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

✠ Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time ♦ November 8, 2026 ✠

Praised be Jesus Christ! Now and forever. Amen.

Every person that attended a weekend Mass at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church and Saint Mary Church was counted throughout the month of October. The ushers kept a record of the participation at every weekend Mass for the purpose of identifying trends and usage. The results of our annual "October Count" is now published for the purpose of pastoral planning. The simple equations that follow give an insight into how well our Masses are attended over the period of one month (four weekends). The 2026 October Mass Attendance Count Sheet reveals:

Sacred Heart:

4 p.m. Sat. Masses: Oct. 3/4 – 125, Oct. 10/11 – 136, Oct. 17/18 – 115, Oct. 24/25 – 146, Oct.31/Nov.1 – 138 total for the month at 4 p.m.: 660 people. *10:30 a.m. Sun. Masses:* Oct. 3/4 – 111, Oct. 10/11 – 124, Oct. 17/18 – 141, Oct. 24/25– 125, Oct.31/Nov.1 – 140 total for the month at 10:30 a.m.: 641 people.

Sacred Heart October grand total: 1,301

Saint Mary:

5:30 p.m. Sat. Masses: Oct. 3/4 – 93, Oct. 10/11 – 81, Oct. 17/18 – 94, Oct. 24/25 – 81 Oct.31/Nov.1 – 73 total for the month at 5:30 p.m.: 422 people. *8:00 a.m. Sun. Masses:* Oct. 3/4 – 102, Oct. 10/11 – 107, Oct. 17/18 – 103, Oct. 24/25 –84, Oct.31/Nov.1 – 108 total for the month at 8:00 a.m.: 504 people.

Saint Mary's October grand total: 926

Please continue the regular financial support of your parish by mailing your envelopes, contributing online, or dropping off your envelopes at the parish office or the collection basket. Know that the obligation to attend Sunday Mass has been reinstated – *you are not satisfying your obligation to attend Mass by staying home and watching it on television or Facebook.*

A Veterans' Day Mass on the Feast of St. Martin of Tours, patron of soldiers, will be celebrated on Wednesday, Nov. 11, at 7:30 a.m. in Sacred Heart Church. We will pray at this Mass for our deceased and living veterans by name. All parishioners from both our parishes are invited to attend.

Veterans' Day Prayer: Lord God, Almighty Father, creator of mankind and author of peace, as we are ever mindful of the cost paid for the liberty we possess, we ask you to bless the members of our armed forces. Give them courage, hope and strength. May they ever experience your firm support, gentle love and compassionate healing. Be their power and protector, leading them from darkness to light. To you be all glory, honor and praise, now and forever. Amen.

Scranton Tribunal News: The forms used to petition for marriage annulments have recently been updated and placed online. The petition for a declaration of marriage nullity due to lack of canonical form has also been updated to a single page and placed online. These easy-to-use and simplified forms may be completed on your personal computer and printed before being brought to a priest or deacon to be notarized. Currently, no fees are attached to these petitions. Visit the Office of the Tribunal on the Diocese of Scranton website to see the new paperwork and the information needed to petition for an annulment after a divorce: https://www.dioceseofscranton.org/directory/offices/diocesan-tribunal/ Your parish priest or deacon can assist you in beginning the annulment process. You may also call the Tribunal with your canon law questions, 570-207-2246.

The Fuel Envelope appears in your envelope pack each November to help defray the cost of heating our church buildings during the winter months. Please be as generous as your means allow in contributing to this important collection that directly benefits us.

Stocking Stuffer Pot of Gold tickets will be sold after the weekend Masses (SM). Match the evening daily number during the month of January to win. The cost is $10 per ticket. Win $50 daily, $100 every Sunday, and $250 on Jan. 1, Jan. 18, and Jan. 31. For more info, contact Jane Maxwell 335-8678. This fundraiser supports the Altar & Rosary Society of Queen of the Apostles Parish.

The SM Altar & Rosary Society will host its annual Christmas Party Sunday, Dec. 13 at Arcaro & Genell's, Old Forge. A delicious buffet will be served and the cost to attend is $30 per person. Gather with fellow members to celebrate the holiday season together. Call Jane Maxwell 335-8678 or Nancy Adomiak 954-0817 for more information or to make reservations by Dec. 6.

The Annual Christmas Cookie Walk will take place on Saturday, Dec. 12 from 10 am to 1 pm in the Sacred Heart Church Hall. Volunteer bakers are needed to help make this event a success by donating homemade baked goods. Bakers are asked to prepare a double or triple batch of their favorite cookies, candies, or other holiday treats. To participate, please sign up using the sheet located in the (SH) narthex, or contact Tammy Satkowski at 457-3855 to register the specific type of cookie or candy you plan to bake.

Baked goods may be dropped off at the Church Hall on Friday, Dec. 11, 6-8 pm, and Saturday, Dec. 12, 8-10 am.

In conjunction with the upcoming Cookie Walk, a lottery ticket basket raffle will also be held. If you would like to donate scratch-off lottery tickets for the basket, please pace them in an envelope labeled "Cookie Walk–Lottery Tickets" and drop it into the collection basket. All lottery ticket donations must be received by Tuesday, Dec. 8.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support; we deeply appreciate everyone who helps to make this festive event a wonderful Christmas tradition for our church community.

An Adult Education Class entitled *An Adult at Christmas* will be held on Sunday, Nov. 22 at 6 pm in the SH Church Hall. The presentation will be led by Bill Jones, a former Lutheran pastor and Catholic convert. He will discuss the latest developments in archaeological and historical discoveries surrounding the birth of Our Lord. The session will also explore the history of how Christmas has been celebrated in America, with a special focus on Northeastern Pennsylvania traditions. Attendees are invited to participate in a discussion sharing their own family Christmas traditions, exploring how those customs began and how they continue to be practiced today. Parishioners from both parishes as well as the general public are invited to attend as we prepare our hearts and minds for the season of Advent.

THANK YOU to all who helped in any way to make the recent Altar & Rosary Society Fall Harvest Festival fund raiser a success. The gross receipts totaled $1,072. After accounting for $706 in expenses, the total profit came to $306, which will be designated for the Marian Awards. Congratulations to Jennifer Sledgeski, the winner of the 50/50 raffle. The payout was $150.00.

THANKSGIVING DAY MASS

Come sing your favorite Thanksgiving hymns and participate in this ultimate act of thanksgiving before turning to your family celebrations later in the day.

Thursday, November 26, 9 a.m. ~ Sacred Heart Church

All Souls Day Envelopes have been placed near the tabernacle and will remain there the entire month of November. Our dearly departed will be remembered in a special way at all Masses.

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 *oplatki,* the traditional Eastern European Christmas Eve wafers, will be blessed during the 4 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Masses on Nov. 28. *The oplatki will be available after those Masses to mark the start of Advent.* The offering is $3 per wafer envelope.

Are you a non-Catholic who is interested in learning more about Catholicism? Are you a baptized adult Catholic who has never celebrated First Communion and Confirmation? The OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) is the normative way that adults celebrate the sacraments of initiation in the Catholic Church (i.e. Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist). The initial meeting will be held soon. Volunteer catechists are needed. Please call either parish office if you would like to teach OCIA classes.

Free 2027 liturgical calendars are available on the tables in both churches. 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

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: $ 15,909.00
SM Goal: $35,767.00 - Total Committed: $ 9,458.00

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.

Join award winning Catholic singers and songwriters Sarah Hart and Francesca LaRosa as they share an evening of songs and stories bringing peace and hope on Saturday, Nov. 14 at 7 pm at Saint Maria Goretti Church, Laflin. It's an opportunity to pause and refresh, connecting with our Lord and our Lady, as we prepare our hearts for Advent and the coming of Christ. Admission is $10 per person. All are invited for fellowship and light fare after the concert in the parish hall. To purchase tickets or for more information, visit dioceseofscranton.org/night-of-peace or call Parish Renewal, Office for Parish Life at 570-207-2213.

Nazareth Group Meeting - The Capuchin Sisters of Nazareth invite all young women (grades 9 – 12) to join us on Saturday, Nov. 21 from 11 am – 4:30 pm. Come and learn more about the Faith, make wholesome friendships, and grow more in love with Jesus through prayer and hearing inspirational talks. For more information or to RSVP by Nov. 19, please call Sister Angela in Tunkhannock at 570-836-2737. Calling times are Mon-Thurs & Sat – 9-11:30 am; 1-4:30 pm; 7 pm-8:15 pm.

The Wilkes University Polish Room will hold its 15th annual Wigilia on Sunday, Nov. 29 at Amber Palace, Wilkes-Barre from 1-4 pm. Traditional Polish foods will be served alongside the joyful singing and listening to classic Polish Carols. The cost to attend is $35. For more information or to make a reservation, contact Barbara at 570-542-7447.

Scranton Preparatory School's Scholarship Entrance Exam will be held on Saturday, Dec. 5 for 8th grade students applying for the fall of 2027. Visit www.scrantonprep.org for more information.

Rev. Leo J. Kozlowski, the sixth pastor of SH parish from 1977-1984, died on Nov. 13, 1984. Please pray for the peaceful repose of his soul on the anniversary of his death.

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.

✞ MASS INTENTIONS ✞

Monday (November 9) The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
7:30 am (SH) John Helminiak
by Barbara Antal
Tuesday (November 10) St. Leo the Great
9:00 am (SM) Souls in Purgatory
by Anonymous
Wednesday (November 11) St. Martin of Tours
7:30 am (SH) Jamie Kephart
by family
Thursday (November 12) St. Josaphat
9:00 am (SM) Souls in Purgatory
by Anonymous
Friday (November 13) St. Frances Xavier
7:30 am (SH) Nicholas & Mary Kasa
by Betty Belles & Family
Saturday (November 14) Vigil: 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:00 pm (SH) Edmund Lokuta
by Gene & Sharon Bartosiewicz
5:30pm (SM) Carol Galvin
by Jim, Jackie, & JJ Galvin
Sunday (November 15) 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 am (SM) Our Parishioners (*Missa pro populo)*
10:30 am (SH) Frances & Albert Lenchak
by family

WEEKLY OFFERING
Last Sunday: (SH) $4,176.60 (SM) $4,091.00
Building Fund: (SH) $261.00
All Saints Day: (SH) $667.00 (SM) $450.00
May the Lord reward your generosity.

The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of
Tabernacle (SH): *Thomas Skrzysowski, by daughter Joan Vogue*
Blessed Mother (SH): *Robert Sedlak, by children & grandchildren*
St. Joseph (SH): *In honor of Thomas Pistack, by family*
St. Therese (SH): *Michael Rowan, by Georgann*
St. Francis (SH): *In honor of Carol & Jeff Nebroski, by family*

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UPCOMING EVENTS
Nov. 8, 9:15 am, Confirmation Parent Meeting, Classrooms
Nov. 12, 6:30pm, SM/SH Choir practice, SH choir loft
Nov. 15, 8 & 10:30am, CCD Mass, grades 6 & 7 assist
Nov. 19, 6:30pm, SM/SH Choir practice, SH choir loft
Nov. 22, 6 pm, *An Adult Christmas* Presentation, SH Hall
Nov. 26, 9am, Thanksgiving Day Mass, SH church
Dec. 12, 10am-1pm, Cookie Walk, SH Hall
Dec. 13, 1pm, A&R Society Christmas Party, Arcaro & Genell

Liturgical Volunteer Schedule
Nov 7-8
4pm: EM: B. Jones, L: J. Klenner, Acolyte: C. Purdy
5:30pm: EM: C. Wood, L: T. Kaplavka, Acolyte: T. Roxby
8am: EM: N. Adomiak, L: M. Phillips, Acolyte: T. Gilchrist
10:30am: EM: M. Moletsky, L: G. Becaloni, Acolyte: T., C. Papiercavich
Nov 14-15
4pm: EM: C. Wesley, L: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolyte: Collins Family & P. Sucheski
5:30pm: EM: C. Trzcinski, L: R. Lee, Acolyte: JJ Galvin
8am: EM: N. Adomiak, L: CCD Students, Acolyte: J. Dudzinski
10:30am: EM: J. Donahue, L: L. Rupprecht, Acolyte: G. Donahue & A. J. & N. Rupprecht

Homebound parishioners from both our parishes are reminded that they may have Holy Communion brought to them on the First Friday of each month by calling the Parish Office and requesting this service. The sacraments of confession and anointing of the sick are offered to all homebound parishioners every Advent and Lent. Fr. Petro will visit the homebound this Dec. 3 and 4.

Votive Candles are available for a $10 offering to burn for one week at the **Tabernacles** of both churches, as well as in front of the **Blessed Mother and St. Joseph statues (SM)** and the **Blessed Mother, St. Joseph, St. Therese and St. Francis statues (SH)**. The weekly candles can be requested in memory of a loved one, in honor of someone, or for a special intention. You may also request a specific week for your candle intention. To participate, please fill out a "Votive Candle" envelope located in the narthex of either church, place your offering inside, and drop it in the collection basket or bring it to the parish office.