

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-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time ♦ November 15, 2026 ✠

Praised be Jesus Christ! Now and forever. Amen.

An Adult Education Class entitled *An Adult at Christ 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.

OCIA Meeting Scheduled: 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 on Tuesday Nov. 17 at 6 pm in St. Mary's Rectory. Volunteer catechists are needed. Please call either parish office if you would like to teach OCIA classes.

Don't Stay Silent: Help Us Stop the Pro-Abortion Constitutional Amendment! Governor Josh Shapiro is pushing a pro-abortion Constitutional Amendment which would wipe out legal protections for unborn babies and their mothers. Please take action to stop the pro-abortion Constitutional Amendment in Pennsylvania. This radical legislation would allow abortion up to the moment of birth...end parental rights regarding an abortion on a teenage girl...and permit widespread taxpayer funding of abortion. Contact your state Representative and state Senator now and urge them to oppose this dangerous measure!

Baptized in Christ: Sophia Ellen Saldana was recently baptized in SM church. Please pray for her and her family as they grow in God's wisdom and grace.

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

The *oplatki,* the traditional Eastern European Christmas Eve wafers, will be blessed during the 4 pm and 5:30 pm 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.

The officers of the CCM of SH will continue meeting on a quarterly basis. Pending approval and volunteer availability, they also look forward to hosting four annual fundraisers in the coming year to include *the Christmas Cookie Walk, the Chocolate Easter Eggs, Spring Raffle and Fall Bake Sale*. The next meeting will take place after the holidays to finalize our 2027 calendar. Please keep an eye on the bulletin for the exact date and time once the schedule is set.

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.

We are happy to welcome to Queen of the Apostles Parish Lepin, Katelyn & Sophia Saldana from Avoca. A warm welcome to you!

Sacred Heart Parish will hold its annual Advent Pierogi Fundraiser featuring potato & cheese pierogi prepared fresh by dedicated volunteers and immediately frozen for your convenience. Pierogi will be sold at $12 per dozen on a first-come, first-served basis. Mark your calendar for the pickup, which will take place on Saturday, Dec. 12 from 10 am to 1 pm. Come early to guarantee your holiday pierogi for your traditional Wigilia feast.

Join us for the Advent Pierogi Food preparation. It will begin on Monday, Nov. 16 at 9 am in the (SH) church hall and continue daily until finished. Volunteers are urgently needed for day and evening shifts to peel, boil, and mash potatoes; roll potato balls; cut dough rounds; pinch, freeze, and package pierogi; and clean the hall and kitchen. Evening volunteers should first call chairman Ed Suchecki at 862-2127 to confirm that a second shift is needed that day.

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 SH 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. *Cookies will be sold for $10 per pound.*
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 place 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. All proceeds from the Cookie Walk and Lottery Basket Raffle will be deposited in the Building Fund to help cover the expense of purchasing new gas stoves for the church hall kitchen. 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.

The Wilkes-Barre Chapter of Pennsylvanians for Human Life extends its gratitude to the SH parish community for hosting a mock baby shower this past October. Thanks to your generosity the center received an abundance of much-needed baby items that will directly support families in our community. Also, the monetary gifts received will be used to provide vital resources to those in need and to fund the chapter's ongoing pro-life educational efforts and community work dedicated to protecting life. Thank you for your inspiring support and commitment to this mission.

A St. Nicholas Party will be held by SH parish Holy Name Society on Wednesday Dec. 2 at 6 pm in the SH church hall. All HNS members are invited to attend *and are asked to make their reservation with Greg Zawacki by calling 947-8200.*

Beginning the first weekend of Advent, we will be using the Mass of *Charity and Love* music setting for the sung parts of the Mass. The *Mass of St. Francis* will used for the Christmas season.

CCD News: CCD classes will be canceled on Nov. 29 for Thanksgiving break. Classes resume Dec. 6.

A Cemetery clean-up: All families of those buried in our parish cemeteries are asked to be sure their graves are cleaned for the winter by removing all old decorations and dead flowers.

A**ll 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. *This is the final weekend to contribute to the food drive. The next food drive for our parishes will take place during Lent. Kindly reserve your food donations until that time.*

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 Catholic household should have one!

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: $ 16,009.00
SM Goal: $35,767.00 - Total Committed: $ 9,978.00

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.

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.

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. For more information or to make a reservation, contact Barbara at 570-542-7447.

The Cathedral of Saint Peter Music Ministry will present a traditional *Festival of Lessons and Carols* with Bishop Joseph Bambera presiding. The festival will be held at St. Peter's Cathedral on Friday, Dec. 4 at 6:30 pm. There is no charge to attend this beautiful evening of music and scripture in preparation for the Christmas Season.

The Slovak Heritage Society of NEPA will celebrate the Feast of St. Nicholas on Sunday, Dec. 6 at 2 pm at St. Ignatius Loyola Church, Kingston. Attendees will enjoy an afternoon filled with traditional songs and storytelling highlighting past Slovak Christmas traditions, followed by refreshments. For more information, please contact Anna Hudock at 570-510-1655.

✞ MASS INTENTIONS ✞

Monday (Nov. 16) St. Margaret of Scotland
7:30 am (SH) Mark Odgers
by family
Tuesday (Nov. 17) St. Elizabeth of Hungary
9:00 am (SM) Souls in Purgatory
by Anonymous
Wed. (Nov. 18) Dedication of Basilicas of Ss. Peter & Paul
7:30 am (SH) Donna Bartosiewicz
by Bob Bartosiewicz
Thursday (Nov. 19) Weekday
9:00 am (SM) Souls in Purgatory
by Anonymous
Friday (Nov. 20) Weekday
7:30 am (SH) Mary & Frank Kivak
by children
Saturday (Nov. 21) Vigil: Solemnity of Christ the King
4:00 pm (SH) George Gayza
by daughter Marian
5:30pm (SM) Joseph P. Cottone
by Kathy & son Joseph
Sunday (Nov. 22) Solemnity of Christ the King
8:00 am (SM) John Bekanich
by Stanley & Vivian Barket
10:30 am (SH*)* Our Parishioners (*Missa pro populo)*

WEEKLY OFFERING
Last Sunday: (SH) $6,240.24 (SM) $3,945.80
Building Fund: (SH) $309.00
May the Lord reward your generosity.

The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of
Tabernacle (SH): *George Gayza, by daughter Marian*
St. Joseph (SH): *John Eustice, by Ron & Sharon Ziobro*
St. Francis (SH): *Frances Gregoris, by Amy & family*
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UPCOMING EVENTS
Nov. 15, 8 & 10:30am, CCD Mass, grades 6 & 7 assist
Nov. 17, 6pm, OCIA Meeting, SM Rectory
Nov. 19, 6:30pm, SM/SH Choir practice, SH choir loft
Nov. 22, 6 pm, *An Adult Christ at Christmas* Presentation, SH Hall
Nov. 26, 9am, Thanksgiving Day Mass, SH church
Dec. 2, 6pm, HNS St. Nicholas Party, SH Hall
Dec. 3, 6:30pm, SM/SH Choir practice, SH choir loft
Dec. 4, 7:30am, 1st Friday Mass and devotions, SH church
Dec. 5, 2:45-3:45pm, 1st Saturday Adoration/devotions, SH church
Dec. 12, 10am-1pm, Cookie Walk, SH Hall
Dec. 12, 10am-1pm, Pierogi sale, SH Hall
Dec. 13, 1pm, A&R Society Christmas Party, Arcaro & Genell

Liturgical Volunteer Schedule
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
Nov 21-22
4pm: EM: M. Moletsky, L: H. Vogue, Acolyte: M. Hudzinski
5:30pm: EM: P. Krisiewicz, L: J. McMahon, Acolyte: T. Roxby
8am: EM: N. A. Jake, L: L. Orr, Acolyte: G. Orr
10:30am: EM: B. Jones, L: T. Satkowski, Acolyte: C., E., J. Toalongo

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.