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.

▼ Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord **◆** April 20, 2025 **▼**

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

The Parochial Pen

My dear parishioners,

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN! The celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is the central mystery of our faith. The triumph of Christ, the Victor over death, is the central event of the whole of history, the culminating point of the Church's life in her liturgical cycle, the most glorious event in His whole earthly course, the most striking proof of His divinity, and the foundation of our whole Faith in which we have been baptized. On Easter Sunday, the rite of the renewal of baptismal promises, used at the Easter Vigil, takes the place of the Creed after the homily. A partial indulgence is granted the Christian faithful who renew their baptismal promises through the customary formula. When they do this during the celebration of the Easter Vigil or the anniversary of their own baptism, they obtain a plenary indulgence.

The Easter Season, also known as Paschaltide, extends from Easter Sunday to Pentecost. During this time we commemorate the three glorious mysteries of the Resurrection of Our Lord (celebrated during fifty days), of His Ascension (ten days before Pentecost) and of the Descent of the Holy Spirit (Pentecost, the conclusion of the Season). The Easter Season bears the character of a time of renewal. It corresponds to the forty days between Our Lord's Resurrection and Ascension during which He built up His Church. During this time we are especially reminded of the infant Church herself, which is the reason why at this time the Acts of the Apostles are read at Mass.

Mindful of our Easter joy, I commend you to pray the *Regina Caeli* during the Easter season. A *partial indulgence* is granted the Christian faithful who devoutly recite it during this joyful season. According to praiseworthy custom this prayer is usually recited at dawn, noon and in the evening:

Queen of heaven, rejoice, alleluia. For Christ, your Son and Son of God, has risen as he said, alleluia. Pray to God for us, alleluia. Rejoice and be glad, O virgin Mary, alleluia.

For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray. God of life, you have given joy to the world by the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Through the prayers of his mother, the Virgin Mary, bring us to the happiness of eternal life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sincerely yours in Christ, *Father Petro*

Welcome home! We are most happy to welcome Ryan and Brittany Field and their daughters, Nora and Emily, as parishioners of our church. Ryan and Brittany received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist and Nora and Emily received the sacrament of Baptism. They were received into the fullness of the Christian faith at this year's Easter Vigil. Please be sure to congratulate them and welcome them to their new spiritual home.

The Rezurekcja (Resurrection) procession will take place during the 7:30 a.m. Easter Mass according to the Polish custom by the Holy Name Society members. The Easter Sequence will be proclaimed and the Renewal of Baptismal Promises will take the place of the Creed at all the Easter Sunday Masses.

The Easter bunny will be appearing with a basket of goodies after the 9:30 and 11 a.m. Masses on Easter Sunday at the church steps. We thank the Holy Name Society for continuing this custom.

Father Petro wishes to thank all of those individuals who worked so hard to beautify our church for Easter. Special mention is given to those who cleaned the church, the volunteers who decorated the sanctuary, the musicians and choir members who gave us such beautiful music and anyone who helped in any way to make this Triduum and Easter so special.

The Second Sunday of Easter, April 27, is also known as the Solemnity of Divine Mercy. Jesus Christ has promised to grant complete forgiveness of sins and punishment on Divine Mercy Sunday as recorded in the diary of St. Maria Faustina. The spiritual conditions for this indulgence are as follows: attend Mass on Divine Mercy Sunday, sincerely repent of all our sins and place our complete trust in Jesus, go to confession preferably before that Sunday, receive Holy Communion on that Sunday, venerate the Divine Mercy image, and be merciful to others through our actions, words and prayers on their behalf. We will celebrate a holy hour of Eucharistic Adoration on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 27 at 3 p.m. in our church. At this time special prayers will be said and the chaplet will be prayed in common. Confessions will also be heard. Please plan to attend to receive many graces. "Jesus, I trust in you!"

Our parish will sing "The Heritage Mass" for the sung parts of all Masses for the Easter season. Please participate in the Mass by singing the responses.

The parish office will close at noon on April 20, Easter Monday. It will open again on Tuesday, April 21, at 8:30am.

Easter Duty: All Catholics have the serious obligation to make a worthy Confession and receive the Holy Eucharist during Paschal Time which runs from the beginning of holy Lent through Pentecost. Please do not neglect this.

First Saturday is May 3. 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, May 3, from 2:45 to 3:45 pm in our church. All are invited to come and pray in preparation for the 4 pm Mass.

We are happy to welcome to our parish James and Jean Reviello of Pittston. A warm welcome to you!

Tickets for the Confraternity of Christian Mothers' Spring Raffle will be available for pick-up *next weekend* in the narthex. Please purchase the tickets and return them to the Parish Office by May 16. 1st prize \$500, 2nd \$250, 3rd \$150 and 4th \$100. The drawing will take place on Sunday, May 18, after the 10:30am Mass.

Thank you to all who supported the CCM chocolate egg sale. The total gross amount raised was \$2,012.00, expenses totaled \$515.14, and the net profit was \$1,496.86.

The annual Mother's Day Social hosted by the Confraternity of Christian Mothers will be held on Monday, May 5 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 27.

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"Chrystus Zmartwychwstał!" (Christ is risen!)
"Prawdziwie zmartwychwstał!" (Truly He is risen!)

Our 2025 Polish Picnic will be held at the very start of summer on Friday, June 27, 5 to 9 p.m. and 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. The list of chairs is as follows: Picnic Chairmen/Inventory/Ordering – Charyl Nagy, Joe Petro, Liz Tomko; Grounds set-up/clean-up – Kevin Krawczyk; Theme Baskets – Marie Ferretti; Kitchen/Food Distribution – Mary Griffin; Beverages – Mark Kowalczyk; Food Runners – Beth Purdy; Children's Games – Rupprecht family; Potato Pancake Garage – Ed Suchecki; Entertainment/Electrical – Mike Silla, Sr.; Profit Intake – Julie Bingham, Raffle – Kathy Hudzinski, Food Ticket Sales – Stanley Barket and John Bonczek. Chairs are still needed for Advertising/Signage, Food Stands, and Games of Chance. The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 14, at 6 p.m. in the hall.

Instant Lottery Ticket donations sought for the Picnic: please donate new instant lottery scratch off tickets for the lottery game. Gift card donations are also being sought for the gift card stand. Kindly deposit them in the collection basket. Liquor donations are still being accepted. Thank you!

Congratulations to the HNS 300 Club Week 5 winners: Grand prize: \$500, Joseph Mlodzienski, 1st prize: \$100, Robert Warner, 2nd prize: \$50, Jerry Renfer, 3rd prize: \$25, Marina Smithonic, 4th prize: \$25, Dave Smithonic.

An American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held in our hall on Thurs., May 8, 12 - 4:30 p.m. Go to www.redcrossblood.org to schedule an appointment. Those who give blood are eligible to receive a \$20 gift card to a merchant of your choice!

Our parish choir and cantors practice on <u>Thursdays at 6:30 pm</u> in the church choir loft. New members are encouraged to attend - contact Anthony George, music director, if you are interested.

SAVE THE DATE! Join us for a celebration in honor of Fr. Petro's 25th Anniversary of Priestly Ordination on Tuesday, June 24, 2025. A special Mass will be celebrated at 5:30 p.m., followed by a pig roast in the picnic grove. RSVP form will be forthcoming!

CCD Sunday School dates to remember:

May 3, 2:00 pm, First Communion practice & Confessions, church

May 4, 10:30 am, First Communion Mass

May 11, 10:30 am, May Crowning Mass

June 7, 2:00 pm, Confirmation practice & Confessions, church

June 8, 10:30 am, Confirmation Mass

A Prayer for the Process of Linking Parishes

Heavenly Father, we come to you today asking for wisdom and support as we begin this parish linkage. May everything we do begin with your inspiration and continue with your help.

We ask for guidance throughout this linkage that all of our thoughts and actions would reflect your Holy will. Remember that all of our concerns are aimed at the spiritual transformation of our parish communities.

We do ask you to grant us the grace to love you and our neighbors more perfectly. And to remind us that all we do each day is for the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of you. We ask all these things in your name. Amen

As our parish prepares to link with Queen of Apostles Parish (St. Mary's Church, Avoca) under the care of one pastor effective July 1, 2025, we are encouraged to recite this prayer daily.

The Linkage Transition Team will meet for the first time on Monday, April 28, in our church hall. This team is composed of six Sacred Heart parishioners and six from Queen of Apostles Parish.

2025 Wedding Anniversary Mass for couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversaries with be celebrated by the bishop at St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, on Sunday, June 1, at 2:30 p.m. A reception will follow. Requests for an invitation can be made by registering online at www.dioceseofscranton.org or calling Bridget Guarnieri at 570-207-2213 ext. 1113 before May 11.

The Wyoming Valley Chapter of the Pennsylvanians for Human Life invites 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 570-826-1819.

The Marywood Chamber Singers will present a Spring Concert in St. John the Evangelist Church, Pittston, on Sunday, Apr. 27 at 3pm. The Chamber Singers have established themselves as one of the premier college choirs in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

♦ MASS INTENTIONS ♦

Monday (Apr. 21) Monday within the Octave of Easter

7:30 am Bruno Marcellini

by wife and children

Tuesday (Apr. 22) Tuesday within the Octave of Easter

7:30 am Helen Romanko

by family

Wednesday (Apr. 23) Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

7:30 am Chester Gall

by daughter, Linda

Thursday (Apr. 24) Thursday within the Octave of Easter

7:30 am Donna Bartosiewicz

by Robert, Gene and Sharon Bartosiewicz

Friday (Apr. 25) Friday within the Octave of Easter

7:30 am Edward Vogue, Jr.

by wife, Joan, and sons, Edward and Gary

Saturday (Apr. 26) Vigil: Divine Mercy Sunday

4:00 pm Frank & MaryAnn Skrzysowski, and Lisa Allared by family

Sunday (Apr. 27) Divine Mercy Sunday

8:30 am Our Parishioners (Missa pro populo)

10:30 am Genevieve Pramick

"His Heart...

by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Sheridan

WEEKLY OFFERING ...Our Hands"

Last Sunday: \$5,246.57 Building Fund: \$466.00 Easter Flowers: \$597.00

May the Lord reward your generosity.

The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of: <u>Tabernacle</u>: Edward Vogue, Jr., by wife, Joan, and sons

Blessed Mother: Marie Balent, by Eleanor
St. Joseph: Chester Gall, by Linda
St. Therese: Cassie Lopata, by Bob Lopata
St. Francis: Victoria Tetlak, by great-granddaughters.

Apr. 19, 8 pm, Easter Vigil in the Holy Night, church

Apr. 20, 7:30, 9:30, & 11 am, Easter Sunday Masses

Apr. 24, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft

Apr. 27, 9:30am, Confirmation student interviews

Apr. 27, 3pm, Divine Mercy Sunday Holy Hour, church

May 1, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft

May 4, 10:30am, First Holy Communion, church

May 5, 6pm, CCM Mothers' Day Dinner, hall

May 7, 7pm, Holy Name Society meeting, hall

May 8, 12 - 4:30pm, Red Cross Blood Drive, hall

May 8, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft

Liturgical Volunteer Schedule

Apr. 19: Easter Vigil

8pm: EM: *volunteer needed*, Lector: B. Jones, L. Rupprecht, Acolyte: Collins family, A. & J. Rupprecht

Apr. 20: Easter Sunday

7:30am: EM: D. Suchecki, Lector: J. Roche, Acolyte: E. Suchecki

9:30am: EM: M. Moletsky, Lector: C. Purdy, Acolyte: C., E., & J. Toalongo

11:00am: EM: C. Wesley, Lector: M. Ferretti, Acolyte: E. & J. Lyons

Apr. 26-27

4pm: EM: C. Wesley, Lector: M. Pistack, Acolyte: E. & J. Lyons

8:30am: EM: M. Moletsky, Lector: G. Purdy, Acolyte: C. & T. Papiercavich

10:30am: EM: B. Jones, Lector: G. Beccaloni, Acolyte: A. & J. Rupprecht

Offertory Gifts: Would you consider giving of yourself for the spiritual sustenance of all who partake of the Eucharist in our church for a weekend? A gift of \$20 provides for the Eucharistic elements for the three Masses celebrated in our church each weekend. You are invited to make use of the envelopes found in the narthex labeled "Offertory Gifts."

New youth 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 is in need of new acolytes to serve Mass. Please contact the Parish Office or Fr. Petro if you are interested in learning how to serve. Training will be held in June after First Holy Communion.

Thank you for silencing your cell phone and refraining from texting while in church.