



August 15, 2021 | The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Queen of the Apostles

Rev. Phillip J. Sladicka, Pastor
Deacon James A. Rose

Parish Office

715 Hawthorne Street
Avoca, PA 18641
Hours: Mon CLOSED
Tues-Fri 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Phone: 570-457-3412
staff@queenoftheapostles.com

Website

queenoftheapostles.weconnect.com

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Avoca, PA

On-line Bulletin

Seekandfind.com

Director of Faith Formation

Deborah Yuschovitz
570-457-1284

Anointing of the Sick

If anyone is seriously ill, been admitted to the hospital, or wants a 1st Friday visit please call the Parish Office.

Baptism

Sunday after 10:00AM Mass.
Call the parish office to make arrangements.

Marriage

Please call the Parish Office six months, before setting your wedding date, to make an appt. with the Pastor. Pre-Cana program is required.

Rite of Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays: 3:15 - 3:45 PM
Anytime upon request

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday - 4:00 PM
Sunday - 8:00 - 10:00 AM

Daily

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.: 8 AM
Wednesday: 7:00 PM*

*Followed by the Miraculous Medal Novena

First Friday

8:00 AM & 7:00 PM

Christian Initiation of Adults

Parish Office
570-457-3412

Committee Contacts

Parish Hall Manager
Paul Franceschelli - 570-430-9015

Social Concerns/Respect Life Ministry
Ann Jake - 570-457-3521

Women's Guild
Jane Maxwell 570-457-1107
New Members are always Welcome!



THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

“From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his Name. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly.”
- Lk 1:48b-49, 52

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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MISSION STATEMENT

To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ
&
To Grow As Disciples of Jesus Christ

715 HAWTHORNE STREET, AVOCA, PA 18641

From the Pastor's Desk



Dear Parish Family,

Today we celebrate the completion of the Blessed Virgin Mary's earthly life, when she was raised up to heaven for all eternity. The readings we hear today show that God has consistently lifted up those who are held dear, rescuing them from harm. In Revelation, the child destined to rule the world, born to the woman who was clothed with the sun and crowned with the stars, is rescued from the carnivorous dragon, who symbolizes the power of evil. In his Letter to the Corinthians, Paul points out that God raised Christ from the dead, ensuring the eventual defeat of death itself. In her beautiful Magnificat, Mary praises God for lifting up the lowly, rescuing them from the mighty kings who oppressed them. Notably, Mary held Jesus in her womb at the time she visited her cousin, so this means that the Word, to use John's language was already dwelling in her as she made this great prayer of praise. Listening to God's word on this holy day, let us pray that the word of God may dwell in us as well and inspire us to lift up all those in need. How can we go about lifting up those in need, rescuing them from oppression or hardship?

Welcome Bishop Joseph Bambera to Queen of the Apostles Parish. We are delighted to have you celebrate Mass and experience our wonderful parish community. There will be donuts and coffee available after all masses this weekend to mark the celebration of new life after shutdown. This Feast of our Blessed Mother marks an end to the dispensation for Attending Mass. It is also the feast day of our Church of St. Mary's. Our full title was St. Mary's Church of the Assumption. Her mural is in our Church ceiling.

Today we bless flowers, vegetables and herbs in honor of the Assumption of our Blessed Virgin Mary. And, we pray: **"O God, who on this day raised up to highest heaven the Mother of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, that by Blessed Mary's prayers and patronage you might communicate to our mortal nature the fruit of her womb, your very Son; we humbly implore you to help us use the fruits of the soil for our temporal and everlasting welfare, aided by the power of your Son and the prayers of His glorious Mother, Mary; through Christ our Lord. All: Amen."**

September 12 will be the Annual Queen of the Apostles Family Fun Day Picnic at the **Mercatili Segilia Park, Moosic**. It will be a time of family prayer beginning with an outdoor Mass **@ 12 Noon**. It will be a time for families to eat together with other parish members at a **Cover dish** following the Mass. It will be a time of games and fun for all the family that day. It will also be the Kick-off for the **Youth Alpha** program.

Thank you for all you are and all you do. God bless you and see you in Church, Fr. Phil

Liturgy of the Word



Liturgy of the Word: When the angel Gabriel visited the young virgin Mary with the momentous, shocking news that she would be the mother of God's Son, she responded faithfully. "May it be done to me according to your word." When a woman spontaneously praised his mother, Jesus told the crowd, "Blessed are those who hear the word of God and observe it." As we listen to God's word today, let us consider how we assent to God's will and incorporate God's word in our lives.



Eucharistic Adoration



Adoration hours are Tuesdays, 9:30 am to 8:00 pm. Rosary and benediction begins at 7:30 pm. If you have any questions or would like to verify your hour, please contact Ann Jake @ 570-457-3521. If you would also like to be a Eucharistic Adorer for any hour on Tuesdays or would like to consider being a backup adorer when we are in need, please contact Ann or the Parish Office at #570-457-3412. The Knights of Columbus will pray the Rosary for Life every second Tuesday of the month from 7:00-8:00 pm. Please pray for all prayer intentions for this day.

Reflections

The Assumption

Question:

What lessons should I learn from the Assumption of Mary?

Answer:

Growing in holiness is similar to training in a sport. We need someone to show us how we can live our faith well. Mary is a model of sanctity. She shows us how to be faithful to God's will, living each day with confidence in God's mercy and love. At the Nativity, in Jesus' public ministry, and at the Crucifixion, we see her steadfast trust. She allows the Lord to use her life to accomplish his plan for her and for all of us. In the Preface of the Mass for the Assumption of Mary, we pray: "For today the Virgin Mother of God was assumed into heaven as the beginning and image of your Church's coming to perfection and a sign of sure hope and comfort to your pilgrim people."

It is this image of holiness that we strive to imitate. In the office, at home, or in our community, we look for signs of God's grace that call us to an ever greater love of him and each other. A greater awareness of God is a sign of our conversion of heart that lives the lessons Mary teaches.



Parish News



Welcome

Queen of the Apostles would like to welcome Bishop Joseph Bambera to our parish as he celebrates the Sunday, August 15th masses for the Feast of the Assumption. We will have a gathering in our Parish Hall after each Sunday mass where refreshments will be served. Today also marks the end of the dispensation, and we would like to WELCOME BACK all of our parishioners to the celebration of the mass. Although COVID is still very prevalent, it is very important that we continue to follow safety guidelines.

- **MASKS-** While masks are not currently mandated, Bishop Bambera has strongly recommended that everyone wear a mask regardless of their vaccination status. All Priests, Deacons, and Eucharistic Ministers must wear masks while distributing Holy Communion. Altar servers are also expected to wear a mask.
- **SERIOUS HEALTH ISSUES-** Anyone who is sick, or who have serious health issues, their caregivers, or those with anxiety or concerns due to the pandemic are still not obligated to attend Mass.
- **LIVESTREAM MASSES-** We will continue to livestream the 10:00AM Sunday mass for all those who feel they are unable to attend in person.

Queen of the Apostles Parish Website

If you want to know what is happening in our parish, you can go to our parish website queenoftheapostles.weconnect.com

This site is updated every Thursday. If any of our ministries want information or pictures posted, simply contact Debbie Callahan at qaparishweb@gmail.com.

Knights of Columbus



The Knights of Columbus State Convention Committee are selling Raffle Tickets for \$5.00 for a prize worth \$500.00 in PA lottery tickets. Drawing is Sunday, August 22nd at 4:00PM. Winner will be notified. Grand Knight Bob Ryzner will have tickets available after all of the masses or you can call him at 570-885-2096. **Only 1000 tickets will be sold!**

The "Coats for Kids" Drive continues and boxes are available at each of the doors of the Church and canisters are available for Monetary Donations. We are accepting gently worn and new coats that we can pass on to those in need.

A representative from **The Pittston Chapter of the Knights of Columbus Columbettes** will speak briefly before all of the masses on the weekend of August 21-22nd. This is the women's auxiliary for the Knights of Columbus out of St. Joseph Marello, Pittston.

The Officers Meeting will be **Monday, August 16th at 6:30PM in the Rectory Basement**, and the **Regular Monthly Meeting** will be **Monday, August 23rd at 6:30PM in the Parish Hall**. All men 18 or older who are participating Catholics are invited to join.

Our Holy Father's Prayer Intention for Aug. 2021

The Church: Let us pray for the Church, that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.

Stewardship



08/08/21 Sunday Collection: \$ 6,957.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Mary, Queen of Heaven,



Life, Family & Culture



"Although we may feel unsure how best to comfort those who mourn, we must stand with them in their time of suffering. Miscarriage touches the lives of many people, yet all too often this tragedy remains unaddressed. This lack of response not only often leads to unresolved grief, but also fails to clearly manifest our belief that each person, from conception onward, is precious and unique." USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "Solace and Strength in the Sorrow of Miscarriage"



The Social Concerns/Respect Life Ministry will be conducting a "Craft Fair and Soup & More Sale" on **October 16, 2021**. Please contact Jane Maxwell at #570-335-8678 if you'd like to participate as a crafter or know of someone who would be interested. Information concerning the Soup & More Sale will be in an upcoming bulletin and online as we get closer to the date.

Harvest Tea: The Women's Guild, along with the Pastoral Council, will again sponsor the Harvest Tea this year. The Tea will be held on **Sunday, November 21st at 2:00 PM in the Parish Hall**. We need hostesses to sponsor each table. This includes selecting a theme for your table and providing food and refreshments that support the theme. Coffee and tea will be provided. The Tea is open to everyone, cost to attend is \$10.00 per person. Proceeds from the Tea will go to the Marian Award, which gives scholarships to graduating high-school seniors from our parish who are furthering their education. If you are interested in reserving a table, or if you would like to attend, please contact Jane Maxwell at (570) 335-8678, Chrissy Wastradowski at (570) 466-3676, or the parish office at (570) 457-3412.



Food Pantry Items for August
Tuna Fish/Canned Meat



Community Events



AVOCA SESQUICENTENNIAL NEWS

The Avoca Borough 150th Anniversary Sesquicentennial Committee is actively seeking basket raffle donations for the Sesquicentennial Celebration weekend! If you or your family would like to donate a basket or raffle item, please contact Kelly at 570-499-7013. All raffle baskets & items are due by September 1st. We are also actively inviting businesses and organizations to join our 150th Anniversary parade! Parade will be held the afternoon of Sunday, September 5th and there will be more details to follow for parade participants. If your business or organization would like to celebrate with us by being part of our parade, please contact Holly at 570-237-7190.

Celebration Events:

Friday, September 3rd: Battle of the Tracks 2

Where: West Avoca Little League Field beginning at 6pm

A friendly, one night kick ball tournament between Avoca and West Avoca to decide which side of the tracks is best to be from! We are looking for kick ball players to form 4 Avoca Teams and 4 West Avoca Teams. \$10 per player and those interested please reach out to Holly 570-237-7190, Kelly 570-499-7013 or Colleen 570-466-0492 to register by August 7th!

Not interested in playing? Come root for your side! Music, raffles, fireworks, food & fun!

Saturday, September 4th: Avoca's "Small Business Saturday"

Support our local businesses, bars and restaurants and see what our small town atmosphere is all about! Some establishments will be offering specials – more details TBA

Sunday, September 5th: Parade & Community Social

A parade in honor of Avoca's 150th Anniversary will begin at 1pm (exact parade route TBA) with a community gathering immediately following the parade on the grounds of Queen of the Apostle's Parish Hall located at 742 Spring Street featuring raffles, food and live music! Come out and catch up with old friends, new friends and neighbors as we celebrate this special moment in our Borough's history!

Please follow the "Avoca Borough's 150th Anniversary Celebration" Facebook page for the most up to date information & details!



Cursillo



The Cursillo Movement in the Diocese of Scranton is sponsoring the following programs. All are welcome.

**Women's Cursillo #73
October, 2021**

School of Leaders:

For further information, please visit the Cursillo website:
www.scrantoncursillo.homestead.com



Avoca Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8335

Annual Chicken Barbeque Dinner will be held on **August 28, 2021** at the post home, 915 Main St., Avoca. Tickets: \$12 each can be obtained by calling the post home at #570-457-7673 or from any member of the post or Auxiliary. Eat In or Take Out.

Time: 12-5 pm or until Sold Out.

Menu: Chicken, Baked Potato, Corn, Cranberry Sauce & Dessert.

TAKE-OUT CHICKEN PARMESAN DINNER

Saint John the Evangelist Parish in Pittston will be holding a Take-Out Chicken Parmesan Dinner on **Wednesday, August 25**. Dinners are \$15 each and include chicken parmesan, pasta in tomato sauce, salad with dressing, and Italian bread. Pickup time is on Wednesday, August 25 between 1:00-3:00 p.m. in the Msgr. Bendik Pastoral Center (former Seton Catholic Auditorium). Entrance is on Church Street in Pittston. Please call Jane Roche at 570-905-0325 no later than Sunday, August 22 to place your order. We are only accepting advance payment. Thank you!

SELL YOUR STUFF: Shop for bargains, **St. Mary's Polish National Catholic Church** will be holding a Yard Sale on **SATURDAY AUGUST 28th 9AM to 2PM**. At 200 Stephenson St. Duryea. For **\$10.00** you can rent an 8 foot by 2 foot table space (**You must bring your own table**) to sell your un-wanted treasures. The yard sale is open to anyone who would like to sell their stuff. We will have food and beverage all day, as well as a bake sale. **PLEASE NOTE: VENDERS & CRAFTERS WELCOME.** To reserve a table space phone **570-457-2291**.

Al-Anon meetings are held every **Thursday night at 7 PM**, at the Brick United Methodist church on Foote Ave., Duryea. This is an anonymous 12-step program of recovery for families and friends of addicts & alcoholics. There are no dues or fees and meetings last approximately one hour and are open to anyone.

Outreach Services



AA Helpline:	1-800-640-7545
Al-Anon -- Friends & Family of those addicted	1-800-339-9006
Bread Basket of NEPA	570-343-2324
Consumer Credit Counseling Service	1-800-602-2227
Catholic Social Services Wilkes Barre	570-822-7188
Scranton	570-207-2283
Greater Pittston Food Pantry (St. John's/Seton)	570-654-9923
National Hotline for Abortion Recovery	1-866-482-5433
PA 24-Hour Child Abuse Hot Line	1-800-932-0313
Pennsylvanians for Human Life, W-B Chapter	570-826-1819
Rachel's Vineyard-Post Abortive Healing	1-877-467-3463
St. Joseph's Center-Mother Infant Program	570-207-6677

Parish Meetings: August, 2021

Pastoral Council Meeting	MON	08/16/21	6:00PM	RECTORY
K of C Officer's Meeting	MON	08/16/21	6:30 PM	RECTORY BASEMENT
Word Meeting	THURS	08/17/21	6:00 PM	RECTORY
K of C Monthly Meeting	MON	08/23/21	6:30 PM	PARISH HALL



**Avoca A.O.H. Neil McLaughlin Division
Thomas P. Durkin Memorial Avoca Open**

The Avoca Open will be held Saturday, Sept. 4th at Pine Hills Golf Course in Taylor, Pa.

All proceeds benefit the Avoca A.O.H. Scholarship Fund which awards scholarships to local senior high school students based on merit and academic accomplishments. Cost is \$90.00 per golfer and Captain & Crew format. Shotgun start at 8:00AM. Money can be dropped off at the West Side Club every Thursday from 7:00-9:00PM. Contact Gene Philbin at 570-313-3079 or Jim Doran at 570-457-2302 for more information.

Mass Intentions for the Week

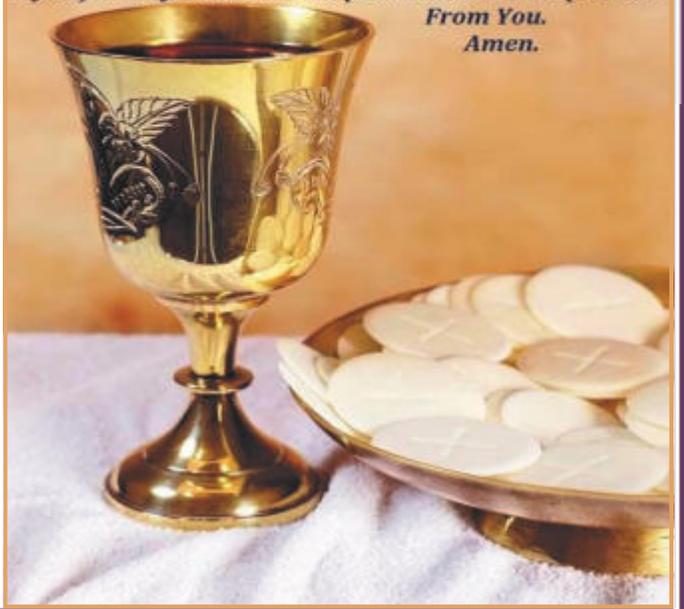
August 15, 2021† 20th Sunday of Ordinary Time
The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- Monday August 16~ St. Stephen of Hungary
8:00 AM John Boos
By Sister, Sharon & Fred
Tuesday August 17
8:00 AM Stanley Kuchar & Joseph Babiarz
By Mary Jane Kuchar
Wednesday August 18
7:00 PM William Everett
By Miriam & Bill Esser
Thursday August 19~ St. John Eudes, Priest
8:00 AM Eleanor Loughney
By Marie & Joe Burns
Friday August 20 ~ St. Bernard, Abbott & Doctor of the Church
8:00 AM Kay George
By Fran Wroblewski & Family
Saturday August 21 ~ St. Pius X, Pope
4:00 PM Robert Joyce Sr.
By Ann Marie Farrell & Family
Sunday August 22 ~ 21th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 AM Parishioners Intentions
10:00 AM Charles Farrell
By Wife, Ann Marie & Family

Ministry Schedule for the Week

Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated From You. Amen.



Ministry Schedule

Beginning September 1st, we will be printing a new Ministry Schedule for Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Altars Servers. If you are interested in being put back into the rotation, please contact the Parish Office. We are always looking for new volunteers! Anyone who is in 3rd grade or above and received 1st Eucharist are invited to be an Altar Server.

Sacramental Bread & Wine throughout August in loving memory of Deceased members of the Bartush Family by Mike & Ann Jake

Sanctuary Candle in loving memory of Don Gilchrist by Mary Ann & Family

Sacred Heart Shrine in loving memory of Brian Wood by Family

Sanctity of Life Memorial in loving memory of Dorothy & Dominick Franceschelli by Kathy & Paul Franceschelli

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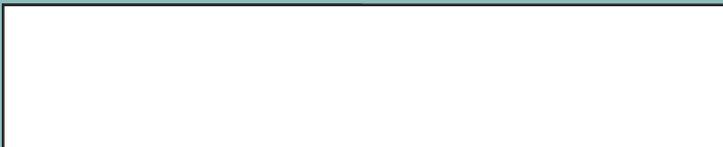
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