

MARCH 29, 2015
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
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.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: Due to the Chrism Mass in Altoona, Mass on Monday, March 30 will be celebrated at **8:00AM**. **There WILL NOT be Mass at Noon**. Beginning on Monday, April 6 daily Mass will return to 8:00AM Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Tuesday at 6:30PM.

LENT FISH FRIES have come to an end. **THANK YOU** to all who have volunteered their time. Regular Fish Fries will continue April 10 & May 8.

PROFIT for the Mardi Gras: \$3,846.35. Thank you to all who helped and supported this event in any way!

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.

ALTAR SERVERS ARE ASKED TO BE PRESENT FOR practice for Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil will take place on Wednesday, April 1 at 6:00PM.

BEGINNING ON Good Friday, April 3, 2015 – Saturday of Easter Week, April 11, 2015 the Divine Mercy Novena and Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be prayed 15 minutes before Mass and any other Liturgical events.

PARISH OFFICE will be **CLOSED** Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Monday.

"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!

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.**

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS the children of the Parish who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Saturday, March 28: *Hayden DeVico, Brooke Esposito, Dravyn Fabina, Nathaniel Mikula, Alyssa Ressler, Ryan Stancombe, Cassidy Stancombe, Jorja Stancombe, Margaret Sweeney, Kael Woodruff*. Continue to keep them in your prayers as they prepare to receive Our Lord for the first time on Sunday, May 3 at the 9:30AM Mass.

THANK YOU to Betty, Pansy and Margaret Scott for purchasing the Paschal Candle in memory of Eleanor Karoly and Helen Evans. The candle this year is Christus Rex – We worship Jesus as Christ the King. Tu Rex gloriae Christe. So He is said to reign in the hearts of humanity. Christ as our Lord, Christ as our King. "He will sit upon His royal throne, and all the nations will be assembled before Him." (Mt 25)

CANDLE BY OUR LADY, QUEEN OF HEAVEN will burn this week for +Richard Paul Holtz, Sr. (4th Anniversary) by Daughter, Jeanne & Ray Toth.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Adults: \$2,681.01; Loose: \$238.98; Children: \$37.00; Candles: \$66.51; Ash Wednesday - \$8.00; First Offering – 5.00; Catholic Home Mission - \$35.00; Flowers - \$613.01; St. Vincent de Paul - \$27.00; Peter's Pence - \$9.00; Misc. - \$33.33. Total Collection: \$3,799.84. Envelopes used: Adult – 233 out of 331; Children – 24 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 23 - \$6,230.00 was pledged by 52 families/331 households for 16% participation. Thank you for your generosity!**



**UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDAR
HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

Sunday, March 29 – Easter Egg Hunt – 12:30PM – 2:30PM
Sunday, March 29– Lamentations with Benediction– 3:00PM
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

UPCOMING IN APRIL

Friday, April 10 - Fish Fry – 11:00AM – 6:00PM

THE OFFERING of the Precious Blood to the faithful will be restored at the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord’s Supper on April 2, 2015.

YEAR OF CONSECRATED LIFE – “Morning by morning He wakens – wakens my ear to lease as those who are taught.” Listen in prayer daily to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, seeking to know your vocation. If He is asking you to consider the Priesthood or Consecrated Life, 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

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

Bill Babik, Rose Blaschak, Geraldine Caddy, Mary Chamio, 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, 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; **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.

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.

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.

PRO-LIFE TOWN HALL MEETING – featuring Michael Ciccocioppo and Micaiah Bilger of the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation. They will share the latest on important pro-life implications of the Affordable Care Act, abortion in Pennsylvania, the push for assisted suicide, and more. The meeting will be held on Monday, April 13, at the Holy Name of Jesus Church Hall, Ebensburg. For details, contact Ann Poole at 814-472-8584 or Poolefamily10@verizon.net.

NIGHT AT THE RACES – St. Benedict School Gymnasium, Friday, April 24. Doors open at 6:30PM, races begin at 7:30PM. Price - \$15.00 included admission, food and ownership of a horse. Seating is limited, must be 21 years of age. For tickets call Terri at 341-7311.

BASKET PARTY – Sunday, April 26, St. Anthony of Padua, Windber. Doors open at 11:30AM, drawing begins at 1:30PM. Tickets are \$8 and include an Italian lunch and 25 chances. Call 467-4756 or 467-7292.