



# Sacred Heart of Jesus Church

215 Lackawanna Avenue, Dupont, PA 18641

Phone 570-654-3713 • E-mail [shojesuschurch@gmail.com](mailto:shojesuschurch@gmail.com)  
www.sacredheartdupont.com

**Weekend Masses** Saturday Vigil 4 PM • Sunday 10:30 AM

**Holy Day Masses** Vigil 4 PM • 7 AM (day of)

**Weekday Masses** 7:30 AM • Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Confessions are heard on Saturdays at 3:00 PM

**Parish Office hours** Monday to Thursday,  
8:30 AM to 12:30 PM, 1 to 3 PM; Friday, 8:30 AM to 12 PM



# Saint Mary Church

(Queen of the Apostles Parish)

715 Hawthorne Street, Avoca, PA 18641

Phone 570-457-3412

E-mail [stmaryavoca@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryavoca@gmail.com)

**Weekend Masses** Saturday Vigil 5:30 PM • Sunday 8:00 AM

**Holy Day Masses** 5:30 PM

**Weekday Masses** 9:00 AM, Tuesday and Thursday

**Parish Office hours** Monday, 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM,  
Tuesday, 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM, Thursday, 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM

**Rev. Father Thomas J. Petro, J.C.L., KCHS, Pastor**  
Rev. Father Michael B. Wurtz, CSC, S.L.D., Supply Priest

## ✠ The Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time ♦ July 20, 2025 ✠

*Praised be Jesus Christ! Now and forever. Amen.*

A “Coffee Klatch” to socially gather and meet Fr. Petro, as well as our fellow parishioners from both parishes, will be held this Sunday, July 20, after the 8 a.m. in the Queen of the Apostles Hall and after the 10:30 a.m. Mass in the Sacred Heart Church Hall. These informal gatherings will allow us to chat, drink coffee, eat doughnuts, break the ice, make new friends and revive old acquaintances. Please try to attend either one of them (or both!) on July 20. Let’s get to know each other better! ☺

The Annual Novena in honor of St. Ann has begun and will continue through Thurs., July 25, in anticipation of the feast of Sts. Ann and Joachim, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary, on July 26. The relic will be offered, and the Novena prayers recited after Masses in both of our churches. Please join in this Novena.

The Air Conditioning Envelope appears in your envelope pack each July to help defray the cost of cooling our church buildings during the summer months. Please be as generous as your means allow to this important collection that directly benefits us.

An Adult Summer Theology Series will be offered in SH church hall at 6:30 p.m. by Bill Jones, a former Lutheran pastor and Catholic convert. Parishioners from both our parishes, and the public, are invited to attend. Wednesday, July 30 – a showing of “Heavens Above,” a 1963 satirical film starring Peter Sellers. Commentary and questions will follow on the notion of “What is real social justice that works?” Wednesday, August 6 – “Pope Leo XIII and Pope St. John Paul II: the right person for the right time selected by God.” Wednesday, August 13 – “Pope Pius XII: the right or very wronged Pope; not fairly judged in his efforts to save the Jews.”

If the Mass you are attending is requested by you or a family member, and you wish to participate in the Offertory Procession of the gifts, please see the ushers before Mass begins. *These processions only occur at Masses with music.* The usher carrying the offertory basket precedes the two people carrying the cruet of wine and the ciborium of unconsecrated hosts.

The membership of the Pastoral and Finances Councils of Queen of the Apostles Parish will meet with Fr. Petro for the first time on Wednesday, July 23, at 6:30 p.m. in the Queen of the Apostles Hall. Members should make every effort to attend this important meeting.

**Altar flower donations:** commemorate a special occasion, or honor and remember a loved one by contributing to the weekly flowers that adorn the altar in our church. The donor’s name, and the name of the person or the occasion being honored or remembered, is published in the Sunday bulletin. The suggested donation is \$100. To make an altar flowers donation, please contact the parish office. The church secretary will take your information and place the order with the florist. In order to list the intention in the bulletin and create the floral arrangement for the weekend that you choose, a two-week lead time is necessary.

**Planning a Catholic Wedding?** Your parish is here to support you throughout your wedding preparations. Engaged couples should notify the priest at least six months prior to their proposed date. To begin planning your celebration of the holy sacrament of matrimony, contact Fr. Petro at the parish office.

**Join in praying the St. Michael Prayer at the conclusion of all Masses:** *St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.*

### July is dedicated to the Precious Blood

Eternal Father, I offer You the merits of the Precious Blood of Jesus, Your beloved Son, my Savior and my God, for the spread and exaltation of my dear mother, Your holy Church, for the preservation and welfare of her visible Head, the sovereign Roman Pontiff, for the Cardinals, Bishops and Pastors of souls, and for all the ministers of the sanctuary. Blessed be Jesus Christ, who has saved us with His Most Precious Blood! Amen.

**SM liturgical volunteers** are asked to contact the parish office by August 1 if they wish to continue to serve as lectors, acolytes or extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. Please either email Kathy Hudzinski ([stmaryavoca@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryavoca@gmail.com)) or call her at the SM parish office to express your desire to serve at the Lord’s altar. *Also, new people are invited to volunteer as well!* A list of interested parties will be created, and those volunteers will be contacted to express their availability for service. Liturgical volunteers from both of our parishes will have an opportunity to assist at the liturgies in either or both of our parishes. Thank you for your service to God and your neighbor!

The choirs and cantors of both our parishes practice on Thursdays at 6:30 pm in the SH church choir loft. New members are encouraged to attend - contact Anthony George, music director, at 570-881-9991 or by email at [Byzantinecatholic101@gmail.com](mailto:Byzantinecatholic101@gmail.com) if you are interested in singing. Practices will resume in September.

Many people choose to go on vacation during the summer months. When away, please remember to attend Mass on Sunday. Determine the location and Mass times for the Catholic church nearest your vacation area *before* leaving home. Also, please do not forget to contribute to your home parish when you return from vacation by offering your missed weekly donations in addition to your regular Sunday contributions. *Remember: your parish’s expenses never take a vacation!*

Every parish in the Scranton Diocese financially supports our diocesan school system by paying monthly “taxes” to subsidize the entire system, not a particular parochial school. This fiscal year Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish will pay \$51,595.00 in school subsidies, and Queen of the Apostles Parish will pay \$54,403.00. This year, the Diocese of Scranton began a new program with the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) Program that will provide every parish the ability to get significant relief on its Catholic school assessments. All EITC donations made by parishioners (individuals or businesses) will go directly to EITC scholarships within the Diocesan Catholic School System. In return, the parish will receive relief on its Catholic School Assessments in the amount of 40% of the total tax credits that new parishioners/businesses donate to the EITC program. More information about this program will be forthcoming. Your participation is encouraged!

**Vacation Bible School**, hosted by the parishes of Avoca, Dupont, Duryea, and Old Forge, will be held at Holy Rosary School, Duryea, July 28-August 1, from 9:30am to 12pm. Children aged 4 to 11 years are invited to participate in this year’s event. Parents and guardians may join as volunteers, as well as students aged 12 to 18. Registration forms may be found on Nativity of Our Lord website.

During the COVID-19 pandemic there was a dispensation in the Diocese of Scranton from the obligation to participate at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. That dispensation ended on Sunday, August 15, 2021. All Catholics are morally obligated to physically attend Mass – watching a video Mass does not “count” to fulfill one’s obligation.

**Parish Mission Statements**  
Dupont: “Sacred Heart of Jesus Church exists for the celebration of the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist, the proclamation of Christ’s saving doctrine and the promotion of Charity. Our mission, under the care of our pastor, our bishop and the Holy Father, is to attain Heaven.”  
Avoca: “To make disciples of Jesus Christ and to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ.”

**Our churches are open daily for private prayer:**  
(SH) Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 7 a.m. to Noon; Saturday, 2:45 p.m. to the conclusion of the 4 p.m. Mass; Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to the conclusion of the 10:30 a.m. Mass.  
(SM) Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to Noon; Saturday, 4:30 p.m. to the conclusion of the 5:30 p.m. Mass; Sunday from 7 a.m. to the conclusion of the 8 a.m. Mass.

A new email address has been adopted for Queen of the Apostles Parish: [stmaryavoca@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryavoca@gmail.com) Please use this email for all electronic parish correspondence. Also, a new Queen of Apostles website is planned. In the meantime, visit the Sacred Heart website for updates, bulletins, etc.

**The faithful who attend Mass** without music, such as weekday Mass in our parishes, 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 missalette. 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.

**Last Sunday**, Graham David Dunlop (SM) was baptized in our church. Please pray for him and his family as they grow in God’s wisdom and grace.

**Requiescat in pace:** pray for the peaceful repose of the soul of Lorraine Borthwick (SM) who was recently buried from our church.

**Pilgrimage to the Divine Mercy Shrine**, Stockbridge, MA on Friday, August 22. Cost: \$63. Includes: driver gratuity, bottled water, donuts/snacks and bus reservation. Dinner is not included. Bus Leaves from the Oblates of St. Joseph, Yatesville, at 7 am. Depart the Shrine at 4:30pm. For reservations, call: Ann Jake 570-466-4693 or Theresa Lisiewski 570-862-6298. The deadline for reservation and payment is August 13.

**17<sup>th</sup> Diocese of Scranton Pilgrimage of Faith** for the Jubilee Year of Hope to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC will be Wednesday, October 1. The day will include opportunities for public and private prayer, confession, touring the National Shrine and the campus of the Catholic University of America, concluding with Mass. Register either via the diocesan website or contact our parish offices. Bus fare: \$80 per person made payable to either of our parishes with buses leaving from our deanery. Reservations are due by August 28.

**The faithful stand after the invitation to prayer** - Paragraph 146 of the General Instruction of the Roman Missal states: “Upon returning to the middle of the altar, the priest, facing the people and extending and then joining his hands, invites the people to pray, saying, *Orate, fratres (Pray, brethren)*. The people rise and make their response: *Suscipiat Dominus (May the Lord accept)*. Then the priest, with hands extended, says the prayer over the offerings. At the end the people make the acclamation, *Amen*.” Please note that the people stand AFTER the priest’s invitation to prayer. Only upon rising do they properly make their response. There seems to be some confusion about this at our Masses. Please make this simple change so as to maintain “holy order” at Mass. Thank you!

**The 2025 Celebrate Life Banquet** will be held Friday, Oct. 24 at 6:30pm, at Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. Keynote Speaker will be Kayleigh McEnany, former White House Press Secretary. To reserve your seating, call 717-541-0034.

**Shakespeare’s “Much Ado About Nothing”** is a theatrical production of Maria Kaupas Academy, 1625 N. Main Ave., Scranton on August 15, 16, 17 (Friday 7 pm, Saturday 7 pm, Sunday 2 pm). Tickets: \$10; child younger than 12, \$5; family, \$50. The public is invited. Call 570-343-0634 for more details.

**Are you interested** in your family history? Catholic Church records have been digitized by NEPGS. They invite genealogists and family historians from beginner to advanced to visit and research with them. NEPGS in partnership with the Diocese of Scranton is digitizing parish records in eleven northeastern Pennsylvania counties. Please check out [www.nepgs.com](http://www.nepgs.com) for the latest information.

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

**Monday (July 21) St. Lawrence of Brindisi**  
7:30 am (SH) Theresa Matlago Palenski  
by Theresa Palenski

**Tuesday (July 22) St. Mary Magdalene**  
9:00 am (SM) John Whispell  
by Barb & Tony Gregorio

**Wednesday (July 23) St. Bridget**  
7:30 am (SH) Mildred Mlodzienski  
by Sacred Heart CCM

**Thursday (July 24) St. Sharbel**  
9:00 am (SM) Glenard, Margaret & William Houston  
by Mary M. Houston

**Fridav (July 25) St. James**  
7:30 am (SH) Albert Mihalka  
by the Romanski family

**Saturday (July 26) Vigil:17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
4:00 pm (SH) Donna Bartosiewicz  
by Bob Bartosiewicz and Gene & Sharon

**Sunday (July 27) Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
8:00 am (SM) Deceased Members of the Clifford family  
by living members  
10:30 am (SH) Intentions of Scott Hilenski  
by Tina Petcaugh

**WEEKLY OFFERING**  
**Last Sunday:** (SH)\$3,377.57 (SM)\$2,991.00  
**Building Fund:** (SH)\$422.00  
*May the Lord reward your generosity.*

*The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of:*  
Tabernacle (SH): Thomas W. Coolbaugh, by family  
Blessed Mother (SH): Tony Arcna, by Ron & Sharon Ziobro family  
St. Joseph (SH): Edward Pistack, by MaryAnn Pistack  
St. Therese (SH): Rita Jones, by Mary and David Mackin  
St. Francis (SH): Danny & Stephen Mackin, by Mary & David Mackin  
Tabernacle (SM): Kelly O’Brien, by Therese Wrubel  
Sacred Heart Shrine (SM): Chris Martin, by the Jadus family

❖  
The offertory gifts (SH) of bread & wine this Sunday are donated in memory of Edward Pistack, by family.  
The offertory gifts (SM) of bread & wine this month are donated in memory of the deceased members of the Scaramastro family, by the Scaramastro family.

❖  
The altar flowers (SH) this weekend are donated in memory of Edward Pistack, by family.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**  
July 19, 6pm, SH Picnic Appreciation Dinner, SH hall  
July 20, Coffee Klatch, after 8am and 10:30am Masses, halls  
July 23, 6:30pm, SM Pastoral/Finance Council meeting, SM hall  
July 30, 6:30pm, Summer Theology Series meets, SH hall  
Aug. 1, 7:30am, 1<sup>st</sup> Friday Mass/Sacred Heart devotions, SH church  
Aug. 2, 2:45-3:45pm, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Adoration/Devotions, SH church  
Aug. 6, 6:30pm, Summer Theology Series meets, SH hall  
Aug. 7, 6pm, Social Concerns/Respect Life meeting, SM hall

Liturgical Volunteer Schedule
<i>July 19-20</i>
<b>4pm:</b> EM: C. Wesley, L: J. Klenner, Acolyte: E. & J. Lyons
<b>5:30pm:</b> EM: C. Wood, L: T. Kaplavka, Acolyte: T. Gilchrist, M. Phillips
<b>8am:</b> EM: N. Adomiak, L: L. Orr, Acolyte: J. Dudzinski, G. Orr, C. Ziobro
<b>10:30am:</b> EM: B. Jones, L: G. Beccaloni, Acolyte: C. & T. Papiercavich
<i>July 26-27</i>
<b>4pm:</b> EM: M. Pistack, L: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolyte: Collins family
<b>5:30pm:</b> EM: P. Krisiewiczzy, L: R. Lee, Acolyte: J. Chu T. Gilchrist,
<b>8am:</b> EM: B.A. Flannelly, L: T. Urbanski, Acolyte: J. Dudzinski, A. Maruska, T. Roxby
<b>10:30am:</b> EM: M. Moletsky, L: G. Purdy, Acolyte: Toalongo family

**The Catholic Men’s Conference** will be held Sat., Oct. 4, 8am-3pm at Holy Redeemer High School, Wilkes-Barre. Register online at [www.BeACatholicMan.com](http://www.BeACatholicMan.com). The cost is \$40 for adults, early bird pricing of \$30 by Sept. 15 and \$15 for students. For details, contact Mike Kilmer at 570-721-0872 or [mkilmer@thekilmergroup.com](mailto:mkilmer@thekilmergroup.com).