



JANUARY 4, 2015
Feast of the Epiphany
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 - sfassisich@atlanticbbn.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

Saturday –

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 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. 23: 10,076.00 was pledged for 29% of goal by 97 families/342 households

GOBS will be filled on Monday, January 5 at 6:00PM. All help is greatly appreciated.

FISH FRY will take place on Friday, January 9 from 11:00AM until 6:00PM. Please consider sharing some of your time to this parish and community event.

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. Deadline for sign-up is Sunday, January 11.

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. 22, #446 – Vicki Balzarano; Dec. 23, #407 – Melanie Devico; Dec. 24, #899 – Dorothy Butara; Dec. 25, #885 – Janet Rengh; Dec. 26, #810 – John Petak; Dec. 27, #275 – Bob Macy; Dec. 28, #301 – Frank Bazyk.

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

MEN’S CLUB Valentine’s Day tickets are now available in the vestibule of the Church. Cost: \$2.00. Your support is greatly appreciated.

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.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH CHRISTMAS: Loose: \$1,482.24; Adults: \$5,256.01; Children: \$66.00. Total Collection: \$6,804.25.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Adults: \$2,619.00; Loose: \$537.00; Children: \$28.00; Candles: \$121.25; Monthly - \$45.00; Christmas Flowers: \$5.00; Holy Day: \$1.00. Total Collection: \$3,356.25. 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 – Holy Hour from 3:00PM – 4:00PM, Dinner - 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 – “They offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and Myrrh.” Is God calling you to give Him the gold of your freedom, the incense of your prayer, and the myrrh of your love through a vocation 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.

Feast of the Epiphany

The celebration of the Epiphany affords us the opportunity to reflect briefly upon Divine Revelation as a key element in our rich Catholic Faith. “It pleased God, in His goodness and wisdom, to reveal Himself and to make known the mystery of His will. His will was that men should have access to the Father, through Christ, the Word made flesh, in the Holy Spirit, and thus become sharers in the Divine nature. God, Who “dwells in unapproachable light,” wants to communicate His own Divine life to the men He freely created, in order to adopt them as His sons in His only-begotten Son. By revealing Himself, God wishes to make them capable of responding to Him, and of knowing Him and of loving Him far beyond their own natural capacity” (CCC, 51-52). The Epiphany marks the concrete revelation of God to all nations, so that they can journey from rootless wondering to full relationship with Him Who calls them into His own marvelous light. This manifestation grounds all humankind in the possibility of growing in relationship with the Word made Flesh, Whose birth was just commemorated in the richness of our tradition and Whose life, death and resurrection is the source of our life and salvation.

The new covenantal relationship that we have entered into with Christ revealed to us through Word and Sacrament is final; however, the richness of it is fodder for the Church’s theological reflection now and for ages to come (CCC, 66).

Epiphany Household Blessing

To take the celebration of Epiphany from church and the parish family to your home, all you need is holy water.

Take the sign and place it above your doorway:

20 + C + M + B + 15

20 + C (asper) + M (elchoir) + B (althazar) + 15

Blessed are You, Lord God of all creation: by the guidance of a star You led the Magi to Your Child and by the light of Faith You bring us to know Christ as Lord, the Messiah You have sent. Bless us as we mark our doors in Your honor.

While the house is being blessed:

Bless us as we sprinkle our homes with this water, sign of Lord Jesus' Baptism in the River Jordan.

May our homes where these things are used in Faith, be dwelling places of goodness, humility, self-control, mutual respect for one another, hospitality toward strangers and loving obedience to Your Word.

May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ among us; and may we seek and serve everyone we meet.

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 Czynnik, 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 Sobbecky, 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, 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. 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.

WEST END MINISTERIUM HYMN SING will take place on Sunday, January 4, 2015 at Resurrection Church 7:00 PM.

ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, Bishop Mark Bartchak of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown will host an ecumenical service at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona, PA. The service begins at 3:00PM. All are invited to participate in this prayer.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8 – Bishop Gregory of Nyssa of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox tradition will host an ecumenical service at Christ the Saviour Cathedral, Garfield St., Johnstown, PA. The service begins at 3:00PM. Bishop Mark Bartchak will be in attendance. All are invited to participate.