

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.

✠ Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time ♦ February 23, 2025 ✠

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

The Parochial Pen

My dear parishioners,

Are you familiar with “pious invocations?” The Church encourages their use by the faithful. By using such an invocation, the Christian faithful raise up their minds in trust to God while carrying out their duties of life and putting up with the difficulties of life. Thus, a pious invocation complements that raising up of one’s mind to God. Both the raising up of the mind and the pious invocation are like a precious stone which is inserted into one’s everyday activities and embellishes them, or they are like salt which seasons those activities.

Pious invocations can arise spontaneously in one’s mind, or they can be chosen from among those which have gained acceptance through their long-standing use by the Christian faithful. An invocation can be very short, expressed in one or a few words; it can be spoken aloud or conceived only mentally. Some examples of pious invocations follow: “My God”; “Father”; “Jesus”; “Praised be Jesus Christ”; “I hope in You”; “All for You”; “Thank God”; “Blessed be God”; “Your will be done”; “Help me God”; “Give me strength”; “Hear me”; “Save me”; “My God and my all”; “My Lord and my God”; “Jesus, Mary, and Joseph”; “Saints be praised”; “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.”

You may hear me make use of a few of these from time to time. I encourage your regular usage of the same!

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Petro

ASH WEDNESDAY LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

March 5:	7:00 am – Mass
	12:10 pm – Liturgy of the Word
	4:00 pm – Liturgy of the Word
	6:00 pm – Mass

Our Ash Wednesday Potato Pancake & Lenten Food Sale will be held on Wed., March 5, from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the church garage. Our Holy Name Society will make haluski, and our CCM will provide pierogi. *Haluski*: volunteers will meet on March 4 at 9 a.m. in the church hall to chop onions and cabbage. *Potato pancakes*: Volunteers are needed on Wednesday, March 5 at 6 a.m. in the church hall to help peel potatoes. Help is also needed that day by 10:30 am to help make the batter, fry potato pancakes, etc. Cleaning of the garage will begin March 6 at 10 am. If anyone would like to volunteer to make meatless soups, or volunteer in any way, call Charyl Nagy: 570-540-5478. Please give your name if texting. Food will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. *All revenue from this fundraiser will go to the expense of our church heating repairs.*

2025 Polish Picnic - Friday, June 27, 5 to 9 p.m. & Saturday, June 28, 5 to 9 p.m. Our annual picnic is a family-friendly ethnic food festival that corresponds with the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. All parishioners are invited to the next picnic meeting on Wednesday, March 19, at 6 p.m. in the church hall. This year’s chairmen are Charyl Nagy, Joe Petro and Liz Tomko. They are currently in search of chairs to help lead various aspects of the picnic. Please let them know that they can count on you to help with the many tasks required to run a successful picnic.

Liquor donations sought for February: please donate unopened bottles of liquor for the Picnic. Kindly deposit them in the designated basket in the narthex. All kinds accepted! *Each month leading to the picnic we are requesting donations for items that are needed for the picnic as a means of reducing expenses.* Thank you!

Please return the blessed palm received last Palm Sunday by Feb. 28. They will be burnt and the resulting ash used to sign the faithful on Ash Wednesday. A basket for palm branches is in the narthex.

Blessed candles may be obtained in the narthex for a donation of \$4 for a box of two “Candlemas” candles.

We are in the process of servicing the heaters in the church. Parishioner Mike Silla, Sr., is leading this “in house” volunteer effort with the help of the Holy Name Society who will purchase cleaning supplies and repair parts for the heaters. Can you please lend a hand? Please contact Mike if you can give volunteer support. No mechanical experience is necessary!

CCD News: First Penance will be celebrated on March 1 at 2:30 p.m. in the church; First Communion will be celebrated on May 4.

Fr. Petro has nominated three young parishioners to receive the Bishop’s Youth Award this year. Their letters of merit were mailed on February 13. Please congratulate our loyal altar servers Emily Collins, Josiah Lyons and Christopher Toalongo. They and their families are invited to attend Mass at St. Peter’s Cathedral, Scranton, on March 30 at 2:30 pm. to receive the award from Bishop Bambera. We are grateful for your service to our parish!

ADULT ACOLYTES NEEDED: our parish is now in the process of recruiting adult men to serve as acolytes at Mass. Contact Fr. Petro if you feel called to serve as an acolyte. A training session for new men to serve as acolytes will take place on Wednesday, February 26, at 7 p.m. Please report to the church hall.

An Easter Food Drive is being sponsored by our 3rd grade CCD students during Lent. Parishioners are invited to bring non-perishable foods to church and place them in the bin located in the narthex from March 5 until Sunday, March 30. This drive is done with the help of the Knights of Columbus, Council 372.

Our parish will once again participate in the “Operation Rice Bowl” during Lent. Parishioners will have an opportunity to share in prayer, fasting, and almsgiving with the poor. Cardboard boxes for pocket change can be found in the narthex if you wish to make use of them. All money collected aids the poor.

“Rectory, Set, Cook!”, a Catholic anti-hunger and anti-homelessness fundraising initiative, will soon begin! Priests from the eleven counties of our diocese have volunteered in the making of cooking videos. 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 Seminarian Jeremy Barket joins Fr. Petro in the making of a traditional Polish dish.* You can donate any time from March 4 through April 15, 2025. 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, visit the diocesan website.

The Road to Resurrection schedule for Lent 2025

Thursday, March 6: Bishop Bambera’s Holy Hour at 7 p.m.

St. John the Evangelist Church, Pittston

Wednesday, March 12: Mass at 7 p.m.

Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Dupont

Wednesday March 19 (Solemnity of St. Joseph): Mass at 7 p.m.

Oblates of St. Joseph Seminary, Laflin

Wednesday, March 26: Mass at 7 p.m.

St. Maria Goretti Church, Laflin

Wednesday, April 2: Mass at 7 p.m.

St. Anthony of Padua Church, Exeter

Wednesday, April 9: Mass at 7 p.m.

Holy Rosary Church, Duryea

Our parish celebration for sending catechumens to the Rite of Election will take place at the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, March 9. Ryan and Brittany Fields, adult catechumens, along with their godparents, Ryan and Adrianna Rupprecht, and RCIA coordinator Bill Jones, will be present at this Mass and receive a blessing from Fr. Petro as they are sent to Bishop Bambera at St. Peter’s Cathedral for the 2:30 p.m. celebration of the Rite of Election of Catechumens. Please pray for them and their two daughters who are preparing to receive baptism at this year’s Easter Vigil Mass.

An American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held in our church hall on Thursday, May 8, 12 - 4:30 p.m. Please save the date!

Lenten Communion Calls: Fr. Petro will soon visit the home-bound members of our parish to administer Confession, Anointing of the Sick and Holy Communion. If you would like to be added to the monthly home visitation list, please call the Parish Office.

MARRIAGE BANNES

II. **Ryan Orlandini**, our parish, to **Sarah Satkowski**, our parish, on May 16, 2025, in our church.

II. **Christopher DePrimo**, our parish, to **Katherine Stonikinis**, our parish, on June 14, 2025, in our church.

Wedding anniversary celebration: Bishop Bambera and the Office of Parish Life invite couples celebrating their 25th or 50th Wedding Anniversary in 2025 to a Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 1. The event includes Mass at 2:30 pm at St. Peter’s Cathedral followed by a reception. For more information, please call 570-207-2213 or email: familylife@dioceseofscranton.org

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. You are invited to walk with Our Lord along the Way of Sorrows and gaze upon the beauty of his Presence. Do not miss the opportunity to be drawn closer to Him.

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** also 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.

The Wyoming Valley Chapter of the Pennsylvanians for Human Life, 31 Hanover St., Wilkes-Barre, needs girls’ winter clothes, sizes 12 to 18 months; baby towels; diapers sizes 4, 5 and 6. Their Center is open 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday to Friday, to receive donations of these items. For large deliveries, call 570-826-1819 beforehand. Also, they invite everyone to receive their monthly newsletter at *no charge*. Membership to the Pennsylvanians for Human Life is only \$10 per year or a one-time donation of \$100 for lifetime enrollment. To sign up for the newsletter or to join, call the Center.

The 2024-25 Catholic Ministries Appeal: All parishioners are asked to contribute to this diocesan Appeal that aids the education of seminarians, cares for the poor, subsidizes Catholic schools, and supports diocesan media. Our parish goal is \$32,953. Raised to date: \$19,000.

A **“Come and See” retreat weekend** will be held at the Capuchin Sisters of Nazareth, 6100 Jacks Hollow Rd., Bastress, from Friday, Apr. 4 to Sunday, Apr. 6. This retreat is open to young women ages 15-27. Cost is free, though reservations are required. For more information call Sr. Christina: 570-745-3334.

International Student Leadership Institute (I.S.L.I.) is a peer-facilitated, faith-based leadership retreat designed to help high school students enhance their leadership skills. It will be held March 21-23 at Holy Transfiguration Retreat Center, Dalton. The cost for first time participants is \$200, which includes meals, housing accommodations, and retreat materials. You may register at dioceseofscranton.org under the tab “International Student Leadership Institute 2025” by March 10.

Building Fund envelopes – please make use of them! All money donated to our church by way of the Building Fund envelopes will be deposited into our Restoration Account. This money will only be used for capital improvements and special maintenance upon our parish facilities.

St. Thomas More Parish, 116 Theodore St., Scranton, will host their annual St. Joseph Bake Sale after 10 a.m. Mass on Sunday, March 16 (the closest Sunday to St. Joseph Day). All proceeds will benefit the St. Francis of Assisi Kitchen in down-town Scranton. Anticipate the Solemnity with their delicious fare, and help serve the city’s least, last, and lost.

Monday (Feb. 24) Weekday

7:30 am James Hart
by Alice-Faye Mchedlishvili

Tuesday (Feb. 25) Weekday

7:30 am Ann Kutyna
by Jennifer Yanuskavich

Wednesday (Feb. 26) Weekday

7:30 am James Jones, Sr.
by the Jones family

Thursday (Feb. 27) Weekday

7:30 am Louis Micklasavage
by Thomas and Dorothy Sheridan

Friday (Feb. 28) Weekday

7:30 am Cassie Barnak
by family

Saturday (Mar. 1) Vigil: 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm Richard and Arlene Sable
by family

Sunday (Mar. 2) The Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 am Our Parishioners (*Missa pro populo*)
10:30 am Irene Kivak
by Joseph Halat, Jr.

“His Heart... WEEKLY OFFERING ...Our Hands”
Last Sunday: \$4,056.05
Building Fund: \$165.00
Fuel: \$215.00
May the Lord reward your generosity.

The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of:
Tabernacle: *Ann Skrzysowski, by Joan Vogue*
Blessed Mother: *Victoria Tetlak, by daughter, Marie*
St. Joseph: *John and Mary Angelella and family, by Carl*

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Feb. 22, 5pm, Catechists’ meeting, church hall
- Feb. 25, 6:30pm, Pastoral/Finance Councils meet, church hall
- Feb. 26, 6pm, RCIA, church hall
- Feb. 26, 7pm, adult altar service training, church hall
- Feb. 27, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft
- Mar. 1, 2:30pm, First Penance, church
- Mar. 1, 2:45-3:45pm, 1st Saturday Adoration/devotions, church
- Mar. 3, 6pm, CCM meeting, church hall
- Mar. 4, 9am, halushki making, church kitchen
- Mar. 5, Ash Wednesday liturgies & Polish food sale (11 am-5:30pm)
- Mar. 5, 6:30pm, RCIA, church hall
- Mar. 5, 7pm, HNS meeting, church hall
- Mar. 6, 10am, church garage cleaning
- Mar. 6, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft
- Mar. 7, 7:30am, 1st Friday Mass and devotions, church
- Mar. 7, 7pm, Stations of the Cross, church
- Mar. 9, 10:30am Mass, Rite of Sending for Catechumens, church
- Mar. 12, 7pm, Road to Resurrection Mass, church

Liturgical Volunteer Schedule

Feb. 15-16
4pm: EM: C. Wesley, Lector: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolyte: Collins family
8:30am: EM: B. Jones, Lector: H. Vogue, Acolyte: C. & T. Papiercavich
10:30am: EM: D. Suchecki, Lector: G. Beccaloni, Acolyte: C., E. & J. Toalongo
Feb. 22-23
4pm: EM: M. Pistack, Lector: J. Klenner, Acolyte: Collins family
8:30am: EM: M. Moletsky, Lector: C. Purdy, Acolyte: C. Purdy
10:30am: EM: C. Wesley, Lector: M. Ferretti, Acolyte: E. & J. Lyons, A. & J. Rupprecht

A Spring Dinner Dance for Special Olympians will be hosted by the Order of Alhambra, on Thursday, March 20 on the campus of King’s College, Sheehy-Farmer Campus Center: Snyder Room, 3rd floor, 133 N. Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre. Parking will be in lot A. All are invited to attend the gala which will be held from 5 to 8pm. The plated dinner includes: fruit salad cup, breaded chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans and apple pie for dessert. Musical entertainment will feature DJ Joe Hussey. Cost: \$35 per person. Reservations, including name of special needs individual (if applicable) and name of guests and check payable to Alhambra Caravan #4 are required by March 10. Remit to: Alhambra Caravan #4, 17 English St. West Wyoming, PA 18644. For more info contact Ada Magni at 570-693-1338.

