

**FEBRUARY 21, 2016**  
*Second 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*

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**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**

4:00PM / Sunday – 7:30AM / 9:30AM

**Parish Secretary** – Carol Pisula

**Office Hours** – 9:00AM to 3:00PM – Mon. thru Thurs

**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

Saturday –

**Parish Council**

**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.

**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS** the family and friends of +Deborah Kubacka and +Margaret Prebola, who were laid to rest last week. Welcoming God, receive from our hands the loved ones we return to You.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 4** is the First Friday of the month. Adoration begins after the Noon Mass at 12:30PM until 5:30PM. Please plan to spend some time with Our Lord during the season of Lent. Sign-up sheet for adoration is located in the vestibule. At least two adorers are needed for each half hour time slot.

**PLEASE TAKE NOTE:** Beginning on Monday, March 6 thru Friday, March 18, the Parish Office will only be open from 9:00AM until 12Noon. Thank you for your cooperation in limiting phone calls and visits to the office during those hours.



**DEACON BRUCE BECKER** will lead a *Bible Study Group* for 4 consecutive Tuesdays from 3:30PM – 4:30PM continuing February 23 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 signup sheet in the vestibule if you are interested in attending.

**OUR NEXT FISH FRY** will take place on **Friday, February 26** and will continue on Friday, 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. **THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE TAKEN THE TIME TO VOLUNTEER!** Profit from the Lent Fish Fries will be published after Lent.

**THE WINNER** of the St. Francis Men’s Club Valentine Day Special ticket was Helen Curcio (#678). The number below was Andrew Legat and the number above was Alex Svirsko. Congratulations to the winners. The Men’s Club thanks all for their continued support.

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



**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.

**CANDLE BY THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS** will burn this week for +God’s Blessings and Good Health for Patti Kristoff by Jeanne & Ray Toth. **SANCTUARY CANDLE** will burn this week for Thanks to St. Francis of Assisi for prayers answered & Good Health of Ray Toth & Family by Jeanne & Ray Toth.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND:** Loose - \$318.35; Adults - \$2,026.01; Children - \$31.00; Monthly - \$255.00; Candles - \$77.00; St. Vincent de Paul - \$5.00; Mandeville - \$67.00; Black & Indian Mission - \$254.01; Ash Wednesday - \$99.00; Misc. - \$150.00. Total Collection: \$3,282.37. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

**SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK** will take place at the 4:00PM Mass on Saturday, February 27 and the 7:30Am & 9:30AM Masses on Sunday, February 28. According to Church guidelines this sacrament is available to Catholics who have: reached the age of reason and begin to fall in danger of death as a result of illness or old age; who are undergoing surgery whenever a serious illness is the reason for the surgery; who are elderly if they have been notably weakened even though there is no serious illness present; sick children if they have sufficient use of reason to be strengthened by this Sacrament. We will celebrate this Sacrament of the Sick during Mass so that the gathered community can pray for our sisters and brothers who are being anointed.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, February, 23, Mar. 8, Mar. 15 – Bible Study – 3:30PM – 4:30PM  
Lent Fish Fries will continue on Friday, February, 26, March 4, March 11.  
Anointing of the Sick – Saturday, February 27 at 4:00PM Mass; Sunday, February 28 at 7:30AM & 9:30AM  
Stations of the Cross – Fridays of Lent at 7:00PM  
Lenten Lamentations – Sundays of Lent with the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00PM

*Liturgical Reflection...* The second week of Lent the Local Church observes the Corporal Work of Mercy to **shelter the homeless**. The media bombards us with information on the flight of immigrants seeking a homeland. The Lord would have us welcome the stranger in our midst. Catholic Relief Services aids orphans, refugees, and victims of natural disasters and wars. Do you know someone from the

parish or wider community who needs some home repairs or yard work? Housing is a primary concern for many families; some of them live right around us. Catholic Charities ministers to the homeless. Being a follower of Christ means we may have to leave our comfort zone and become involved in the community. God's mercy shines through our involvement. *2016, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.*

*Families and the Gospel...* February 21 – Luke 9:28b-36 – Jesus “went up to the mountain to pray” and He was “changed.” Prayer has the power to change us. This Lent set aside a few minutes each day to pray for members of your family. Pray before each meal and if you are married, spend five minutes in prayer together.

*Stewardship Reflection...* By choosing to allow Jesus Christ to transform their lives, Christian stewards and disciples recognize that their ultimate “citizenship is in Heaven” (Phil 3:20).

**SYMBOLS OF THE PASSION OF JESUS**



During the Second Week of Lent, a WHIP is placed at the Cross to remind us that before Jesus was crucified, He underwent a brutal scourging. Whips were used which tore into His flesh causing wounds to bleed. He allowed this to happen for you and me. With Our Sorrowful Mother we pray: BRUISED, DERIDED CURSED, DEFILED, SHE BEHELD HER TENDER CHILD, ALL WITH BLOODY SCOURGES RENT.

**Matthew 27:26** - At that he (Pilate) released Barabbas to them. Jesus, however, he first SCOURGED, then he handed Him over to be crucified.

**Mark 15:15** – So Pilate, who wished to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas to them and after he had Jesus SCOURGED, he handed Him over to be crucified.

**Luke 23:22** – He said to them a third time, “What is this man guilty of? I have not discovered anything about Him that calls for the death penalty. I will therefore chastise Him and release Him.”

**John 19** – Pilate’s next move was to take Jesus and have Him SCOURGED.

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

Bill Babik, Rose Blaschak, 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), Sophie Regula, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, James Schuster, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobacky, 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 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, Wv; **Sgt. Bryan Maxwell Porath**, **1<sup>st</sup> Lt Aaron Donahey**, 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; **2<sup>nd</sup> 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. TERESE 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.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 1066** - Pancake Breakfast, Sunday, February 28 from 8:30AM to Noon at Resurrection Roman Catholic Church Hall, 4th Avenue. Adults - \$6.00, children 12 & under – free.

**RESURRECTION PARISH** - mission trip to Webster Springs, WV, July 28 – July 31. 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. 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. 2<sup>nd</sup> at Resurrection Oratory Hall, 8<sup>th</sup> 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.