

MARCH 22, 2015
Fifth 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@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

– 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 – Robert Bimeal

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.

LENT FISH FRIES will come to an end on March 27. Please plan to share some of your time and talent helping with this event. Your help is greatly appreciated. **THANK YOU** to all who have volunteered their time. Regular Fish Fries will continue April 10 & May 8.

THANK YOU to all who helped with icing and gob making last week. **ICING** will be made on Monday, March 23 at 7:00AM and **GOBS** will be filled on Tuesday, March 24 at 6:00PM. Your dedication is greatly appreciated!

PRAYER SHAWL will meet on Wednesday, March 25 at 6:00PM in the Rectory. New members are always welcome.

CHILDREN'S EASTER EGG HUNT will take place on Palm Sunday, March 29 from 12:30PM – 2:30PM in the Activity Center. Please use the signup sheet in the vestibule.

HOLY THURSDAY – All Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Altar Servers are asked to be present for the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, April 2 at 7:00PM.

"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. Parishioners are asked to please take a few tickets and sell them to your friends and relatives or give as an Easter gift!

CEMETERY CLEAN UP – Please remove all items from St. Francis of Assisi Cemetery by Sunday, March 29. Any items left after March 29 will be discarded. Thank you for your cooperation.

ANNUAL COMMEMORATION of the Seder Meal will be held on Holy Thursday, April 2 at 5:00PM in the Activity Center. This will be a covered dish event with the Parish providing the meat. Bring your favorite dish to share and join other parishioners in this celebration of the Passover Meal. Signup sheets are located in the vestibule of the Church. **Deadline for signup is Sunday, March 29.**

MINISTRY SIGN UP SHEETS for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil, and Easter Sunday are in a binder in the vestibule. Please consider taking part in these very solemn liturgies. You may sign up for more than one liturgy.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS the children of the Parish who will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Saturday, March 28 at 9:00AM: Hayden DeVico, Brooke Esposito, Dravyn Fabina, Nathaniel Mikula, Alyssa Ressler, Ryan Stancombe, Cassidy Stancombe, Jorja Stancombe, Margaret Sweeney, Kael Woodruff.

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 Please call the Parish Office if you would like to reserve a copy. *What a wonderful book for spiritual reading during this Lenten Season.*

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Adults: \$2,687.79; Loose: \$289.19; Children: \$42.00; Candles: \$105.25; Ash Wednesday - \$10.00; First Offering - \$6.00; Catholic Home Mission - \$407.10. Total Collection: \$3,690.33. Envelopes used: Adult – 209 out of 331; Children – 21 out of 92. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

THE ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL has begun. Your gift supports more than 20 ministries that serve God's people throughout our eight counties. 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. If you do not have a pledge card, you may send you gift (made payable to the "Annual Catholic Appeal") directly to the parish office. **As of March 16 - \$5,025.00 was pledged for 11% of goal by 36 families/331 households. Thank you for your generosity!**

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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

Friday, March 27 – Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 28 – First Reconciliation – 9:00AM

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 29 – Easter Egg Hunt – 12:30PM – 2:30PM

Sunday, March 29– Lamentations with Benediction– 3:00PM (every Sunday of Lent)

Holy Thursday, April 2 – Seder Meal – 5:00PM

Holy Thursday, April 2 – Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper – 7:00PM

Good Friday, April 3 – Tenebrae – 9:00AM

Good Friday, April 3 – Passion of the Lord – 3:00PM

Good Friday, April 3 – Stations of the Cross – 7:00PM

Holy Saturday, April 4 – Tenebrae – 9:00AM

Holy Saturday, April 4 – Blessing of Baskets – 1:00PM & 2:00PM

Holy Saturday, April 4 – Great Vigil of Easter – 8:30PM

Easter Sunday, April 5 – Mass – 7:30AM - & 9:30AM

YEAR OF CONSECRATED LIFE “He became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey Him.” The gift of a vocation to the Priesthood or Consecrated Life requires and obedient response through prayer and action. Call the Vocation Office by contacting Fr. Matthew Reese, 814-472-5441, or email: vocations@dioceseaj.org, or call Our Lady of the Angels Province at Conventual Franciscan Friars 718-510-5822, or email vocations@aolprovince.org.

Liturgical Reflection... The Local Church of Altoona-Johnstown will assemble on Monday of Holy Week, March 30, at 11:00AM in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament for the annual Chrism Mass. Bishop Mark will gather with his college of Priests assisted by his Deacons with the assembled faithful from throughout the Diocese. Bishop Mark will bless the Oil of the Catechumens, the Oil of the Sick, and Sacred Chrism. These consecrated oils will be used for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders and Anointing of the Sick; also new altars will be consecrated with Sacred Chrism. Each parish community will take a portion of the three oils back to the parish for use in the appropriate liturgical celebrations. The entire diocesan family is invited to participate in this annual Liturgy. 2015, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

SYMBOLS OF THE PASSION OF JESUS



During the fifth week of Lent, DICE – instruments of chance, and a seamless GARMENT are placed at the foot of the Cross. Everything had to be, to fulfill all that the Scriptures said about the Messiah.

Matthew 27:35 – When they had crucified Him, they divided His garments, rolling dice for them to see what each should take.

Luke 23:24 – They divided His garments, rolling dice for them.

John 19:23-24 – After the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took His garments and divided them each soldier. There was also His tunic, but this tunic was woven in one piece from top to bottom. They said to each other, *We should not tear it. Let us throw dice and see who gets it.* The purpose Scriptures fulfilled – *They divided My garments among them; for My clothing they cast lots.* (Psalm what the soldiers did.



four ways, one for and had no seam. of this was to have the 228). And this is

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

Bill Babik, Rose Blaschak, Geraldine Caddy, Mary Chamiook, Jean Chase, Sister Carol Jean Czynnik, Mary Davis, Joan Delusa, 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.

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, Wv; **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; **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.

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.

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.

ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT – sponsored by West End Improvement Group, Saturday, March 28 at the skate park, corner of J St. and Fairfield Ave. Registration at 12:30PM, hunts starts at 1:00PM. Candy in every egg, free to everyone 4 age groups (3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10). Bring a basket or bag for your eggs.

ST. ANDREW SCHOOL – will be hosting a Luck Leprechaun Cash Bash on Saturday, March 28, 6-10PM. You must be 21 to attend. \$20.00 ticket includes food & drinks and 17 chances to win a cash prize every 15 minutes beginning at 6PM. Winners need not be present to win. Doors open at 5PM. Please contact 288-2811 for more information or to purchase a ticket.

TENEBRAE CANTATA – *Tenebrae: A Service of Darkness* by Hal Hopson will be performed at 7:30PM, Friday, April 3 at St. John Gualbert Cathedral. The Greater Johnstown Festival Choir and Vivace Strings will perform this service portraying the solemn drama of the final hours of Christ's life on earth. A free-will offering will be taken.

A GNOCCHI DINNER will be held on Sunday, April 12, from 11:00AM – 2:00PM at St. Anthony of Padua Church in Windber. Dinners are \$9.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. Eat in or take outs are available.