



# 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 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](mailto:stmaryavoca@gmail.com)  
[www.stmaryavoca.com](http://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-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time ♦ September 27, 2026 ✠

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

**CCD classes have begun!** Registration forms are in the narthex and on our parish's websites. All school-aged children (both public and homeschoolers) who do not attend Catholic schools in grades 1 to 8 must attend CCD. Questions? Contact Deborah Yuschovitz (SM) at 457-1284 or Nancy Beccaloni (SH) at [sacredheartccd@comcast.net](mailto:sacredheartccd@comcast.net).

**Avoca Irish Night Report:** The gross profit for the Avoca Irish Night (i.e., before the bills are paid) amounted to \$10,415. The expenses totaled \$3,569.94. The net profit (after all the bills have been paid) amounted to \$6,845.06. We are most grateful to our sponsors, donors, volunteers and patrons for making the evening a great success.

**For the month of October,** our parishes along with parishes around the country conduct the "October count," a measure of attendance at Sunday Mass. The measure has been taken for many centuries, and in some European dioceses it is possible to measure the level of engagement in worship by the population over the course of many centuries. The October count has proven especially critical in the life of our Church as bishops use the figures to measure the vitality of parish life, to sketch parish boundaries, and even to decide when to close, merge, or form new parishes. The ushers are asked to count at all Masses.

**The Feast of St. Therese of Lisieux** is celebrated Thursday, Oct. 1. She was known as the "Little Flower" and died of tuberculosis in France at the age of 24. She was a Carmelite nun who, in her biography, *The Story of a Soul*, urged all to follow "the little way." Not only does SH parish possess a beautiful statue of her located in the sanctuary, but also has a first-class relic of St. Therese. *All the faithful will be blessed with her relic at the conclusion of the 9 am Mass on Thursday, Oct. 1.*

**"Cemetery Sunday" devotions** will take place this year on Sunday, Nov. 1, beginning at 1pm in SH church. We will begin with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the praying of the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary. The names of parishioners from both our parishes who died and were buried from our churches since last year's devotions will be read aloud. *You are invited to bring photos of your deceased loved ones and place them on the table in front of the St. Joseph side altar.* After Solemn Benediction and Reposition, a procession will form to SH cemetery while the faithful sing the Litany of the Saints. The faithful who cannot walk in the procession may drive to the cemetery. Father will then bless the cemetery and visitation of the graves by the faithful will follow. Traditional Polish, Latin and English hymns will be sung. Please join in praying for the peaceful repose of the souls of all the faithful departed.

**Two Masses will be celebrated on All Souls Day,** Monday, November 2, by Fr. Petro. The first at 7:30 am at Sacred Heart Cemetery Chapel, Dupont, and the second at 12:10 pm at SS. Peter and Paul Cemetery Chapel, Moosic. Following the noon Mass, the traditional *Order for Visiting a Cemetery* will be held at St. Mary's Cemetery in Avoca at 1:00 pm. All are invited to attend as we remember and pray for our faithful departed.

**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.

**Requiescat in pace:** please pray for the peaceful repose of the souls of Janet Donati and Theresa Janes who were recently buried from SM church.

**The Altar & Rosary Society** invites all women to their annual Harvest Fest on Sunday, October 11, at 2 pm in the QAP Parish Hall. The society is seeking hostesses to sponsor and decorate a themed table, invite 10-14 guests and provide a dessert for their specific table. Tickets to attend the event are \$10 per person and includes lunch. All proceeds directly fund the Marian Award scholarships, which support graduating seniors from QAP parish as they further their education. Anyone interested in sponsoring a table, or in need of more information, please contact Nancy Adomiak 954-0817, Carol Wood 947-5159, or Carol Trzcinski 650-7300.

**A Ziti Pasta Dinner** will be held in the SH Church Hall on Saturday, October 17, from 3 to 7 pm. The cost is \$12 per dinner, and includes ziti with red sauce, meatballs, bread and cake. Meals are takeout only. Tickets will be sold after weekend Masses or can be purchased by contacting any member of SH Holy Name Society.

**Cash Bingo in Avoca!** You are invited to attend a Cash Bingo Fundraiser on Sunday, October 18, in Queen of the Apostles Parish Hall. Doors open at 12 pm. Bingo begins at 1 p.m. *Admission is \$50 per person, which covers playing cards for all 20 regular games.* Participants must be 18 years of age or older to play. Cash prizes for each of the 20 regular games are set at \$100. *A special jackpot game card will be sold separately and features a grand cash prize of \$1,000.* A variety of food and non-alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase. Additionally, volunteers are needed to help work the event. For more information, to volunteer, or to purchase tickets, contact John Labrosky, 881-3959. Seating is limited. Reserve your seat early.

**The 2026-27 Catholic Ministries Appeal** has begun. Commitment cards for the Appeal have been mailed. 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: \$8,004.00

SM Goal: \$35,115.00 - Total Committed: \$6,268.00

**"The Month of the Rosary"** is October. Please join in praying the rosary prior to each Mass in our churches on weekdays and weekends throughout the month. Free rosaries are in the narthex.

**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.

**Prayer to your Guardian Angel: Angel sent by God to guide me, be my light and walk beside me; be my guardian and protect me; on the paths of life direct me.**

**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.

**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](mailto:TPianoman321@gmail.com) if you are interested.

**30<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Cub Scout Pack 316 and Scout Troop 316** will hold their annual popcorn sale after the masses in both churches on the weekend of October 3-4. The sale will include a variety of bagged and microwave popcorn as well as Trail’s End chocolate-covered pretzels, salted caramels, honey-roasted peanuts and beef jerky. The Scouts will also collect donations to send popcorn overseas for our military service members. All sales will assist the Scouts with community outings, summer camps, and purchasing necessary materials to operate the program throughout the year ensuring all children can participate. The Scouts are sponsored by Queen of the Apostles Parish.

**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. 1 PM 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](mailto:ofs.franciscan@gmail.com)

**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.

**The University of Scranton** will host two Open House events for prospective students and their families on Sunday, Oct. 25, and Sunday, Nov. 8. 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.

**Holy Cross High School,** Dunmore will hold a Craft Fair on Sunday, October 18 from 10 am to 4 pm. The event will feature over 50 vendors, homemade food, basket raffles, door prizes and more. All proceeds benefit student activities fund. Contact Krista Rossi 570-346-7541 for information.

**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.

**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.

**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 a new Genesis Mission group this Fall! To register or for more information, contact Regina Wright, 570-207-2213x 1135.

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

**Monday (September 28) St. Wenceslaus**  
7:30 am (SH) Adam Rafalko  
*by Sharon Mayerski*  
**Tuesday (September 29) Ss. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael**  
9:00 am (SM) Mildred & James McAndrew  
*by family*

**Wednesday (September 30) St. Jerome**  
7:30 am (SH) James Lopata  
*by Robert Lopata*

**Thursday (October 1) St. Therese of the Child Jesus**  
9:00 am (SM) Glenard, Margaret & William Houston  
*by Mary M. Houston*

**Friday (October 2) The Holy Guardian Angels (First Friday)**  
7:30 am (SH) Florence Babiarz  
*by Andrew Babiarz*

**Saturday (October 3) Vigil: 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
4:00 pm (SH) Joseph & Lillian Gromala & Donna Bartosiewicz  
*by Gene & Sharon Bartosiewicz*

5:30pm (SM) Rev. Eugene Carr  
*by Jim & Mary Alice McMahon*

**Sunday (October 4) 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
8:00 am (SM) Our Parishioners (*Missa pro populo*)  
10:30 am (SH)Deceased of the Anna & John Bartush, Sr. family  
*By Mary Ann & Barbara*

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| <p><b>WEEKLY OFFERING</b><br/><b>Last Sunday:</b> (SH) \$3,865.84 (SM) \$ 4,256.25<br/><b>Building Fund:</b> (SH) \$148.00 (SM) \$ 65.00<br/><i>May the Lord reward your generosity.</i></p> |
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*The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of*  
Blessed Mother (SH): *Matthew Swartz & family, by family*  
St. Joseph(SH): *Jimmy Lopata, by Bob Lopata*  
St Therese(SH): *in honor of St. Therese*  
Tabernacle (SM): *Paul & Anthony Gronski by Jeanetter Gronski*  
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The offertory gifts (SH): *of bread & wine this Sunday in memory of*  
*James Lopata, by Robert Lopata*  
The altar flowers (SM) *this weekend are donated in memory of*  
*Dennis Fitzgerald, by June Fitzgerald & family*

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| <p><b>UPCOMING EVENTS</b><br/>Sept. 27, First day of CCD: 9am (SM), 9:15am (SH)<br/>Oct. 1, 6:30pm, SM/SH Choir practice, SH choir loft<br/>Oct. 4, 9am, Pet Blessing, SM rectory backyard<br/>Oct. 4, 10am, Pet Blessing, SH picnic grove<br/>Oct. 7, 7pm. HNS meeting, SH hall<br/>Oct. 8, 6:30pm, SM/SH Choir practice, SH choir loft<br/>Oct. 11, 2pm, Harvest Festival, QAP Hall<br/>Oct. 17, 3-7pm, Ziti pasta dinner, SH Hall<br/>Oct. 18, 1pm, Bingo, QAP Hall</p> |
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| <p><b>Liturgical Volunteer Schedule</b></p>                                                          |
| <p><b><i>Sept 26-27</i></b></p>                                                                      |
| <p><b>4pm:</b> EM: M. Moletsky, L: J. Klenner, Acolyte: Collins family</p>                           |
| <p><b>5:30pm:</b> EM: P. Krisiewicz, L: J. McMahon, Acolyte: T. Roxby</p>                            |
| <p><b>8am:</b> EM: N. Adomiak, L: J. Susko, Acolyte: T. Gilchrist</p>                                |
| <p><b>10:30am:</b> EM: B. Jones, L: M. Ferretti, Acolyte: G. Donahue, A., J., &amp; N. Rupprecht</p> |
| <p><b><i>Oct 3-4</i></b></p>                                                                         |
| <p><b>4pm:</b> EM: B. Jones, L: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolyte: C. Purdy</p>                               |
| <p><b>5:30pm:</b> EM: P. Krisiewicz, L: R. Lee, Acolyte: T. Roxby</p>                                |
| <p><b>8am:</b> EM: A. Jake, L: J. Susko, Acolyte: T. Gilchrist</p>                                   |
| <p><b>10:30am:</b> EM: D. Suchecki, L: G. Beccaloni, Acolyte: C., E., J. Toalongo</p>                |

**Liturgical volunteer schedules** for October 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.*

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

**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.