



**NOVEMBER 23, 2014**  
*Our Lord Jesus Christ,*  
*King of the Universe*  
**THE FAITH COMMUNITY**  
**OF**  
**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI**

**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*

**Email - [sfassisich@atlanticbnn.net](mailto:sfassisich@atlanticbnn.net)**

**Oremus Ministry** (Prayer Chain) – 814-539-1632

**Web Site:** <http://www.stfrancisofassisijohnstown.com>

**Daily Mass Schedule at St. Francis of Assisi**

Mon / Wed / Thurs/ Fri. / Sat; 8:00AM; Tues. –6:30PM

First Friday 8:00AM and 5:30 PM

**Confession** - Tues., 6:00PM, Sat. 3:15 - 3:45PM

First Friday 5:00PM

Rosary Society – First Sunday of the Month – 2:00PM

**Weekend Mass Schedule**

Saturday – 4:00PM / Sunday – 7:30AM / 9:30AM

**Parish Secretary** – Carol Pisula

**Office Hours** – 9:00AM to 3:00PM – Mon. thru Thurs.

**Parish Council President** - Ryan Woodruff

**Finance Council President** – Lynn Rován

**Cemetery Council President** - William Heim

**Music Minister** - Gale Bala

**Director of Religion Education** - Carol Pisula

**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. Communal Penance Services - Advent and Lent.

**Anointing of the Sick Communal** - Celebration 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**Annual Catholic Appeal Goal: \$24,795.00**  
**As of Nov. 17: 10,004.00 was pledged for 29% of goal by 96 families/342 households**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTE:** Mass on Thursday, November 27, Thanksgiving Day will be celebrated at 9:00AM. Please plan on taking part in the distribution of the “fruits of the Mass” on this day giving thanks to God for all that He has done for us.

**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS** the family & friends of +Josephine Hockey who was laid to rest last week. Welcoming God, receive from our hands the loved ones we return to You.

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 8** - is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and a Holy Day of Obligation. Please note: The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has stated that a Vigil Mass for the Holy Day CANNOT be celebrated on Sunday, December 7. The schedule of Masses for Monday December 8 is: 8:00AM and 5:30PM.

**SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK** will take place at the 4:00PM Mass on Saturday, December 7 and the 7:30AM & 9:30AM Masses on Sunday, December 7. According to Church guidelines this sacrament is available to Catholics who have: reached the age of reason and begin to fall in danger of death as a result of illness or old age; who are undergoing surgery whenever a serious illness is the reason for the surgery; who are elderly if they have been notably weakened even though there is no serious illness present; sick children if they have sufficient use of reason to be strengthened by this sacrament. We will celebrate this Sacrament of the Sick during Mass so that the gathered community can pray for our sisters and brothers who are being anointed.

**JOE BARTKO MEMORIAL ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD KITCHEN DRIVE** –Our food and household items collection drive for the St. Vincent de Paul Food Kitchen is in progress. The collection will end on Sunday, November 23. Monetary donations will also be accepted. Donations may be brought to the Church vestibule at all Masses. They may also be brought to the Parish Office during regular office hours. A suggested list of items is attached to the bags for your donations. However, all other non-perishable items will be greatly appreciated. Envelopes for monetary donations are available in the vestibule along with the bags. Last year’s drive was a huge success.



**BARGAIN OF THE MONTH** – Chance to win 31 times! \$50.00 a day! \$100.00 on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception; \$200.00 for Christmas (what a great present); \$250.00 for New Year’s Eve (what a way to start the year!). **CANDY CANE CASH TICKET** giveaway begins December 1. Tickets available before and after Masses. You may also purchase tickets at the Parish Office or call Cindy at 539-3128. Join the fun and get your ticket today. Only two weeks to go! Let’s make this ticket fund raiser a success. Thanks to those who have already purchased their tickets.

**CHRISTMAS GOB SALE** – Get your gobs for Christmas! Gobs will be sold in tray form (12 gobs per tray) decorated beautifully for special Christmas gifts. Chocolate gobs will be available with red, green and white icing. Placed on decorative red & green doilies on a nice tray. Candy will be included on the tray. Cellophane wrapped and tied with a beautiful bow, these trays will make nice gifts for your “special” loved ones. Order now by calling: Margaret or Betty Scott – 539-7921; Betty Spisak – 539-4934 or the Parish Office at 539-1632. **Deadline for orders is Sunday, November 30.** Pick up for orders is Saturday, December 13 from 9AM – 12Noon. A sample tray is available for viewing in the vestibule of the church.

**SANCTUARY CANDLE** will burn this week for the Health of Margie Saloka by Edward & Georgiann Petak.

**INCLUDED WITH THE BULLETIN THIS WEEK** you will find information concerning a sign for the Church. Please read the information and consider joining the endeavor.

**CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PARTY** will be held on Sunday, December 7 in the Activity Center for children ages 12 and under. Festivities will be held from 12:30 – 3:30PM. A sign-up sheet will be available in the vestibule of the Church. Deadline for sign-up is Sunday, November 30.

**FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS** will be celebrated on Sunday, December 14 at 2:00PM. A light social will take place in the Activity Center following Lessons and Carols.

**OFFERTORY ENVELOPES** are available for pick up in the vestibule. If you or someone you know did not receive envelopes, please contact the Parish Office.

**SECOND COLLECTION** this weekend, November 22 & 23 will take place for Catholic Charities of Altoona-Johnstown. Since 1940, Catholic Charities has helped our neighbors throughout central Pennsylvania regardless of faith or background. Last year, fifteen counselors helped 5,612 families with emergency needs such as heat, rent, shelter, doctors visits and funerals. While the average request was a seemingly modest \$246, Catholic Charities had enough funds to help only 20% of those who sought assistance. Because the Annual Catholic Appeal helps cover operating expenses, 100% of this collections will directly help neighbors in need. Thank you for helping Catholic Charities of Altoona-Johnstown to reduce poverty in our communities.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND:** Adults: \$2,743.71; Loose: \$331.49; Children: \$32.50; Candles: \$82.25; Monthly - \$28.00; All Souls: \$5.00; All Saints: \$30.00; Misc.: \$385.60. Total Collection: \$3638.55. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

**UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

Saturday, December 6 – Anointing of the Sick at 4:00PM Mass  
Sunday, December 7 – Anointing of the Sick at all Masses  
Sunday, December 7 – Children’s Christmas Party  
Saturday, December 13 – 9:00AM – Noon – Pick up Christmas Gob Orders  
Sunday, December 14 – A Festival of Lessons and Carols, followed by social  
Friday, January 9 – Fish Fry  
Saturday, February 14 – Mardi Gras



*Liturgical Reflection...* Thursday, November 27, is Thanksgiving Day and a special day of prayer in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. It is a Day of Prayer for the **Harvest and Fruits of the Earth**. As our country gives thanks for our many blessings, we take time to give God thanks and praise for the many gifts we have received. All are encouraged to participate at Mass this day. Please join in praying the following:

*O God, source of all good things, Your gifts of love are countless and Your goodness infinite. On this Thanksgiving Day we express our gratitude for Your kindness and mercy. Open our hearts to have concern for every man, woman, and child, so that we may share the gifts of time and eternity with our sisters and brothers. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND**

Rose Blaschak, Mary Chamiok, Jean Chase, Sister Carol Jean Czyrnik, Mary Davis, Joan Delusa, Baby Grayson Esposito, Stephen Fabina, LeAnn Golby, Alicia Junghans, Susan Keselyak, Kathryn Legat, Helen Malysko, Marci Nickels, Bernard Picklo, Betty Rerko, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, Frances Sakmar, James Schuster, Carol Sobecky, Veronica Smith, Agnes Swarney, Jeanne Toth, 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; Master at Arms 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Izeke W. Pinkas, El Centro CA; Lt. Col. Joshua P. Higgins, US Army ; Petty Officer 1st Class Paul Rambish, US Navy, Coronado Naval Base, San Diego; 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> Class Maxwell Schutte, F. E. Warren, Wv; Sgt. Bryan Maxwell Porath, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Aaron Donahey, US Army, Fort Bliss, El Paso, Texas; Spec Jacob T. Stone, Army National Guard, Austin, Texas; 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Petty Officer Heather L. Dovala, USS William P. Lawrence, DDG 110, San Diego, Ca., Pvt. 1<sup>st</sup> 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; Sgt. Anthony Urban, 252 Engineer, National Guard, Afghanistan.**  
*To add a name to our Salute to those in the Military, please call 539-1632. If a person is no longer serving on active or reserve duty, please call the Parish Office to remove his/her name.*

**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.

**CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION – Spaghetti Drive-By, Sunday, November 23.** Cost: \$7.00.

**WEST END IMPROVEMENT GROUP** will host our Annual Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting Ceremony on Monday, December 8. Parade will begin at 5:00PM from the Johnstown Middle School across Garfield St. to the Skate Park. Santa will be on hand to give out candy canes. There will be free hot chocolate. Everyone is invited to attend. It’s still not too late for groups, clubs, and church groups to participate. Call 539-4725 for more information.

**ST. NICK’S TOY RESALE DAY – Saturday, December 6 from 11:00AM to 3:00PM,** Visitation School. Buy gently used toys in time for Christmas. Over 50 vendors, everything from tots to teens. Refreshments and fun!

**RESERVATIONS** are now being taken for the Annual March for Life 2015. The March will take place on Thursday, January 22, 2015. There will be a 6:30AM Mass at St. Francis of Assisi and the bus will leave at 7:00AM. The bus will be in front of the church at 6:00AM for those not wishing to go to Mass. Seats for the bus are \$15.00/adults, \$10.00/students and free will offering for families.

Your seat will be held upon payment. You will be responsible for your own breakfast and lunch on the bus. We will make a pit stop or two as needed on the way down. The bus will stop in Frederick, MD for supper on the way back. The bus usually arrives back at St. Francis by 10:00PM depending on weather conditions. Please call Heidi at 536-7335 for more information or to reserve your seat.