

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.

✠ **Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time** ♦ **September 22, 2024** ✠

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

The Parochial Pen

My dear parishioners,

This weekend begins the Catholic Ministries Appeal (formerly the Diocesan Annual Appeal). The Appeal's theme again this year is "Our Call to Serve" and it takes on new life by pointing us towards the future. Last year, we were reminded that Our Call to Serve encourages a spirit of creating communities rooted in the Life of Jesus Christ. Each of us are called to become the loving, compassionate Christ who fed the hungry. This year, added to our theme, we are reminded of Jesus' message in the Gospel of John, that he came so that we all "might have life and have it more abundantly." As Christ gave Himself to us, we are called to serve and be generous towards others. I invite you to join me in serving others through the Diocesan Annual Appeal.

There are several ways we can contribute to the Appeal. Many of you have already received information in the mail that included a pledge card. If you have already filled that out and sent it in or have made your gift online, thank you! If you have not yet given, there is a pledge card in the pew that you can either fill out and place in the collection basket, or you can scan the QR code on the pledge card to make your gift online. Please consider what you might contribute to these vital Catholic ministries over the next several months.

Thank you for joining me in support of Catholic Ministries. Our generous gifts, combined with the gifts of all our brothers and sisters throughout our diocese, go a long way in supporting our Church.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Petro

For the month of October, our parish along with parishes around the country conduct the "October count," a measure of attendance at Sunday Mass. The measure has been taken for many centuries, and in some European dioceses it is possible to measure the level of engagement in worship by the population over the course of many centuries. The October count has proven especially critical in the life of our Church as bishops use the figures to measure the vitality of parish life, to sketch parish boundaries, and even to decide when to close, merge, or form new parishes.

Diocesan Annual Appeal: The 2024-2025 Diocesan Annual Appeal has begun. Commitment cards for the Appeal will be distributed at all Masses this weekend. Parishioners are asked to prayerfully consider what they are able to contribute to the appeal and fill out a card indicating their pledge. The Diocesan Annual Appeal benefits thousands of people throughout our diocese and beyond through Catholic ministries which are funded by the Annual Appeal. As parish support is critical to the success of the Appeal, your participation is key. Gifts of all sizes are welcome. Our parish goal is \$32,953.00.

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.

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.

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

End of Summer 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!*

A Fall Theology Series will be held in our school for adult learners on Wednesdays October 23, 30 and November 6 from 6 to 7 p.m. Bill Jones will conduct the classes. Proposed classes: Oct. 23, "*Mary is: the Mother of God; Our Lady; and much, much more.*" In this presentation we will discuss the Protestant myths about the Mother of Our Lord and the Jewish biblical roots of Mary. Oct. 30, "*The Koran and Its References to Jesus, Mary and Christians.*" This class will explore passages from the Koran that refer to these themes. Nov. 6, "*Modernism: The Unknown Threat.*" This class will discuss the meaning of modernism and why it has been called the "synthesis of all heresies." The presentation will expand on its influence upon the Church and society, and our relationship with God. All are invited to attend this free series.

28th 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.

CCD Registration for our parish has begun. CCD registration forms are available in the narthex as well as online at 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.

CCD Mass: Oct. 13, Grade 8 students will assist at the 10:30 a.m. Mass. All CCD students are required to attend.

Tombstone Project: Our parish Holy Name Society is spearheading an effort to repair badly damaged tombstones in our cemetery. Parishioner Scott Hilenski, the owner of Memento Mortuos Memorial Maintenance, is being financially sponsored by our Holy Name Society to accomplish this task. Approximately fifty neglected tombstones have been identified as needing 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 this 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. Volunteers are needed to work on Tuesday, October 1 and Friday, October 4 from 3 to 6 p.m. - please park on Lackawanna Ave. and bring a good shovel.

"Cemetery Sunday" devotions will take place this year on Sun., Oct. 27, beginning at 1pm in our church. We will begin with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the praying of the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary. The names of our parishioners who died and were buried from our church since last year's devotions will be read aloud. *You are invited to bring photos of your deceased loved ones and place them on the table in front of the St. Joseph side altar.* After Solemn Benediction and Reposition, a procession will form to the cemetery while the faithful sing the Litany of the Saints. The faithful who cannot walk in the procession may drive to the cemetery. Father will then bless the cemetery and visitation of the graves by the faithful will follow. Traditional Polish, Latin and English hymns will be sung. Please join in praying for the peaceful repose of the souls of all the faithful departed.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 if you are interested. Practices resumed on September 5.

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.

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

The Diocesan Vocations Office will sponsor Eucharistic Adoration on Thurs., Oct. 3 at 7pm to be held at St. Maria Goretti Church, 42 Redwood Dr., Laflin. The evening will include a speaker, the Sacrament of Reconciliation and a social.

Monday (Sept. 23) St. Pius of Pietrelcina

7:30 am Leo Zawacki
by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Sheridan

Tuesday (Sept. 24) Weekday

7:30 am John Panuski
by Marge Titton

Wednesday (Sept. 25) Weekday

7:30 am Jean Poplawski
by Sacred Heart CCM

Thursday (Sept. 26) Sts. Cosmas and Damian

7:30 am Ann Potera
by Elizabeth Lopresto

Friday (Sept. 27) St. Vincent de Paul

7:30 am Irene Zurek
by Mark and Betsy Zurek

Saturday (Sept. 28) Vigil: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm Bernard Zielinski
by Barbara Sorber

Sunday (Sept. 29) Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 am Our Parishioners (*Missa pro populo*)
10:30 am Richard Sable
by sons

"His Heart... WEEKLY OFFERING ...Our Hands"
Last Sunday: \$3,931.33
Building Fund: \$185.00
May the Lord reward your generosity.

The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of:
Tabernacle: *Deceased of the Wojta and Curgali families, by Maria Wojta*

Blessed Mother: *Holly Golembowski, by Maureen McLaughlin*
St. Joseph: *John Lopata, by Robert and James Lopata*
St. Therese: *Joan Jemiola, by Maureen McLaughlin*

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The offertory gifts of bread & wine this Sunday are donated in memory of Thomas Skrzysowski, by Karen and Henry Augenstein.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sept. 21, Noon-5pm, Frozen pierogi sale, school
- Sept. 22, 9:15-10:15am, first day of CCD, school
- Sept. 26, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft
- Oct. 2, 7pm, Holy Name Society mtg, hall
- Oct. 3, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft
- Oct. 4, 7:30 am, 1st Friday Mass and devotions, church
- Oct. 5, 2:45-3:45pm, 1st Saturday Adoration/devotions, church
- Oct. 6, 9:30am, Blessing of pets, picnic grove
- Oct. 7, 6pm, CCM, hall
- Oct. 10, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft
- Oct. 13, 10:30am, CCD Mass, grade 8 assists

Liturgical Volunteer Schedule

Sept. 21-22
4pm: EM: C. Wesley, Lector: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolyte: Collins family
8:30am: EM: <i>volunteer</i> , Lector: B. Jones, Acolyte: A. & J. Rupprecht
10:30am: EM: B. Purdy, Lector: T. Satkowski, Acolyte: E. & J. Toalongo
Sept. 28-29
4pm: EM: C. Wesley, Lector: A. Devlin, Acolyte: Collins family
8:30am: EM: M. Moletsky, Lector: H. Vogue, Acolyte: A. & J. Rupprecht
10:30am: EM: B. Purdy, Lector: M. Ferretti, Acolyte: C. & T. Papiercavich

St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 William St., Pittston, will host an Evening of Song on Sat., Oct. 19, 7pm, with the St. Thomas Gospel Choir of Philadelphia and Cantores Christi Regis of King's College, Wilkes-Barre. A suggested offering of \$10 per person will be accepted at the door.

The Catholic Men's Conference will be held Sat., Oct. 5, 8am-3pm at Holy Redeemer High School, Wilkes-Barre. Register online at www.BeACatholicMan.com. The cost is \$40 for adults and \$15 for students. For details, contact Mike Kilmer at 570-721-0872 or mkilmer@thekilmergroup.com.

The first Sunday of October is designated as Respect Life Sunday. Bishop Bambera will celebrate a Respect Life Sunday Mass on October 6 at 10 a.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton. The Mass is open to the public and will also be broadcast live from CTV and available on diocesan social media.