

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

Fourth Sunday of **ADVENT**



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,

HURRY! Grab your laptop or i-phone! Find that Amazon app and place that last minute order for that “must have” gift you forgot to pick up. If you’re lucky and you qualify, your Amazon drone can have it at your door in a matter of hours. (Beware of porch-pirates, however!) There is very little time left for you to get your last-minute gifts before Christmas. It seems that every Christmas there is another “must have” item that hits the market, which turns relatively sane shoppers into what sometimes appears to be bombastic headhunters. If you’re my age or older, you remember “Tickle Me Elmo” or the introduction of “Nintendo” or better yet, the ever so homely, yet loveable, “Cabbage Patch Doll”. My personal favorite was the “Pet Rock!” I had two, so that the one wouldn’t get lonely. So here we are in the final week of our preparations for Christmas 2019. Are you ready?

How about spiritually? After all of the gifts are unwrapped and the toys set aside (which our kids simply had to have), or when the last cookie has been eaten or the decorations and lights have been thrown into a box, twisted and waiting to be untangled again next year, it will be the time that we spent with one another and the feeling of serenity and peace which fills our hearts because we have made ready a welcome place for the Christ Child; it is this and only this which has the power to sustain us in the coming year. Despite all our shopping and physical preparations, we know that they all pale, considering how well we have spiritually prepared and have come to celebrate Christmas this year.

There are still opportunities this week to take some time, to quiet your heart in preparation for Jesus’s coming. Perhaps it means just taking a few extra moments to be still and to reflect, to read and sit with a passage from Scripture, to listen to some quiet music, or to do that one thing extra for someone else that you normally would not have done. But whatever it is, please try to find some time for yourself and your relationship with Jesus Christ. Please take some time for just the two of you amidst all your other preparations. For it really can make an unbelievable difference in your celebration of Christmas this year.

Waiting in Love,
Fr. Andrew

**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

**MEMORIALS DEC. 23, – DEC. 29, 2019****Mass Intentions**

Mon., Dec. 23

*No Mass

Tue., Dec. 24

4:00 p.m.

Living/Dec'd Members of the Parish

10:00 p.m.

Living/Dec'd Members of the Parish

Wed., Dec. 25

8:00 a.m.

Living/Dec'd Members of the Parish

10:00 a.m.

Living/Dec'd Members of the Parish

Thu., Dec. 26

12:10 p.m.

*No Mass

Fri., Dec. 27

7:00 a.m.

*No Mass

Sat., Dec. 28

4:00 p.m.

Dec'd Members of the Parish
Morgan Miles (Family)

Sun., Dec. 29

8:00 a.m.

Patricia Sweeney (Family)
Helen Warholc (SHJ 1 year Anniversary)

10:00 a.m.

Joseph/Mary Stefin (Family)
Marion Shefchick (Linda Zipay)

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/NEW YEAR OFFICE HOURS**

Closed Dec. 24th & 25th
Office Open December 26th & 27th
9:00 a.m. to Noon
January 1, 2020—CLOSED
MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

PARISH GIVING TREE

Thank you for the magnificent outpouring of gifts for those in need from our parish, local nursing home residents, and Saint Joseph's Center during this Christmas season. May God bless you for sharing your gifts with the less fortunate in our midst.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Sunday Offering for Dec. 15, 2019
is unavailable due to early print..
May God bless you for your continued support of SHJ.

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



FAITH FORMATION CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Please note there are no classes on Sunday, Dec. 22, 2019 & Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019 in observance of the Christmas and New Year Holidays. Classes will resume on Sunday, Jan. 5, 2020. Thank you! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!

DID YOU SIGN UP FOR THE REMIND APP?

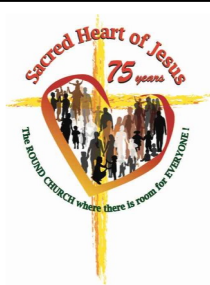
Parents of Faith Formation students, we will be using the Remind App to keep you informed of Sunday Faith Formation Class cancellations due to weather conditions. As always, please use your discretion if road conditions are poor in your area. If you haven't already done so, please sign up for the free "Remind App" by texting this message @dh943g3 to this number 81010. You will be invited to join our group entitled "Sacred Heart Kids".

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.

LOOK TO OUR ELDERS

Grandparents, who have received the blessing to see their children's children (cf. Ps 128:6), are entrusted with a great responsibility: to transmit their life experience, their family history, the history of a community, of a people; to share wisdom with simplicity, and the faith itself—the most precious heritage! Happy is the family who has grandparents close by! A grandfather is a father twice over and a grandmother is a mother twice over.



JUBILEE 75

Due to early print of the Bulletin, our report for the Jubilee 75 Campaign could not be updated. Please continue to consider a pledge today. You can pledge an amount within your means to be paid over a three-year period beginning next year - 2020! Looking forward to renovations beginning soon after the first of the year! Thank you for your generosity!!

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 on Dec. 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



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

SAY THESE THREE WORDS

In order to have a healthy family, three words need to be used. And I want to repeat these three words: please, thank you, sorry. Three essential words! We say please so as not to be forceful in family life: "May I please do this? Would you be happy if I did this?" We do this with a language that seeks agreement. We say thank you, thank you for love! Be honest with me, how many times do you say thank you to your wife, and you to your husband? How many days go by without uttering this word? And the last word: sorry. We all make mistakes, and on occasion someone gets offended in the marriage, in the family when harsh words are spoken. But please listen to my advice: don't ever let the sun set without reconciling. Peace is made each day in the family.
Pope Francis

HOSPITAL SICK CALLS

It frequently happens that we have parishioners hospitalized for significant periods of time about whom we never hear. Information may be held back because of the current privacy (HIPPA) laws, which seek to protect a patient's privacy. Therefore, when a family member or friend is admitted to a hospital, please call the parish office and leave a message if you think he or she may welcome a visit or a blessing. Hospital visitation is a very important part of every parish's ministry.

CATHOLIC *Social Services*

Army Veteran finds hope and a calling
serving other veterans at St. Francis Commons



"St. Francis Commons saved my life in many different ways and has made a difference not only in my life but in many other veterans who are here and for the staff...."

Dan Grogan

Catholic Social Services offers a full range of programs for those in need including specialized programs for veterans. Some CSS residential settings offer 24-hour skilled support for men and women in transition after military service. These facilities combine independence with security, safety with socialization for many who face illness, addictions and homelessness. Your Appeal gifts support these programs.

Diocese of Scranton
2019 **DIOCESAN**
ANNUAL APPEAL

SERVING faith
IN WITH HOPE
AND GRATITUDE

Visit AnnualAppeal.org and DioceseofScranton.org/css