

JANUARY 31, 2016
4th 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 – 659-9781

Finance Council President – Robert Bimeal – 536-5114

Cemetery Council President - William Heim – 254-2942

Music Minister – Gale Bala

Director of Religion Education – Carol Pisula – 254-1961

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 KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS the family and friends of +Clara Pearce who was laid to rest last week. Welcoming God, receive from our hands the loved ones we return to You.



DEACON BRUCE BECKER will lead a *Bible Study Group* for 7 consecutive Tuesdays from 3:30PM – 4:30PM continuing February 2 and ending on March 15. The Bible Study will focus on the power and Mercy of Jesus' Miracles as a focus on the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Please use the sign-up sheet in the vestibule if you are interested in attending.

MEN'S CLUB MEETING will take place on Thursday, February 4 at 7:00PM in the Activity Center. New members are always welcome.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5 is the First Friday of the month. Adoration will begin after the 8:00AM Mass and continue until 5:30PM. Sign-up sheets are in the vestibule of the Church. There should be at least two adorers present for each time slot. (This is also a matter of safety for the Blessed Sacrament – adorers adore and protect.)

OUR NEXT FISH FRY will take place on Ash Wednesday, February 10 and will continue on Friday, February 19, 26, March 4, March 11. A great deal of help will be needed to keep up the pace for Lent. *PLEASE: if you have not yet volunteered to lend a hand, any amount of time you can spare will make the job easier for all involved.* We will be missing quite a few of our "regulars" and this would be a good time to "learn the ropes." This is also an opportunity for students needing service hours to fulfill that obligation. Profit for Fish Fry held on Friday, January 8: \$3,577.86.

MEN'S CLUB Valentine's Day tickets are now available in the vestibule of the Church. Cost: \$2.00. Your support is greatly appreciated. Winning number based on the first pick three evening drawing of the PA Lottery on February 14, 2016.



LENT SCHEDULE: Ash Wednesday, Mass will be celebrated at 8:00AM, 12Noon and 6:30PM. During Lent, daily Mass (Mon. thru Fri.) will take place at 12Noon (Tues. - Mass with the Novena to St. Anthony will also be celebrated at 6:30PM). Stations of the Cross will be prayed on all Fridays of Lent at 7:00PM. Lenten Lamentations will be held on Sundays of Lent at 3:00PM.

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

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Loose - \$245.00; Adults - \$1,265.01; Children - \$18.00; Monthly - \$20.00; Candles - \$68.35; First Offering - \$10.00.00; Christmas - \$10.00; St. Vincent de Paul - \$40.00. Total Collection - \$1,676.36. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish. A special thanks to those who braved the blizzard conditions on Friday and the digging out on Saturday and Sunday.

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND – For over a month now we have been witnessing the devastation caused by the tornados, the storms and floods in the Mid-West, the South, and the Southwest. A second collection will be taken this weekend to help in alleviating the suffering that these disasters have and are causing. All monies collected will be sent to Catholic Charities USA who will distribute these donations. In this Year of Mercy, please be as generous as possible in responding to this request. Thank you for whatever you are able to do to be of help to our brothers and sisters in need.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, January 30 – Mardi Gras Madness – 6:00PM – 11:00PM
Tuesday, February 2, 9, 16, 23, Mar. 8, Mar. 15 – Bible Study – 3:30PM – 4:30PM
Wednesday, February 10 – Ash Wednesday, Lent Fish Fries begin and will continue on Friday, February 19, 26, March 4, March 11.
Thursday, February 11 – Confession – 6:00PM – 8:00PM

Liturgical Reflection... For Saint Paul his poetic message on love is synonymous with mercy. To the one who is patient and kind, the mercy of God is found in that heart. Mercy bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things. God's mercy is shared with us, and we in turn share that mercy with others. When grounded in the love of God, we become instruments of God's mercy to one another. Free of jealousy and self-righteousness, we mirror the mercy of God. In place of judging and accusing, we become mirrors of God's understanding, compassion, and forgiveness. *2016, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.*

Families and the Gospel... January 31 – Lk 4:21-30 – Mary and Joseph must have been proud when their village "all spoke well of Jesus and were amazed at His words." But they probably felt shame when the same people drove Him out of town. Like Mary and Joseph, the highs and lows of parenting are our path to being a Holy Family.

Stewardship Reflection... Only when you share your time, abilities and finances with an attitude of gratitude (love) can that sharing be seen as Christian stewardship.

CONFESSIONS TO BE OFFERED throughout the Diocese – Observing the Jubilee of Mercy and welcoming the beginning of the Lenten Season, the Local Church will make the Sacrament of Reconciliation, an encounter with the compassionate mercy of God, available throughout our eight counties the day following Ash Wednesday on Thursday, February 11. Holy Father Francis states that God’s mercy knows no limits. The Lord’s mercy gives hope and renews one’s love for God and for our sisters and brothers. In a new book, The Name of God is Mercy, published in January 2016, Pope Francis explains, “The Church condemns sin, because it has to tell the truth: this is a sin. But at the same time, it embraces the sinner who acknowledges what he is.” He also explains how sin is “more than a stain” that can be removed by a trip to “the dry cleaner” – but a wound that “needs to be treated, and healed.” The place for the treatment and healing of sin is the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In his new book Pope Francis expresses his own need for the Sacrament. He says very plainly, “I am a sinner; a man who is in need of God’s mercy.” Pope Francis urges us to pray, “Lord, I am a sinner. Come with your mercy.” God’s mercy is everlasting. We receive the mercy and love of God in a very special way in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Sinners that we are we find forgiveness and mercy in this great Sacrament when truly sorry and wanting to do better. With the gift of mercy within us, we then are able to go forth and share God’s mercy, understanding, and compassion with others. We become instruments of Divine Mercy to our sisters and brothers. **On Thursday, February 11, from 6:00PM – 8:00PM**, the faithful are invited to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Francis of Assisi Parish.

In case you are in need of the Act of Contrition:

O My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In His name, my God, have mercy.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

Bill Babik, Rose Blaschak, Geraldine Caddy, Jean Chase, Sister Carol Jean Czynnik, 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 Sobacky, 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**, **Major Melinda Rovon Corallo**, 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 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; **2nd Lt. Ryan Powers**, USMC, Camp Lejeune, NC; **Anthony Rosage**, USAF, The Presidio, Monterey, CA.

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.

Gabriel Project; Super Bowl Weekend Sub/Pizza Sale for Pampers! 16 Inch Italian Sub, \$7.00; Medium Cheese/Pepperoni Pizzas for \$6.00 All made Fresh by Tony's Subs in Roxbury; and Medium Polish Paguch Pizzas With or Without Onion and Italian White Pizzas for \$8.00 made by Parkway Restaurant in Portage; *Please Order by Calling Stephanie at 814-254-2211, by 8PM Sunday January 31! Pickup is Saturday February 6 at 11:00 AM; St. Francis Activity Center!* God Bless You for Supporting Our Moms, Families, and Babies! Proceeds from Sub/Pizza Sales help us to provide diapers/wipes/wash/lotion (If not donated) to our more than 20 Babies Born and soon to Be Born Currently in Our Program!

THE CONCERTS UNDER THE DOME SERIES will present the Indian Brass Band on Sunday, February 7 at 2:00PM. This pre-Civil War era band will perform period music on pre-Civil War instruments such as keyed bugles, quinticlave, ophicleide, as well as a

variety of early valved instruments. Concerts are held at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona. There will be a free-will offering.

BLOOD DRIVE – St. Francis of Assisi Activity Center – Thursday, February 4 from 1:30PM – 7:00PM. Someone’s Waiting – Give Blood. Please call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org to schedule an appointment. “For it is giving that we receive” quote from Peace Prayer of Holy Father St. Francis of Assisi.