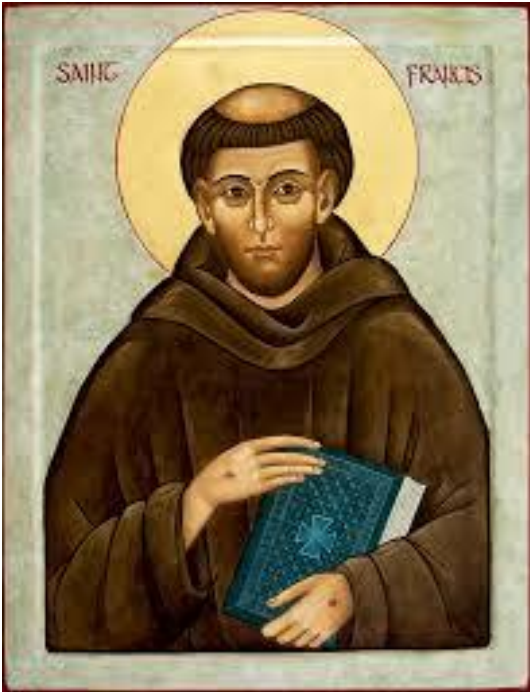


SEPTEMBER 6, 2015
23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
THE FAITH COMMUNITY OF
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

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@atlanticbbn.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 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.

PARISH OFFICE will be CLOSED on Monday, September 7 for the Labor Day Holiday.

ST. FRANCIS CHOIR will begin practice on Wednesday, September 9 at 6:30PM in the Chapel portion of the Church. New singers are always welcome.

FISH FRY will take place THIS Friday, September 11 from 11AM – 6PM. Once again, your help is needed to ensure the success of this endeavor. Preparations will be made beginning on Thursday, September 10. Please call Sandy Rager at 539-1632 if you would like to join in the fun!

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, haluski, beer, coffee, and soda. \$100.00 cash prizes awarded every 15 minutes, qualifiers, paddle tickets, pull tabs galore, basket chances. 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.**

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND – Loose - \$384.00; Adults - \$2,235.01; Children - \$25.00; Monthly - \$111.00; Candles - \$61.75; Holy Day - \$7.00; St. Vincent de Paul - \$628.00; Missalettes - \$5.00; Retired Priest - \$5.00; Misc. - \$566.97. Total Collection - \$4,028.73. 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 August 31 - \$15,420.00 was pledged by 141 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.**

CANDLE BY OUR LADY QUEEN OF HEAVEN will burn this week for +John “Bucky” Wanko by Raymond & Jeanne Toth.

FOOD FOR THE POOR – A representative from Food for the Poor will be visiting St. Francis of Assisi on Saturday, September 19 and Sunday, September 20. 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. A second collection will be taken the weekend of September 19 & 20 to aid their endeavors. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, September 11 - Fish Fry – 11AM – 6PM
Sunday, September 13 – Religious Education Classes begin
Saturday, September 26 – Cash Bash
Sunday, October 4 – Feast Day Dinner
Saturday, October 17 – Vendor Fair
Sunday, October 18 – Vendor Fair
Friday, November 20 – Bus trip to Sight & Sound

Liturgical Reflection... The General Instruction of the Roman Missal gives particular directives for the celebration of Mass. It is noted that the Cross adorned with the figure of Christ Crucified is carried in the opening procession. This Cross may be placed next to the altar to serve as the Altar Cross. It is desirable that such a Cross should remain near the altar even outside of liturgical celebrations, so as to remind the faithful of the saving Passion of the Lord. The Cross bearing the figure of the Crucified is a traditional piece of art in Catholic life. General Instruction of the Roman Missal, Number 117, 122 and 308.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI YOUTH FAITH FORMATION PROGRAMS – Our Faith Formation Goals are simple: We aim to grow in love of God and ourselves and to spread that love to those around us. We aim to have our young people find community with each other and feel part of our parish family. Faith formation is life long and ongoing. It is an important part of your child’s life. She/he should be attending classes whether or not it is a sacramental year. Classes for our youth are held from September 13 until the beginning of May. Pre-K through eighth grade classes meet Sunday after the 9:30AM Mass until Noon. Grade 9 & 10 & 11 classes are held the second Sunday of each month. All classes meet in Resurrection Parish Center on Chestnut St.

Sacramental Programs – The following is recommended for all youth who will be preparing to receive any of the Sacraments listed below: They should be involved in the liturgical life of the Church, receiving the Sacraments and attend Mass regularly. He/she should be enrolled in the parish Religious Education Program. We feel that sacramental preparation is a very special time. Parents are requested to take an active role as primary educators of their children in their Faith formation.

First Reconciliation – Children preparing for this Sacrament are usually in second grade or above. They also should have an elemental awareness of sin and Christ’s forgiveness through the Sacrament of Penance. Students who are attending Catholic School are required to attend Religious Education Classes for sacramental preparation.

First Communion – Children preparing for this Sacrament are usually in second grade or above. They should also be able to distinguish between ordinary bread and the Eucharist. Students who are attending Catholic School are required to attend Religious Education Classes for sacramental preparation.

Confirmation – Candidates for Confirmation must be in ninth grade or above.

Please note: If you have a young person who was not enrolled last year and would like to have them be part of our Religious Education Program or have any questions please call Carol Pisula at 539-1632.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES will begin on Sunday, September 13, 2015 for students in pre-school through 8th grade. Classes are held on Sunday mornings from 10:45AM – 12Noon at Resurrection Parish Center on Chestnut Street. *Parents are reminded of their obligation to see that their children are instructed in the Catholic Faith.* Registration forms are in the vestibule of the Church and may be returned via the collection basket. Please return forms as soon as possible so that supplies may be ordered. Students in Grade 2 that attend Catholic School are required to attend classes to prepare for reception of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion in this Parish Family.

ATTENTION PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS IN GRADES 9, 10, 11 – An invitation has been extended for you to attend Religious Education Classes on Wednesday evenings at Resurrection Parish Center from 6:15PM to 7:30PM. This is NOT obligatory. If you are interested in attending, please contact Marcy Olek at 536-1480.

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 - “Be strong, do not fear!” With every true vocation comes the strength and courage of the One Who calls. If the Holy Spirit is prompting you to follow Christ as a Priest, Deacon, or in the 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

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

Bill Babik, Rose Blaschak, Geraldine Caddy, Jean Chase, Sister Carol Jean Czzyrnik, 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 Sobeky, Leona Sutt, Agnes Swarney, Jeanne Toth, Rose Trapanotto, 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**, 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 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**, **1std Lt Aaron Donahey**, US Army, Fort Bliss, El Paso, Texas; **Petty Officer 1st 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, 193rd Special Operations Wing; **Lt. Col Steven Thomas**, USAF, deploying to the Middle East; **2nd 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.

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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.

ANNUAL AUCTION – St. John Vianney Church, Mundy’s Corner, PA, Saturday, September 12 starting at 5:30PM. Many new and used household item, toys, games and gift certificates from area merchants. Food and refreshments will be available.

CFU LODGE – will play host to the CFU Cultural Tour on September 7. Kas, a dynamic ensemble from Osijek, Croatia, along with vocalist Igor Delac, will present a tamburitza concert starting at 7:30PM at the Croatian Hall, 20 Broad St., Cambria City. Admission - \$5.00. Everyone welcome.

SAVE THE DATE – Society of St. Vincent DePaul presents Scott Hahn, Saturday, September 12 at Bishop Carroll High School, Ebensburg, PA from 8:00AM – 3:00PM. - For information, call SVDP Council at 814-943-1981 or aosvdp@atlanticbbn.net or visit www.scotthahn.com.

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.

PROGRAM FOR GRANDPARENTS – A program entitled Celebrating the “Grand” in Grand-Parenting will be offered to grandparents of the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese on Wednesdays, Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28 from 6:00PM – 8:30PM at the Family Life Office, 5379 Portage St., Lilly. This four week DVD facilitated workshop will help grandparents embrace their roles at Torch Bearers, Legacy Leavers, and Blessing Givers as they strive to help lead their grandchildren in their Christian Faith. Cost is \$15 person/\$20 couple which includes a journal. Register by Sept. 24 by sending payment to the Family Life Office, 814-886-5551.