

# 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.

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## ✠ Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time ♦ September 15, 2024 ✠

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

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The Parochial Pen

My dear parishioners,

We have begun the process of repairing badly damaged tombstones in our parish cemetery. Most of these tombstones are in the oldest part of the Calvary section of our cemetery. Over time, they have toppled, tilted or broken apart. They have not received attention from the living in a long time, and in addition to being unsightly, they have become dangerous for those who approach them. Our parish Holy Name Society is now spearheading an effort to restore and preserve them before they worsen any further. Parishioner Scott Hilenski, the owner of Memento Mortuos Memorial Maintenance, is being financially sponsored by our Holy Name Society to accomplish this task. Scott and I have identified approximately fifty neglected tombstones that have been badly damaged and need repair. They are among our oldest, dating from the early twentieth century. Scott hopes to be assisted by Holy Name Society men, or other people interested in preserving our cemetery's oldest tombstones, to defray the labor costs and complete the project in a timely manner. If you would like to help Scott accomplish our special work, visit his website <https://www.nepacemeterycare.com/> to see his contact information. He will purchase the materials and coordinate volunteers. If you are unable to physically assist in our cemetery project but would like to make a monetary donation to help cover some expenses, then please place your donation in an envelope marked "Tombstone Project" and either mail it to the parish office or drop it in the collection basket. Kindly make checks payable to our Holy Name Society. Scott and I look forward to working with you to make our tombstones upright again!

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
Father Petro

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**The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross** is celebrated on Saturday, September 14. During the 4:00 p.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.

**All students** in Catholic, public and home schools are invited to attend the 10:30 am Mass on Sunday, September 15, for the annual back to school blessing for catechists. This blessing coincides with the national "Catechetical Sunday" of U.S. dioceses.

**Pierogi Sale:** Our parish CCM members will be selling pierogi on Saturday, Sept. 21 from 12pm to 5pm outside of our School of Religion. All pierogi are frozen, made by the Polish Connection, Plymouth. The following are available first come, first served: 135 dozen farmers cheese, 126 dozen sauerkraut, 218 dozen potato/cheese. *Only \$10 per dozen!*

**Parish Picnic Report:** The gross profit for this year's picnic (i.e., before the bills are paid) amounted to \$44,903.10. Our picnic expenses totaled \$17,495.70. The net profit (after all the bills have been paid) amounted to \$27,407.40. *Thank you, volunteers!*

**The Church celebrates the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi** on Friday, Oct. 4. Fr. Petro will administer a special blessing to all pets on Sunday, Oct. 6, 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.

**28<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** of the Wyoming Valley Knights of Columbus "Tomb of Unborn" — Respect Life Sunday, October 6 at 2 pm. Prayerful commemoration at the Knights' Tomb of the Unborn, located at the top of Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Carverton. Fr. Petro, chaplain of Greater Pittston Knights of Columbus Assembly 948 will celebrate the Order for Visiting a Cemetery, followed by the recitation of the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary. All Knights of Columbus and the area faithful are invited to attend.

**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. To make a monetary donation toward this outreach apostolate, place your gift in the envelope marked "St. Vincent de Paul Society" and drop it in the basket or send it to the parish office.

**The School Support** envelope can be found in this month's envelope pack. Your school support contributions help defray expenses incurred by our CCD program through the academic year.

**A "Pro-Life Baby Shower"** sponsored by our Confraternity of Christian Mothers will be held Sunday, Oct. 6 to benefit the Wyoming Valley Chapter of Pennsylvanians for Human Life. They will begin collecting baby items (new, unused) such as sleepers, blankets/afghans, washcloths and towels, diapers, etc. Donations can be dropped off before or after all Masses and can be placed in the play pen which will be in the church narthex beginning the weekend of Sept. 21-22. Monetary donations will also be gratefully accepted and can be placed in the collection basket or sent to the parish office in a marked envelope indicating a donation to the "Baby Shower." The CCM invites all to attend a mock baby shower on Sun., Oct. 6, after the 10:30 a.m. Mass in the church hall.

**Children and Student Envelopes:** If you would like your child to receive a boxed set of donation envelopes for 2025, 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. 22 from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. *All school-aged children (both public and homeschoolers) 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! For information regarding sacramental preparation to be communicated to all students, Catholic school students preparing to receive First Communion or Confirmation this year must return a completed CCD registration form. Contact DRE Mrs. Nancy Beccaloni with questions at 570-451-1903.

**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)

**Our Pastoral and Finance Council** members will meet on Monday, Sept. 16, at 6 p.m. in the church hall. This important meeting will approve our budget and finance report to be sent to the diocese and discuss the VISION 2030 plan for Avoca-Dupont.

**The 2025 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. **Please note:** *due to diocesan projections for our deanery VISION 2030 plan, we are not able to accept Mass intentions beyond June 30, 2025. As circumstances are clarified, we will be able to accept Mass intentions beginning July 1, 2025, at a date to be determined that will be announced in our bulletin.* Thank you for your cooperation.

**Families that have purchased columbarium niches** have been contacted to begin the process of engraving them with names and dates. If you have purchased a niche and have not been contacted, please call the parish office. Dupont Monument will do the engraving of the marble niches. The niches are now ready to accept urns, should you have one waiting for interment. Also, we are now selling niches on a first-come-first-served basis. Please contact Kathy at the parish office should you like to reserve your spot in advance for future use – there is no need to wait until the time of death to purchase a columbarium niche. The pricing for the columbarium niches: 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.

**Are you interested** in the Catholic faith and becoming Catholic, or do you know someone who is interested in becoming a Catholic? If you are interested in entering the Church, please contact Fr. Petro.

**Our parish 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, at 570-881-9991 or by email at [TPianoman321@gmail.com](mailto:TPianoman321@gmail.com) if you are interested. Practices resumed on September 5.

**Pennsylvania March for Life** will be on Sunday, Sept. 22 with Mass at Saint Patrick’s Cathedral, 212 State Street, Harrisburg, at 7:00 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will continue overnight until Benediction at 9:00 a.m. on Sept. 23. Two additional Masses for Life will be held at Saint Patrick’s Cathedral at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. The Diocese of Scranton invites all people of good will to participate in the Pennsylvania March for Life. The Diocese will be sponsoring a bus that will have pick-up locations in Scranton (8:30 a.m.) and Wilkes-Barre (9:15 a.m.) on the morning of the rally. Following the March for Life, participants who travel to Harrisburg on the Diocesan bus will also be invited to celebrate Mass at 1:30 p.m. at Saint Patrick’s Cathedral in Harrisburg and the bus will depart for home at the conclusion of Mass. The cost of the trip is \$15/per adult/\$10 per student. Space on the bus is limited. Those interested may contact Shannon Kowalski at (570) 207-2238 or [SKowalski@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:SKowalski@dioceseofscranton.org) to reserve a spot.

**A Diocesan pilgrimage** to Italy and Rome will be led by Bishop Bambera from Aug. 31 to Sept. 9, 2025. The trip will include a Papal Audience, Masses celebrated daily at various Basilicas and Cathedrals, a unique opportunity to visit the Scavi, a tour of the necropolis under St. Peter’s Basilica culminating at the tomb of Saint Peter, and much more. ‘Pilgrims of Hope’ is the theme for the Holy Year 2025. A Holy Year, or Jubilee, is a time of pilgrimage, prayer, repentance, and acts of mercy, based on the Old Testament tradition of a Jubilee Year of rest, forgiveness, and renewal. For more information, including a day-by-day itinerary, visit the Diocese of Scranton website at [www.dioceseofscranton.org](http://www.dioceseofscranton.org).

**The Catholic Men’s Conference** will be held Sat., Oct. 5, 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 (Early Bird \$30 until Sept. 15) and \$15/students. For details, contact Mike Kilmer at 570-721-0872 or [mkilmer@thekilmergroup.com](mailto:mkilmer@thekilmergroup.com).

**Marywood University Students Organized to Uphold Life (SOUL)** will host the Second Annual “Cruisin’ for a Cause” Car Show benefiting St. Joseph’s Center, Sunday, Sept. 22, 11am-2pm in the Nazareth Student Center Parking Lot on the campus of Marywood University, Scranton. Pharoah’s Car Club along with live music from “Meet Me On Marcie,” a bake sale, 50/50 raffle, car blessing, and a refreshment stand will be present. Cars will be judged at 1:30pm and the day will conclude with a car cruise around campus. A diaper drive drop box benefitting St. Joseph’s Baby Pantry will also be on site for the day of the event.

**Last Sunday**, Elena Maria Petrini was baptized in our church. Pray for her and her family as they grow in God’s wisdom and grace.

**Monday (Sept. 16) Ss. Cornelius and Cyprian**

7:30 am Charles Tetlak  
by Carole Karska

**Tuesday (Sept. 17) St. Robert Bellarmine**

7:30 am Robert Tible  
by Thomas and Dorothy Sheridan

**Wednesday (Sept. 18) Weekday**

7:30 am Bernard Milan  
by Mildred Mlodzienski

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

7:30 am Shirley Skrzyszowski  
by the Elm St. Sportsman’s Club

**Friday (Sept. 20) Ss. Andrew Kim and Companions**

7:30 am Adam Chmiel  
by the Goula family

**Saturday (Sept. 21) Vigil: 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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

**Sunday (Sept. 22) Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:30 am Our Parishioners (*Missa pro populo*)  
10:30 am Living and deceased clergy  
by Tina Petcaugh

*“His Heart... WEEKLY OFFERING ...Our Hands”*  
**Last Sunday: \$4,416.15**  
**Building Fund: \$174.00**  
*May the Lord reward your generosity.*

*The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of:  
Blessed Mother: Rose and Nicholas Loncala, by Marian Wanielista  
St. Therese: In thanksgiving to God, by Maria Vojta*

✠  
*The offertory gifts of bread & wine this Sunday are donated in  
memory of Joseph, John & Richard Bryk, by sister-in-law,  
Bernadine Bryk and family.*

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Sept. 15, 10:30 am, Catechetical Sunday blessing of catechists  
Sept. 16, 6pm, Pastoral & Finances Councils meet, hall  
Sept. 21, Noon-5pm, Frozen pierogi sale, school  
Sept. 22, 9:15-10:15am, first day of CCD, school

**Liturgical Volunteer Schedule**

<b>Sept. 14-15</b>
<b>4pm:</b> EM: M. Pistack, Lector: J. Klenner, Acolyte: E. & J. Lyons
<b>8:30am:</b> EM: B. Jones, L: C. Purdy, Acolyte: C. & T. Papiercavich
<b>10:30am:</b> EM: M. Moletsky, Lector: L. Rupprecht, Acolyte: A. & JJ Rupprecht
<b>Sept. 21-22</b>
<b>4pm:</b> EM: C. Wesley, Lector: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolyte: Collins family
<b>8:30am:</b> EM: <i>volunteer</i> , Lector: B. Jones, Acolyte: A. & J. Rupprecht
<b>10:30am:</b> EM: B. Purdy, Lector: T. Satkowski, Acolyte: E. & J. Toalongo

**Our parish fundraiser** with Rada Cutlery continues! Parishioners may access Rada via the homepage of our parish website to order

**WACS “Parking Lot Blessing”:** All are welcome to attend the blessing and dedication of the new Wyoming Area Catholic School parking lot on Friday, Sept. 27, at 1pm. Please gather at the entrance of the school located at 1690 Wyoming Ave., Exeter.

**A Fall Chicken BBQ** will be held at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, 116 Hughes St., Swoyersville, on Sunday, Sept. 22, 11am-3pm in the school cafeteria. Tickets are \$12 which includes 1/2 chicken, baked potato, cole slaw, roll and dessert. Dinner is take-out only. Call 570-262-2896 to order. Tickets will be available at the door.

**The University of Scranton** will host two Open House events for prospective students and their families on Sunday, Oct. 27, and Sunday, Nov. 10. At the Open House, participants can learn about undergraduate majors, meet with faculty, students, admissions counselors and financial aid representatives. Call 1-888-SCRANTON or visit [www.scranton.edu](http://www.scranton.edu) for more information.

**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.”*