

APRIL 12, 2015
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER – DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
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@atlanticbhn.net
Oremus Ministry (Prayer Chain) – 814-539-1632
Web Site: <http://www.stfrancisofofassisijohnstown.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 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.

DIVINE MERCY – Solemn chanting of the Divine Mercy Chaplet followed by Benediction will take place this Sunday, April 12 beginning at 3:00PM, the Hour of Divine Mercy. Please plan to take part in this celebration.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU – to all who participated in the Holy Week Liturgies: *Altar Servers, Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Choir*, as well as those who prepared the Church for the Easter Season. Thank you to the **Men's Club** for their donation to the Parish for Easter and the Children's Easter Egg Hunt; to **Greg Solomon** for the Cross that adorned the front lawn of the Church; and to **Mary Frances King** for coordinating the celebration of the Passover Seder. May God continue to Bless you for all your efforts.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL planning meeting will be held in the very near future. Please consider assisting with this program for our children. Watch the bulletin for details.

PROFIT FOR LENTEN FISH FRIES: \$18,213.94! Thank you to all who helped with and supported our Fish Fry. The next Fish Fry is scheduled for Friday, May 8. This will be the last fish fry until September. Enjoy your break! Special thanks & blessings to Sandy Rager for the superb undertaking of the Lenten Fish Fries.

MOTHER'S DAY TICKETS – sponsored by the Men's Club will be available in the vestibule this weekend. Donation: \$2.00 – three ways to win.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Adults: \$1,963.01; Loose: \$485.52; Children: \$45.00; Candles: \$63.75; Monthly - \$689.01; Flowers - \$8.00; St. Vincent de Paul - \$14.00; Missalettes - \$145.01; Donations - \$1,000.00; Good Friday - \$690.01; - Holy Thursday - \$665.01; Easter - \$3,362.01; Misc. - \$406.68. Total Collection: \$9,537.01. Envelopes used: Adult – 229 out of 331; Children – 22 out of 92. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

RICE BOWLS should be returned to the Parish Office as soon as possible. Thank you for your generosity to those less fortunate.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, May 2 – First Communion Rehearsal & Breakfast – 9:00AM

Sunday, May 3 – First Communion – 9:30AM Mass

Friday, May 8 – Fish Fry 11:00AM – 6:00PM

Coming in July – Vacation Bible School

YEAR OF CONSECRATED LIFE – “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, so I send you.” Jesus wants to make Himself known to you through the vocation He chooses for you. Will you obey His call to 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.

COPIES of Matthew Kelly's *Rediscover Catholicism* are still available. Please contact the Parish Office to obtain your copy. A quote from the book – “We have built a whole culture based on appearance. Everything looks good, but scratch just below the surface, and you will discover little substance...lying and cheating have become almost universally accepted as necessary evils.” Matthew Kelly: *Rediscover Catholicism*, p.29.

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 your gift (made payable to the “Annual Catholic Appeal”) directly to the parish office. **As of April 7 - \$8,680 was pledged by 77 families/331 households for 23% participation. Thank you for your generosity!**

Stewardship Reflection... In his first encyclical Pope Benedict XVI states that, “Only if I serve my neighbor can my eyes be opened to what God does for me and how much He loves me.” On this Divine Mercy Sunday, practice Christian stewardship (serve others) through works of mercy and reconciliation.

OUTDOOR SUMMER MASSES – The Diocesan Vocation Office is once again holding Masses at the Outdoor Shrine of Our Lady of the Alleghenies in Loretto, PA this summer. Masses begin at 7:00PM on Memorial Day Weekend and finish on Labor Day Weekend. Please bring your own lawn chair. In case of inclement weather, Mass will be held inside the Basilica of St. Michael the archangel. For more information, please call the Diocesan Vocation Office at 814-472-5441.

CONCERTS UNDER THE DOME – presents The Cathedral Musicians, performed on the 1931 Steinway organ and Yamaha grand piano, Sunday, April 26 at 7:00PM in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona. A free will offering will be taken.

ST. BENEDICT CATHOLIC CHURCH – John Michael Talbot, Christian music legend, best-selling author and host of the Church Channel's inspirational TV show “All Things are Possible” – May 6 – 8 at 7:00PM. A love offering will be received each evening to support the ministries of John Michael Talbot and the Brothers and Sisters of Charity. Suggested donation is \$15.00/person/per night. No one will be turned away for lack of funds. For more information please call the parish office at 266-9718.

Doubting Thomas - Poor Thomas! He made one remark and has been branded as “Doubting Thomas” ever since. But if he doubted, he also believed. He made what is certainly the most explicit statement of faith in the New Testament: “My Lord and My God!” (John 20:24-28) and, in so expressing his Faith, gave Christians a prayer that will be said till the end of time. He also occasioned a compliment from Jesus to all later Christians: “Have you come to believe because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed” (John 20:29). Thomas should be equally well known for his courage. Perhaps what he said was impetuous—since he ran, like the rest, at the showdown—but he can scarcely have been insincere when he expressed his willingness to die with Jesus. The occasion was when Jesus proposed to go to Bethany after Lazarus had died. Since Bethany was near Jerusalem, this meant walking into the very midst of his enemies and to almost certain death. Realizing this, Thomas said to the other apostles, “Let us also go to die with him” (John 11:16b).

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

Bill Babik, Rose Blaschak, Geraldine Caddy, Mary Chamiok, Jean Chase, Sister Carol Jean Czyrnik, 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, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobecky, 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 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; **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.

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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.

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.

THE ATRIUM – a proud Senior Choice Community, cordially invites Veterans and their spouses to join us for a special luncheon in recognition of their service and dedication on Wednesday, April 15 from 12:00PM – 1:30PM. The luncheon is free, but reservations are required by calling 535-5347 by April 6.

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 21years 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.

