

Sacred Heart of Jesus Church

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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.

✠ **Fifth Sunday of Easter** ♦ **April 28, 2024** ✠

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

The Parochial Pen

My dear parishioners,

“Green Burials” have recently been approved by Bishop Bambera for cemeteries in our diocese. The first cemeteries to offer this service are St. Catherine’s, Moscow, and ours. Green Burial is defined as “A way of caring for the dead with minimal environmental impact that aids in the conservation of natural resources, reduction of carbon emissions, protection of worker health, and the restoration and/or preservation of habitat.” (As defined by Green Burial Council Glossary). Green burial is an alternative to customary burial practices, where the deceased is buried directly into the ground in a wicker or similar container after being cleansed and prepared by a funeral director. Interment using Green Burial must be supervised by a licensed funeral director and coordinated with our parish office. Since conventional embalming is not used, interment typically occurs 36 to 48 hours after death. Families need to be aware of the accelerated pace as compared to standard funerals. No embalmed bodies are allowed in the green burial area. Exceptions for natural embalming fluid may be granted by the Diocesan Cemeteries Director only. The requirement for a hardened vault is waived for green burials. However, a biodegradable rigid container such as a wood, wicker, or cardboard casket is required. A casket with at least four handles is necessary to accommodate lowering devices at the gravesites. Lot prices and interment fees are the same as standard graves. The natural burial area is to accommodate full-body interments only. Cremated remains are not allowed in this area because cremation is not considered to be in line with the natural or “green” intent of the area. No additional right of interment is allowed - only one interment per burial plot in the green burial area. Lots in the green burial area are allocated on a “next available” basis. There is no choice of plot as they are distributed sequentially. Plots will never be reused or recycled. Plots guarantee a burial space only and are not “property”. They cannot be resold to another individual. A purchased space which is not used can be returned to the Cemetery for refund minus an administrative fee. No disinterments are possible unless required by court order. No marker is permitted on individual graves. One marker for the entire green burial section will record the names of the interred. The green burial area will have reduced mowing and landscaping requirements. A less manicured and natural appearance is to be expected and is at the sole discretion of the pastor. Markers, memorials, plaques, mementos, or objects of any kind cannot be left in the green burial area. Plantings of any kind are also prohibited. Cemetery staff may remove any item at their discretion. Natural flowers left at the gravesite at the time of service will be allowed to remain for a few days. Decedents should be clothed in natural materials (cotton, linen, wool, leather) to the extent practical in keeping with the green aspect of the area. Those contemplating green burial must recognize the solemnity of the Cemetery and respect the Catholic nature of the space. No ceremonies, rituals, or acts contrary to Catholic tradition or canon law are allowed. Diocesan Cemeteries and Catholic Funeral Rites, to include the Rite of Committal or Interment, are under the authority of the Bishop of the Diocese of Scranton.

Please feel free to ask me any questions regarding green burial. Funeral directors Gregory Zawacki and Mark Kiesinger can also assist you. A portion of the Calvary section of our parish cemetery will be designated for green burials.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Petro

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION – Ascension Thursday

Wednesday, May 8: 4 p.m.

Thursday, May 9: 7 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

Rev. Daniel D. Olszewski, the seventh pastor of our parish from 1984-1999, died on April 28, 2017. Please pray for the peaceful repose of his soul on the anniversary of his death.

A **BAKE SALE** will be conducted by our Confraternity of Christian Mothers on Saturday, May 4, 3 to 5 p.m., and Sunday, May 5, 8 a.m. until noon. Those able to donate baked goods can drop them off in the church hall on Saturday beginning at noon. This Bake Sale is hosted in conjunction with the Spring Raffle. A contribution sign-up sheet is in the church narthex. Please contact either Marie Ferretti 905-0384 or Tina Petcaugh 991-2114 with any questions.

Tickets for the Confraternity of Christian Mothers’ Spring Raffle have been mailed to parish households. Please purchase the tickets (\$10 for 10 tickets) and return them to the Parish Office by May 3. 1st prize \$500, 2nd \$250, 3rd \$150 and 4th \$100. The drawing will take place on Sunday, May 5, at the conclusion of the bake sale.

Children from our parish will receive Our Lord in Holy Communion for the first time on Sunday, May 5, at 10:30 am. A *plenary indulgence* is granted the Christian faithful when they receive their first Communion and when they devoutly assist at a first Communion ceremony.

New altar servers needed: Are you a young person who attends Mass every Sunday and Holy Day in our parish? Are you interested in growing in the Church’s spiritual and liturgical life? Why not become an acolyte (altar server)? Fr. Petro needs new acolytes to serve Mass. Contact the Parish Office or Fr. Petro if you are interested in learning how to serve. Training will be held after First Holy Communion.

“**May Crowning**” of a statue of the Blessed Mother will be celebrated on Sunday, May 12, at 10:30 am by our First Communion children. The Blessed Virgin Mary is given special honor by the Church during the month of May. This whole month has been given to Mary. In churches throughout the world public honor is given to her during this month. The *Regina Coeli* (“Queen of Heaven”) hymn is sung as a post communion meditation hymn at Sunday Masses during Easter. The faithful are encouraged to pray the Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary before Mass. Also, free rosaries and other objects of devotion will be offered in the narthex throughout May.

The annual **Mother’s Day Social** hosted by Confraternity of Christian Mothers will be held on Monday, May 6 in the church hall following their monthly meeting which begins at 5:30pm. Dinner is for members only and is free of charge. Reservations are required so that the proper amount of food can be ordered. Kindly deposit this form in the collection basket by April 28.

Name of member attending: _____

Our parish Flea Market will be held on June 1/2 in the church hall. *Donated items will be accepted starting the weekend of May 4/5.* Please deposit them in the Walnut Street vestibule. If you can help at this year's flea market, please contact Gene and Sharon Bartosiewicz (457-6945) or Bob Bartosiewicz (457-8403).

An American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held in our church hall on Thursday, May 9, 12:30-5pm. You can now register online with the Red Cross to schedule or call 1-800-733-2767.

First Saturday is May 4. It is very important in these times to pray the Rosary, meditate for 15 minutes on the Mysteries, and make sacramental confession and Communion in reparation for sins and blasphemies against Mary's Immaculate Heart. A Eucharistic Holy Hour will be held on Saturday, May 4, from 2:45 to 3:45 pm in our church. All are invited to pray in preparation for the 4 pm Mass.

The Mother's Day envelope is in your offertory pack. You may record your special intentions and memorials on these envelopes and drop them in the collection basket. They will be placed on the BVM side altar of our church throughout the month of May.

Our Polish Picnic will be on Saturday, August 3, 2024, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. in our Picnic Grove. Our next picnic meeting will be Wednesday, May 22, at 6 p.m. in the church hall. All chairmen are required to attend the monthly meetings. *Parishioner volunteers are asked to contact one of the chairs so that they know they can count on you for help.* The list of chairs is as follows:

- Picnic Chairmen: Charyl Nagy, Joe Petro
 - Theme Baskets: Marie Ferretti
 - Kitchen/Food Distribution: Scott Hilenski, Tina Petcaugh
 - Food ticket sales: Bob Bartosiewicz, Tom Tittion
 - Hall Kitchen Clean-up/Picnic Raffle: Kathy Hudzinski
 - Beverages: Mark Kowalczyk
 - Food Runners: Beth Purdy
 - Children's Games: Rupprecht family
 - Potato Pancake Garage: Ed Suchecki
 - Entertainment/Electrical: Mike Silla, Sr.
 - Profit Intake: Sharon Bartosiewicz
 - Grounds Set Up and Clean-up: Gene Bartosiewicz, Kevin Krawczyk
- Chairmen still needed for Stands/Games of Chance, Food Prep*

The "Cemetery Care" envelope appears each May in our packs. This month was chosen to correspond with Memorial Day. All money collected in this envelope will be deposited in our cemetery account and will be used solely for the upkeep of our venerable parish cemetery in Dupont. Please be generous in your financial support of the burial place of our spiritual forefathers, especially if you have relatives or ancestors buried there. Please take time in May to put your envelope in the collection basket.

Cemetery Clean-up Time: It's that time of year to clean up the cemeteries and prepare for spring and grass-cutting season. We ask that all planters and decorations remaining on lots from last year be removed by May 15. After this date, items will be removed and discarded. Please note, we are not responsible for any items left at the grave sites after May 15. Thank you for your cooperation.

NOTICE: Dumping refuse or fill of any sort at our parish cemetery is strictly prohibited. Visitors are ONLY permitted from dawn to dusk at the cemetery. No pets are allowed at any time in the cemetery – dog walking is forbidden. Bicycles, skateboards and ATVs are not permitted at any time. If anyone should see someone violating these regulations, they are asked to report the incident to the parish office immediately. Such violations are acts of disrespect for the holy ground and those buried there.

Columbarium niches and Mausoleums plots are available: A columbarium for the interment of cremains is located in the Holy Sepulchre section of our cemetery. It is a 120 niche octagonal marble structure that will be accessible by way of a sidewalk from Pine St. The pricing for the niches of our columbarium -
 Level 1 (bottom): \$1,100 for single space, \$2,200 for double
 Level 2: \$1,200 single, \$2,400 double
 Level 3: \$1,300 single, \$2,600 double
 Level 4: \$1,300 single, \$2,600 double
 Level 5 (top): \$1,300 single, \$2,600 double
 In the Gethsemani section of our cemetery, at the corner of Wyoming Ave. and Oak St., ground has been aside solely for the placement of mausoleums. Both double (for two people to be entombed side by side) and single (for one person) mausoleums are available. Cost of plot for private family mausoleum -
 Single width: \$4,000
 Stacking privilege: \$2,000 per tier (3 tier max)
 Double width: \$6,000
 Stacking privilege: \$3,000 per tier (3 tier max)
 If you would like to purchase a columbarium niche or a mausoleum plot, contact our Parish Office to make an appointment.

Monday (Apr. 29) St. Catherine of Siena

7:30 am Caroline Kolankiewicz
by family

Tuesday (Apr. 30) St. Pius V

7:30 am Richard Sito
by his wife, Barbara

Wednesday (May 1) St. Joseph the Worker

7:30 am Robert Russick
by Mr. and Mrs. Vincent O'Hop and family

Thursday (May 2) St. Athanasius

7:30 am Margaret Milewski
by Mary, Ross, Leonard and John Trolio

Friday (May 3) Sts. Philip and James (First Friday)

7:30 am John and Patricia McDermott
by Thomas and Lynn McDermott

Saturday (May 4) Vigil: Sixth Sunday of Easter

4:00 pm Donna Bartosiewicz
by her husband, Bob, and Gene and Sharon Bartosiewicz

Sunday (May 5) Sixth Sunday of Easter

8:30 am Ann Tetlak
by her children, John, Ronald and Judith
 10:30 am Our Parishioners (*Missa pro populo*)

"His Heart... WEEKLY OFFERING ...Our Hands"
Last Sunday: \$4,369.00
Building Fund: \$155.00
May the Lord reward your generosity.

The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of:
Tabernacle: *Sy and Julie Hudzinski, by Diana and Mark Kremitske*
Blessed Mother: *Edward Pistack, by his wife, MaryAnn*

✦
The offertory gifts of bread & wine this Sunday are donated in memory of the Lopata family, by James and Robert Lopata.

UPCOMING EVENTS
May 1, 7pm, Holy Name Society meeting, hall
May 2, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft
May 3, 7:30 am, 1 st Friday Mass and devotions, church
May 4, 2:45-3:45pm, 1 st Saturday Adoration/devotions, church
May 4/5, Flea Market donations begin to be accepted, hall
May 4/5, CCM Bake Sale, hall
May 6, 5:30pm, CCM meeting and social, hall
May 9, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft

Liturgical Volunteer Schedule
April 27-28
4pm: EM: C. Wesley, Lector: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolyte: E. & J. Lyons
8:30am: EM: B. Purdy, Lector: C. Purdy, Acolyte:, A. & J. Rupprecht
10:30am: EM: D. Suchecki, Lector: B. Jones, Acolyte: T. Papiercavich
May 4-5
4pm: EM: B. Purdy, Lector: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolyte: C. Purdy
8:30am: EM: C. Wesley, Lector: J. Roche, Acolyte: A. & J. Rupprecht
10:30am: EM: B. Jones, Lector: M. Pistack, Acolyte: A., E. & M. Collins

CCD Sunday School dates to remember:

- May 4, 2:00 pm, First Communion rehearsal, church
- May 5, 10:30 am, First Communion Mass
- May 8, 6 pm, May Crowning practice, church
- May 12, 10:30 am, May Crowning Mass
- May 18, 2:00 pm, Confirmation practice, church
- May 19, 10:30 am, Confirmation Mass

Quo Vadis Days for high school men discerning their vocation, and this year, for the first time, **Fiat Days** for high school women discerning their vocation will be sponsored by the Scranton Diocese. Both Quo Vadis and Fiat Days will occur June 24-26 at Marywood University, Dunmore, and are open to rising sophomores through graduating seniors. These camps are designed to help participants deepen their faith, learn more about all vocations, and better discern God's call in their lives. Register for the Quo Vadis and Fiat Days at <https://www.dioceseofscranton.org/vocations/quo-vadis-fiat-days-registration-pages/>. The cost is \$25 (paid by our parish). Please speak to Fr. Petro if your child is interested in attending.

Requiescant in pace: please pray for the peaceful repose of the souls of Sylvia Magda and Robert Del Prado who were recently buried from our church.