



Sacred Heart of Jesus Church

215 Lackawanna Avenue, Dupont, PA 18641

Phone 570-654-3713 • E-mail 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
www.stmaryavoca.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.V., J.C.L., KCHS, Pastor

Rev. Father Michael B. Wurtz, CSC, S.L.D., Supply Priest

✠ **Third Sunday of Easter** ♦ **April 19, 2026** ✠

Praised be Jesus Christ! Now and forever. Amen.

Please pray for the children from our parishes who will receive the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation celebrated at St. John the Evangelist Church by Bishop Joseph Bambera on Monday, April 20, at 5pm: (SH) Nicholas Carlo Collins, Ysabella Lucy Leal, Henry Francis Toalongo, Daisy Teresa Toalongo, Sophia Maria Milewski, (SM) Michael Anthony Basile, Sara Cecilia Basile, Ryann Caroline Canfield, Alexander Joseph Clark, Lindsay Maria Culp, Lesli Mary Morocho, Gregory Matthew Orr, Brady Peter Warnek, and Colton Francis Ziobro.

May they and their families continue to grow in Faith and participate actively in the sacramental life of our parish for years to come. I am especially grateful to Tina Petcaugh and Jason Kwiatkowski, their catechists, Nancy Beccaloni and Deborah Yuschovitz, our DREs, and Kathy Vojta and Kathy Hudzinski, our parish secretaries, who worked so well together to prepare them for Confirmation. I wish to recognize their sponsors, parents, and family members who assisted in their Faith formation, as well as our St. Cecilia Choir members whose voices joined in making the Confirmation Mass truly a beautiful occasion.

CASH BINGO will take place on Sunday, April 19 in Queen of the Apostles Parish Hall. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. Bingo begins at 1 p.m. Players must be 18 years of age or older. Cash prizes range from \$50–\$200 per game. Admission: \$25 in advance. \$30 at the door. Food and non-alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase. If you would like to purchase a ticket, contact John Labrosky, 570-881-3959.

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 cemeteries in Dupont, Avoca and Moosic. Please be generous in your financial support of the burial places 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. **Queen of the Apostles parishioners may wish to indicate on their Cemetery Care envelope if they would like their donation to be deposited in either St. Mary’s Cemetery Account or Ss. Peter & Paul Cemetery Account.

Ss. Peter & Paul Cemetery is upgrading its maintenance services to include grass-cutting for all individual grave sites. These professional services are scheduled to begin in May. *All three of our cemeteries* now have lawncare professionals to cut the grass and trim around the headstones. Please be generous in your gift to the “Cemetery Care” envelope so that the perpetual care accounts remain funded, especially now for our Moosic cemetery.

Charlie Vermack, SM parishioner and gravedigger, is available to level the cemetery plots in *all three of our cemeteries* by removing excess dirt and rock and replacing it with topsoil and applying grass seed. His fee is \$75 per grave. If you would like Charlie to improve your family’s plot this spring, call him at 570-947-5981.

Scott Hilenski, SH parishioner and owner of Memento Mortuos, LCC, is available for full-service grave care, including headstone cleaning, mulching and flower planting, in *all three of our cemeteries*. For more information, call Scott at 570-519-8200 or go to www.NepaCemeteryCare.com. Fr. Petro has retained him to fix damaged and toppled headstones in Ss. Peter & Paul Cemtery, Moosic, now that a perpetual care account has been created.

Our organist, Anthony George, will be on vacation April 25-26. All Masses that weekend will be “quiet” Masses without music.

SAVE THE DATE! Join us for the Diocesan Celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the USA on the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus on Friday, June 12, here at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Dupont! A Solemn Pontifical Mass with Bishop Bambera will be celebrated at 5:30 p.m., followed by a catered/potluck social in the picnic grove. This is an event not to be missed!

The **SH St. Vincent de Paul Society** is in the process of working with funeral homes in the Pittston Deanery to collect all unclaimed urns of cremated remains for burial in the Holy Sepulchre section of SH parish cemetery. *A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated in SH church during the Easter season, and the urns will be interred afterwards, free of charge.* No fees are asked of the families or funeral homes – all expenses for the liturgy and the burial will be covered by the charity of our St. Vincent de Paul Society. Parishioners and friends of both our parishes are invited to participate in the funeral liturgy when a date is finally selected. If you would like to assist in this very special corporal work of mercy, please speak to Fr. Petro. The SH SVDP is also seeking monetary donations to assist with the purchase of tombstones. Please place your donation in an envelope marked “SVDP Funeral” and either mail it to the SH parish office or drop it in the collection basket. To date, \$100 has been raised to help with the purchase of tombstones. Sometimes families do not take an interest in the passing of their members. Other times, people die without family and friends. Resources may be lacking in giving them a proper burial, especially when they have been cremated. Cremated remains of people are left unclaimed from time-to-time, and funeral homes may bear the responsibility of storing the urn for a long period. It is sad that not all are remembered and given a proper burial.

An American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held in SH hall on Thurs., May 7, 12:30 – 5:00pm. Those who donate will receive a \$20 Amazon gift card via email. Go to www.redcrossblood.org to schedule an appointment.

SAVE THE DATE! Join us for the celebration of the parish feast day of Queen of the Apostles Parish on Sunday, August 23, at the picnic pavilion in Moosic! An outdoor rosary will be prayed at 12:30 p.m., followed by a potluck picnic lunch in the pavilion. This is an event open to parishioners from both our parishes and is sponsored by the SM Altar & Rosary Society.

The **Mother’s Day envelope** is in your offertory pack. You may record your special intentions and memorials on these envelopes and drop them in the collection basket. They will be placed on the BVM side altars of our churches throughout the month of May.

Children from our parishes will receive Our Lord in Holy Communion for the first time on Sunday, May 3, at 8am (SM) and 10:30 am (SH). “May Crowning” of a statue of the Blessed Mother will be celebrated on Sunday, May 10, at 8am (SM) and 10:30 am (SH) by our First Communion children. Friends and family of our children are invited to attend these Masses and pray for them as they receive this sacrament of initiation. *A plenary indulgence* is granted the Christian faithful when they receive their first Communion and when they devoutly assist at a first Communion ceremony.

Tickets for SH Confraternity of Christian Mothers’ Spring Raffle have been mailed to all parish households. Please purchase the tickets and return them to the Parish Office by May 3. 1st prize \$500, 2nd \$250, 3rd \$150 and 4th \$100. The drawing will take place on Monday, May 4, at the CCM Mother’s Day Dinner.

Sacred Heart will be hold its annual Polish Picnic on Saturday, June 27, from 1 to 8pm. This year's chairmen are Mary Griffin, Charyl Nagy and Joe Petro. Please volunteer by contacting Charyl Nagy: 540-5478 (please text during the day and provide your name or call after 5pm). The next meeting will be Tues., May 5, at 6 p.m.

Instant Lottery Ticket donations sought for the SH Picnic: please donate new instant lottery scratch off tickets for the lottery game. Kindly deposit them in the collection basket. **Liquor donations** are sought for the wheelbarrow of cheer. Please drop off donations in the marked bin in the narthex.

The **Regina Coeli** ("Queen of Heaven") hymn is sung as a post communion meditation hymn at Sunday Masses during Easter in both our parishes. You are invited to learn this simple Latin hymn and join the cantor in singing it during the purification rite.

Sanctuary candle offerings for the Tabernacle, St. Joseph, the Blessed Mother, St. Francis and St. Therese are available at SH as well as for the Blessed Mother and St. Joseph at SM for \$10. Please use the donor envelopes and registry book in the narthex. Payment for Sanctuary Candles should be submitted to the parish office via the collection basket or mail in a marked envelope with the name of the donor as well as the intention and date requested.

First Saturday is May 2. 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, May 2, from 2:45 to 3:45 pm in SH church. All are invited to pray in preparation for the 4 pm Mass.

Congratulations to Christopher Navarro and Megan Price who celebrated the sacrament of holy matrimony on April 18 in St. Mary Church. May God bless them in their vocation of marriage.

2026 Wedding Anniversary Mass for couples celebrating their 10th, 25th, 40th or 50th wedding anniversaries will be celebrated by the bishop at St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, on Sunday, June 28, at 2:30 p.m. A reception will follow at the Diocesan Pastoral Center. Register online at www.dioceseofscranton.org or call Bridget Maille at 570-207-2213 ext. 1113 by June 7 to participate.

Sacramental Sponsors: All parishes require certificates of sponsorship for baptism godparents and confirmation sponsors. If you are asked to be a sponsor for Confirmation or a godparent for a Baptism, you must: be a registered, participating member of Sacred Heart, have received all Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, First Eucharist and Confirmation), if married, be married in the Catholic Church and providing for the religious education of your own children (if applicable). If you have a question about your eligibility or need a sponsor form, you may contact the parish office.

New altar servers are needed: Are you a young person who attends Mass every Sunday and Holy Day in our parishes? Are you interested in growing in the Church's spiritual and liturgical life? Why not become an acolyte (altar server)? Fr. Petro needs new acolytes to serve Mass. Please contact either Parish Office or Fr. Petro if you are interested in learning how to serve. *Training will be held in June after First Holy Communion.*

NOTICE: Dumping refuse or fill of any sort at our parish cemeteries 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 you should see someone violating these regulations, you 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.

The **annual Mother's Day Social** hosted by the SH Confraternity of Christian Mothers will be held on Monday, May 4 in SH church hall following their monthly meeting which begins at 5:30pm. Dinner is for members only and is free of charge. Reservations are required so that the proper amount of food can be ordered. Kindly deposit this form in the collection basket by April 26.

Name of member attending: _____

Monday (Apr. 20) Easter Weekday

7:30 am (SH) Alicia Sevec and family
by John Gerlak

Tuesday (Apr. 21) St. Anselm

9:00 am (SM) Thomas Lampman
by Tom & Dorothy Sheridan

Wednesday (Apr. 22) Easter Weekday

7:30 am (SH) Deceased of the Ceelia Bartosiewicz family
by Gene and Sharon Bartosiewicz

Thursday (Apr. 23) St. George

9:00 am (SM) Edward & Alice Kearney
by family

Friday (Apr. 24) St. Fidelis

7:30 am (SH) Joseph Pigga
By Patti and Tim Stonikinis

Saturday (Apr. 25) Vigil: 4th Sunday of Easter

4:00 pm (SH) Our Parishioners (*Missa pro populo*)
5:30pm (SM) Dennis Fitzgerald
by June Fitzgerald & family

Sunday (Apr. 26) Fourth Sunday of Easter

8:00 am (SM) Price & Navarro families
by Kay Price
10:30 am (SH) Edward Vogue, Jr.
by wife Joan, and sons, Edward and Gary

WEEKLY OFFERING

Last Sunday: (SH) \$5,170.57 (SM) \$3,938.30

Building Fund: (SH) \$421.00

Rice Bowl: (SH) \$486.80 (SM) \$709.33

Holy Thursday: (SH) \$827.00 (SM) \$996.00

Collection for the Holy Land: (SH) \$942.00 (SM) \$438.00

Easter: (SH) \$6,555.20 (SM) \$5,043.00

Care & Education of Priests: (SH) \$352.00 (SM) \$275.00

May the Lord reward your generosity.

The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of:

Tabernacle (SH): Edward Vogue, Jr., by wife, Joan, and sons, Edward and Gary

Blessed Mother (SH): Kirsta Vogue, by grandmother, Joan Vogue

St. Joseph (SH): intentions of Joseph Pistack, by family

St. Therese (SH): in gratitude for answered prayers, by Ashley and Eric Petrini

St. Francis (SH): Francisco Peters, by Beverly and Loryn Peters

Blessed Mother (SM): Special Intention, by Mr. & Mrs. Donald Hudzinski Sr.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Apr. 27, 6pm, Pastoral/Finance Council meeting, SH hall
- Apr. 29, 5pm, 1st Communion Practice & confessions, SM church
- Apr. 30, 6:30pm, SH/SM Choir practice, SH choir loft
- May 1, 7:30 am, 1st Friday Mass and devotions, SH church
- May 2, 1:30pm, 1st Communion Practice & confessions, SH church
- May 2, 2:45-3:45pm, 1st Saturday Adoration/devotions, SH church
- May 3, 5:30pm, CCM meeting and Mother's Day social, SH hall
- May 5, 6pm, Picnic meeting, SH hall
- May 6, 7pm, HNS meeting, SH hall

Liturgical Volunteer Schedule

<i>April 18-19</i>
4pm: EM: C. Wesley, L: A. Devlin, Acolyte: JJ Galvin, C. Purdy
5:30pm: EM: C. Wood, L: T. Kaplavka, Acolyte: T. Roxby
8am: EM: M. Phillips, L: P. Bartnicki, Acolyte: M. Phillips
10:30am: EM: B. Jones, L: M. Ferretti, Acolyte: C., E. & J. Toalongo
<i>April 25-26</i>
4pm: EM: B. Jones, L: J. Klenner, Acolyte: M. Phillips
5:30pm: EM: C. Trzcinski, L: R. Wright, Acolyte: Collins family
8am: EM: A. Jake, L: J. Susko, Acolyte: K. Brogan
10:30am: EM: M. Moletsky, L: T. Satkowski, Acolyte: C., E. & J. Toalongo

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Knights of Columbus, Swoyersville, is sponsoring a bus trip pilgrimage to the National Centre for Padre Pio in Barto, PA, on Saturday, May 9. Cost is \$65 per person, includes bus fare, lunch at the Center, beverages and snacks on the bus. The bus will depart Swoyersville at 7:30am and return at 6pm. For more information, call Mark Perugino at 570-262-2896.

We are happy to welcome to Queen of the Apostles Parish Charles Lyons and Nicole Bentham from Avoca and Emil Ishley from Pittston. A warm welcome to you!