



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

✠ **Fourth Sunday of Easter** ♦ **April 26, 2026** ✠

Praised be Jesus Christ! Now and forever. Amen.

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.

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.

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

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: _____

Come celebrate the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in the church dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus on Friday, June 12, here in Dupont! The Diocesan Celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the USA will take place here in Dupont on that day. Every parishioner is encouraged to make a special effort to celebrate our parish’s patronal feastday in some way. Our feastday schedule is as follows: 7:30 a.m. Mass, followed by Eucharistic Exposition and First Friday devotional prayers. Eucharistic Adoration from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (a sign-up sheet for adorers will be in the narthex) concluding with Benediction. Devotional prayers led by Bishop Bambara consecrating our diocese and country to the Sacred Heart of Jesus will be recited at the Mass. Following the Mass, at approximately 6:30 p.m., a potluck social will be enjoyed by all under a tent in our picnic grove. Those attending are asked to bring a covered dish or some type of food for everyone to share (a food sign-up sheet will be in the narthex). Our Confraternity of Christian Mothers will decorate the grounds and organize the event, and our Holy Name Society will provide the beverages. A buffet will be arranged for the food that you bring, and everyone can sample the various foods and enjoy a nice evening of fellowship, family, faith and music – free of charge. Let’s gather as a parish family to pray and share a meal together with our Bishop and guests from throughout the diocese!

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, \$365 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.

63rd World Day of Prayer for Vocations is celebrated April 26, 2026. Peter preached to the crowd on Pentecost, exhorting them to be baptized and receive the Holy Spirit. When Peter addressed the crowd, “they were cut to the heart.” Sometimes the Holy Spirit speaks in a moment of clarity deep in our spirit. Many men who have been called to the priesthood have had this experience — during Mass, on a retreat, or at a youth event. The question is, how do you respond? Will you be like those in the crowd that day, who responded wholeheartedly to the call? Please pray for holy vocations to the priesthood.

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. A *plenary indulgence* is granted the Christian faithful when they receive their first Communion and when they devoutly assist at a first Communion.

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 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.

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 Mercatilli-Segilia 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.

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.

Quo Vadis Days: High school men (rising sophomores through graduating seniors) are invited to join the Diocesan Vocations Office for the 11th annual Quo Vadis Days, June 29 – July 1, 2026 at Marywood University. Quo Vadis is a 3-day summer camp for high school men that is designed to teach them about vocations and enrich their faith through prayer, fellowship, speakers, and activities. Participants will have the opportunity to connect with other faithful young men in the Diocese of Scranton through games, sports, music, and small group discussion. Talks will be given on priesthood, marriage and dating, prayer, and more. Participants will also have a chance to get to know our diocesan priests and seminarians. Participants will also have a chance to meet and celebrate Mass with Bishop Bambera. Those interested in participating must have a recommendation from their Pastor. The cost is \$100. Deadline to register is June 11. For details, or if cost is a hindrance, email vocations@dioceseofscranton.org or call (570) 207-1452.

Fiat Days: High school women (rising sophomores through graduating seniors) are invited to join the Diocesan Vocations Office for the 3rd annual Fiat Days, June 29 – July 1, 2026 at Marywood University. Fiat is a 3-day summer camp for high school women that is designed to teach them about vocations and enrich their faith through prayer, fellowship, speakers, and activities. Participants will have the opportunity to connect with other faithful young women in the Diocese of Scranton through games, art, sports, music, prayer, small group discussion, and more. Throughout the camp, these young women will connect with religious sisters from various orders serving in the Diocese of Scranton, hear discernment stories from both religious life and marriage, and chat one-on-one with a sister if they wish. Participants will also have a chance to meet and celebrate Mass with Bishop Bambera. Those interested in participating must have a recommendation from their Pastor. The cost is \$100. Deadline to register is June 11. For details, or if cost is a hindrance, email vocations@dioceseofscranton.org or call (570) 207-1452.

Monday (Apr. 27) Easter Weekday

7:30 am (SH) Intentions of Betty Belles
by Betty

Tuesday (Apr. 28) St. Louis de Monfort

9:00 am (SM) Eugene George
by Brenda & Mike Busch

Wednesday (Apr. 29) St. Catherine of Siena

7:30 am (SH) Richard Sito
by wife, Barbara

Thursday (Apr. 30) St. Pius V

9:00 am (SM) Price & Lawler families
by Kay Price

Friday (May 1) St. Joseph the Worker (First Friday)

7:30 am (SH) Caroline and Frank Kolankiewicz
by family

Saturday (May 2) Vigil: 5th Sunday of Easter

4:00 pm (SH) Ann Tetlak
by children, John, Ronald, and Judith
5:30pm (SM) Lorraine Borthwick
by Valerie & John Pierson

Sunday (May 3) Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:00 am (SM) Our Parishioners (*Missa pro populo*)
10:30 am (SH) Marie Poplawski
by Susan and John Baker

WEEKLY OFFERING
Last Sunday: (SH) \$3,769.39 (SM) \$ 2,341.00
Building Fund: (SH) \$117.00
May the Lord reward your generosity.

The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of:
Tabernacle (SH): intentions of the 2026 Sacred Heart Confirmation class, by Tina Petcaugh
Blessed Mother (SH): Marie Balent, by sister, Eleanor
St. Joseph (SH): Chester Gall, by Linda
St. Therese (SH): Cassie Lopata, by Robert Lopata
St. Francis (SH): Daniel Skrzysowski, by godmother, Beverly
Blessed Mother (SM): Barbara Pearce, by family
St. Joseph (SM): Peter Jadus, by family

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The altar flowers (SM) this weekend are donated in memory of Dennis Fitzgerald, by June Fitzgerald & family.

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 4, 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 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
<i>May 2-3</i>
4pm: EM: B. Jones, L: H. Vogue, Acolyte: C. Purdy
5:30pm: EM: P. Krisiewicz, L: J. Klenner, Acolyte: M. Phillips
8am: EM: N. Adomiak, L: L. Orr, Acolyte: T. Gilchrist, G. Orr
10:30am: EM: M. Moletsky, L: L. Rupprecht, Acolyte: A., J., & N. Rupprecht

Requiescat in pace: please pray for the peaceful repose of the soul of Alice Kuchinski who was recently buried from SH church.

The Wyoming Vally Pennsylvanians for Human Life have on their wish list: diapers size 5-6, baby wipes, bibs, and socks sizes 12-36 months. Those wishing to donate can call them, 570-826-1819.

Avoca Fire Department is sponsoring "Touch a Truck" event on Saturday, May 9, from 10 am to 2:30 pm. at 824 McAlpine St, Avoca. Admission is \$5.00.

8th Annual Catholic Women's Conference at Marywood University: COURAGEOUS FAITH. To be held Friday, June 5 and Saturday, June 6, 2026, at Nazareth Hall, 2300 Adams Ave., Scranton, PA 18509. For Conference information, call 570-430-2735 or visit <https://www.cwnepa.com/>