

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.

✠ Fourth Sunday of Easter ♦ May 11, 2025 ✠

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

The Parochial Pen

My dear parishioners,

With praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God, we rejoice with the entire Church for God's gift to us in the person of Pope Leo XIV. On Thursday, May 8, the College of Cardinals was inspired by the Holy Spirit to elect American Cardinal Robert Prevost as the new successor to St. Peter. As we all look forward to the many years ahead with our new universal shepherd, let us continue to pray that God who has begun such good work in him may bring it to completion.

There has been some speculation among many people, particularly those in the secular media, on whether the new pope will be more "liberal" or "conservative" than his predecessor. Such speculation is not only foreign to the Catholic mind, but also truly irrelevant. "Liberal" and "conservative" are political terms that have no forbearance upon the governance of Christ's Church. The only aspect worthy of judgment is orthodoxy. Whether the pope, or indeed any Christian, is orthodox refers to their ability to hold fast to the objective Truth as revealed in Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition. No pope, bishop, priest or layman may change what is true. Our only response is faithful acceptance of what has been revealed by Almighty God, especially as it refers to faith and morals. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, how can anyone who is not in possession of the fullness of the faith ascend the throne of St. Peter? At this time of transition we must be comforted by the words of Jesus often quoted by Pope St. John Paul II: "Be not afraid!"

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Petro

Mothers' Day Blessing: All mothers present at the Masses this weekend will receive a special Mothers' Day blessing.

"May Crowning" of a statue of the Blessed Mother will be celebrated on Sunday, May 11, at 10:30 am by our First Communion children. The Blessed Virgin Mary is given special honor by the Church during the month of May. This whole month has been given to Mary. In churches throughout the world public honor is given to her during this month. The *Regina Coeli* ("Queen of Heaven") hymn is sung as a post communion meditation hymn at Sunday Masses during Easter. The faithful are encouraged to pray the Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary before Mass. Also, free rosaries and other objects of devotion are offered in the narthex throughout May.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION – Ascension Thursday

Wednesday, May 28: 4 p.m.

Thursday, May 29: 7 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

Tickets for the CCM Spring Raffle have been mailed to all parish households. Please purchase the tickets and return them to the Parish Office by May 16. 1st prize \$500, 2nd \$250, 3rd \$150 and 4th \$100.

A BAKE SALE will be held by our Confraternity of Christian Mothers on Saturday, May 17, 3 to 5 p.m., and Sunday, May 18, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Those able to donate baked goods can drop them off in the church hall on May 17 beginning at noon. This Bake Sale is hosted in conjunction with the Spring Raffle. The winner of the Spring Raffle will be picked on Sunday, May 18 at the conclusion of the bake sale. A sign-up sheet will be placed in the church narthex for all willing to contribute. The CCM would like to thank everyone in advance for their cooperation and support in this effort.

Join us in celebration of

Fr. Thomas Petro's 25th Anniversary of Ordination!

Parishioners are invited to 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. Parishioners can RSVP by returning this completed form to the parish office no later than June 1.

I will attend Mass _____

I will attend dinner _____

Number of parishioners attending _____

Parishioner Name _____

The linkage between Queen of the Apostles Parish and Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish will be effective on July 1, 2025. Bishop Bambera has appointed Rev. Thomas Petro as Pastor of the new linkage.

Both Father Petro and Father Sladicka selected Transition Team members to help prepare for the upcoming linkage:

Queen of the Apostles – Nancy Adomiak, Lisa Allardyce, Maryanne Bennie, Michael Jake, Ed Kovaleski, Jane Maxwell

Sacred Heart of Jesus – Gene Bartosiewicz, Jeremy Collins, Kathleen Hudzinski, Tina Petcaugh, Bethany Purdy, William Satkowski

Transition Team members met for the first time on April 28. They shared their hopes for the upcoming linkage and reviewed the 5 Year Financial Trend and Parish Life Report for both parish communities. They also looked at Mass attendance trends based on the yearly October mass counts.

Over the next week, Transition Team members will discern a new weekend Mass schedule taking into account the following:

- Each parish will eliminate one weekend Mass. Two Masses will be celebrated at Queen of the Apostles and two Masses at Sacred Heart of Jesus on a weekend.
- The Mass schedule must be able to be covered by one priest.
- Sunday morning Mass times should allow enough time for Religious Education in both parishes.

If you have any questions about the linkage process, contact Father Petro, Father Sladicka or any transition team member. Please pray for both parish communities during this time of transition.

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.

CCD Sunday School dates to remember:

May 11, 10:30 am, May Crowning Mass

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

June 8, 10:30 am, Confirmation Mass

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, Advertising/Signage – Stan Sipko. Chairs are still needed for Food Stands and Games of Chance. The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 14, at 6 p.m. in the hall.

Theme basket donations are now being sought for our picnic. Baby themed baskets, pet supplies, entertainment, lottery trees, cooking and baking, liquor, seasonal, backyard and garden, tools, car care, summertime fun, toys...the theme possibilities are endless! A minimum value of \$35 per basket is requested. All items must be unused. Please bring them to the church narthex from now until the picnic. Call Marie Ferretti (570-905-0384) for details.

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!

“Green Burials” have been approved by Bishop Bambera for cemeteries in our diocese. Green Burial is defined as “A way of caring for the dead with minimal environmental impact that aids in the conservation of natural resources, reduction of carbon emissions, protection of worker health, and the restoration and/or preservation of habitat.” Call the parish office if you have any questions regarding green burial. Funeral directors Gregory Zawacki and Mark Kiesinger can also assist you. A portion of the Calvary section of our parish cemetery has been designated for green burials.

Columbarium niches and Mausoleums plots are available: A columbarium for the interment of cremains is located in the Holy Sepulchre section of our cemetery. It is a 120 niche octagonal marble structure that will be accessible by way of a sidewalk from Pine St. The pricing for the niches of our columbarium -
 Level 1 (bottom): \$1,100 for single space, \$2,200 for double
 Level 2: \$1,200 single, \$2,400 double
 Level 3: \$1,300 single, \$2,600 double
 Level 4: \$1,300 single, \$2,600 double
 Level 5 (top): \$1,300 single, \$2,600 double

In the Gethsemani section of our cemetery, at the corner of Wyoming Ave. and Oak St., ground has been aside solely for the placement of mausoleums. Both double (for two people to be entombed side by side) and single (for one person) mausoleums are available. Cost of plot for private family mausoleum - Single width: \$4,000, Stacking privilege: \$2,000 per tier (3 tier max), Double width: \$6,000, Stacking privilege: \$3,000 per tier (3 tier max). If you would like to purchase a columbarium niche or a mausoleum plot, contact our Parish Office to make an appointment.

The “Cemetery Care” envelope appears each May in our packs. This month was chosen to correspond with Memorial Day. All money collected in this envelope will be deposited in our cemetery account and will be used solely for the upkeep of our venerable parish cemetery in Dupont. Please be generous in your financial support of the burial place of our spiritual forefathers, especially if you have relatives or ancestors buried there. Please take time in May to put your envelope in the collection basket.

NOTICE: Dumping refuse or fill of any sort at our parish cemetery is strictly prohibited. Visitors are ONLY permitted from dawn to dusk at the cemetery. No pets are allowed at any time in the cemetery – dog walking is forbidden. Bicycles, skateboards and ATVs are not permitted at any time. If anyone should see someone violating these regulations, they are asked to report the incident to the parish office immediately. Such violations are acts of disrespect for the holy ground and those buried there.

Cemetery Clean-up Time: It’s that time of year to clean up the cemeteries and prepare for spring and grass-cutting season. We ask that all planters and decorations remaining on lots from last year be removed by May 15. After this date, items will be removed and discarded. Please note, we are not responsible for any items left at the grave sites after May 15. Thank you for your cooperation.

Requiescat in pace: please pray for the peaceful repose of the soul of Irene Mengak who was recently buried from our church.

Monday (May 12) St. Pancras

7:30 am Norma Patrick
by Thomas and Dorothy Sheridan

Tuesday (May 13) Our Lady of Fatima

7:30 am Edward Koteck
by Rosalie Kaplan

Wednesday (May 14) St. Matthias

7:30 am Deceased members of the Battista and Morreale families
by AnnMarie Devlin

Thursday (May 15) St. Isidore

7:30 am Veronica Kobylus and son, Edward
by Lisa Ostrowski

Friday (May 16) Easter Weekday

7:30 am Julia and Andrew Beganich
by family

Saturday (May 17) Vigil: 5th Sunday of Easter

4:00 pm Joseph Szulewski
by children

Sunday (May 18) Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:30 am Richard Belles
by Margaret and Joseph Wilk
 10:30 am Our Parishioners (*Missa pro populo*)

“His Heart... WEEKLY OFFERING ...Our Hands”
Last Sunday: \$4,918.59
Building Fund: \$814.00
Care and Education of Priests: \$338.00
May the Lord reward your generosity.

The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of:

Tabernacle: *Nora Gayza, by Marian Wanielista*

Blessed Mother: *intentions of Catherine Helminiak, by Georgann Gall*

St. Joseph: *Michelle Nesgoda, by her mother, MaryAnn, and brother, Christian.*

St. Therese: *intentions of Mary Pistack, by family*

St. Francis: *intentions of Alex Nebraski, by MaryAnn Pistack.*



The offertory gifts of bread & wine this Sunday are donated in memory of Nora Gayza, by her daughter, Marian.



The altar flowers this weekend are donated in memory of Nora Gayza, by her daughter, Marian.

May 11, 10:30am, May Crowning, church
 May 12, 6:30pm, Transition Team Meeting, Avoca parish hall
 May 14, 6pm, Picnic meeting, hall
 May 15, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft
 May 22, 6:30pm, Choir practice, choir loft
 May 29, Ascension Thursday – see Mass schedule
 Jun. 4, 7pm, HNS meeting, hall
 Jun. 6, 7:30 am, 1st Friday Mass and devotions, church
 Jun. 7, 2:45-3:45pm, 1st Saturday Adoration/devotions, church
 Jun. 8, 10:30am, Confirmation Mass, End of the Easter season

Liturgical Volunteer Schedule

May 10-11
4pm: EM: C. Wesley, L: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolyte: Collins family
8:30am: EM: <i>volunteer</i> , Lector: A. Devlin, Acolyte: C. & T. Papiercavich
10:30am: EM: D. Suchecki, Lector: T. Satkowski, Acolyte: A. & J. Rupprecht
May 17-18
4pm: EM: M. Pistack, L: J. Klenner, Acolyte: E. & J. Lyons
8:30am: EM: M. Moletsky, L: G. Purdy, Acolyte: C. Purdy
10:30am: EM: B. Jones, L: M. Ferretti, Acolyte: C., E. & J. Toalongo

Free “Word Among Us” booklets for daily meditation use during the month of June are available in the church narthex.

The CCM invites you to pray the rosary with them on May 13 at 6pm near Blessed Mother statue in the churchyard. The rosary will be prayed there on the 13th of each month concluding in October.

On Memorial Day, May 26, Fr. Petro will celebrate Mass for Peace and Justice at 9am in the cemetery chapel. There will not be 7:30am Mass that day in the church. All are invited to attend.

The 2025 Dupont Memorial Day Parade and Service will be held on Monday, May 26 beginning at 10:30 am. Fr. Petro will lead the Benediction at approximately 11am at the VFW Hall. All participants are invited for food and refreshments after the service. Our HNS will sponsor a car for the parade.