

**SEPTEMBER 20, 2015**  
**25<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**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 (Hockeyville), PA 15906*  
*Rectory Phone – 814-539-1632*  
*Activity Center – 814 – 539-3518*  
*Fax: 814 – 539-5888*  
**Email – [sfassisich@atlanticbnn.net](mailto: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**  
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.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Melanie Seback and Joshua Antal who were joined in the Sacrament of Matrimony this weekend. May God Bless them as they begin their new life together.

**THIS YEAR**, the Church will celebrate Catechetical Sunday on September 20, and will focus on the theme “Safeguarding the Dignity of Every Human Person.” Those whom the community has designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the Faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of Faith. Thank you to our Religious Education teachers for their dedication to instructing the children of the Parish in the Faith: *Marlys Harrington, Allison Koch, Christine Britton, Becky Deskevich, Bill Stibich, Alexis LaBuda, Alice Havers, Brian Britton, Kim Konieczny, and Lou Deskevich.*

**GOB ICING** will be made on Tuesday, September 22 beginning at 7:00AM. Gobs will be filled on THURSDAY, September 24 at 6:00PM. We are grateful for any help you can offer.

**CASH BASH** – The parish is sponsoring a Cash Bash on Saturday, September 26 from 6PM-9PM, doors open at 5:15PM. Cost: \$12.00 includes roast beef sandwich, hamburgers, hot dogs, halucki, beer, coffee, and soda. \$100.00 cash prizes awarded every 15 minutes, qualifiers, paddle tickets, pull tabs galore, basket chairs. Invite your family friends, co-workers to enjoy an evening of good fun and great food. If you are willing to help in any way, please contact the Parish Office at 539-1632 or in the evening call Cindy Shorto at 539-3128. **Tickets are available after the weekend Masses. WE MUST SELL AT LEAST 300 TICKETS FOR THIS TO BE A PROFITABLE EVENT.**

**FEAST DAY DINNER** is scheduled for Sunday, October 4 from 11AM until 2PM. Donation: \$9.00/adults, \$5.00/children, under 5/Free. Donations of Baked Goods may be brought to the hall on Saturday, October 3. Help will be needed with serving, assisting older patrons and busing tables. Thank you in advance for your help and support of this celebration. If you are planning to attend the dinner, please use the sign-up sheet found in the vestibule of the Church. This will assist in knowing how many dinners to prepare.

**BLESSING OF ANIMALS** will take place on Saturday, October 3 at 10:00AM under the front canopy of the Church.

**BUS TRIP** to Sight and Sound Theatre in Lancaster is scheduled for Friday, November 20 to see *The Miracle of Christmas*. Tickets, which include bus, ticket to the show and dinner are \$107.00. More details will be published at a later date.

**WINNERS OF THE MEN’S CLUB Labor Ticket:** #251 – Gloria Kempisty, #250 – Berniece Oleksak, #252 – Rita Leis. Thank you to all who supported the Men’s Club in this endeavor.

**SANCTUARY CANDLE** will burn this week for Living and Deceased Members of the Rosary Society by the Rosary Society.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND** – Loose - \$360.00; Adults - \$2,173.01; Children - \$30.00; Monthly - \$263.00.00; Candles - \$92.50; St. Vincent de Paul - \$20.00; Missalettes - \$25; Catholic University - \$125.00; Misc. - \$247.24. Total Collection - \$3,438.75. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

**THE ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL** is ongoing until December. 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 September 11 - \$15,600.00 was pledged by 142 families/331 households for 42% participation. Thank you for your generosity! If the remaining 192 households would pledge \$50.39, St. Francis of Assisi would make its goal.**

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Edward & Georgiann Petak(60 years of marriage) and Raymond & Jeanne Toth(50 years of marriage) from St. Francis of Assisi Parish who took part in the Diocesan Marriage Liturgy last Sunday. May God Bless them with many more years together.

**FOOD FOR THE POOR** – A representative from Food for the Poor will be visiting St. Francis of Assisi this weekend. They seek out the poorest of the poor in 16 countries, aiding some of the most destitute. In each face they see the living Christ, who is hungry, thirsty, a stranger and naked. Their ministry focuses on the greatest need of the destitute.

**NEXT WEEKEND**, all parishes in the Diocese will take up a special collection to support our Diocesan Priests’ medical and retirement needs. Donations will help subsidize the medical care of Parish Priests and the medical and living expenses of our senior Priests. Once a Priest achieves senior status, he no longer can depend upon a parish for basic needs even though he continues to celebrate Masses and perform other pastoral duties. Your generous support allows the Diocese to provide modest stipends to our senior Priests while keeping increases in the parish’s assessment for Priests’ medical care and retirement needs to a minimum.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, October 3 – Blessing of Animals – 10:00AM  
Sunday, October 4 – Feast Day Dinner  
Friday, October 9 – Fish Fry  
Sunday, October 11 – Basket Party for Babies  
Saturday, October 17 – Vendor Fair, Sunday, October 18 – Vendor Fair  
Sunday, November 8 – Men’s Club Turkey Raffle  
Friday, November 20 – Bus trip to Sight & Sound

**THE CATHOLIC CHURCH** invites YOU, and those you invite, to come and see. Consider the following questions: *Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Are you a Baptized Catholic but have yet to receive the Sacraments of Holy Eucharist or Confirmation? Have you been Baptized into another Christian religion yet possess the desire to become a Catholic?* If you have answered YES to any of these questions the **RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS** is for you. RCIA is a loving and learning journey in which a conversion of heart will bring you to a deep relationship with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Come and see what it means to become a Catholic, ask questions and meet others who are sharing you same intent. For more information please contact the Parish Office at 814-539-1632.

**YEAR OF CONSECRATED LIFE** “Wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield.” Praying for wisdom will help you yield to Christ’s choice of you, should He extend to you the gift of a vocation to the Priesthood or Consecrated Life. Call the Vocation Office by contacting Fr. Matthew Reese, 357 St. Mary, Street, P.O. Box 99, Loretto, PA 15940, 814-472-5441, or email: [vocations@dioceseaj.org](mailto:vocations@dioceseaj.org)

**ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11** at 1:00PM, the Gabriel Project will be holding their newly themed and exciting Basket Party for Babies. Doors open at 12:30, tickets are \$8.00 and includes a spaghetti dinner. Tickets for the baskets will sold for \$5.00 a sheet. There will be over 75 baskets along with other major prizes like a Kindle Fire and an American Girl Doll. Bring a pack of diapers and be entered for a chance to a \$25.00 gift card for Sheetz(First prize) and a large beautiful fall mum from Stuver’s Nursery(second prize). Colette Weaver from C’s Jewels, Justin Roxby from Justin’s Creations and Mary Kay Sax from Avon will all be there with items on display. We are seeking donations of money, gift cards, or baskets to make this an even better event. Please contact Stephanie Neighbors at 254-2211, Kristen Weaver at 288-3346, Gale Bala at 539-0155 or see an Angel for pick up/drop off of donations or for tickets. Tickets will also be available at the door. Please come out and have a great time while supporting this worthwhile prolife cause.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

Bill Babik, Rose Blaschak, Geraldine Caddy, Jean Chase, Sister Carol Jean Czrynik, Mary Davis, Joan Delusa, Stephen Fabina, LeAnn Golby, Alicia Junghans, Susan Keselyak, Kathryn Legat, Helen Malysko, Nilay Parekh (Bishop McCort High School), Carly Rice, Doug Rice, James Schuster, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobceky, Leona Sutt, Agnes Swarney, Jeanne Toth, Rose Trapanotto, 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 Rovon, Lakenheath Air Force Base, England; 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 Donahy, US Army, Fort Bliss, El Paso, Texas; Petty Officer 1<sup>st</sup> Class Heather L. Dovala, Bahrain.; Spec Jarod Pisarchik, Army National Guard; Ens. Kara Yingling, USS Higgins; Lt. JG Shannon Yingling; Pvt Daniel Maslo, Camp Geiger, NC; Airman Devon Gilbert, Tinker AFB, OK; Senior Airman Daniel Christner, USAF, 193<sup>rd</sup> Special Operations Wing; Lt. Col Steven Thomas, USAF, deploying to the Middle East; 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Colin Harrington, US Army, Bethesda, MD.

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 CHURCH** will be holding their Annual Novena in honor of St. Therese of the Little Flower of Jesus starting Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> and will continue for 9 days. Masses will be held at 9AM and 7PM except on Saturday and Sunday, which will be Saturday at 9AM, 4PM, & 7PM and Sunday at 7:30AM, 10AM and 7PM. Sunday Sept. 27 will be the Anointing of the Sick Mass at 2PM. The closing of the Novena will be Thursday, October 1 with refreshments served after the 9AM & 7PM Mass in the Church Hall. To have your intentions placed on the altar during the Novena, send them to St. Therese Church rectory at 536 Decker Avenue.

**BISHOP MCCORT CHEER LEADERS** will be holding their Annual Basket Party on Sunday, September 27 in St. Andrew's School Cafeteria. Doors open at 1PM and drawing being at 2PM. A light lunch will be served. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased from any Bishop McCort Cheerleader or at the door. Any questions please call Dr. Walker at 243-9184.

**16TH ANNUAL LIGHT THE NIGHT WALK** for Leukemia & Lymphoma Society– Saturday, October 3, 2015. Registration at 5:30PM, Remembrance Ceremony at 6:15PM, Walk at 7:30PM. For more information contact Angelina at 1-800-726-2873, ext. 4332 or [angelina@shilcosky@lls.org](mailto:angelina@shilcosky@lls.org).

**IN CELEBRATION** of Polish Heritage Month, the Polish Heritage Choir is sponsoring its annual Pulaski Day Mass on Saturday, October 3 at 4:00PM at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Windber, PA. Please join us in this celebration of a Polish Mass and hymns.