



# 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](http://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 Exaltation of the Holy Cross ♦ September 14, 2025 ✠

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

**The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross** is celebrated on Sunday, September 14. During the Masses in our churches, a relic of the True Cross will be exposed for public veneration. Also, devotional materials promoting the Chaplet of Our Lady of Sorrows will be blessed and freely distributed.

**Special Collection for Gaza:** Parishes in the Diocese of Scranton have been requested to hold a special collection to support Catholic Relief Services and the Catholic Near East Welfare Association, which are providing vital emergency aid, medical care, and relief to those suffering in Gaza. Our parishes will take up this special second collection the weekend of September 13/14.

### Happy Birthday, Pope Leo XIV!

May we keep our Holy Father in prayer as he turns 70 years old on Sunday, September 14.

“O God, who watches over your Church through the leadership of our Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, we offer our thanks for his life and his ministry. We ask that You bless him on his birthday, grant him good health, and surround him with Your divine protection. Guide him with Your wisdom and strength as he leads us closer to Your heavenly Father. Grant him peace, and through his leadership, inspire us to live in love and peace. Amen.”

**A Ziti Pasta Dinner** will be held in the SH Church Hall on Saturday, October 11, 3 to 6pm. Dine in or take out. Cost is \$12 per dinner, and includes ziti with red sauce, salad, cake and “Eddie’s Famous Meatballs!” Tickets will be sold after weekend Masses or can be purchased by contacting any member of our Holy Name Society.

**The St. Vincent de Paul Society:** this parish account is used solely to support the charitable work of our parish (SH). An annual envelope appears in your packets, around the September 27 feast day of St. Vincent de Paul, which you may use to make a direct donation to support the charitable needs of our local parishioners. Anyone wishing to make a monetary donation toward this much needed outreach apostolate is asked to place their donation in the envelope marked “St. Vincent de Paul Society” and drop it in the basket or send it to the parish office.

**Our SH Confraternity of Christian Mothers** will celebrate their patroness’ feastday on Monday, Sept. 15, the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, with Rosary at 7 a.m. and Mass at 7:30 a.m. This is their Quarterly Corporate Communion Mass. All members are encouraged to attend and pray for the needs of their families.

**The Chaplet of Our Lady of Sorrows** will be prayed in St. Mary’s Church on Monday, Sept. 15 at 7 p.m. All are invited to pray.

**The Perpetual Novena** in honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal is prayed in common every Monday after 7:30 a.m. Mass.

**The Catholic Light** updated its subscription record database. Any person who donates at least \$10 to the Diocesan Annual Appeal automatically receives a complimentary copy of The Catholic Light newspaper for the following year. Gifts to the Catholic Ministries Appeal will soon be requested of our parishioners as we begin again the process of conducting the Appeal throughout the diocese. Please consider giving at least \$10 which will give you an annual subscription to our diocesan monthly newspaper.

**The 2025-26 Catholic Ministries Appeal weekly progress report:** Thank you to those who have provided their generous financial support for this year’s Appeal so far.

SH Goal: \$33,534.00 - Total Committed: \$5,655.00

SM Goal: \$35,767.00 - Total Committed: \$4,756.00

### GIANT INDOOR FLEA MARKET

**Sacred Heart Church Hall**

*Saturday, September 13, 9 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.*

*Sunday, September 14, 8:30 - 11:30 a.m., \$3 bag day!*

*(Bags will be provided.)*

**A “Pro-Life Baby Shower”** sponsored by our SH Confraternity of Christian Mothers will be held to benefit the Wyoming Valley Chapter of Pennsylvanians for Human Life. They are now collecting baby items (new, unused) such as sleepers, blankets/afghans, quilts, washcloths and towels (sizes newborn to 24 months), disposable diapers, etc. Donations can be dropped off before or after all Masses and can be placed in the play pen located in the SH church narthex. Monetary donations will also be gratefully accepted and can be placed in the collection basket or sent to the parish office in a marked envelope indicating a donation to the “Baby Shower.” The CCM will host a mock baby shower on Monday, October 6, after their 6 p.m. meeting in the SH church hall.

**CCD Registration** for both our parishes has begun. CCD registration forms are available in the narthex of both our churches as well as online at [www.sacredheartdupont.com](http://www.sacredheartdupont.com). After filling out the form for each child you may deposit it in the weekend collection basket or mail it to the parish office. Please include the required fee and a copy of your child’s baptismal certificate (if they are a new student and were not baptized in our church). CCD begins on Sunday, Sept. 28. It will meet at the Avoca campus from 9 to 10 a.m., and at the Dupont campus from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. *All school-aged children (both public and homeschoolers) who do not attend Catholic schools in grades 1 to 8 are required to attend CCD classes.* Questions? Contact Deborah Yuschovitz (SM) at 457-1284 or Nancy Beccaloni (SH) at [sacredheartccd@comcast.net](mailto:sacredheartccd@comcast.net)

**Catechetical Sunday** is celebrated by the Church this year on September 21. The 2025 Catechetical Sunday theme is “*Always be ready to give an explanation...for a reason for your hope*” (1 Pet 3:15). On this day, catechists are formally commissioned for service to the parish. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each baptized person plays in handing on the Faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Fr. Petro will bestow a “Back to School Blessing” upon our students and teachers during the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Teachers from both our parishes will come forward to the sanctuary for the blessing at the end of the homily. We are most grateful to our catechists for sharing their gift of Faith with our youngest parishioners!

**The School Support** envelope can be found in this month’s envelope pack (SH). Your school support contributions help defray expenses incurred by our CCD program through the academic year.

**Children and Student Envelopes:** If you would like your child to receive a boxed set of donation envelopes for 2026, please contact the parish office. Envelopes will be available in the narthex during the month of December for those who have requested them.

**29<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** of the Wyoming Valley Knights of Columbus “Tomb of Unborn” — Respect Life Sunday, October 5 at 2 pm. Prayerful commemoration at the Knights’ Tomb of the Unborn, located at the top of Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Carverton. Fr. Petro, chaplain of Greater Pittston Knights of Columbus Assembly 948 will celebrate the Order for Visiting a Cemetery, followed by the recitation of the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary. All Knights of Columbus, our parishioners and area faithful are invited to attend.

**New parishioners are welcome!** Please call or email the parish office. If you are moving away or returning, please let us know so we can maintain accurate records. Changes in phone numbers and email addresses are also appreciated.

**We are happy to welcome** to our parish (SH) Edward Kolankiewicz of Pittston. A warm welcome to you!

**Inactive Catholics:** Baptized Catholics who have not been practicing their faith are most welcome to return. Please call or email the parish office if you have any questions.

**Are you interested** in the Catholic faith and becoming Catholic, or do you know someone who is interested in becoming a Catholic? If you are interested in entering the Church, please contact Fr. Petro for more information.

Dear Parishioners of Queen of the Apostles Parish,

As we prepare for the fall season, there are several clean-up and maintenance tasks that need attention around our church property. To help keep our parish home welcoming and beautiful, we are looking for volunteers to assist with these projects during the month of September 2025.

If you have some time to give—whether it’s a few hours or a full day—your help would be greatly appreciated. Tasks may include light cleaning, yard work, organizing, and other small maintenance needs. Thank you for considering lending your time and talents to care for our church. Your generosity and dedication make a true difference in the life of our parish. If you are able to volunteer, please contact me at your earliest convenience so we can coordinate efforts:

John Labrosky, Sexton  
570-881-3959 - johnlabrosky@gmail.com

**The Church celebrates the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi** on Saturday, Oct. 4. Fr. Petro will administer a special blessing to all pets on Sunday, Oct. 6, at 9:00 a.m. in Avoca in the rectory backyard and at 10:00 a.m. in Dupont in the picnic grove. Parishioners and friends of our parish are invited to bring their animals to the church to pray for the intercession of the saint who loved nature and all of God’s creatures. Members of SH Holy Name Society will host a light outdoor social following the blessing in Dupont. To provide a safe environment for all who attend this event, please be sure that all pets are properly restrained.

**The choirs and cantors from both our parishes** practice on Thursdays at 6:30 pm in the SH choir loft. New members are needed! Contact Anthony George, music director, at 570-881-9991 or by email at [TPianoman321@gmail.com](mailto:TPianoman321@gmail.com) if you are interested.

**The Third Order of Franciscans Secular** will celebrate a Day of Recollection for their Order on Saturday, October 4, the Feast of St. Francis, at Sacred Heart Church and School, Dupont. If you are interested in finding out more about this group of Franciscans, you may call Ed Schirra, OFS at 570-396-5122 or [eschirra@msn.com](mailto:eschirra@msn.com).

**What is a “Marriage Validation?”** The term means to have your marriage recognized or blessed by the Catholic Church. Those who seek a validation were usually married outside the Catholic Church. If you and your spouse wish to begin the validation process, please contact the parish office.

**An offering of \$3.00 per candle** is requested for votive candles in St. Mary’s Church. Deposit your offering in either of the two wooden collection boxes located on the walls near the candle racks.

**Attention adorers!** A wooden collection box has been placed near the side entrance to St. Mary’s Church. Those individuals, both parishioners and guests, who visit the church for Eucharistic Adoration on Tuesdays are asked to make a small donation for the upkeep and maintenance of St. Mary’s Church.

**St. Michael’s Byzantine Church,** 205 N. Main St., Pittston, will hold a Night at the Races fundraiser on Saturday, Oct. 4, at 6pm in the church hall. Horses are \$10 each with a chance to win \$50. Free entry with the purchase of horses. Horse purchases and table reservations can be made by calling Andrea at 570-466-4227.

**Free “Word Among Us”** prayer books for the month of September are available in the SH narthex.

**St. Joseph’s Center,** Scranton, will hold a drive-thru chicken dinner on Sunday, Sept. 21, from 12-4pm. Tickets must be purchased in advance at [www.stjosephscenter.org](http://www.stjosephscenter.org). Cost is \$15 per dinner.

**Visitation of the BVM Church,** 625 Dundaff St., Dickson City, will host a Bingo Bonanza on Sunday, Oct. 19, in the parish center. Doors open at 12pm and games begin at 2pm. Admission is \$30 in Advance, \$35 at the door. Raffles, specials, food, and beverages available. For tickets call 570-489-2091.



✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

**Monday (Sept. 15) Our Lady of Sorrows**

7:30 am (SH) Dorothy Trolio  
*by Roseann Trolio*

**Tuesday (Sept. 16) Ss. Cornelius and Cyprian**

9:00 am (SM) Frank Petritis  
*by family*

**Wednesday (Sept. 17) St. Robert Bellarmine**

7:30 am (SH) Intentions of Sophia Donahue  
*by her father and family*

**Thursday (Sept. 18) Weekday**

9:00 am (SM) Kathy Burns Alu  
*by Tony Alu*

**Friday (Sept. 19) St. Januarius**

7:30 am (SH) Julia and Andrew Bekanich  
*by son, daughter, and family*

**Saturday (Sept. 20) Vigil: 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

4:00 pm (SH) Edward Romanko, Sr.  
*by Marlene Romanko*

5:30 pm (SM) James Fela  
*by wife, Janet & mom, Roseann*

**Sunday (Sept. 21) Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 am (SM) Our Parishioners (*Missa pro populo*)  
10:30 am (SH) Elaine Czarnecki  
*by husband, Henry*

**WEEKLY OFFERING**  
**Last Sunday:** (SH) \$4,715.59 (SM) \$3,501.51  
**Building Fund:** (SH) \$310.00  
*May the Lord reward your generosity.*

*The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of:*  
Tabernacle (SH): *Edward J. Romanko, Sr., by Marlene Romanko*  
Blessed Mother (SH): *Paul Hilenski, by Tina Petcaugh*  
St. Joseph (SH): *Rose and Nicholas Loncala, by Marian Wanielista*  
St. Therese (SH): *in thanksgiving to God, by Maria Vojta*  
St. Franics (SH): *Anthony Caltagirone, by family*  
Tabernacle (SM): *John & Mary George, by Roseann Fela*  
Sacred Heart Shrine (SM): *Jim Fela by Janet Fela & Roseann*



The offertory gifts (SM) of bread & wine for September are IMO  
*Veronica & John Yuschovitz, by children & grandchildren*

UPCOMING EVENTS
Sept. 13, 5pm, SH catechists meeting, SH school
Sept. 14, 8:30-11:30am, Flea Market, SH hall
Sept. 18, 6:30pm, SM/SH Choir practice resumes, SH choir loft
Sept. 21, 10:30am, Catechetical Sunday blessing of catechists
Sept. 25, SM/SH Choir practice, SH choir loft

Liturgical Volunteer Schedule
<b><i>September 13-14</i></b>
<b>4pm:</b> EM: C. Wesley, L: H. Vogue, Acolyte: Collins
<b>5:30pm:</b> EM: P. Krisiewicz, L: R. Wright, Acolyte: JJ Galvin., T. Gilchrist
<b>8am:</b> EM: R. Lee, L: L. Orr, Acolyte: K. Brogan, G. Orr
<b>10:30am:</b> EM: D. Suchecki, L: T. Satkowski, Acolyte: Papiercavich
<b><i>September 20-21</i></b>
<b>4pm:</b> EM: C. Wesley, L: J. Klenner, Acolyte: C. Purdy
<b>5:30pm:</b> EM: C. Trzcinski, L: P. Bartnicki, Acolyte: JJ Galvin, T. Gilchrist
<b>8am:</b> EM: A. Jake, L: K. Gill, Acolyte: K. Brogan, G. Orr
<b>10:30am:</b> EM: M. Moletsky, L: G. Beccaloni, Acolyte: Toalongo

**Liturgical volunteer schedules** for September have been emailed for both our parishes. *If you are unable to serve as scheduled, it is your responsibility to find a replacement. Volunteers are asked to be present in the sacristy 15 minutes prior to their scheduled Mass.*

**The University of Scranton** will host two Open House events for prospective students and their families on Sunday, Oct. 26, and Sunday, Nov. 9. At the Open House, participants can learn about undergraduate majors, meet with faculty, students, admissions counselors and financial aid representatives. Call 1-888-SCRANTON or visit [www.scranton.edu](http://www.scranton.edu) for more information.

**The Order of Alhambra** will host a rosary prayer service on Thurs., Sept. 18, at 6 pm at Christ the King Chapel on the campus of King’s College, 29 W. North St., Wilkes-Barre. The rosary will be recited along with chanted scriptural mysteries, Fatima prayers and Marian hymns. All are welcome to attend. The Order of Alhambra was founded in 1904 and is a Catholic organization dedicated to assisting the intellectually disabled. [www.orderalhambra.org](http://www.orderalhambra.org)