

# 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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✠ **Second Sunday in Ordinary Time** ♦ **January 19, 2025** ✠

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

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The Parochial Pen

My dear parishioners,

The first picnic-planning meeting of the year was held this past Wednesday evening. A representative number of parishioners attended, along with this year's triumvirate of chairmen: Charyl Nagy, Joe Petro and Liz Tomko. The purpose of this initial meeting was to determine if we are going to have a picnic this year, when it will be and for which duration of time. After an open and thorough discussion, a vote was taken among all those present and a very clear majority selected:

**2025 POLISH PICNIC - FRIDAY, June 27, 5 to 9 p.m. & SATURDAY, June 28, 5 to 9 p.m.**

There is a clear desire to maintain our annual picnic as primarily an ethnic food festival that is family-friendly and lasts two days, corresponding with the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. I invite all parishioners to attend the next picnic meeting on Wednesday, February 12, at 6 p.m. in the church hall. Come to this meeting to learn more about the positive changes taking place to our picnic. The chairmen are currently in search of volunteers to help work the picnic. Please let them know early that they can count on you to help with the many tasks required to run a successful picnic.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Father Petro*

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**The Christmas Crib** remains in our church until Candlemas. It can be found near the BVM side altar. Falling exactly 40 days after Christmas, Candlemas was observed as the official end of Christmas in medieval times. In some countries it is not unusual to retain some Christmas decorations until Candlemas on Feb. 2. Pope St. John Paul II would make his last visit to the crib in St. Peter's Square after celebrating the evening Mass on Feb. 2. After this visit the Nativity scene was dismantled. Consider making a visit to our crib this year!

**Requests for 2024 Contribution Statements** for tax purposes can be made by contacting Kathy at the parish office.

**The Church celebrates** the solemn *Feast of the Presentation of the Lord* on Feb. 2. This feast recalls the day on which Jesus Christ was presented in the temple by Mary and Joseph. This feast, also commemorated as the Fourth Joyful Mystery of the Rosary, celebrates Jesus as the Light of revelation to all the nations. According to ancient tradition, candles are blessed on this day, both those used in the church and the home. In accordance with the liturgy for the day, special candles will be blessed at Mass for the faithful to take home and use. Families have customarily lit them at the table for Easter and Christmas dinner, for sacramental visits of Holy Communion and Holy Anointing, and for blessed protection in lightning storms and power outages. The candles will be blessed in a special ritual with a procession at the 4:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, February 2. The blessed candles may be obtained after the Mass for a donation of \$4 for a box of two "Candlemas" candles.

**The Church celebrates** the *Feast of St. Blaise* on Feb. 3. He was bishop of Sebaste in Armenia in the fourth century. Before being martyred, he is said to have healed a boy who was choking. He is venerated today as the patron of those who suffer from diseases of the throat. Using candles blessed the day before at the Mass of the Presentation of the Lord, the faithful will be blessed through the intercession of St. Blaise. Throats will be blessed after all weekend Masses February 1/2, as well as on February 3.

**Collection for victims of the Los Angeles wildfires:** All parishes in the Diocese of Scranton are being asked to take up a special second collection to benefit the fire victims in need of desperate assistance. The funds raised will be donated directly to Catholic Charities USA – the official domestic relief agency of the Catholic Church in the United States. As usual, 100% of funds raised will go directly to local agencies in the affected areas who are offering emergency and long-term relief to those who have been displaced or are suffering because of the wildfires. We will take a second collection for the L.A. fire victims after the distribution of Holy Communion at all Masses this weekend.

**Requiescant in pace:** pray for the peaceful repose of the souls of Harry Lyons, Joseph Mihalka, and Violet Roman who were recently buried from our church. Violet was our oldest parishioner, aged 106 years at her passing.

**We express gratitude** to our Confraternity of Christian Mothers, who recently presented a check at their Wafer Dinner in the amount of \$4,500 for our Building Fund. This gift comes from their fundraising efforts during the past year. Thank you, ladies!

**Our Parish Office** will be closed on Monday, Jan. 20. It will open on Tuesday, January 21, at 8:30 a.m.

**Our 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade CCD students** thank everyone who donated to the "New Sock Drive." All the socks will be given to the homeless at Mother Teresa's Haven in memory of their beloved catechist, Harry Lyons.

**The Missa Simplex Mass setting** will now be used during Ordinary Time until the beginning of Lent.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Ash Wednesday Potato Pancake & Lenten Food Sale will be held on Wed., March 5, in the church garage.

**Now that the Christmas season has ended**, families who have loved ones buried at our cemetery are kindly asked to remove all Christmas wreaths, decorations, etc. from their graves.

**A Mass for the Preservation of Peace and Justice** will be celebrated Wed., Jan. 22, at 6:30 p.m. in the lower church of St. Ann's Basilica, 1233 St. Ann St., Scranton, to mark the anniversary of Roe vs. Wade. All area faithful are invited to attend this evening of prayer and penance for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and end to abortion. This Mass is sponsored by the Scranton Section of the Eastern Lieutenancy of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem and will be celebrated by Fr. Petro, Section Prior. For details, visit [www.eohsjscranton.org](http://www.eohsjscranton.org)

**ADULT ACOLYTES NEEDED:** our parish is now in the process of recruiting adult men to serve as acolytes at Mass. They would be principally used to serve funeral Masses and other liturgies when youth altar servers are unavailable. We already have a few men but could use more. They would also help serve weekday Mass when needed. No prior experience is necessary, but it's a benefit if you learned to serve Mass "in the good old days!" Please contact Fr. Petro personally if you are interested in volunteering for this liturgical apostolate.

**If you have moved** in the past year, or have a new phone number or e-mail address, please let us know so our records will be up to date by contacting the Parish Office.

**Are you registered in our parish?** If you are not receiving mail from the parish, chances are you are not registered. You are free to stop by the Parish Office to become a registered parishioner of Sacred Heart of Jesus Church. Parish registration is required to be a baptismal godparent or a confirmation sponsor.

**If your child** attends Catholic school and is anticipated to receive the Sacraments of First Penance (March 1) and First Communion (May 4) or Confirmation (June 8), be sure they are registered in our CCD program.

**Super Bowl Sunday HNS Hoagie Sale**

Pick up date: Sunday, February 9, 9am – 12pm in the church hall.  
 Please return this form with payment to the  
 Parish Office no later than February 3.

**\$9 each: All hoagies are 10 inches long and come with lettuce & tomato. Special orders cannot be taken.**

Please write quantity of each on the line provided:

ITALIAN: \_\_\_\_\_

TURKEY AND AMERICAN CHEESE: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

I have enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for my order.

*Payment must accompany all orders. Thank you!*

**Raffle tickets for the Holy Name Society “300 Club”** are available from any member. The deadline for ticket returns is March 9. Tickets can be dropped in the collection basket in a marked envelope. Drawings will take place during Lent. **The Match the Daily Number raffle** continues! \$5 will give you a chance to win by matching your numbers to the PA Lottery Evening Pick 3. The winner with the exact matching number of the Pick 3 (excluding the wild ball) will win \$250. Raffle tickets can be purchased from any Holy Name Society member.

**The annual dues** for membership in our parish’s Confraternity of Christian Mothers and Holy Name Society are collected during the month of January. Please make use of your labeled contribution envelope in the mailing. All dues are deposited directly into each organization’s account.

**The monthly Church Dues** for our parish will remain **\$6** per person, per month in 2025. This amount is printed on the front exterior of the pink colored dues envelopes. All parishioners are reminded of their obligation to support their parish financially according to their means.

**Our parish fundraiser with Rada Cutlery** continues this Christmas. You are asked to access Rada via the homepage of the parish website ([www.sacredheartdupont.com](http://www.sacredheartdupont.com)) and click on the tab that says “Order Here.” For the parish to receive a commission on any online sale, orders must be made via this tab on the website.

**The 2024-25 Catholic Ministries Appeal:** All parishioners are asked to contribute to the Appeal and fill out a card in the narthex indicating their pledge and place it in the collection basket. Our parish goal is **\$32,953**. Raised to date: **\$18,250.00**.

**Wyoming Area Catholic School** is hosting an Open House on Sunday, Jan. 26, from 12 to 2pm at 1690 Wyoming Ave., Exeter. This is an opportunity to visit the school, meet the faculty and staff, and learn more about the programs and services they offer. The school is also accepting registrations for the 2025-26 school year.

**The faithful who attend Mass without music**, such as weekday Mass, are asked to recite the Entrance and Communion antiphons as part of their participation in the liturgy. These antiphons (or songs) are found in the hymnal. The Entrance antiphon is recited by the people as soon as they stand after the bell is rung and the priest and server process into the sanctuary. The Communion antiphon is recited by the people as soon as the priest consumes the Host. When a saint’s optional memorial is celebrated on a particular day, please note the feastday choice in the bulletin and use those antiphons.

**Bold and Beloved Women’s Retreat**, hosted by the Diocesan Office for Parish Life, will take place January 24-26 at Holy Transfiguration Retreat Center, Dalton. For more information or to register, call the Office for Parish Life at 570-207-2213, x 1133.

**Spiritual Adoption Prayer:** You can save a pre-born baby at risk of being aborted by simply praying. Spiritual adoption was first introduced by the late Archbishop Fulton Sheen. To spiritually adopt a baby at risk of being aborted, simply make a pledge to pray daily for a child for 9 months. God will assign you a child known only to Him. You can use Archbishop Sheen’s prayer: *Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg you to spare the life of the unborn child that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion.* At the end of 9 months, you can donate a gift to a pregnancy care center for a mother in need who has chosen life.

**A Take-Out Homemade Soup Sale** will be held at St. John the Evangelist Church, Pittston, on Wednesday, Jan. 29. Homemade pasta fagioli will be sold for \$10 a quart. Pickup will be from 11 a.m. to noon in the Pastoral Center on Church St. Pre-orders are required. Call 570-905-0325 by Jan. 23 to place your order.

† MASS INTENTIONS †

**Monday (Jan. 20) St. Fabian**

7:30 am Anthony Caltagirone  
 by Sacred Heart HNS

**Tuesday (Jan. 21) St. Agnes**

7:30 am Helen Piechota  
 by Sacred Heart CCM

**Wednesday (Jan. 22) Pro-Life Mass for Peace & Justice**

7:30 am Robert Russick  
 by Nancy Cronick

**Thursday (Jan. 23) St. Vincent**

7:30 am Henry, Amelia, Edward, Scott and Shawn Ziobro  
 by Ron and Sharon Ziobro and family

**Friday (Jan. 24) St. Francis de Sales**

7:30 am Thomas Skrzysowski  
 by Joan Vogue

**Saturday (Jan. 25) Vigil: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

4:00 pm George Vojta  
 by CCD students

**Sunday (Jan. 26) The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:30 am Our Parishioners (*Missa pro populo*)  
 10:30 am Joan Jemiola  
 by Judy Hartigan

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

**Last Sunday: \$5,429.57**  
**Building Fund: \$154.00**

*May the Lord reward your generosity.*

*The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of:*  
**Tabernacle:** intentions of TJ Ferretti, by mom and dad

**Blessed Mother:** Delphine Tokash, by children

**St. Joseph:** Gloria Balent, by grandchildren

**St. Therese:** Cassie Lopata, by Bob Lopata

**St. Francis:** Joseph F. Skrzysowski, by son, Paul.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Jan. 23, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft
- Jan. 26, 9:15am, Confirmation parent meeting, school
- Jan. 30, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft
- Feb. 1, 2:45-3:45pm, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Adoration/devotions, church
- Feb. 2, Candlemas Day
- Feb. 2, 9:30am, First Penance meeting, school
- Feb. 6, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft
- Feb. 12, 6pm, Picnic meeting, church hall

**Liturgical Volunteer Schedule**

**Jan. 18-19**

**4pm:** EM: M. Pistack, Lector: A. Devlin, Acolyte: Collins family

**8:30am:** EM: B. Jones, Lector: C. Purdy, Acolyte: C. & T. Papiercavich

**10:30am:** EM: D. Suchecki, Lector: G. Beccaloni, Acolyte: C., E. & J. Toalongo

**Jan. 25-26**

**4pm:** EM: C. Wesley, Lector: H. Vogue, Acolyte: Collins family

**8:30am:** EM: M. Moletsky, Lector: J. Roche, Acolyte: E. & J. Lyons

**10:30am:** EM: B. Jones, Lector: M. Ferretti, Acolyte: A. & J. Rupprecht

**Parish families are needed** to bring up the gifts of bread and wine in the offertory procession for the weekend Masses. Would you consider accepting this honor? *At least two volunteers are needed for each of the weekend Masses.* The ushers will continue to bring up the collection basket. Please go to the back of the church as soon as the ushers begin taking up the collection (this helps to expedite things without unnecessary delay!). You may place your offertory envelope directly into the main collection basket. Pick up the ciborium and the cruet from the table and wait near the front entrance to the church. As soon as the ushers return from collecting the contributions, walk down the aisle behind the usher carrying the basket. Upon approaching the sanctuary, give the priest the gifts, then bow to the altar once the priest moves to return to the altar. Return to your pew by walking back down a side aisle. Perhaps you could volunteer at a Mass that is being offered for your family members?

**During winter months** our health is always a concern, and we need to take precautions. Regarding the Sign of Peace, you are asked to please use your common sense. If you are not feeling well or are taking medicine for the flu, a cold, etc., a nod of the head with a smile or just a kind word is sufficient if you do not wish to shake hands. Thank you for your understanding.

