



DECEMBER 28, 2014
Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
THE FAITH COMMUNITY OF
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Mission Statement: St. Francis of Assisi is a Roman Catholic worshipping community, dedicated to ministering to our members and to the greater community in the image given to us by Jesus. This ministry is centered on the Sacraments and our Acts of Faith, Hope and Charity.

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 - stfrancisich@atlanticbn.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

– 4:00PM / Sunday – 7:30AM / 9:30AM

Parish Secretary – Carol Pisula

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

President - Ryan Woodruff

Finance Council President – Lynn Rovon

Cemetery Council President - William Heim

Music Minister - Gale Bala

Director of Religion Education - Carol Pisula

Saturday

Parish Council

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 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.

Annual Catholic Appeal Goal: \$24,795.00
As of Dec. 15: 10,004.00 was pledged for 29% of goal by 96 families/342 households

MASS SCHEDULE FOR SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD – Wednesday, January 31 – 4:00PM; Thursday, January 1 – 8:00AM and 10:00AM. This Solemnity is a Holy Day of Obligation

MINISTRY sign-up sheets for The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God are located in the vestibule. Please consider participating in this liturgy. *Schedules for January are now available for pick-up in the vestibule.*

ALL THOSE who serve as Altar Servers, Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Ushers, Religious Education Teachers & Aides, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Oremus Ministry, Choir, Parish Council and Finance Council, Cemetery, Money Counters, Generations for Life, are asked to please pick up their Christmas gifts in the vestibule of the Church. Thank you for all that you do for the Parish! May God Bless you for giving of your time and talent throughout the year.

GOB ICING will be made on Monday, December 29 beginning at 7:00AM. Gobs will be filled on Monday, January 5 at 6:00PM. Your help is greatly appreciated.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PARTY will take place on Sunday, January 18 beginning with a Holy Hour in the Church at 3:00PM followed by dinner at 4:00PM. All who volunteered their time in any way last year (Ministries, Fish Fries, Gobs, Religious Educations, etc.) are invited to attend and spend some time relaxing with fellow co-workers. A sign-up sheet is located in the vestibule.

PARISH OFFICE will close at Noon on Wednesday, December 31 and re-open on Monday, January 5.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES will **NOT** be held on Sunday, December 28.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2 is the First Friday of the month. Adoration will take place immediately following the 8:00AM Mass and continue until 5:30PM. Sign-up sheets are in the vestibule of the Church. At least two adorers should be present for each time slot. Please consider spending some time in the presence of our Lord and Savior.

FISH FRY will take place on Friday, January 9 from 11:00AM until 6:00PM. All help is needed and greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU to the Men's Club for their generous donation to the Parish and contribution for the Children's Christmas Party. May God Bless you for all that you do for the good of the Parish.

THANK YOU for your continued generosity to our poor box. The outpouring of your treasure to those less fortunate is heartwarming.

OFFERING ENVELOPES – are available for pick-up in the Parish Office, Monday thru Thursday from 9:00AM until 3:00PM.

WINNERS OF THE CANDY CANE CASH TICKET will be paid on a weekly, not daily basis. If you are a lucky winner, your check will be mailed within a week. Thank you to all who participated in this endeavor. Winners: Dec. 15, #482 – Kathy Diamond; Dec. 16, #095 – Gregory Wright; Dec. 17, #591 – Matthew Fabry; Dec. 18, #996 Rich Janciga; Dec. 19, #771 – Edward Saloka; Dec. 20, #486 – Gene Gibson; Dec. 21, #829 – Jean Sostek.

MADRI GRAS MADNESS will take place on Saturday, February 14, 2015. Tickets are now on sale after the Masses or at the Parish Office. Doors will open at 5:15PM and festivities begin at 6:00PM until 11:00PM. Tickets are \$15.00 for adults, \$10.00 for ages 6 thru 17, and under 5, free. There will be a \$5.00 cover charge for beer if desired. Admission includes: appetizers, soda, a turkey dinner with all the fixings and eligibility for Grand Prizes. A cash bar will be available. Music by Flood City Brass.

CANDLE BY OUR LADY, QUEEN OF HEAVEN will burn this week for Good Health of Ray Toth Family by Jeanne Toth.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Adults: \$2,441.49; Loose: \$571.19; Children: \$40.06; Candles: \$149.54; Monthly - \$45.00; Holy Day: \$29.00; Flowers - \$35.00; Misc.: \$276.94. Total Collection: \$3,588.22. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Friday, January 9 – Fish Fry – 11:00AM – 6:00PM
Volunteer Appreciation Dinner – Sunday, January 18 – 4:00PM
Friday, February 6 – Fish Fry – 11:00AM – 6:00PM
Saturday, February 14 – Mardi Gras – 6:00PM – 11:00PM
Ash Wednesday, February 18 – Lent Fish Fries begin

Year of Consecrated Life - Then Simeon blessed them and said to His Mother Mary, “This Child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed.” If you may be one who is destined to the Priesthood or Consecrated Life, call the Vocation Office at 718-510-5822 or email: vocations@olaprovince.org, or the Diocesan Vocation Office by contacting Fr. Matthew Reese, 357 St. Mary, Street, P.O. Box 99, Loretto, PA 15940, 814-472-5441, or email: vocations@dioceseaj.org.

Liturgical Reflection... Throughout the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, the Church directs that the ordering of the Mass should lead to the full, active, and conscious participation of all assembled for the celebration of the Eucharist. The Scripture readings, the Mass prayers, the music, and the various liturgical roles of the ordained and lay faithful all enhance the participation of those gathered to celebrate the Lord’s Supper. The Church encourages various accommodations to the cultures and traditions of particular regions. Today is a wonderful opportunity to bless families following the Universal Prayer (Prayer of the Faithful) on this Feast of the Holy Family. As families gather for the Christmas holidays for Mass, it is an appropriate occasion to add this prayer to the Eucharist. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal, Numbers 5, 17, 18, 20, 23, and 24. 2014 Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.

I am overwhelmed by your loving concern while I was hospitalized a few weeks ago. I am so appreciative of all your good wishes, cards, and messages. I beg the Christ Child to bless your lives with Profound Holiness and Shalom! *fr. Anthony Francis*

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, 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 2nd 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 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**, **1std 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. 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.

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. Seats for the bus are \$15.00/adults, \$10.00/students and free will offering for families. Please call Heidi at 536-7335 for more information or to reserve your seat.

Call to Action – Your Neighbors Need your Help! – When we come together to help those most vulnerable, we do the work of Christ. For families living in poverty, the Christmas season is a time of year when the bills are piling up, heating costs are rising, and the stress is overwhelming. One in three households in our eight-county Diocesan area are struggling to afford basic human necessities. Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown embraces the responsibility of supporting these individuals and families through heating assistance, emergency financial assistance, affordable counseling services, and emergency shelter services. Faithful parishioners can answer the call to love and care for their neighbors in need by supporting Catholic Charities with contributions of any size made online at www.catholiccharitiesaj.org or by mail to: GUILD OF GUARDIANS C/O CATHOLIC

CHARITIES, INC 1300 12TH AVENUE P.O. BOX 1349 ALTOONA, PA 16603. A new giving society, the Guild of Guardians, was recently developed to make a bigger impact on Catholic Charities' efforts to fight poverty on a local level. Guild of Guardians members commit \$1,000 annually, and can make monthly or quarterly payments toward their pledge. Membership is open to individuals, families, and groups within our parish. Catholic Charities relies on generous support from our parishioners to keep our doors open to those in need, and to provide them with help and hope. Contact our executive director Jean Johnstone at jjohnstone@dioceseaj.org, or visit www.catholiccharitiesaj.org to learn more.