



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-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time ♦ October 4, 2026 ✠

Praised be Jesus Christ! Now and forever. Amen.

Beginning this weekend and continuing through the month of October, our parishes along with parishes around the country will 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.

“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.

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

A special Mass for the Evangelization of Peoples will be celebrated on Columbus Day, Monday, Oct. 12 at 7:30 am in SH church. All parishioners and members of the Knights of Columbus are encouraged to attend.

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 from Sunday, Oct. 11 through Sunday, Nov. 15. Parishioners are invited to bring non-perishable food to church and place it in the bin which will be in the narthex of both our churches.

CCD classes have begun! Registration forms are in the narthex and on our website. 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

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.

Cub Scout Pack 316 and Scout Troop 316 will hold their annual popcorn sale after the masses in both churches this weekend. All sales will assist the Scouts with various programs throughout the year. The Scouts are sponsored by Queen of the Apostles Parish.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

The Altar & Rosary Society invites all women to their annual Harvest Fest on Sunday, October 11, 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: \$10,914.00

SM Goal: \$35,115.00 - Total Committed: \$7,088.00

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 am in Avoca in the parking lot behind the church and at 10:00 am 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.

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.*

American Red Cross Blood Drive sponsored by Queen of the Apostles Parish will be held in the SM parish hall Tues., Oct. 20 from 1:30 to 6pm. You can register at www.redcross.org

Burial Guidelines from the Vatican: The church continues to prefer the practice of burying the bodies of the deceased because this shows a greater esteem towards the departed. Nevertheless, cremation is not prohibited unless it was chosen for reasons contrary to Christian faith. When cremation of the body has been chosen, the human cremated remains of the faithful must be laid to rest in a sacred place (ie., a cemetery). This helps to ensure that due respect is shown to the faithful departed and that they are included in the prayers and remembrance of their family and the Catholic community

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 begins Monday, Oct. 19, and concludes on Tuesday, Oct. 27.

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 for more information.

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.

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.

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.

The Shoal Center Community Kitchen at King’s College sent an acknowledgment expressing deep gratitude for the thoughtful and generous monetary donation of \$565 that was collected during the recent Avoca Irish Night Dinner. This contribution directly supports the center's mission to provide healthy food to students in need.

The Diocese of Scranton has an open position for a Payroll and Benefit Generalist. Responsibilities include process payrolls, coordinate insurance and benefit administration, maintain time and attendance recordkeeping and provides a general level of administrative support for the office. Interested applicants for this position are encouraged to visit the diocesan website at www.dioceseofscranton.org to review a more comprehensive job description. Applicants are asked to submit a cover letter with salary requirements and a complete resume with references by October 16, to jburke@dioceseofscranton.org

St. Maria Goretti, Laflin will host a Taizé meditative style communal prayer service on Wednesday October 21 at 7 pm. The prayer service will be directed by Rob Yenkowski, Music director at King’s College. Call 655-8596 for more information.

All are invited to join with members of the CCM as they recite the rosary on Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 6 pm at the statue of the Blessed Mother located in the flower garden on the side of SH Church.

✚ MASS INTENTIONS ✚

Monday (October 5) St. Faustina Kowalska

7:30 am (SH) Peter Sroka
by *Thomas & Dorothy Sheridan*

Tuesday (October 6) St. Bruno

9:00 am (SM) Rodolfo, Roberto & Raul Caltenco
by *Blanca Caltenco*

Wednesday (October 7) Our Lady of the Rosary

7:30 am (SH) Bruno Marcellini
by *wife, children, grandchildren & great grandchildren*

Thursday (October 8) Weekday

9:00 am (SM) Robert White
by *Tyler Mulvihill*

Friday (October 9) St. Denis

7:30 am (SH) Leonard Mesko
by *John Gerlak*

Saturday (October 10) Vigil: 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm (SH) Our Parishioners (*Missa pro populo*)
5:30pm (SM) Gerard Lombardi

by *Molinaro family*

Sunday (October 11) 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am (SM) Jason Kuna
by *Jeanine Kuna*
10:30 am (SH)Arlene Skrzysowski
by *Karen & Henry Augenstein & sons*

WEEKLY OFFERING Last Sunday: (SH) \$3,668.96 (SM) \$ 3,273.70 Building Fund: (SH) \$ 247.00 (SM) \$ 225.00 Care & Education of Priests: (SH) \$ 276.00 (SM) \$ 249.00 St. Vincent dePaul Society: (SH) \$ 541.00 (SM) \$ 265.00 School Support: (SH) \$ 579.00 (SM) \$152.00 <i>May the Lord reward your generosity.</i>

The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of
Tabernacle (SH): *For the intention of Nathan Swartz by family*
Blessed Mother (SH): *Deceased members of the Anna & John Bartush, Sr. family, by daughters Mary Ann & Barbara*
St. Joseph (SH): *Adam Rafalko, Jr., by wife and children*
St Therese (SH): *Frances Milewski, by family*
St. Francis (SH): *In thanksgiving for the favors granted, by a devotee of St. Francis*
Blessed Mother (SM): *Frank Lydia, Hilde & Joseph Janik, by Bob Janik*
St. Joseph (SM): *John & Ruth Brostoski and Thomas & Hannah Lee Sr., by Ruth Lee*



The offertory gifts (SH): *of bread & wine this Sunday in memory of the Deceased Members of the Anna & John Bartush, Sr. family by daughter Mary Ann & Barbara*

UPCOMING EVENTS Oct. 7, 7pm. HNS meeting, SH hall Oct. 8, 6:30pm, SM/SH Choir practice, SH choir loft Oct. 11, 2pm, Harvest Festival, QAP Hall Oct. 15 6:30pm, SM/SH Choir practice, SH choir loft Oct. 17, 3-7pm, Ziti pasta dinner, SH Hall Oct. 18, 8 & 10:30am, CCD Mass, grade 8 assists Oct. 18, 1pm, Bingo, QAP Hall

Liturgical Volunteer Schedule
Oct 3-4
4pm: EM: B. Jones, L: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolyte: C. Purdy
5:30pm: EM: P. Krisiewicz, L: R. Lee, Acolyte: T. Roxby
8am: EM: A. Jake, L: J. Susko, Acolyte: T. Gilchrist
10:30am: EM: D. Suchecki, L: G. Beccaloni, Acolyte: C., E., J. Toalongo
Oct 10-11
4pm: EM: C. Wesley, L: J. Klenner, Acolyte: Collins Family & P. Suchecki
5:30pm: EM: M. Phillips, L: R. Wright, Acolyte: M. Phillips
8am: EM: N. Adomiak, L: K. Price, Acolyte: J. Dudzinski
10:30am: EM: M. Moletsky, L: T. Satkowski, Acolyte: T., C. Papiercavich

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.

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.

