

Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish

1101 Willow St., Peckville, PA

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Phone: (570)383-3244 Fax: (570)383-8697



PASTOR: Rev. Andrew Kurovsky

Pastor Emeritus: Msgr. Peter Madus

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE: Gayle Castellani

Assistants: Ellen March and Betsy Kondrat

BUSINESS MANAGER: Colleen Hart

Receptionist: Anne Berardi

DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP: Jonathan Mengoni

MINISTER OF MUSIC: Ernest Mengoni

Housekeeping: Mary Ann Dubee

Maintenance: Bill Kosydar & Al Angelini

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil - 4:00 p.m. Sunday - 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Tues & Thurs - 12:10 p.m.; Wed & Fri 7:00 a.m.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:00 p.m., or by appointment

OFFICE EMAIL: shjoffice@shjpeck.org

PASTOR'S EMAIL: FrAndy@shjpeck.org

WEBSITES: www.SacredHeartPeckville.org,

FAITH FORMATION CENTER: 570-383-2777

Gayle Castellani: 570-892-0231

A WORD FROM FR. ANDREW

Dear parishioners and friends,

CHRIST CAME INTO THE WORLD AS A BABY...NOT A PUPPY!

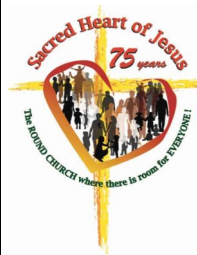
At least I hope that statement grabbed your attention! But it is very true. Did you ever notice that most of the ads on TV include the use of our furry friends, or as many call them, their “fur babies,” as tools for marketing? I am struck by how many television ads and marketing ploys utilize puppies where young children, or even babies, would have been the norm. I applaud these efforts by Madison Ave. and advertising companies everywhere. It is high time that we stop exploiting children and babies to market products. Children and babies are human beings. They should never be used for exploitation. So, let's bring on the dogs and the cats! Let's use them to help sell cars where we can fit 15 dachshunds into the back seat where there was once room for 3 children. Let's make play dates on the beach for our basset hounds where once we used to build sandcastles with our children, our nieces and nephews, and the friends with whom we went on vacation. Let's wait with joyful anticipation and expectation for the arrival of our new pet, as once we did for our first child. And let's be sure that we provide special food following strict dietary guidelines for our pedigree poodle as once we did for a baby with allergies.

Oh yes, my friends, let's bring on the pets and use them to sell us everything under the sun, everything that we think we need. And above all else, let them be the hallmark for the glitz and glitter of Christmas. But just in case you want to know the real meaning, just in case you want to know the secret of joy and life, just in case you may want to find out what God really thinks of you and me...take a moment to look into a manger this Christmas, and get ready to be surprised. Because there in that Christmas stable, you will find a babe and not a beagle! For Christ indeed came into the world as a baby... not a puppy!

Love,
Fr. Andrew

A PERSONAL NOTE

Wednesday, December 18th will mark 60 years that my parents, Andrew and Marie Colonna Kurovsky, brought me home to Wilkes-Barre, gave me my “forever home” through adoption, and called me “Son” for the first time. I am grateful to God for my birth parents and for their courageous decision. I am even more grateful for the parents who raised me, my mom and dad. As I celebrate this milestone, I respectfully ask all those who read this, too please consider saving the word “Adoption” ...for babies and children and not for pets. God bless all adopted children and may God bless our furry friends as well!

**JUBILEE 75**

Wow ... we are nearing 70% with \$309,150 (68.7%) pledged/paid as our total for the Jubilee 75 Campaign. Please consider a pledge today. You can pledge an amount within your means to be paid over a three-year period beginning next year - 2020! We are finalizing the scope of work for the Hallways and bathroom – so watch for that work to begin shortly after January 2020!

Thank you for your generosity!!

MEMORIALS DEC. 16, – DEC. 22, 2019**Altar Candle,**

In Memory of: Robert Philip
(David/Brian/Kayli)

Mass Intentions

Mon., Dec. 16

*No Mass

Tue., Dec. 17

12:10 p.m.

Peter Mondati
(Cordelli/Carpinetti Family)
John Bohenek
(Eileen/Thomas/Michael)

Wed., Dec. 18

7:00 a.m.

Grace Grazzanti
(SHJ 1 yr. Anniversary)
Lando Polo Preschutti
(Jerry Preschutti)

Thu., Dec. 19

12:10 p.m.

Mary Lou Matoushek
(SHJ 1 yr. Anniversary)
Anita Lesho (Bob/Elaine Caljean)

Fri., Dec. 20

7:00 a.m.

Frank/Julia Anastasio
(Jack/Roseann)
Vincent/Mildred Amico
(Wayne/Kathy Beck)

Sat., Dec. 21

4:00 p.m.

Pietro/Giovannina Gatti
(Family)
Robert Philip (Tony/Lorraine)

Sun., Dec. 22

8:00 a.m.

Peter Cordelli
(SHJ 1 yr. Anniversary)
Lando/June/Cathy Preschutti
(Rich/Diane/Dylan/Lucas)

10:00 a.m.

John Bohenek
(SHJ 1 yr. Anniversary)
Dec'd Members of the Parish

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

In the charity of your prayers, please remember the sick, the suffering, the bereaved, and those who have recently died.

CHRISTMAS MASSES AT SHJ

Because of the growth of the parish, and so that you can plan ahead, our Christmas mass schedule this year will be as follows:

Tuesday, Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, 2019

4:00 p.m. in Church and simulcast in Holy Family Hall
10:00 p.m. Candlelight Mass in Church
(a quieter alternative to 4:00)

Wednesday, Christmas Morning, December 25, 2019

8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. in the Church

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Sunday Offering for Dec. 08, 2019 was \$ 7,932.50
Religious Retirement 1,965.00
Misc. \$ 1,833.00
Total \$11,730.50

"The Round Church ... Where There's Room For Everyone."



Check us out on our new **Facebook** page and **Website!** Stay up to date on our latest news, photos and to keep you posted on church activities and events happening in our Parish community. Website: sacredheartpeckville.org Facebook: @sacredheartpeckvillePA

ADVENT SCHEDULE OF Penance SERVICES

In addition to Confessions being heard at Sacred Heart every Saturday at 3:00 p.m., priests from churches throughout the Mid-Valley will be at each of the Penance Services below to make the sacrament more available to all, as we prepare for the Solemnity of Christmas.

	Date	Time	Church
Sunday	Dec. 15 th	3:00 pm	Christ the King St. Thomas Aquinas, Church, Archbald
Tuesday	Dec. 17 th	6:00pm	Sacred Hearts, Jermyn
Tuesday	Dec. 17 th	6:30pm	Blessed Sacrament, Throop
Wednesday	Dec. 18 th	6:00pm	Sacred Heart, Peckville
Thursday	Dec. 19 th	6:00pm	Queen of Angels, Jessup

CHRISTMAS WAFERS NOW AVAILABLE

For those who observe the Christmas wafer tradition on Christmas Eve, please note that the packets are located on the table in the Willow St. and Mott St. vestibules only while supplies last. A donation of \$3.00 is suggested for each packet.

PARISH CALENDARS NOW AVAILABLE FOR 2020

We sincerely thank the Louis Margotta Family with their Funeral Home Establishments in Jessup and Peckville in providing Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish with new calendars for 2020. These new calendars are located on the table of each entrance.



SACRED HEART CHRISTMAS CAROLERS

Members of our music ministry will be caroling through the neighborhood on Friday, December 20th starting at 6pm and ending around 8pm. We will begin on Willow Street, make our way over to Riverside Dr.,

Gilroy St., and Myers Ave. (All by the Blakely Recreational Complex). We will finish the night at the "Holiday Home" on Marion Street. Come hear us sing!

PRAYER & PINTS

Faith and Fellowship for young adults, ages 21-35. Come eat, drink (BYOB), and join in conversation, fun, and community as we explore the larger questions in life and in our Catholic faith. We will meet each Sunday of Advent (Dec. 15th & 22nd) @ 6:30pm. The meeting will be held in Holy Family Hall here at Sacred Heart. For more information, contact Jonathan Mengoni at 570-383-2777 or by email: jtmengoni@gmail.com



LOADING UP THE SLEIGH

Christmas is fast approaching and through your generosity, gifts will benefit residents of St. Joseph's Center and local nursing homes. In order to deliver packages in time for Christmas, please have the donations **wrapped** with **ornament tag** **securely in place and bring to the Church by this Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019.** Thank you for your generosity!



CHRISTMAS CAROL FESTIVAL

Our first Christmas Carol Festival, including our children's choir, parishioner participation, a visit from some very special guests and caroling for all, will commence this Sunday, December 15 at 2:00 p.m. in the church. Refreshments will follow in Holy Family Hall. So that we have plenty of refreshments we are asking our parishioners to help with cookies, either by baking them or purchasing some, which can be shared at the reception. What a great way for families and all parishioners to get into the true meaning and spirit of Christmas.



"WHAT TO BRING???"

If attending the Christmas Carol festival this Sunday afternoon, children are asked to bring a bell for ringing. All are asked to bring the baby Jesus from their home nativity sets to have them blessed. And those who bake or who can purchase cookies for sharing...are asked to drop them off in Holy Family Hall before proceeding to the Church.

LET'S MAKE ROOM FOR EVERYONE

Let's show everyone our welcoming attitude by making room in the pews for all to sit down. We realize some prefer to sit at the end of the pew but please offer the inside seats to others. Let's be mindful and helpful to our fellow parishioners and visitors who may be looking for a seat. Remember, "We're the Round Church...Where There's Room for Everyone!"

INCLEMENT WEATHER OFFICE HOURS AND ACTIVITIES

Following the Valley View School District, the parish office will close and all parish activities and meetings will be cancelled in the event of early dismissal or school closure. Thank you and please be safe!

DID YOU SIGN UP FOR THE REMIND APP?

Parents of Faith Formation students, we will be using the Remind App to keep you informed of Sunday Faith Formation Class cancellations due to weather conditions. As always, please use your discretion if road conditions are poor in your area. If you haven't already done so, please sign up for the free "Remind App" by texting this message @dh943g3 to this number 81010. You will be invited to join our group entitled "Sacred Heart Kids". Please note there are no classes on Dec. 22nd & 29th in observance of the Christmas Holidays. Thank you.

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL GOAL

Our parish goal is \$44,000.00, and currently we raised \$36,265.40 or 82.42% which is very good. Please consider a donation or a pledge today. Thank you for your generosity to this most **worthy cause**.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Thank you for your usual generosity in supporting the annual collection last weekend for the Retirement Fund for Religious Sisters, Brothers and Order Priest in their many unfunded health care needs. We raised a total of \$1,965.00. Thank you!!