MAY 17, 2015 SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 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



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.

THANK YOU to the Men's Club for the beautiful Mother's Day tribute last Sunday. May God Bless you for all you do.

IT'S TIME TO MAKE THE GOBS! Gobs will be filled on Wednesday, Monday, May 18 at 6:00PM. All help is greatly appreciated.

WINNERS of the Men's Club Mother's Day Ticket: #971 – Denise Solomon; #972 – Paul Gresik; #970 – Frank Bazyk. Thank you to all for your continued support of the Men's Club.

MEMORIAL DAY Gob Sale will be held Wednesday, May 20 from 3:00PM to 6:00PM in the Activity Center. Get your gobs for the Memorial Day Weekend!

MEMORIAL DAY MASS on Monday, May 25 will be celebrated at 10:00AM at St. Francis Cemetery. In case of inclement weather, Mass will be celebrated in the Church.

ATTENTION ALL GRADUATES: We will be honoring our 2015 graduates (eighth grade, high school and college) at the 4:00PM Mass on Saturday, June 6. Please use the signup sheets in the vestibule so we can properly recognize your achievement!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION classes have ended for the year. A debt of gratitude to all who gave of their time and talent to instruct our children in the Faith: Marlys Harrington, Alexis LaBuda, Cecilia Neiderer, Alice Havers, Melanie Seback, Joseph Seback, Becky Deskevich, Kim Konieczny, Bill Stibich and Lou Deskevich.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL has been scheduled for July 13 thru July 17 from 9:00AM until Noon. Classes will take place in the Activity Center. The theme for this year is "God's Saving Plan." Registration forms are now available in the vestibule of the Church. Everyone had so much fun last year, we're going to do it again! Children from age 4 to fourth grade are invited to participate. Watch the bulletin for more details!

WE ARE IN NEED of new tea towels for the Activity Center. Monetary donations to offset the cost may be placed in the collection basket. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Adults: \$2,342.50; Loose: \$361.35; Children: \$31.50; Candles: \$124.25; Monthly - \$158.00; Missalettes – 20.00; Easter - \$6.00; Mother's Day - \$629.50; Nepal Earthquake - \$447.35; Misc. - \$313.16. Total Collection: \$4433.61. Envelopes used: Adult –196 out of 331; Children – 21 out of 92. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, May 20 – Memorial Day Gob Sale Monday, May 25 – - Memorial Day Mass at 9:00AM – St. Francis Cemetery July 13 - 17 – Vacation Bible School

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 May 11 - \$11,847 was pledged by 101 families/331 households for 26% participation. Thank you for your generosity!

GABRIEL PROJECT PIZZA/SUB SALE FOR PAMPERS – 16 inch Italian Sub with/without onion - \$7.00; Medium cheese or pepperoni pizza - \$6.00 (made by Conzatti's Italian Food Store). Medium Italian white pizza and white pagach potato/cheese pizza with/without onions for \$8.00 (made by Parkway Restaurant in Portage). To order: call Stephanie Neighbors at 814-254-2211 by 7:00PM, Sunday, May 30. Pick up date: Saturday, June 6 at 11:00AM at the Activity Center.

Liturgical Reflection...The dignity of the Word of God requires that in the Church there be a suitable place from which it may be proclaimed and toward which the attention of the faithful naturally turns during the Liturgy of the Word. It is appropriate that generally this place be a stationary ambo and not simply a movable lectern. The ambo is located in keeping with the design of each Church in such a way that the ordained ministers and readers may be seen and heard by the faithful. From the ambo only the scriptural readings, the Responsorial Psalm, and Easter Proclamation (*Exsultet*) are proclaimed. The dignity of the ambo requires that only a minister of the Word stands at it. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal, Number 309. 2015, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.

YEAR OF CONSECRATED LIFE – "And they went out and proclaimed the Good News everywhere, while the Lord worked with them." If you are discerning a vocation to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus as a Priest, Deacon, or in the Consecrated Life, call the Vocation Office by contacting Fr. Matthew Reese, 814-472-5441, or email: <u>vocations@dioceseaj.org</u>, or call Our Lady of the Angels Province at Conventual Franciscan Friars 718-510-5822, or email <u>vocations@aolprovince.org</u>.

Stewardship Reflection... The stewardship of disciples is not reducible only to one task or another. It involves embracing, cultivating, enjoying, sharing – and sometimes also giving up – the good of human life. [Stewardship: A Disciple's Response – 10^{th} Anniv. Ed. USCCB 2002]

Families and the Gospel...May 17, 2015 – Jn 17:11b-19 – Jesus was worried about His Disciples and He turned to prayer. No matter how much time we spent trying to "guard and protect" our children, each day they become less dependent on us and we must let go and let God. Prayer and parenting go together.

DIOCESE OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN Annual Catholic Men's Conference will be held Saturday, June 13th at St. Francis University in Loretto. For 18 years, this day has provided a wonderful way to deepen the faith and fellowship with the men of our Diocese. It's truly a great day full of energy and renewal! For information see the posters/brochures in the vestibule of call Jeff Phillbin at 814-525-1818.

HEALING MASS – Monday, June 1 at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona. Fr. Bill Kiel, from the Diocese of Greensburg, will be the main celebrant. All are welcome, especially those in need of physical, emotional, or spiritual healing, those who support and care for them as well. The Mass is being presented by the Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group. For more information, please call 814-941-3832.

FAITH DAY at Del Gross's Amusement Park, Sunday, June 28, sponsored by the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. Highlights of the day include – Liturgy at 3:00PM with Bishop Mark; a picnic in the Diocesan pavilion at 5:00PM; and over 30 different park rides, games, and the Tipton rapids waterslides and Tipton Waterworks. All day Ride & Slide passes are available for a reduced price of \$12 (a \$19.95 value) with a Diocesan Day voucher. \$3.00 of each pass will be donated back to the Angel Fund for Camp Zacchaeus and Camp Timothy. A nonperishable food item or free will offering for Catholic Charities will be collected. For more information, contact the Parish Office or Francine Swope in the Diocesan Youth Ministry Office at 814-317-2646 or on the web www.dioceseaj.org.

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, 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.

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, Okinawa, Japan; 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 Rovan, Lakenheath Air Force Base, England; 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^d 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.; 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; Senior Airman Daniel Christner, USAF, 193rd Special Operations Wing – Deployed – Africa, Operation Enduring Freedom.

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. CLARE OF ASSISI will be holding their annual Festival on Saturday, June 6 from 5:00PM until 10:00PM and on Sunday, June 7 from Noon until 10:00PM. The Festival features live music, outdoor kitchen, baked goods, fried pitas, basket raffle each evening, spaghetti dinner on Sunday from 11:00AM until 5:00PM, Church tours, children's games, \$1,000 prize Sunday evening, and much more!

CARMELITE COMMUNITY OF THE WORD will hold their 11th Annual Golf Tournament on Monday, June 8 at Scotch Valley Country Club. Registration and Lunch at 11:00AM, a Shotgun Start at Noon. If you register before May 24, cost is \$125 per golfer; \$450 per foursome. After May 24, \$150 per golfer, \$600 per foursome. Final deadline for registration is June 1. To register, or for more information, contact Sr. Jane Miller at 814-886-4098 or email jmseashell@msn.com.

ST. THERESE 68TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL will take place on Friday, June 19, Saturday, June 20 and Sunday June 21. More information will be available in the near future.

CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION Rocky Gap Casino Trip, Tuesday, June 23. First come! First serve! Cost: \$30.00, includes \$20.00 Free Slot Play. Lodestar bus will depart from Church of the Transfiguration School parking lot at 8:30AM and will depart from Rock Gap Casino at 5:00PM. Call Sharon at 536-1732 or Andy at 814-322-3287.