

Sacred Heart of Jesus Church

215 Lackawanna Avenue, Dupont, Pennsylvania 18641

Phone: (570) 654-3713 ~ E-mail: shojesuschurch@gmail.com ~ www.sacredheartdupont.com

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.

✠ Fifth Sunday of Lent ♦ April 6, 2025 ✠

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

The Parochial Pen

My dear parishioners,

Gorzkie żale (Bitter Lamentations) originated at Holy Cross Church in Warsaw, Poland in 1707. The text was written by Father Lawrence Benik, a Vincentian, at the request of the church's then-pastor, Father Michael Tarło for a pious association at the parish. Its popularity grew, and it became a staple of Polish Lenten popular devotions. According to Dr. John Grondelski, it has textual variations over three weeks. The basic structure consists of Exposition; an opening hymn that meditates on the Lord's Passion; a statement of intentions; another hymn; an extended sung "Lament on the Soul of the Suffering Jesus;" another extended song, "Dialogue of the Soul with the Sorrowful Mother;" a final refrain calling for mercy; and Benediction. It is believed that this devotion has its spiritual roots in the popular medieval Passion plays, which focused on Christ's suffering and the role that each individual sinner played in it, the Liturgy of the Hours, and the tradition of Lamentations found in the Old Testament with motifs of the Suffering Servant. These themes are clearly seen in *Gorzkie żale* and invite the participant to meditate woefully on the great sacrifice of Christ, whose memory we invoke in the True Presence placed before our eyes on the altar.

I invite you to attend our "Bitter Lamentations" Eucharistic holy hour this Sunday at 3 p.m., the hour of Our Lord's death of the cross. Our choir under the direction of Anthony George will lead us in the singing. Monsignor Neil Van Loon will be the guest homilist. He is the pastor of St. Paul's Church, Scranton, and serves as the vicar forane for that city. He is the chaplain to the Knights of Malta and is a Knight Commander of the Holy Sepulchre. A reception will follow in the hall.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Petro

Gorzkie żale, the traditional Polish-language Lenten devotion known as the "Bitter Lamentations," will be held on Sunday, April 6, at 3 pm in our church. The devotion is a sung reflection on the Passion of Christ and his Sorrowful Mother. Our choir will lead us in the singing. Msgr. Neil Van Loon, pastor of St. Paul Church, Scranton, will be the guest homilist. A light reception will follow in the church hall. All are invited to attend.

Finger foods are needed for the reception following *Gorzkie żale* on Sunday, April 6. Please drop off donations in the church hall by 3pm on Sunday, April 6. Thank you for your generosity!

In the dioceses of the United States, crosses in the church may be covered from the conclusion of the Mass for the Saturday of the Fourth Week of Lent until the end of the Celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday. Images in the church may be covered from the conclusion of the Mass for the Saturday of the Fourth Week of Lent until the beginning of the Easter Vigil. We observe this ancient custom in our church to focus our senses on the Lenten liturgy and instill a longing for the festive celebration of Our Lord's Resurrection.

Little Bethlehem Christians is a group that represents over 300 Christian families who live in the Holy Land and make their living as wood carvers. After all Masses on the weekend of April 12/13, the group represented by the Alsahouri family will have for sale a collection of hand carved religious items made from olive wood. Profits will help support Christianity in the Holy land.

A solemn blessing and procession of palms will be held prior to the 10:30 am Mass at our church on Palm Sunday, April 13. The faithful are asked to report to the school on Sunday, March 13, by 10:30 am. The palms will be blessed there, and all will process into the church for Mass. The choir will lead us in song as we process through the rectory driveway, up the ramp and into the church.

Homemade Chocolate Egg pick-up will be before and after all Masses the weekend of April 12/13 in the church hall.

Please make use of the Easter Flower envelope in your offertory envelope pack. Donations will help defray the cost of purchasing flowers to adorn our sanctuary for Easter.

Thank you to catechist Jada Exter and her third grade CCD students for assisting with our recent Lenten food drive as well as to all our parishioners who donated to it.

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!

EASTER TRIDUUM SCHEDULE

Thursday (April 17) Holy Thursday

7:00 pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

10:00 pm Eucharistic Reposition & Night Prayer

Friday (April 18) Good Friday

3:00 pm Liturgy

7:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday (April 19) Holy Saturday

11:30 am Blessing of Easter food baskets

1:00 pm Blessing of Easter food baskets

8:00 pm Easter Vigil Mass

Sunday (April 20) Easter Sunday Masses:

7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am

On Good Friday, our parish will take up the annual collection for the Holy Land. We ask you to be generous. Your financial contribution will support the works of the Catholic Church in the Middle East and to protect the Holy Places and Christian shrines.

The blessing of Easter food will be held on Holy Saturday, April 19, at 11:30am and 1 pm in the church hall. The faithful are invited to bring the cooked food that they will eat on Easter Sunday in baskets for blessing. This Eastern European custom spiritually links the nourishment we receive from our table with the nourishment we receive from the Eucharist. **Our Holy Name Society will distribute the pre-ordered *kolaczki* in the hall that day, 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Homemade pizzelles by Mike Silla will be sold by our Holy Name Society on Saturday, April 19, 11am - 1:30pm in the church hall during the blessing of Easter baskets. Pizzelles will be available in anise flavor and vanilla with sprinkles. They will be sold in containers of 8 pieces for \$5 while supplies last!

The Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated in our church on Thursday, Apr. 17 at 7 pm. This Mass commemorates Jesus' institution of the Holy Eucharist, His Holy Priesthood and His Holy Command to love and serve one another. *All Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are requested to vest in their albs and participate in the Eucharistic procession. All adult and youth altar servers are also encouraged to vest and participate. Our First Holy Communion children will also participate.* Holy Communion will be administered under both kinds. 12 HNS men will have their feet washed. The Blessed Sacrament will be reposed in the church for a period of silent adoration until 10 pm when Night Prayer will be celebrated. Members of the Holy Name Society and the Confraternity of Christian Mothers will assist with adoration and pray the rosary.

Lenten prayer intentions: Please pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life, peace in Palestine and in Ukraine, and for the persecuted Christians in Iraq and Syria.

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 - Charyl Nagy, Joe Petro, Liz Tomko; 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. Chairs are still needed for Game Stands, Food Stands, Food ticket sales, Hall kitchen clean-up, Grounds set-up/clean-up, Advertising/Signage, Inventory/Ordering, and Picnic Raffle. The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 9 at 6 p.m. in the church hall. *Your help and support are needed.*

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

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!

All the faithful of the Diocese are invited to attend the Chrism Mass at St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, on Tues., Apr. 15 at 4 p.m. At this Mass priests from throughout the Diocese will renew their priestly promises before the Bishop, and the oils to be used for the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick and Holy Orders will be blessed. Participation in the Chrism Mass is a beautiful way to pray for our diocesan priests.

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.

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU: Monday Confessions will be heard in our church for the *last time* on April 7 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The deanery penance service will be on April 14, 6:30pm, at St. John the Evangelist Church, Pittston.

"Rectory, Set, Cook!", a Catholic anti-hunger and anti-homelessness fundraising initiative, has begun! Scranton diocesan priests have volunteered to make 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 HALUSHKI.* You can donate any time through April 15, 2025. All proceeds will benefit Catholic Social Services' food kitchens, pantries, homeless shelters and our parish. To watch the video and place your vote, visit the diocesan website.

"Operation Rice Bowl" cardboard boxes may be returned before the end of Lent by placing them in the collection basket. Returns are now being accepted of your spare change.

Congratulations to the HNS 300 Club Week 3 winners: 1st prize: \$100, Barbara Sito, 2nd prize: \$50, Carmen Ambrosino, 3rd prize: \$25, Dorothy Sheridan, 4th prize: \$25, Erica Young.

Requiescant in pace: please pray for the peaceful repose of the souls of Louis Micklasavage, Sr. and Louis Micklasavage, Jr. who were recently buried from our church.

The final Road to Resurrection Mass will be held on Wed., April 9, at 7 p.m. in Holy Rosary Church, Duryea.

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.

Monday (Apr. 7) St. Jean-Baptiste de la Salle

7:30 am Robert Justick
by Joseph and Loretta Justick

Tuesday (Apr. 8) Lenten Weekday

7:30 am Thomas Sheridan
by Thomas and Dorothy Sheridan

Wednesday (Apr. 9) Lenten Weekday

7:30 am Adam Chmiel
by Marge Titton

Thursday (Apr. 10) Lenten Weekday

7:30 am Sophia Tomaszewski
by the Jones family

Friday (Apr. 11) St. Stanislaus

7:30 am Joseph and Helen Warunek
by son
7:00 pm Stations of the Cross & Benediction

Saturday (Apr. 12) Vigil: Palm Sunday

4:00 pm William Murphy
by John, Clare and family

Sunday (Apr. 13) Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

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

"His Heart... WEEKLY OFFERING ...Our Hands"
Last Sunday: \$3,356.39
Building Fund: \$94.00
Catholic Relief Services: \$206.00
May the Lord reward your generosity.

*The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of:
Tabernacle: John Lopata, by Robert Lopata.*

❖
*The offertory gifts of bread & wine this Sunday are donated in
memory of Theresa Gayza, by sister, Marian.*

UPCOMING EVENTS
Apr. 5, 2:45-3:45pm, 1 st Saturday Adoration/devotions, church
Apr. 6, 3pm, <i>Gorzkie zale</i> , church and reception, hall
Apr. 7, 5:30-6:30pm, Confessions, church
Apr. 7, 6pm, CCM meeting, hall
Apr. 10, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft
Apr. 11, 7pm, Stations of the Cross, church
Apr. 17, 7pm, Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, church
Apr. 17, 10 pm, Night Prayer, church
Apr. 18, 3pm, Good Friday Liturgy, church
Apr. 18, 7pm, Stations of the Cross, church
Apr. 19, 11:30 am & 1 pm, blessing of Easter food, hall
Apr. 19, 8 pm, Easter Vigil in the Holy Night, church
Apr. 20, 7:30, 9:30, & 11 am, Easter Sunday Masses

Liturgical Volunteer Schedule
Apr. 5-6
4pm: EM: C. Wesley, Lector: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolyte: Collins family
8:30am: EM: <i>volunteer</i> , Lector: J. Klenner, Acolyte: E. & J. Lyons
10:30am: EM: <i>no EM needed</i> , Lector: L. Rupprecht, Acolyte: A. & J. Rupprecht
3pm, Gorzkie Zale: L: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolyte: C. Purdy
Apr. 11: Stations of the Cross
7pm: C., E., & J. Toalongo; led by J. Lyons
Apr. 12-13
4pm: EM: M. Pistack, Lector: A. Devlin, J. Klenner, Acolyte: Collins family
8:30am: EM: M. Moletsky, Lector: J. Roche, B. Jones, Acolyte: C. & T. Papiercavich, A. & J. Rupprecht
10:30am: EM: D. Suchecki, Lector: M. Ferretti, T. Satkowski, Acolyte: E. & J. Lyons, C., E. & J. Toalongo

2025 Wedding Anniversary Mass for couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversaries will 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.

Our Rada Cutlery fundraiser continues, offering you their famous knives, kitchen utensils, baking pans and Quick Mixes. Our parish receives 40% of all sales that have been obtained via the link on our parish website or through our catalog! Please access Rada via the parish website and click on the tab that says "Order Here."