

**MARCH 1, 2015**  
**Second Sunday of Lent**  
**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](mailto: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** 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 – Robert Bimeal**  
**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.

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

**LENT FISH FRIES** have started and will continue each Friday thru March 27. Please plan to share some of your time and talent helping with these events. Your help is greatly appreciated. **THANK YOU** to all who have volunteered their time.

**“SPRING FLING”** giveaway tickets will be available for purchase in the vestibule of the Church or at the Fish Fries. Donation: \$3.00. Chance to win \$150.00 on April 6, 7, 8, 9 & 11. Friday, April 10 - \$250.00 and Sunday, April 12 - \$500.00! Please note: Due to a printing error, we will honor the DATES printed on the tickets for drawing.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 6** is the First Friday of the month. Adoration begins at 8:30AM until the Noon Mass and then from 12:30PM until 5:30PM. Please plan to spend some time with Our Lord during the season of Lent. Sign-up sheet for adoration is located in the vestibule. At least two adorers are needed for each half hour time slot.

**LIMITED COPIES OF “Rediscover Catholicism”** by Matthew Kelly are now available for those who would like to discover the beauty, genius, and modern relevance of Catholicism. “Rediscover Catholicism” takes us on an adventure of life-changing proportions. Beginning with our common yearning for happiness, Kelly reveals the essence of authentic Catholic spirituality while addressing some of the most important questions we face today both as individuals and as a Church. The books have been donated to the Parish. Please call the Parish Office if you would like to reserve a copy. *What a wonderful book for spiritual reading during this Lenten Season.*

#### **UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

Friday, March 6 – Stations of the Cross – will continue all Fridays of Lent at 7:00PM

Sunday, March 7 – Lamentations with Benediction– 3:00PM (every Sunday of Lent)

Friday, March 6, March 13, March 20, March 27, - Fish Fry – 11:00AM – 6:00PM

Friday, March 6 – First Friday, Adoration begins at 8:30AM until Noon and 12:30PM until 5:30PM.

Saturday, March 14 & Sunday, March 15– Anointing of the Sick at all Masses

Wednesday, March 18 – West End Penance Service – St. Francis of Assisi – 5:00PM

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND:** Adults: \$1,960.01; Loose: \$311.75; Children: \$21.00; Candles: \$107.50; Monthly - \$155.00; Mandeville - \$200.01; Envelopes - \$5.00; Ash Wednesday - \$710.50; Black & Indian Mission - \$117.01; Misc. - \$183.33. Total Collection: \$3,771.11. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

**CANDLE BY OUR LADY, QUEEN OF HEAVEN** will burn this week for +Charlie Wisz by Jim & Sue Ellen Dadey. **SANCTUARY CANDLE** will burn this week for Health of Leann Donahey by family.

**THE ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL** begins in a few weeks. This is our opportunity to support more than 20 ministries that serve God’s people throughout our eight county Diocese. All contributions received over our parish goal of \$24, 795 will be returned to the Parish. Thank you for supporting the Diocesan Church of Altoona-Johnstown.

#### **LENT SCHEDULE**

Daily Mass will be celebrated at 12Noon

**N.B. - Tuesdays at 12Noon and 6:30PM, Saturdays at 8:00AM**

Stations of the Cross – Fridays of Lent at 7:00PM

Lamentations with Benediction on Sundays of Lent at 3:00PM



**AT THE FEBRUARY, 2015** Finance Council Meeting our Parish received a \$500.00 grant from the Altoona Office of the Independent Catholic Foundation. How we plan to use the funds will be announced at a later date.

The Foundation was created in 1990 and supports the various ministries of our Diocese through permanent endowments. Please consider remembering our Parish or your favorite Catholic ministry (i.e. Parochial School Education, Cemetery, etc.) in your estate planning. The Foundation can assist you with this and can be reached in their Altoona office at 814-201-2080 or at [www.icfdaj.org](http://www.icfdaj.org). You will also find a link to the foundation website on our webpage – [www.stfrancisofassisijohnstown.com](http://www.stfrancisofassisijohnstown.com).

May your spiritual preparations for Easter include preparing your soul with the Sacrament of Penance. During Lent, Catholics are encouraged to seek God's healing and forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. **The following is a schedule of Communal Penance Services at various parishes in the Greater Johnstown area:**

- Wednesday, March 18 – St. Francis of Assisi – 5:00PM
- Monday, March 23 – Our Mother of Sorrows – 6:30PM
- Wednesday, March 25 – Church of the Transfiguration – 7:00PM
- Thursday, March 26 – St. John Gualbert Cathedral – 6:30PM
- Monday, March 30 – St. Benedict Church – 6:30PM

**SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK** will take place at the 4:00PM Mass on Saturday, March 14 and the 7:30AM & 9:30AM Masses on Sunday, March 15. 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 sister and brothers who are being anointed.



### **SYMBOLS OF THE PASSION OF JESUS**

During the Second Week of Lent, a WHIP is placed at the Cross to remind us that before Jesus was crucified, He underwent a brutal scourging. Whips were used which tore into His flesh causing wounds to bleed. He allowed this to happen for you and me. With Our Sorrowful Mother we pray: BRUISED, DERIVED, CURSED, DEFILED, SHE BEHELD HER TENDER CHILD, ALL WITH BLOODY SCOURGES RENT.

**Matthew 27:26** - At that he (Pilate) released Barabbas to them. Jesus, however, he first SCOURGED, then he handed Him over to be crucified.

**Mark 15:15** – So Pilate, who wished to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas to them and after he had Jesus SCOURGED, he handed Him over to be crucified.

**Luke 23:22** – He said to them a third time, “What is this man guilty of? I have not discovered anything about Him that calls for the death penalty. I will therefore chastise Him and release Him.”

**John 19** – Pilate's next move was to take Jesus and have Him SCOURGED.

**SPRING AHEAD** – Don't forget, Daylight Savings Time begins next week, Sunday, March 8. Turn your clock AHEAD one hour!

### **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, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, James Schuster, Carol Sobecky, Veronica Smith, Agnes Swarney, Jeanne Toth, Rose Trapanotto, Katherine Twardziak, Irene Virus, and Agnes Warhul.

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### **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, WY; **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; **Airman Devon Gilbert**, Lackland Air Force Base, Tx.

*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.*

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### **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.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 1066** - Pancake Breakfast, Sunday, March 1 from 8:30AM to Noon at Resurrection Roman Catholic Church Hall, 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Adults - \$5.00, children 12 & under – free.

**ST. THERESE LENTEN PIROGHI SALE**- Hand-made/home-made potato and cheese piroghi made fresh each week during Lent. Call in orders Monday until March 23 from 9:00AM – 11:00AM. Cost is \$6.50 dozen (with or without onions). Pick up your order on Fridays from 9:00AM – 2:00PM at our Social Hall.

**DIVINE MERCY NOVENA** will be held at St. Clare of Assisi Church in Woodvale, March 2 through March 10. Reconciliation begins at 6:30PM on weekdays with devotions and Mass following at 7:00PM. Saturday devotions are at 3:50PM and Sunday devotions are at 10:50AM.

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY** will be sponsored by Resurrection Parish on March 14 in the church hall. Music will be provided by Full Kilt from 7:00PM – 10:00PM. Doors open at 6:00PM. For more information or to purchase a \$5.00 admission ticket, call Greg Babik at 322-6884 or the parish office at 539-5788, Ext. 3. Plenty of Irish food, soda and beer will be available for purchase.

**ST. JOSEPH TRIDUUM**- A Triduum in honor of St. Joseph will be held March 17-19 at St. John Gualbert Cathedral. Mass and devotions will be held at 7:00PM each evening with confessions following Mass on Tuesday & Wednesday. On Thursday, everyone is invited following the final liturgy to the St. Joseph Table at the parish activity center.