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 to Thursday,
8:30 AM to 12:30 PM,1 to 3 PM; Friday, 8:30 AM to 12 PM

Saint Mary
Church
(Queen of the Apostles Parish)
715 Hawthorne Street, Avoca, PA 18641

Phone 570-457-3412
E-mail stmaryavoca@gmail.com
Weekend Masses Saturday Vigil 5:30 pm • Sunday 8:00 AM
Holy Day Masses 5:30 pm
Weekend 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.C.L., KCHS, Pastor Rev. Father Michael B. Wurtz, CSC, S.L.D., Supply Priest

# The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica November 9, 2025

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 2025 October Mass Attendance Count Sheet reveals:

#### Sacred Heart:

4 p.m. Sat. Masses: Oct. 4/5 – 135, Oct. 11/12 – 140, Oct. 18/19 – 125, Oct. 25/26 – 145, total for the month at 4 p.m.: 545 people. 10:30 a.m. Sun. Masses: Oct. 4/5 – 142, Oct. 11/12 – 154, Oct. 18/19 – 194, Oct. 25/26 – 145, total for the month at 10:30 a.m.: 635 people.

Sacred Heart October grand total: 1,180

## Saint Mary:

5:30 p.m. Sat. Masses: Oct. 4/5 – 91, Oct. 11/12 – 78, Oct. 18/19 – 106, Oct. 25/26 – 95, total for the month at 5:30 p.m.: 370 people. 8:00 a.m. Sun. Masses: Oct. 4/5 – 114, Oct. 11/12 – 117, Oct. 18/19 – 152, Oct. 25/26 –111, total for the month at 8:00 a.m.: 494 people. Saint Mary's October grand total: 864

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.

# 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 27, 9 a.m. ~ St. Mary Church

**The SH Parish Office will close** at noon on Monday, Nov. 10. It will reopen Tuesday, Nov. 11, at 8:30 a.m. **The SM parish office will be closed** on Tuesday, Nov. 11. The office will reopen on Thursday, Nov. 13 at 9:30 a.m.

A Veterans' Day Mass on the Feast of St. Martin of Tours, patron of soldiers, will be celebrated on <u>Tues.</u>, <u>Nov. 11</u>, at 9 a.m. in <u>Saint Mary's Church</u>. We will pray at this Mass for our deceased and living veterans by name.

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.

**The Altar & Rosary Society monthly meeting** will be held on Tuesday, November 11 at 10:30 AM in the SM parish hall.

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

**The Catholic Campaign for Human Development collection** is schedule for the weekend of November 15-16. A special second collection will be taken up next weekend in Avoca because the special envelope was not included in the mailing.

**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.

The annual Christmas Cookie Walk will be held Saturday, Dec. 13, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Sacred Heart Church Hall! We are looking for volunteer bakers to help supply homemade baked goodies. Please prepare a double or triple batch of your best kind of cookie/candy. Use the sign-up sheet located in narthex or contact Tammy Satkowski, 457-3855, to register the type of cookie. Cookies may be dropped off at the church hall on Friday, Dec. 12, between 6 and 8 p.m. or Saturday, Dec. 13, from 8 to 10 a.m. Donate lottery tickets! In conjunction with the Cookie Walk, there will also be a lottery ticket basket raffle. If anyone would like to donate lottery ticket(s) for the basket, please place the lottery ticket(s) in an envelope labeled "CCM-Lottery Tickets" and place in the collection basket. Tickets will need to be received by Dec. 7.

Free 2026 liturgical calendars will be available <u>next weekend</u>. 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 oplatki**, the traditional Eastern European Christmas Eve wafers, will be blessed during the 4 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Masses on Nov. 29. *The oplatki will be available after those Masses to mark the start of Advent.* The offering is \$3 per wafer envelope.

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.

The 2025-26 Catholic Ministries Appeal: donation envelopes for the Appeal are available in the church narthex. All parishioners are asked to contribute to the Appeal. Donation envelopes may be placed in the collection basket.

<u>SH Goal: \$33,534.00</u> - Total Committed: \$11,170.00 <u>SM Goal: \$35,767.00</u> - Total Committed: \$10,771.00

**Votive Candles** placed in front of the Blessed Mother and St. Joseph statues located in the church sanctuary are now available at SM. The offering is \$10 for a candle that will burn for one week.

The Confraternity of Christian Mothers will hold an "Advent Holy Hour" on Monday, Dec. 1 at 6 p.m. at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church. It will begin with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by recitation of the rosary and a homily by Father Petro. All female parishioners of both our parishes are invited to attend, particularly the members of the SM Altar & Rosary Society and the Social Justice/Respect Life Group. A light-fare social will follow in the hall, hosted by the CCM officers. Please feel free to bring a female guest who would enjoy participating in this evening of Advent prayer and female fellowship! Those attending are asked to return this form by placing it in the collection basket by Nov. 23.

Name:				
No. atte	ending:			

The Match the Daily Number raffle held by our Holy Name Society has resumed. \$5 will give you ten chances to win by matching your numbers to the PA Lottery Evening Pick 3. The winner with an exact matching set of the Pick 3 (excluding the wild ball) will win \$250. Raffle tickets can be purchased from any HNS member. The winning ticket must be presented. If you have the winning number, call HNS president Greg Zawacki, 570-947-8200.

**THANK YOU** to all who helped in any way to make the recent CCM fundraisers a success! Boscov's Friends Helping Friends: \$250, Autumn Bake Sale: total profit from food and games of chance: \$1,097. Congratulations to the winners: 50/50 raffle (\$86) – Gershey and basket raffle – Tammy Satkowski.

Every parish in the Scranton Diocese financially supports our diocesan school system by paying monthly "taxes" to subsidize the entire system, not a particular parochial school. This fiscal year Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish will pay \$51,595.00 in school subsidies, and Queen of the Apostles Parish will pay \$54,403.00. This year, the Diocese of Scranton began a new program with the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) Program that will provide every parish the ability to get significant relief on its Catholic school assessments. All EITC donations made by parishioners (individuals or businesses) will go directly to EITC scholarships within the Diocesan Catholic School System. In return, the parish will receive relief on its Catholic School Assessments in the amount of 40% of the total tax credits that new parishioners/businesses donate to the EITC program. More information about this program can be found on the printouts located in the narthex of both churches. To participate, complete the form and return it to the Parish Office.

A Thanksgiving Food Drive for the local poor is being sponsored by our CCD students in both parishes. All CCD students are invited to bring non-perishable food items to class <u>until Sunday, Nov. 16</u>. Parishioners are invited to place non-perishable food in the bins that are in the narthex of both our churches. This drive supports the Avoca Food Pantry at Bethel United Methodist Church.

**St. Mary's Social Concerns/Respect Life Committee** is conducting its annual Thanksgiving Food Project. If you or someone you know needs a Thanksgiving food bag, please contact Ann Jake at 457-3521. Suggested food donation lists will be available at the entrances of SM church this weekend and special food boxes available for item returns. Deadline for food donations is Nov. 20 to allow for preparation and distribution.

**An American Red Cross Blood Drive** will be held in SH church hall on Wed., Dec. 17, 12:30 - 5 p.m. Go to www.redcrossblood.org to schedule an appointment. Those who give blood are eligible to receive a \$15 Amazon gift card!

Faith and Family Night with the WB/S Penguins: Friday, Nov. 14, at the Mohegan Sun Arena. Join the Diocese of Scranton in cheering on the Penguins as they take on the Islanders. Bring your family, friends and neighbors as we come together as a diocesan family. Gates open at 6pm, puck drops at 7:05pm. There are two pricing options: Green Zone (\$25+fees) or Blue Zone (\$23+fees). To purchase tickets visit <a href="https://www.dioceseofscranton.org">www.dioceseofscranton.org</a>.

On Sunday, Nov. 16 at 6 pm in the St. Joseph Marello Parish Center, Emory Guffrovich of the Knights of Columbus will present a program on how to teach history: "We cannot rewrite it, but we can learn from it. We can tear down statues and other historical artifacts, but the history will always remain." Emory served in the U.S. Army from 1966-69. He will utilize a video program on the Battle of Dak To that took place in November 1967 during the Vietnam Conflict. The video has actual footage of the battle for Hill 875 and includes testimony from several veterans from that battle.

We are happy to welcome to our parish (SH) Peter Kolodgie of Dupont. A warm welcome to you!

**St. Maria Goretti Church**, Laflin, will host a Holiday Craft Fair Nov. 22-23, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the parish hall. Over 25 vendors will be on hand offering an assortment of handmade crafts and gifts!

The Altar & Rosary Society/Women's Guild Christmas Party will be held on Sat., Dec. 13 at 1pm at Arcaro & Genell's, Old Forge. Buffet menu consists of pizza, salad, penne with vodka sauce, ham, chicken strips in butter/garlic, eggplant parmesan, roasted potatoes, glazed carrots, rolls, and dessert. Coffee, tea, and soda are included. Cost is \$30 per person. Reservations and payment are due by Dec. 7. Call Jane Maxwell at 335-8678 for information or reservations.

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#### Monday (Nov. 10) St. Leo the Great (32<sup>nd</sup> week in OT)

7:30 am (SH) Walter and Sophia Wenzinowicz by daughter, MaryAnn

# Tuesday (Nov. 11) St. Martin of Tours (Veterans Day)

9:00 am (SM) Robert Haduch

by Ellen Saporito & Bob Houston

## Wednesday (Nov. 12) St. Josaphat

7:30 am (SH) Deceased members of the Lopata family by Robert Lopata

## Thursday (Nov. 13) St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

9:00 am (SM) Mark Odgers

by Jeanine Kuna

#### Friday (Nov. 14) Weekday

7:30 am (SH) Ann and Thomas Skrzysowski by daughter, Joan Vogue

# Saturday (Nov. 15) Vigil: 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm (SH) Julia and Andrew Bekanich

by children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren 5:30 pm (SM) Our Parishioners (Missa pro populo)

#### Sunday (Nov. 16) Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am (SM) Frank Domoracki

by grandchildren

10:30 am (SH) Agnes Bonczek

by John and Clare Bonczek

#### WEEKLY OFFERING

Last Sunday: (SH) \$4,870.59 (SM) \$3,816.00 Building Fund: (SH) \$519.00 All Saints: (SH) \$718.00 (SM) \$466.00 May the Lord reward your generosity.

The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of:

Tabernacle (SH): George Gayza, by Marian Wanielista

Blessed Mother (SH): intentions of Carol Nebraski, by family

St. Joseph (SH): intentions of Jeff Nebraski, by family

St. Therese (SH): Thomas and Angeline Pistack, by family

Blessed Mother (SM): Barbara Pearce for good health, by mother

St Joseph (SM): Peter Jadus, by wife

The offertory gifts (SH) of bread & wine this Sunday are donated in memory of George Gayza, by daughter, Marian.

\*

The altar flowers (SH) this weekend are donated in memory of George Gayza, by daughter, Marian.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Nov. 9, 9:15 am, Confirmation parent mtg., SH school Nov. 11, 10:30am, Altar & Rosary Society meeting, SM hall Nov. 13, 6:30pm, SM/SH Choir practice, SH choir loft Nov. 16, 8 & 10:30am, CCD Mass, grades 6 and 7 assist Nov. 20, 6:30pm, SM/SH Choir practice, SH choir loft Nov. 27, 9am, Thanksgiving Day Mass, SM church Dec. 1, 6pm, CCM holy hour/social, SH church

# Liturgical Volunteer Schedule

November 8-9

**4pm:** EM: C. Wesley, L: J. Klenner, Acolyte: Collins family

5:30pm: EM: P. Krisiewicz, L: R. Wright, Acolyte: T. Gilchrist

8am: EM: A. Jake, L: R. Lee, Acolyte: J. Dudzinski

10:30am: EM: D. Suchecki, L: H. Vogue, Acolyte: Papiercavich

November 15-16

4pm: EM: M. Moletsky, L: J. Roche, Acolyte: Collins family

5:30pm: EM: R. Lee, L: J. McMahon, Acolyte: M. Phillips

8am: EM: N. Adomiak, L: L. Orr, Acolyte: G. Orr

10:30am: EM: B. Jones, L: G. Beccaloni, Acolyte: Toalongo

**Requiescat in pace:** please pray for the peaceful repose of the soul of Josephine Nesgoda who was recently buried from our church.

The CCM Wafer Dinner will be held on Sat., January 3, 2026, at Agolino's Restaurant, West Pittston at 6:15 pm. All members are cordially invited to attend and to bring a female guest. The dinner is \$15 for CCM members and \$20 for their guests. Attendees will order from the menu. Reservations required. Complete the form, with payment, and drop in the collection basket no later than Dec. 7.

CCM "Wafer Dinner" Reservation								
Name:								
Telephone Number: _								
No. Attending:	(member)	(guest)						