



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

✠ **Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time** ♦ **October 25, 2026** ✠

Praised be Jesus Christ! Now and forever. Amen.

Dupont Advent Pierogi: if anyone is interested in organizing the making of pierogi for the Advent Pierogi sale, please notify the SH Parish Office or Father Petro. This has customarily been a popular and profitable fundraiser. Without volunteer leadership and interest, it cannot continue.

Lighting problem in St. Mary's Church: the electrical connection to the lights above the tabernacle is the sanctuary has recently stopped working. The darkness is not intentional. If anyone can offer a suggestion or assistance with this problem, please contact the SM Parish Office or Father Petro.

The Confraternity of Christian Mothers at SH church are currently not meeting. Some of the CCM officers are not able to continue serving and nobody has come forward to assume leadership. If anyone is interested in continuing this women's group at SH Church, please contact the SH Parish Office or Father Petro.

Our sexton, Jerry Stefanowicz, has been on sick leave since August. Please continue to pray for him during this time of illness. Our parishes are in need of someone to help with maintenance work until such time as Jerry makes a full recovery and can return to work. If anyone is interested in this part-time employment, please contact either of our Parish Offices or Father Petro.

Please pray for the priests of the Scranton Diocese who will be gathered at their annual convocation this week with the bishop.

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 considering entering the Church, please contact Fr. Petro for more information. Our upcoming OCIA sessions will begin soon.

"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.

The All Souls Day offertory envelope is in your envelope pack. November is the month when we especially remember in our prayers the faithful departed. Kindly inscribe the names of your deceased loved ones on the envelope and return it in the collection basket. These envelopes will be placed on the altars, and your intentions will be remembered in the masses celebrated throughout November.

All parishioners with families buried at our three cemeteries are requested to clean their graves prior to November 1.

An indulgence is granted the Christian faithful who devoutly visit a cemetery and pray, if only mentally, for the dead. This indulgence is applicable only to the souls in Purgatory. This indulgence is a *plenary* one from November 1 through November 8 and can be gained each one of these days. On other days of the year this indulgence is a partial one.

Free 2026 liturgical calendars will be available next weekend. These calendars, printed by the Catholic Church Extension Society, benefit the Church's missionary efforts in the United States. They have been generously donated to Sacred Heart of Jesus Church by the Lokuta-Zawacki Funeral Home, Dupont and to St. Mary's Church by Kiesinger Funeral Home, Duryea. These beautiful calendars feature each month Catholic artistic images. They list all solemnities, feasts and memorials of the liturgical calendar as well as the color of the vestments worn each day, the days of fast and abstinence, and the holy days of obligation. Every Catholic household should have one!

We are happy to welcome to Queen of the Apostles parish Steven & Norina Dickhoner, Pittston. A warm welcome to you!

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 ushers are asked to count at all Masses.

St. Jude Thaddeus is the patron saint of lost causes. He was one of the Twelve Apostles and a cousin of Our Lord. He also authored the New Testament epistle that bears his name. Faithful people have turned to him as a powerful intercessor since the earliest days of the Church. We will continue this tradition of prayer in our parishes and ask St. Jude's intercession for our many needs. The Novena to St. Jude concludes on Tuesday, Oct. 27.

The members of Order of Alhambra, local caravan Alhambra #4 will attend the 10:30 am Mass on November 1 for their deceased members. The Order of Alhambra is dedicated to assisting those with intellectual disabilities and is recruiting new members. Please contact GC Donna Magni at 570-357-0507 for more information or see a member after mass.

An Adult Theology Series continues in the SH church hall. at 6:30 pm. Presented by Bill Jones, a former Lutheran pastor and Catholic convert, these presentations will explore areas of our faith. The series will conclude on Thursday, Nov. 19 at 6:30 pm with a presentation entitled *An Adult Christ at Christmas*. Parishioners from both our parishes as well as members of the general public are invited to attend these inspiring evenings.

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.

Save the Date! A combined parish Flea Market will take place on the weekend of May 22-23, 2027, in SH church hall. As you do your fall cleaning, we ask that you hold onto gently used items you no longer want or need until we begin accepting donations on April 12, 2027. Items that will be accepted include household goods, toys, holiday decorations, and more. Please note that electronics or clothing will not be accepted. *All proceeds from this event will directly benefit both of our parish communities, so please save the date and help support this joint effort.*

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The parish religious education program (CCD) is off to a good start. If you have not registered your child for CCD, you may still do so. Forms are available in the narthex of our churches or the parish offices during office hours. All children enrolled in public and home schools from First through Eighth Grades are required to attend CCD.

Students currently enrolled in a Catholic school who are planning to receive First Holy Communion or Confirmation this year are required to complete a Religious Formation (CCD) registration form. Even though these students receive daily religious education at school, this separate parish registration ensures they are properly included in all parish sacramental records and preparation events. Copies of the form can be picked up in the Narthex of both churches, downloaded from the Parish websites, or requested by calling the Parish office.

A Thanksgiving Food Drive for the local poor is being sponsored by our CCD students in grades 4 & 5 in both parishes. All CCD students are invited to bring non-perishable food items to class through Sunday, Nov. 15. Parishioners are also invited to bring non-perishable food to church and place it in the bin which will be in the narthex of both our churches. This drive will support the Avoca Food Pantry at Bethel United Methodist Church.

The 2025-26 Catholic Ministries Appeal: commitment cards for the Appeal are available in the church narthex. All parishioners are asked to contribute to the Appeal and fill out a card indicating their pledge. Completed cards can be placed in the collection basket.

SH Goal: \$33,534.00 - Total Committed: \$ 12,194.00

SM Goal: \$35,767.00 - Total Committed: \$ 8,363.00

A Halloween Trunk-or-Treat, sponsored by the Dupont Neighborhood Crime Watch will be held on Sunday, Oct. 25, 4-6 pm in the SH church parking lot. The HNS is participating again this year and will be handing out fresh popcorn to every child who arrives in costume.

Pre-Arranging a Funeral Mass: If you would like to plan your Mass of Christian Burial in advance, then contact the parish office to request a funeral planning booklet so that you can make a record of what you have designated (readings, hymns, etc.) for your funeral to be celebrated in our church. You are encouraged to keep it in a confidential file to be shared with your family at the appointed time, who will then share it with the undertaker and the priest.

Holy Cross High School, Dunmore, will hold an Open House on Sunday, Nov. 1, 11am-3 pm. Talk to students, faculty, and coaches to learn about what the school offers pupils.

The University of Scranton will host an Open House event for prospective students and their families on 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 for more information.

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 available in the narthex.

Please be kind, don’t leave your bulletin behind! Please help us keep God’s house clean – if you take a bulletin before Mass, do not leave it in the pew; take it home with you. You are encouraged to pray quietly before the pulpit announcements and take a bulletin as you exit the church at the end of Mass.

If the Weekend Mass is being offered for a family’s intention and you wish to participate in the Offertory Procession, please see the ushers before Mass begins. This applies to all weekend Masses with music, except for the quiet Saturday Mass at 5:30 pm. When the collection starts, please go to the gift table to pick up the gifts so the procession can stay on schedule. You will then follow behind the usher carrying the collection basket as you approach the priest at the altar.

Have you ever thought that God might be calling you to serve Him as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion? If so, perhaps you may want to answer that call at this time in your parish. What are the basic requirements for an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion? The person must be a regularly practicing Catholic 21 years of age or older. If married, the person must be in a sacramentally valid union. The person must remain in a state of grace by regularly celebrating the sacrament of Confession. The person must regularly attend Mass at our parish, not just when they are scheduled to serve. The person must be physically able to execute this ministry by easily entering and exiting our sanctuary and being able to consume a regular wheat host and drink wine. Speak to Fr. Petro if you feel called to serve the Lord in this way.

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

Monday (October 26) Weekday
7:30 am (SH) John Lopata
by *Robert Lopata*

Tuesday (October 27) Weekday
9:00 am (SM) Souls in Purgatory
by *Anonymous*

Wednesday (October 28) Sts. Simon & Jude
7:30 am (SH) Dolores Piechota
by *Nancy Cronick*

Thursday (October 29) Weekday
9:00 am (SM) Thomas Lee
by *Lorraine Bartush*

Friday (October 30) Weekday
7:30 am (SH) Jason Kuna
by *Jeanine & children*

Saturday (October 31) Vigil: All Saints Day
4:00 pm (SH) Marsha Knoll
by *Dana Hinkley*

5:30pm (SM) Andrew & Helen Kaplavka
by *Thomas Kaplavka*

Sunday (November 1) All Saints Day
8:00 am (SM) Our Parishioners (*Missa pro populo*)
10:30 am (SH) Thomas Skrzowski
by *daughter Joan Vogue*

WEEKLY OFFERING
Last Sunday: (SH) \$3,661.24.24 (SM) \$3,393.35
Building Fund: (SH) \$125.00
World Mission Sunday: (SH) \$320.00 (SM) \$264.00
<i>May the Lord reward your generosity.</i>

The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of
Tabernacle (SH): *Barbara Hilenski, by Tina Petcaugh*
Blessed Mother (SH): *John Lopata, by Bob Lopata*
St. Joseph (SH): *Bernadine Tetlak by daughters Marina & Evelyn*
St. Therese (SH): *Michael Rowan, by his family*
St. Francis (SH): *Anthony Dudzinski, by Ron & Sharon Ziobro & family*
Blessed Mother (SM): *Lorraine Borthwick, by Jackie, Jim, JJ & Tom*
✦

The offertory gifts (SH): *of bread & wine this Sunday in memory of John Lopata by Robert Lopata*

UPCOMING EVENTS
Oct. 29, 6:30pm, SM/SH Choir practice, SH choir loft
Nov. 1, 1pm, Cemetery Sunday devotions, SH church
Nov. 2, 7:30 am, All Souls Day Mass, SH Cemetery Chapel, Dupont
Nov. 2, 12:10 pm, All Souls Day Mass, Ss. Peter & Paul Cemetery Chapel, Moosic
Nov. 2, 1pm, Cemetery blessing, St. Mary’s Cemetery, Avoca
Nov 5, 6:30pm, SM/SH Choir practice, SH choir loft

Liturgical Volunteer Schedule
<i>Oct 24-25</i>
4pm: EM: B. Jones, L: J. Klenner, Acolyte: Collins family & P. Suchecki
5:30pm: EM: M. Phillips, L: P. Bartnicki, Acolyte: M. Phillips
8am: EM: N. Adomiak, L: L. Orr, Acolyte: G. Orr
10:30am: EM: D. Suchecki, L: M. Ferretti, Acolyte: C., E., J. Toalongo
<i>Oct 3-Nov 1</i>
4pm: EM: C. Wesley L: G. Purdy, Acolyte: M. Hudzinski
5:30pm: EM: P. Krisiewicz, L: T. Kaplavka, Acolyte: T. Roxby
8am: EM: A. Jake, L: B. Jones, Acolyte: T. Gilchrist
10:30am: EM: J. Donahue, L: J. Roche, Acolyte: G. Donahue, AJ, N. Rupprecht
<i>Nov. 1: Cemetery Sunday Devotions</i>
1pm: L: M. Ferretti, Acolyte: T. Gilchrist, M. Phillips, C. Purdy

Liturgical volunteer schedules for November 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.*

An offering of \$3.00 per candle is requested for votive candles in St. Mary’s Church. Deposit your offering in either of the two wooden collection boxes located on the walls near the candle racks

If you have moved in the past year, have a new phone number, or e-mail address, please let us know so our records will be up to date by contacting the Parish Office.