

FEBRUARY 14, 2016
First Sunday of Lent
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. thru Fri. – 12Noon; Tues.–6:30PM; Sat; 8:00AM

First Friday 8:00AM and 5:30 PM

Confession – Tues., 6:00PM, Sat. 3:15 – 3:45PM

First Friday 5:00PM

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 Religious 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 +Geraldine Caddy, +Edward Saloka, and +Albert Spack who were 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 5 consecutive Tuesdays from 3:30PM – 4:30PM continuing February 16 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.

OUR NEXT FISH FRY will take place on **Friday, February 19** and will continue on Friday, February 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.

BAKE SALE: Due to a limited supply of Gobs we are asking for donations of Baked Goods to Lenten Fish Fries. Items can be brought to the Church Hall on Thursday mornings **by 11:00AM.** Bake Sale will be used to offset the cost of advertising. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



be sold at the
All profits from the



LENT SCHEDULE: 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 with the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00PM – The Hour of Mercy.

SANCTUARY CANDLE will burn this week for +Edward Saloka by Jim & Sue Ellen Dadey

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Loose - \$341.25; Adults - \$2,244.01; Children - \$30.00; Monthly - \$514.01; Candles - \$100.00; First Offering - \$5.00.; St. Vincent de Paul - \$59.00; Holy Day - \$2.00; Missalettes - \$8.00; Catholic Register -\$351.05; Misc. - \$164.50. Total Collection: \$3,818.82. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, February 16, 23, Mar. 8, Mar. 15 – Bible Study – 3:30PM – 4:30PM
Lent Fish Fries begin and will continue on Friday, February 19, 26, March 4, March 11.
Stations of the Cross – Fridays of Lent at 6:30PM
Lenten Lamentations – Sundays of Lent with the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00PM

PARKING LOTS – When possible, please use the parking lots first when attending services or events at the Parish. The handicapped spaces in front of the Church should only be used by those displaying a handicap tag. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated. Parking for our neighbors is at a premium and to park on Barron Ave. limits their parking spaces.

Liturgical Reflection... Throughout the weeks of Lent in this Jubilee Year of Mercy, the Diocese will reflect on the Corporal Works of Mercy. These are seven ways to do almsgiving the forty days of Lent. The first week the works to **feed the hungry** and **give drink to the thirsty** are highlighted. We share our own resources with others. Have you ever made lunch or dinner for the family – or picked dinner up for someone at the drive-through? Ever made a peanut-butter-and-jelly sandwich for a younger sister or brother? Ever poured a glass of milk or water for someone? Is there a place in your community that collects food for the hungry? Maybe a monetary donation can be given to aid the starving and thirsty beyond our borders. To do this we may have to go without something we like to have, but don't actually need. God's mercy shines through our acts. *2016, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.*

Families and the Gospel... February 14 – Luke 4:1-13 – The devil tempted Jesus to ignore His Father and to rely on His own abilities (possessions, fame and power). We face the same temptations if we think we earned our blessings. Jesus teaches us to recognize God's protection and love as the source of our blessings and warns not to "put the Lord, your God, to the test."

Stewardship Reflection... The Israelites returned their first fruits of the harvest to God. May we experience a life-changing conversion that causes us to return the first fruits (not the leftovers) of time, talent, and treasure to God.

CRS RICE BOWL – Included with the bulletin last week were the Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowls. Please drop your loose change into your bowl during the Lenten Season to help those less fortunate. The Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy are being emphasized during this Year of Mercy – feeding the hungry and giving drink to the thirsty capture the spirit of the Corporal Works of Mercy.

Symbols of the Passion of Jesus

SYMBOLS OF THE PASSION OF JESUS



During the First Week of Lent, a CROWN OF THORNS is placed on the cross to remind us that Jesus was crucified. He was crowned with of crown of thorns as a King “of a Kingdom that is not of this world” (John 18:36). The thorns were embedded in the head of Jesus causing excruciating pain. He allowed this to happen for you and me. My heart hears the stanza of the hymn WHEN I BEHOLD THE WONDROUS CROSS “Did e’er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown.”

Matthew 27:30 – Weaving a CROWN out of THORNS they fixed it on His head, and stuck a reed in His right hand. Then they began to mock Him by dropping to their knees before Him saying, “All hail the King of the Jews.”

Mark 15:17-18 – They dressed Him in royal purple, then wove a CROWN OF THORN and put it on Him and began to salute Him, “All hail, King of the Jews.”

John 19:2-3 – The soldiers then wove a CROWN OF THORNS and fixed it on His head, throwing around His shoulders a cloak of royal purple. Repeatedly they came up to Him and said, “All hail, King of the Jews, slapping His face as they did so.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

Bill Babik, Rose Blaschak, Jean Chase, Sister Carol Jean Czarnik, 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 Sobczyk, 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 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 Rovano 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.

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 LENTEN PIROGHI SALE – Hand-made/home-made potato and cheese piroghi made fresh each week during Lent. Call in orders every Monday until March 14 from 9AM to 11AM. Cost is \$6.50 dozen (with or without onions). Pick up your order on Fridays from 9AM – 2PM at our Social Hall, Upper Decker Ave. **No orders will be taken during Holy Week.**

ST. ANDREW CHURCH Annual Novena to the Infant of Prague will begin on Sunday, February 28 at 7:00PM and will continue until Monday, March 7, 2106 at 7:00PM. We will have additional Priests to hear Confessions after Mass every night.

RESURRECTION PARISH is organizing a mission trip to Webster Springs, WV, July 28 – July 31. Webster Springs is a small town in the Appalachian Mountains area that has been hit hard with long term poverty. The average household income in the town is less than \$22,000 per year with over 60% of the town living below poverty level. The mission trip will consist of doing home repairs, building ramps, replacing roofs and other needed projects. The trip is open to anyone ages 15 year or older from any parish. 14year olds may participate in the trip if a parent accompanies them. The trip is absolutely free to participate, however all team members will be asked to help in fund raising efforts to help pay for construction material, travel and meals. For more information please call Terry or Annette Dietz at 255-6757 or 242-4244. Or attend the next meeting to be held Mar. 2nd at Resurrection Oratory Hall, 8th and Chestnut Streets. Adult registration deadline is Apr. 1 (adults 18 and older must complete the Diocesan Protecting God’s Children certification and required background checks). High School registrations (under 18) must be received by Jun.1 to be able to participate. This year’s trip will be limited to 54 people. Confirmation & BMHS receiver 128 service hours for participation in this trip.