s Cathedral, Scranton, on Tues., Mar. 26 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.

“**Rectory, Set, Cook!**”, a Catholic anti-hunger and anti-homelessness fundraising initiative, has begun! 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>

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 and Sharon Bartosiewicz (457-6945) or Bob Bartosiewicz (457-8403).

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!

A new lamppost was installed by the sacristy entrance in the rear churchyard by Michael Silla. He also refurbished the electric crown on the nearby statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Thanks, Mike!

Our parish Holy Name Society will have their quarterly corporate Communion Mass on Sun., March 10, at 8:30 a.m. Members are invited to wear their suits and pins and participate in the procession.

Congratulations to the HNS 300 Club Week 2 winners: 1st prize: \$100, Marian Wanielista, 2nd prize: \$50, Joe Petro, 3rd prize: \$25, Kim Collins, 4th prize: \$25, Byard Woodruff.

The Easter Food Drive sponsored by our 3rd grade CCD students concludes this Sunday, March 10. This drive is done with the help of the Knights of Columbus, Council 372.

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.

Lenten CCD Confessions will be heard in church during the school period as follows: Mar. 10 – grade 3.

Adult Religious Education is happening this Lent at our Sacred Heart of Jesus School of Religion. The meetings will take place on Wednesdays at 6 pm – March 13 and 20. Please contact Nancy Beccaloni (sacredheartccd@comcast.net) for details.

“**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 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.

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.”

2024 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 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.

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

Monday (Mar. 11) Lenten Weekday

7:30 am Irene Zurek
by Mark and Betsy Zurek

Tuesday (Mar. 12) Lenten Weekday

7:30 am Henry Klimek
by Joseph Budzilek, Jr.

Wednesday (Mar. 13) Lenten Weekday

7:30 am Margaret Milewski
by Ann Zielinski

Thursday (Mar. 14) Lenten Weekday

7:30 am Beatrice Zawacki
by Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Dougherty

Friday (Mar. 15) Lenten Weekday

7:30 am Helen Sedlak
by Patti and Tim Stonikinis

7:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday (Mar. 16) Vigil: 5th Sunday of Lent

4:00 pm Joseph and Josephine Pistack
by MaryAnn Pistack and family

Sunday (Mar. 17) Fifth Sunday of Lent

8:30 am Our Parishioners (*Missa pro populo*)
10:30 am Julius and Stella Kobylus
by Ed Kobylus and Lisa

“His Heart... WEEKLY OFFERING ...Our Hands”
Last Sunday: \$7,931.00
Building Fund: \$679.00
Rice Bowl: \$687.00
May the Lord reward your generosity.

The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of:
Tabernacle: Tony Kocylowski, by Lynne, Lauren and Allison
Blessed Mother: David Klimek, by his mother
St. Joseph: Stanley & Anna Snopkowski, by daughter, Jean Poplawski
St. Therese: Faye Renfer, by John and Amy
St. Francis: Stanley & Anna Snopkowski, by daughter, Jean Poplawski.



The offertory gifts of bread & wine this Sunday are donated in memory of Emmanuel Ziobro, by his children.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar. 11, 5:30-6:30pm, Confessions, church
Mar. 13, 6-7pm, Adult Education, school
Mar. 14, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft
Mar. 15, 7pm, Stations of the Cross, church
Mar. 17, 3pm, Gorzkie Zale devotions
Mar. 18, 5:30-6:30pm, Confessions, church

Liturgical Volunteer Schedule

March 9-10
4pm: EM: M. Pistack, Lector: A. Devlin, Acolyte: C. Purdy
8:30am: EM: J. Barket, Lector: H. Vogue, Acolyte: A., E., & M. Collins
10:30am: EM: C. Wesley, Lector: M. Ferretti, Acolyte: A. & J. Rupprecht, E. & J. Toalongo
March 15, Stations of the Cross: E. & J. Lyons, A. & J. Rupprecht
March 16-17
4pm: EM: B. Purdy, Lector: J. Klenner, Acolyte: C. Purdy
8:30am: EM: C. Wesley, Lector: A. Bufalino, Acolyte: A., E. & M. Collins
10:30am: EM: D. Suchecki, Lector: G. Beccaloni, Acolyte: E. & J. Lyons, T. Papiercavich
Gorzkie Zale devotions
3pm: L: J. Klenner, Acolyte: C. Purdy, 2 additional volunteers needed

✠ Prayer before a Crucifix ✠

Good and gentle Jesus, I kneel before you. I see and I ponder your five wounds. My eyes behold what David prophesied about you: “They have pierced my hands and feet; they have counted all my bones.” Engrave on me this image of yourself. Fulfill the yearnings of my heart: give me faith, hope, and love, repentance for my sins, and true conversion of life. Amen.

On any Friday during Lent, a plenary indulgence is granted the Christian faithful who, after Communion, devoutly recite the above prayer before an image of Jesus Christ crucified. On other days of the year the indulgence is a partial one.