



March 9, 2014
First Sunday of Lent
THE FAITH COMMUNITIES
OF
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
AND
ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Pastor - Fr. Anthony Francis Spilka, OFMConv
St. Francis of Assisi 120 Barron Avenue Johnstown PA 15906
Rectory Phone - 814-539-1632 Activity Center - 814 - 539-3518 Fax: 814 - 539-5888
Hospital Chaplain in Residence - Fr. James Smyka, OFMConv.
123 Barron Avenue Johnstown PA 15906 Phone - 814 - 533 - 6236
Email - sfassisich@atlanticbbn.net Oremus Ministry (Prayer Chain) – 814-539-1632
Web Site: <http://www.stfrancisofassisijohnstown.com>
St. Michael the Archangel 180 Gilbert Street Johnstown PA 15906 Rectory Phone- 814-535-6277

<p>Daily Mass Schedule at St. Francis of Assisi Mon / Wed / Thurs/ Fri; Noon; Tues. – Noon & 6:30 PM Sat. 8:00AM; First Friday Noon and 5:30 PM Confession - Tues., 6:00 PM, Sat. 3:15 - 3:45 PM First Friday 5 PM Weekend Mass Schedule Saturday – 4:00 PM / Sunday – 7:30 AM / 10:00 AM Parish Secretary – Carol Pisula Office Hours - 9 AM to 3 PM - Monday thru Thursday Parish Council President - Ryan Woodruff Finance Council President - William Heim Cemetery Council President - William Heim Music Minister - Gale Bala Director of Religion Education - Carol Pisula 254-1961</p>	<p>Daily Mass Schedule at St. Michael the Archangel Monday and Friday – 9:00 AM Confession – Saturday – 5:15 PM Weekend Mass Schedule Saturday – 5:30 PM / Sunday 8:45 AM Parish Council President – Doug Puchko Finance Council - Rick Rambish / Len Vigna Marisa Williams</p>
---	---

Baptism - Parents are expected to be registered members of the Parish and to attend a class for new parents in preparation for the Baptism of their child. It is encouraged that this be done prior to the birth of the child. Please call the Rectory to make early arrangements.

Reconciliation The Sacrament of God’s merciful love and compassion is celebrated Tues at 6 PM and Sat 3:15 PM at St. Francis of Assisi and at St. Michael’s Sat at 5:15 PM. Communal Penance Services - Advent and Lent.

Anointing of the Sick Communal Celebration 2nd Sunday of Advent and 3rd Sunday of Lent.

Marriage In accordance with Diocesan directives, arrangements must be made at least 9 months before the marriage date. All couples are required to attend Diocesan sponsored Pre-Cana sessions and to participate in the FOCCUS inventory. Call the Rectory for information and schedules.

Christian Initiation (RCIA) Those who are interested in becoming Catholic, as well as those who are interested in learning more about their Catholic Faith, may call the Parish office for more information.

Parish Membership We are always happy to welcome new parishioners. You may register at the Parish office. Registration, the practice of stewardship (the regular use of envelopes) and regular participation in the Eucharist

indicates active membership and eligibility to act as a Godparent or Sponsor. Your stewardship of time, treasure and talent is essential for the common good and provides a stable income for the Parish, enabling us to prepare a budget.

Ministry to the Sick If you or someone you know are unable to attend Mass and would like to receive the Sacrament of Penance or Holy Eucharist please contact the Parish Office to schedule a visit.

NEWS FROM ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

REST IN PEACE – please keep in your prayers the family and friends of +Leo Barczak who was laid to rest last week. Welcoming God, receive from our hands the loved ones we return to you. *Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord.*

WE REJOICE in the Baptism of Bella Anne Fitzsimons and Zia Rose Fitzsimons and congratulate their parents, godparents, and family as they celebrate the beginning of their new life with Christ.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: MARDI GRAS – will be held on Saturday, March 1 in the Activity Center from 6:00PM until 11:00PM. Cost: \$25.00/couple, \$15.00/single. Admission includes appetizers, beer, soda (cash bar available), turkey dinner with all the fixings, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetables, jambalaya rice. Music provided by “Flood City Brass.” Doors open at 5:15PM. Tickets are available in the vestibule of the Church or by calling the Parish Office at 539-1632. **THANK YOU** to all who have already purchased tickets for this event.

Gratias agimus tibi... Thank you! Grazie! Merci! Danke! Dziekuje! To who had a hand in the absolutely marvelous Mardi Gras Party! To Kathy Legat, decorator “par excellence” and her crew, Mary Francis King, chief chef and all her workers, Cecilia Neiderer, PR person and cohorts! Karen Kohan, solicitor general of the baskets and Jeff Konieczny, Master Bartender and fellow bartenders! You were all great and made this Mardi Gras one of the best Parish activities in a very long time! *fr. Anthony Francis*

FISH FRY – Thank you to all who helped with the Ash Wednesday Fish Fry. **DON'T FORGET:** Our next Fish Fry is Friday, March 14. Prep work will begin on Thursday, March 13 at 8:00AM. Fish Fries for the Lenten Season will be on March 21, 28, April 4, 11. In order to continue the success of the Fish Fry **MUCH HELP WILL BE NEEDED DURING LENT.** *There will not be a Fish Fry on Good Friday.*

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will take place scheduled for each Friday of Lent beginning, March 7 at 7:00PM.

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY AND BITTER LAMENTATIONS will take place each Sunday of Lent at 3:00PM. Plan to use this time to prepare for the great Feast of Easter.

Thank you to the following who have volunteered to be an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion or Lector: Samantha Stevanus (Extra Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion), Tyler Stevanus (Extra Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion). If you interested in either ministry you still have an opportunity to notify the Parish Office of your interest at 539-1632.

ON THE WEEKEND of March 22 & 23 our parish will host *Project Bread for Life*, a grassroots Catholic effort which sells BREAD in order to raise funds to support the work of the Sisters of the Community of the Poor Servants of the Mother of God. The Sisters operate the HIV/AIDS Orphanage and Clinic of St. Clare in Kltui and Meru in Kenya, Africa. The donation requested per loaf is \$5.00; however, any donation of \$3.00 or more will be accepted. The funds raised, after the cost of the bread, are sent directly to educational and clinical treatment programs sponsored by the Poor Servants of the Mother of God Community of Religious Sisters (S.M.G.). Your willingness to assist is invaluable to help us care for the needs of innocent children afflicted with this most terrible disease. Please consider sponsoring this noteworthy ministry by preparing to buy one or more loaves of bread. Your generosity always brings the gift of hope and life to children who are most in need.

LIGHT BY OUR LADY QUEEN OF HEAVEN will burn this week for the Health of all Cancer Patients and Survivors.

LAST WEEKEND'S CONTRIBUTION TO OUR PARISH - Adults - \$2,478.88; Children - \$30.00; Misc. - \$1,732.65. Total: \$3,204.55. Adults used 223 of 391 envelopes issued. Children used 19 of 79 envelopes issued. Thank you for your continued generosity to the Parish.

NEWS FROM ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL PARISH

ATTENTION: There will NOT be Mass on Monday, March 10 at St. Michael the Archangel.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will take place each Friday of Lent beginning, March 7 at 3:00PM. Because 3:00PM is the hour of Divine Mercy, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be prayed before Stations of the Cross.

WE ARE IN NEED of additional Lectors, particularly for the Sunday Masses. We are also in need of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. This is a very beautiful ministry and certainly it demands a deep love for the Holy Eucharist. What a special way to assist in the distribution of Holy Communion to your brothers and sisters. If you are interested in assisting with these very important ministries, please drop your name in the collection basket or contact the Parish office for more information. *Thank you to the following who have volunteered: Linda Popchak (Lector); Paulette Budash (Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion); Mary Simmons (Lector).*

THANK YOU to Chris Bunnell for volunteering her time to be our “sacristy angel.”

CANDLE BY THE BLESSED MOTHER will burn this week in memory of +Tillie Sabo by M/M Denny Sabo.

LAST WEEKEND’S CONTRIBUTION TO OUR PARISH - Total Collection: \$1,269.00. Adult envelopes: 84, children: 12. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI & ST. MICHAEL

THE 2014 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL will begin in a few weeks. All contributions received over our parish goal will return to the parish. Please review Bishop Mark’s invitation to participate when it arrives and return your gift card on March 23. Thank you for supporting your parish!

HOW ABOUT A LENTEN RESOLUTION THAT CAN GO BEYOND LENT? – Consider reading the Bible each day (during Lent and after Lent) with the insert that begins on the 1st Sunday of Lent and continues and continues and continues...Good Luck and God’s Blessing for a beautiful journey into the Word of God.

SYMBOLS OF THE PASSION OF JESUS

During the First Week of Lent, a CROWN OF THORNS is placed on the cross to remind us that Jesus was crucified. He was crowned with a crown of thorns as a King “of a Kingdom that is not of this world” (John 18:36). The thorns were embedded in the head of Jesus causing excruciating pain. He allowed this to happen for you and me. My heart hears the stanza of the hymn WHEN I BELHOD THE WONDROUS CROSS “Did e’er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown.”

Matthew 27:30 – Weaving a CROWN out of THORNS they fixed it on His head, and stuck a reed in His right hand. Then they began to mock Him by dropping to their knees before Him saying, “All hail King of the Jews.” **Mark 15: 17-18** – They dressed Him in royal purple, then wove a CROWN OF THORNS and put it on Him and began to salute Him, “All hail, King of the Jews.” **John 19:2-3** - The soldiers then wove a CROWN OF THORNS and fixed it on His head, throwing around His shoulders a cloak of royal purple. Repeatedly they came up to Him and said, “All hail, King of the Jews, slapping His face as they did so.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

Helen Beck, Rose Blaschak, Pauline Boldin, Betty Boxler, Vincent Bremer, Mary Chamiok, Jean Chase, Sister Carol Jean Czynnik, Mary Davis, Baby Grayson Esposito, Stephen Fabina, LeAnn Golby, Alicia Junghans, Susan Keselyak, Donald Kohan, Anne, Kathryn Legat, Mary Liptak, Helen Malysko, Rosalie Marcinko, Jeri Miltenberger, Marci Nickels, Bernard Picklo, Karen Pinkas, Jim Popchak, Betty Rerko, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, Frances Sakmar, Robert Schiffhauer, Aurora Schrum, Thaddeus Schrum, James Schuster, Carol Sobecky, Anthony Sokolowski, Veronica Smith, Agnes Swarney, Rose Trapanotto, Emily Turkovich, Katherine Twardziak, Irene Virus, and Agnes Warhul .

=====

SALUTE TO THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY AND A REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS

May God bless these brave men and women who serve God and Country.

Ensign Adam Guaro, USCG; Brandon Burdett, USMC; Capt. Glenn Joseph Lintz, US Navy, Carlisle PA; Master at Arms 2nd Class Izeke W. Pinkas, El Centro CA; SSgt. Joshua Petak, Army, National Guard; Lt. Col. Joshua P. Higgins, US Army ; Petty Officer 1st Class Paul Rambish, US Navy, Coronado Naval Base, San Diego; PFC Ethan Serball, USMC, Cherry Point, NC; PFC Joseph Rivera, USMC; Ret. SMSgt. Michael A. Caddy, Captain Melinda Rovon, Kyrgystan Transfer Base; Lt. Gen. Raymond Palumbo, US Army; HMC David Bakos, US Navy; PFC; Lance Corporal Jacob Taylor, USMC; Private 1st Class Zack Taylor, US Army; Spc. Cody Holloway, US Army, Afghanistan; Trista L. Urban, PFC, Army National Guard; Jared N. Dull, HM3, US Navy, Quantico, Va.; Stefanie Kollar, TSgt. Air Force, Hurlburt Field, Fort Walton Beach, Fla., Fr. Don Fullerton, USS Enterprise, Airman 1st. Class Maxwell Schutte, F. E. Warren, Wy; Sgt. Bryan Maxwell Porath, 1st Lt Aaron Donahey, US Army, Fort Bliss, El Paso, Texas; Spec Jacob T. Stone, Army National Guard, Austin, Texas; 2nd Class Petty Officer Heather L. Dovala, USS William P. Lawrence, DDG 110, San Diego, Ca., Pvt. 1st. Class Kegan Solomon, Camp Lejeune, NC; Spec Jarod Pisarchik, Army National Guard; Ens. Kara Yingling, USS Higgins; Lt. JG Shannon Yingling; Pvt Daniel Maslo, Camp Geiger, NC

To add a name to our Salute to those in the Military, please call 539-1632.

=====

COMMUNITY NEWS

PRO LIFE VIGIL - Every Thursday from 4:00PM - 5:00PM we hold a prayer vigil across from the Franklin Street Planned Parenthood facility here in Johnstown. For more information call Gale at 539-0155.

BROWNSTOWN RESIDENTS – Fish Fry – Support your local Fire Company every Friday of Lent, including Good Friday from Noon to 8:00PM. If you can’t get there we will deliver. Please call 536-7445. Cost of dinners - \$9.50.

INVITATION TO GOD’S LOVE AND MERCY – A catechesis for adults is continuing at St. Therese Church, 536 Decker Avenue, to help you rediscover the treasures of your Baptism. God created us to be happy and listening to the catechesis you can clearly see His loving plan for you. Courage! This would be an excellent way to help you into this Lenten season. The sessions are held Monday & Thursday at 7:00PM in the Church chapel.

ST. BENEDICT PARISH presents Why Be Catholic, A Lenten Mission Journey of Faith, on Sunday, March 16 through Tuesday, March 18 at 7:00PM. Admission is free; good will offering will be taken.

ST. ANDREW CHURCH Annual Novena to the Infant of Prague will begin on Sunday, March 23 at 7:00PM and will continue until Monday, March 31 at 7:00PM. We will have additional priests to hear confessions after Mass every night.

IF YOU ARE PARKING in a handicap parking space, please make sure you have proper ID displayed in your car.

