



# 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 Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time ♦ July 27, 2025 ✠

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

### HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Please note that Friday, Aug. 15, is a holy day of obligation binding for all Catholics to attend Mass. The Church celebrates the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Mass schedule: Thurs., Aug 14, Vigil Mass: 4pm (SH); Fri., Aug. 15, Masses: 7am (SH) and 5:30pm (SM).

**A Giant Indoor Flea Market** will be held Saturday, Sept. 13 and Sunday, Sept. 14 in the SH church hall. *Donated items will be accepted from Aug. 1 – Sept. 6. (no clothing and no electronics.)* Please deposit them in the Walnut Street vestibule. Parishioners from both of our parishes are invited to participate! If you can help at this year's flea market, please contact Gene and Sharon Bartosiewicz (457-6945) or Bob Bartosiewicz (457-8403).

**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.”

**ASSUMPTION HARVEST BLESSING:** On Friday, August 15, the whole Church celebrates the solemn feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Throughout the ages the Church in her ritual commemorated the feast of the Assumption by the blessing of herbs, flowers and other produce brought to church by the faithful. In Poland, the Assumption is also called *Matka Boska Zielna* – Blessed Mother of the Herbs, or the feast of Our Lady of the Herbs. The Blessed Mother is seen by the Polish as the protector of the earth's abundance. To perpetuate this pious custom, Fr. Petro will bless the herbs, flowers, fruits and vegetables from your gardens during the 4 p.m. Mass on Aug. 14 and the 5:30 p.m. Mass on Aug. 15. Please bring these items to the sanctuary of the church before Mass and place them on the table by the Blessed Mother altar. After the Prayer of the Faithful they will be blessed.

**The book for 2026 Mass intentions** for our parishes will open on Monday, August 18, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. In the interest of fairness, please do not make any earlier requests ahead of time. You may visit the parish office, use the Mass intention envelopes found in the narthex, or use the postal system to make your 2026 requests. The offering of Mass for deceased loved ones is a real spiritual gift to assist souls in purgatory and allow our beloved dead to know of our loving remembrance. Many people have Masses said in their parishes on death anniversaries or other significant dates. Masses may also be offered for the intentions of the living. The stipend for a Mass intention is \$10. Our parish secretaries record the requests.

**Four Masses** are celebrated each weekend in our parishes. Parishioners are encouraged to attend any of these four Masses in either church building. Parishioners may deposit their collection envelopes in the baskets of either church and they will be returned to their respective parish office for deposit and posting.

**The audio system** has been upgraded at St. Mary's Church. New microphones, speakers, mixers, controls and all the wiring has been upgraded to modern standards. This system replaces the one installed in 1996. C+A Media of Pittston has completed the project which totaled \$12,486.18. Let us know after Mass this weekend if you can hear the difference!

**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!

**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 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.

**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!

**First Saturday** is August 1. 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 on Saturday, August 1, from 2:45 to 3:45 pm in our church (SH). All are invited to come and pray in preparation for the 4 pm Mass.

**The parish office (SH) will be closed** on July 30 and 31. The office will reopen on Friday, Aug. 1 at 8:30am.

**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.*

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.

**Requiescant in pace:** pray for the peaceful repose of the souls of Nancy Hamilton (SM) and Bernadine Bryk (SH) who were recently buried from our church.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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).

**The Pennsylvania March for Life** in Harrisburg will be held on Monday, Sept. 22, at the State Capital. The rally will begin at 11am and the march will follow at noon. For more information call 717-541-0034.

**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.

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

**Monday (July 28) Weekday**

7:30 am (SH) Joseph, Dolores, and Maria Vida  
*by Vivian and Stanley Barket*

**Tuesday (July 29) St. Martha, Mary, and Lazarus**

9:00 am (SM) Robert Avvisato  
*by Ann McMullen & family*

**Wednesday (July 30) St. Peter Chrysologus**

7:30 am (SH) John Scyrba  
*by Maureen Brogna*

**Thursday (July 31) St. Ignatius of Loyola**

9:00 am (SM) Roseann Robbins  
*by Joyce & Mark Nallon*

**Friday (Aug. 1) St. Alphonsus Liguori (First Friday)**

7:30 am (SH) Carissa Belles  
*by her family*

**Saturday (Aug. 2) Vigil:18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

4:00 pm (SH) Our Parishioners (*Missa pro populo*)  
5:30 pm (SM) James Slusark  
*by Mike & Maureen McLaughlin*

**Sunday (Aug. 3) Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 am (SM) Deceased Members of the Jadus family  
*by Maryann Jadus & family*  
10:30 am (SH) Irene Kivak  
*by AnnMarie and MaryAnn Paddock*

<b>WEEKLY OFFERING</b> <b>Last Sunday:</b> (SH) \$3,307.39 (SM) \$3,580.75 <b>Building Fund:</b> (SH) \$74.00 <b>Air Conditioning:</b> (SH) \$919.00 <i>May the Lord reward your generosity.</i>
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*The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of:*  
Tabernacle (SH): *the Lopata family, by Robert Lopata*  
Blessed Mother (SH): *Loretta Haluschak, by Brian & Michele Moletsky*  
St. Joseph (SH): *Edward Smichowski, Sr. by wife, AnnMarie, & family*  
Sacred Heart Shrine (SM): *Prayers for the healing of Barbara Jadus Pearce, by Mom & family*

<b>UPCOMING EVENTS</b> 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
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<b>Liturgical Volunteer Schedule</b>
<b><i>July 26-27</i></b>
<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
<b><i>August 2-3</i></b>
<b>4pm:</b> EM: C. Wesley, L: A. Devlin, Acolyte: C. Purdy
<b>5:30pm:</b> EM: C. Wood, L: B. Gregorio, Acolyte: T. Gilchrist, JJ Galvin
<b>8am:</b> EM: N Adomiak, L: K. Gill, Acolyte: J. Dudzinski, C. Hoover, R. Kellogg
<b>10:30am:</b> EM: D. Suchecki, L: M. Ferretti, Acolyte: C. & T. Papiercavich

**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.

**Amata (Beloved) Retreat:** A retreat for high school aged girls with the Capuchin Sisters of Nazareth will be held at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Brodheadsville, Sept. 12-14. Talks, music, prayer, deepen your relationship with Christ, build new friendships and grow in the knowledge of the call to be His beloved child. Cost is \$35 which includes meals and snacks. To register or for more information contact: Jill Salvi at [youthminister@gopchurch.org](mailto:youthminister@gopchurch.org) or call 610-681-6137 ext. 117. Registration deadline is Sept. 5.

**CCD registration** for both of our parishes will begin August 16. Registration forms will be located in the narthex of both of our churches.

**The month of August** is dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.