



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

✱ Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time ♦ September 13, 2026 ✱

Praised be Jesus Christ! Now and forever. Amen.

CCD Registration for both our parishes began August 15. CCD registration forms will be available in the narthex of both our churches as well as on the websites of our parishes. 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 churches). *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.* Please contact either DRE with questions: Nancy Beccaloni (SH) at sacredheartccd@comcast.net or Deborah Yuschovitz (SM) at 457-1284. Catechetical Sunday will be celebrated at SH on September 20, at the 10:30 am Mass. Our first day of CCD is Sunday, September 27.

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is celebrated on Monday, September 14. During the 7:30 am Mass (SH) a relic of the True Cross will be exposed for public veneration. Also, devotional materials promoting the Rosary of Our Lady of Sorrows will be blessed and freely distributed.

Catechetical Sunday is celebrated by the Church this year on September 20. The 2026 Catechetical Sunday theme is *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me ... to bring Good News to the poor"* (Lk 4:18). 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 CCM will meet on Monday, September 14, at 6 p.m. in SH Hall. All women from Sacred Heart of Jesus Church are invited. Come pray, plan fund-raisers and support charitable events. We will hold nominations for officers. *New and current members are strongly encouraged to attend this important meeting.*

Our parish choirs and cantors 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 881-9991 or by email at TPianoman321@gmail.com if you are interested.

The Church celebrates the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi on Sunday, Oct. 4. Fr. Petro will administer a special blessing to all pets on Sunday, Oct. 4, at 9:00 a.m. in Avoca in the parking lot behind the church 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. Pet treats will be gifted to cats and dogs at both blessings.

St. Mary Rectory Property Tax Status was recently updated by Luzerne County following our appeal hearing this past August. The Luzerne County Tax Board of Assessment Appeals has changed the tax status from taxable to tax-exempt. We are incredibly grateful for this positive outcome.

New parishioners: Please welcome to SH parish the Valdwyn and Leyddy Rosario family of Dupont.

The 2026-27 Catholic Ministries Appeal has begun. Commitment cards for the Appeal have been mailed and will be in the pews this weekend. Parishioners are asked to consider what they can contribute to the Appeal. The Catholic Ministries Appeal benefits thousands of people throughout our diocese and beyond through good works funded by the Appeal. As parish support is critical to the success of the Appeal, our participation is key. Gifts of all sizes are welcome. Thank you to those who have provided their generous financial support for this year's Appeal so far.

SH Goal: \$33,302.00 - Total Committed: \$5,210.00

SM Goal: \$35,115.00 - Total Committed: \$3,698.00

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who made our Avoca Irish Night so very successful. We are most grateful to our sponsors, donors, volunteers and patrons. An Income & Expense statement will be published in the bulletin.

The Chaplet of Our Lady of Sorrows will be prayed in St. Mary's Church on Tuesday, Sept. 15, the feast day of Our Lady of Sorrows at 6:15 p.m. All are encouraged to pray for the needs of their families.

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 Blue Mass and Social was well attended. We thank our SM Parish for hosting the events on the 25th anniversary of 911. Thank you to everyone who helped make this annual tradition a great success. Please continue to keep our local First Responders in your daily prayers.

The next meeting of our combined Pastoral and Finance Councils will be on Monday, September 21 at 6 p.m. in SH church hall. All members are required to attend this very important meeting.

Children and Student Envelopes: If you would like your child to receive a boxed set of donation envelopes for 2027, please contact the parish office. Envelopes will be available in the narthex during the month of December for those who have requested them.

May we keep our Holy Father in prayer as he turns 71 years old on Monday, 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."

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.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society: this parish account is used solely to support the charitable work of our parishes. 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.

The Fatima Rosary will be recited on September 13 and October 13 at the outdoor Blessed Mother statue on the rear rectory side of Sacred Heart Church.

Due to several items recently dumped illegally at St. Mary’s Cemetery, it has been decided to strictly prohibit further discarding or dumping any unauthorized materials on the cemetery grounds. We appreciate your cooperation in keeping our sacred grounds clean, respectful, and beautiful for all families. Clean fill is no longer needed as well.

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. Groups are forming now! To register, contact Regina Wright at (570) 207-2213 x 1135.

Pennsylvania March for Life in Harrisburg will be September 21. The diocese is coordinating a bus trip to the March with stops in Scranton and Wilkes-Barre. The fee is \$20 and includes the bus trip, snacks, and a hat. To register, please visit dioceseofscranton.org or call Bridget Maille (570) 207-2213 ext. 1133.

30th Anniversary of the Wyoming Valley Knights of Columbus “Tomb of Unborn” — [Respect Life Sunday, October 4 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.

St. Peter’s Cathedral sponsor its 5th Cathedral Cash Bingo on Sunday, September 27, at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 330 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton. Doors open at 1 p.m. and the first game will be played at 2 p.m. Free parking is available on-street and the parking lot at the corner of Linden St. and Wyoming Ave. Handicap parking available will be available in the lot next to the Pastoral Center on Wyoming Ave. Purchase your tickets for \$25 by calling 570-344-7231 or online at www.stpeterscathedral.org. The event will also feature food, a theme basket raffle, and a 50/50 raffle.

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.

Franciscan Afternoon Retreat: Secular Franciscans of Order of Holy Dormition Fraternity on Sunday, October 4. 1PM to 4 PM at St. John Bosco Parish, 573 PA Route 93, Sugarloaf. Retreat Leader: Father Brian W.J. Clarke. Free and open to all. Reservations aren’t necessary but recommended. RSVP & Information: Phone: Joan Pesta at 570-926-0326 or Email at ofs.franciscan@gmail.com

Capuchin Sisters of Nazareth: A friendly Reminder that our Nazareth Group will meet on Saturday, September 26, from 11:00AM – 4:30PM. Join us as we reflect on the Holy Family and more beautiful aspects of our Faith. For more information or to RSVP by September 24, please call Sister Angela in Tunkhannock at [570-836-2737](tel:570-836-2737) or Sister Clare in Williamsport at [570-745-3334](tel:570-745-3334).

Our churches are not currently conducting food or toy drives. Non-perishable food items and children’s toys have recently been left in the narthex of both of our churches. [Kindly refrain from doing so until further notice.](#) Food collections are only taken by our CCD children during Thanksgiving and Lent. The Christmas Giving Tree appears only in Advent at SM. Donations given outside of those timelines will not reach their intended destinations.

The Diocese of Scranton will host the annual Diocesan Youth Rally on Saturday, November 7 at Notre Dame Junior/Senior High School, East Stroudsburg. This event is for students in grades 7 through 12. The Rally will be from 11:45am-8pm, with check-in beginning at 11:00am. The theme for this year’s Youth Rally is *Do whatever He tells you*, taking its inspiration from John 2:5. The day will consist of prayer, music, Adoration, keynote speakers, Mass, and community. To sign up, please reach out to your parish Director of Religious Education [by October 16.](#)

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. The contributions received will help offset the utility bills and other expenses incurred from keeping the church open for twelve hours every Tuesday throughout the year. Parishioners may also safely deposit offertory envelopes in the wooden lockbox, if they wish.

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

Monday (September 14) The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
7:30 am (SH) Living & Deceased Clergy
by Tina Petcaugh

Tuesday (September 15) Our Lady of Sorrows
9:00 am (SM) Agnes McLaud
by Mr. & Mrs. Donald Hudzinski Sr.

Wednesday (September 16) Sts. Cornelius & Cyprian
7:30 am (SH) Theresa Petruska
by Thomas & Maria Elena Petro

Thursday (September 17) St. Robert Bellarmine
9:00 am (SM) Rodolfo, Roberto & Raul Caltenco
by Blanca Caltenco

Friday (September 18) Weekday
7:30 am (SH) Nicholas & Rosa Loncala
by granddaughter, Marian

Saturday (September 19) Vigil: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:00 pm (SH) Donna Bartosiewicz
by Bob Bartosiewicz

5:30pm (SM) Helen A. Bartnicki
by Joe & Pat Bartnicki

Sunday (September 20) 25th 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) \$4,221.44 (SM) \$ 2,960.00 Building Fund: (SH) \$405.00 <i>May the Lord reward your generosity.</i>
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The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of
[Tabernacle \(SH\): Emmanuel Ziobro, by family](#)
[Blessed Mother \(SH\): Paul Hilenski, by Tina Petcaugh](#)
[St. Joseph \(SH\): Nicholas & Rose Loncala, by Marian Wanielista](#)
[St. Therese \(SH\): Anthony Caltagirone, by family](#)
[Blessed Mother \(SM\): James Fela, by wife Janet & mother Roseann](#)



[The altar flowers \(SM\) for the Blue Mass are donated in memory of living and deceased veterans of Adomiak, Wood, Wright, Misorek & Trzcinski families, by Nancy Adomiak, Carol Wood, Regina Wright, Karen Misorek & Carol Trzcinski](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS Sept. 14, 6pm, CCM meeting, SH hall Sept. 17, SM/SH Choir practice, SH choir loft Sept. 20, 10:30am, Catechetical Sunday blessing of catechists Sept. 21, 6pm, SM/SH Pastoral & Finance Council Meeting, SH hall Sept. 24, SM/SH Choir practice, SH choir loft Sept. 27, First day of CCD: 9am (SM), 9:15am (SH)
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Liturgical Volunteer Schedule
<u>Sept 12-13</u>
4pm: EM: M. Moletsky, L: H. Vogue, Acolyte: Collins Family
5:30pm: EM: M. Phillips, L: T. Kaplavka, Acolyte: M. Phillips
8am: EM: N. Adomiak, L: L. Orr, Acolyte: G. Orr
10:30am: EM: D. Suchecki, L: G. Purdy, Acolyte: C. & T. Papiercavich
<u>Sept 19-20</u>
4pm: EM: C. Wesley, L: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolyte: M. Hudzinski
5:30pm: EM: C. Trzcinski, L: P. Bartnicki, Acolyte: T. Gilchrist
8am: EM: A. Jake, L: B. Jones, Acolyte: J. Dudzinski
10:30am: EM: D. Suchecki, L: G. Beccaloni, Acolyte: C. E. & J. Toalongo

An offering of \$3.00 per candle is requested for votive candles in St. Mary’s Church. You may deposit your offering in either of the two wooden collection boxes located on the walls near the candle racks. Your sacrificial offering expresses your sincerity and gratitude in making your private prayer intention before the images of the saints and the Blessed Mother located in the niches.

Faith and Family Night with the WB/S Penguins: Friday, Oct. 23, at the Mohegan Sun Arena. Join the Diocese of Scranton in cheering on the Penguins as they take on the Belleville Senators. Bring your family and friends as we come together as a diocesan family. Gates open at 6pm, puck drops at 7:00pm. To purchase tickets visit <https://www.gofevo.com/event/Diocesescranton5>

Drive Thru Chicken Dinner: St. Joseph’s Center, Sunday September 20th noon to 4 pm. Dinners are \$15.00 and can be ordered by going to our website www.stjosephscenter.org