



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 and Wednesday,
8:30 AM to 2:30 PM; Friday, 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM



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

✠ **Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time** ♦ **July 26, 2026** ✠

Praised be Jesus Christ! Now and forever. Amen.

The Genesis Mission: Taking the Next Step in Faith - Are you looking to deepen your relationship with Jesus and learn how to share your faith naturally in everyday life? Supported by a recent diocesan ministry grant, our parish is launching new Genesis Mission small groups this Fall! This 7-week journey is open to all parishioners, with a special invitation to our recent OCIA participants as they continue their faith journey. Groups are forming now! To register, contact Regina Wright at (570) 207-2213 x 1135.

Vacation Bible School, that is hosted each year by the parishes of Avoca, Dupont, Duryea and Old Forge, was scheduled to take place July 27-31 at Holy Rosary School, Duryea. However, we have been recently informed that due to “schedule conflicts,” Vacation Bible School has been cancelled for this year. We apologize for the confusion and inconvenience.

A special second collection will be taken at the Masses next weekend in Avoca to collect money to pay the Pittston Area School District property taxes levied against Queen of the Apostles Parish. The amount of the tax bill is \$486.65. Please be as generous as your means allow.

We are pleased to offer the 2027 Workbook for Lectors to all Lectors from both parishes. This helpful resource is excellent for preparing your weekly readings. If you would like to receive a copy, please contact Kathy Hudzinski at the Queen of the Apostles Parish Office no later than Friday, July 31 to place your request.

Theme basket donations are now being sought for our AVOCA IRISH NIGHT. Irish themed baskets, pet supplies, entertainment, lottery trees, cooking and baking, seasonal, backyard and garden, tools, car care, summertime fun, toys...the theme possibilities are endless! A minimum value of \$35 per basket is requested. All items must be unused. Please bring them to the church narthex from now until the Irish Night.

We are seeking sponsorship donations from local vendors and others for our Avoca Irish Night. Each Sponsor contributes \$250 or each Donor contributes \$100 more. All Sponsors and Donors will be listed on signs that will be displayed on each table as well as published in the bulletin. Anyone wishing to sponsor our Irish Night is asked to submit their donation (any amount) to the parish office by August 21, 2026.

~ **2026 Avoca Irish Night Sponsors~**

Domiano Appliance Repair
State Representative Jim Haddock
Friendly Sons of St. Patrick

~ **2026 Avoca Irish Night Donors ~**

Thomas P. Kearney Funeral Home, Inc
Kniffen O'Malley Leffler Funeral & Cremation Services, Inc

2026 AVOCA IRISH NIGHT DONATION FORM

Business or personal name as you wish it to appear:

Address: _____

Telephone number: _____

Email: _____

Please make your check payable to Queen of the Apostles Parish.

Queen of the Apostles Parish at St. Mary's Church will host an IRISH NIGHT at 6 p.m. on Saturday, August 29, in the Parish Hall. Enjoy an evening of authentic Irish cuisine prepared by Chef Eugene Philbin, featuring traditional favorites, homemade desserts, and soft drinks. Guests are welcome to bring their own alcoholic beverages. The night will also feature live music by The Quietmen, performing Irish and Celtic favorites, folk classics, and popular acoustic hits, along with a theme basket raffle, 50/50, and more. *Tickets are \$45 each or \$320 for a table of eight (a \$40 savings). To reserve your seat, call or text Jim McMahon at 570-881-5068 or register online at <https://tinyurl.com/StMarysIrishNight>. Reservations are due by Aug. 17.*

A note of introduction from The Quietmen:

In the iconic film The Quiet Man, John Wayne returns to his roots in Ireland. In much the same way, The Quietmen return again and again to their musical home: traditional and contemporary acoustic and Irish music.

Our shows combine the best of Irish and Celtic music, old-time folk tunes, and popular acoustic songs from the '50s and '60s, right up to the hits of today.

The Quietmen's earliest musical influences include The Irish Rovers; The Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem; and The Dubliners. The list has grown over the years to include Great Big Sea, The Saw Doctors, Christy Moore, The Pogues, Jimmy Buffett, The Eagles, Simon & Garfunkel; Crosby, Stills & Nash; The Monkees, Guy Clark, and many, many more.

Getting their start in Scranton, Pennsylvania, family members Jamie, Paddy, and Danny Ratchford, and Molly Malone have been playing at festivals and fairs, parties and pubs for 25 years. The Quietmen include (but are not limited to): Jamie Ratchford on guitar, vocals, harmonica, and kazoo; Paddy Ratchford on vocals, keyboards, and bodhran (the Irish hand drum); Danny Ratchford on mandolin, banjo, guitar, ukulele, and vocals; Molly “Quietgirl” Malone on Irish tin whistle.

Even though they are scattered from the New Jersey Shore, the Poconos, and Northeastern Pennsylvania, the band family still enjoy getting together to share their musical vision.

The Quietmen love to play the great songs that people remember. Come out, sing along, and join the Quietmania!

quietmenmusic.com, on Twitter/X @quietmen, The Quietmen on Facebook, Quietmen Music on YouTube

Tickets are \$45 each or \$320 for a table of eight (a \$40 savings). To reserve your seat, call or text Jim McMahon at 570-881-5068; register online at <https://tinyurl.com/StMarysIrishNight>; or clip out the form and put it with the payment (cash or check) in an envelope and place it in the collection basket, or mail or drop it off at the Parish Office. Reservations are due by Aug. 17.

✂-----✂ 2026 AVOCA IRISH NIGHT RESERVATION FORM

Name: _____

Telephone number: _____

of reservations \$45 each _____ Amt. enclosed _____
or

of tables of 8 @ \$320 /table _____ Amt. enclosed _____

Please make your check payable to Queen of the Apostles Parish.

Please remember our Parish Poor Box located in the narthex of St. Mary’s Church. Your donations serve our local community through our St. Vincent de Paul Society.

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.

The books for 2027 Mass intentions for our parishes will open in the Parish Offices on Monday, August 17, 2026, at 8:30 a.m. In the interest of fairness, please do not make any earlier requests. You may visit the parish office, use the Mass intention envelopes found in the narthex, or use the postal system to make your 2027 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 Mass intention is \$10. The parish secretary will record the requests.

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. Those attending are asked to bring a covered dish or some type of food to share. *A food sign-up sheet is near the entrance of SM church.*

SAVE THE DATE! Join us for the annual Blue Mass on Friday, September 11, at 7:00 PM at St. Mary’s Church in Avoca. This special liturgy is celebrated each year to honor and pray for our law enforcement officers, firefighters, paramedics, and all first responders. The event is open to parishioners from both of our parishes, as well as all members of the wider community.

SAVE THE DATE! An appreciation dinner for those volunteers who worked at this years’ SH Polish Picnic will be held Saturday, September 12 in the church hall. Details to follow.

Queen of the Apostles Parish Hall is available for hosting funeral repasts, weddings, baptisms, or community functions. If you are considering hosting an event or would like to learn more about our rental offerings, please contact John Labrosky, Queen of the Apostles Parish Hall Manager at 881-3959 (cell) or johnlabrosky@gmail.com

ONLINE GIVING: To set up your account, log on to our parish website and then click on the “online giving” tab. This will bring you to the online giving site. By following the easy online instructions, you can have your account set up in no time. Contact the parish office if you have questions.

The PA Pro-Life Federation will hold its annual Celebrate Life Banquet at 6:30 PM on Thursday, September 17, at the Hershey Lodge, 325 University Drive, Hershey, PA. The evening’s feature keynote speaker is Clay Travis, author and radio talk show host. Register at www.paprolife.org/banquest or call 717-541-0034.

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.*

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.

Neighborhood Crime Watch is sponsoring a community event to celebrate the 250th anniversary of America on July 25, 2026 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Dupont Community Park on Elm and Walnut Street in Dupont and at the Park on Hemlock Street in Dupont.

A missionary priest will visit our parishes August 8/9 to make the annual missions appeal. More details will be forthcoming.

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.

✚ MASS INTENTIONS ✚

Monday (July 27) Weekday

7:30 am (SH) Charlotte Barnak
by Joseph and Peggy Turkos

Tuesday (July 28) Weekday

9:00 am (SM) Edward Boyanoski
by daughter, Janet Martin

Wednesday (July 29) Sts. Martha, Mary and Lazarus

7:30 am (SH) Jacob & Julia Majdecki and sons Joseph & Thomas
by goddaughter, Ann Francis

Thursday (July 30) St. Peter Chrysologus

9:00 am (SM) Marie Barnett
by Cheryl Donnelly

Friday (July 31) St. Ignatius of Loyola

7:30 am (SH) Gilbert Antal
by Patricia & Joseph Budzilek

Saturday (August 1) Vigil: 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm (SH) Marion Babiarz
by daughter Valerie, Sherwood & Gregory
5:30pm (SM) Katherine & Francis Flynn
by Kay Price

Sunday (August 2) Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am (SM) Marty Japmiolowski
by Tina Petcaugh & Scott Hilenski
10:30 am (SH) Our Parishioners (*Missa pro populo*)

WEEKLY OFFERING
Last Sunday: (SH) \$3,970.24 (SM) \$ 3,080.00
Building Fund: (SH) \$221.00
May the Lord reward your generosity.

The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of
Tabernacle (SH): *Thomas Coolbaugh, by his family*
Blessed Mother (SH): *Krisa Vogue, by Grandma Vogue*
St. Joseph (SH): *Ken Francis, Sr., by son Ken, Jr.*
St. Therese (SH): *Krista Vogue, by Aunt Marlene Bryk*
Blessed Mother (SM): *Barbara Pearce, by her family*
St. Joseph (SM): *Peter Jadus, by his family*

❖
The offertory gifts (SM) of bread & wine this Sunday are donated
in memory of Alice Kearney, by Marilyn Redington

UPCOMING EVENTS
July 27, 6pm, Avoca Irish Night planning meeting, SM parish hall
Aug. 23, 12:30pm, Outdoor rosary & picnic, pavilion in Moosic
Aug. 29, 6pm, Avoca Irish Night, SM parish hall

Liturgical Volunteer Schedule
<i>July 25-26</i>
4pm: EM: M. Moletsky, L: J. Roche, Acolyte: C. Purdy
5:30pm: EM: P. Krisiewicz, L: T. Kaplavka, Acolyte: T. Roxby
8am: EM: N. Adomiak, L: M. Phillips, Acolyte: T. Gilchrist
10:30am: EM: B. Jones, L: T. Satkowski, Acolyte: A., JJ & N. Rupprecht
<i>Aug 1-2</i>
4pm: EM: C. Wesley, L: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolyte: M. Hudzinski
5:30pm: EM: C. Wood, L: R. Wright, Acolyte: JJ Galvin
8am: EM: Marc Phillips, L: Kay Price, Acolyte: Marc Phillips
10:30am: EM: D. Suchecki, L: G. Beccaloni, Acolyte: C. & T. Papiercavich

ASSUMPTION HARVEST BLESSING: On Saturday, August 15, the 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 9 a.m. Mass on Aug. 15 at Sacred Heart Church. 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. *Please note: since it falls on a Saturday, the Assumption is not a holy day of obligation this year.*

Men’s Conference: “Just be Catholic,” Saturday, October 10 at Holy Redeemer High School, Wilkes-Barre from 7:30 AM to 3 PM. Cost is \$30. Call Mike at 570-721-0872 to register.

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

