

**FEBRUARY 28, 2016**  
*Third 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](mailto: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 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 +Grace Guetta, Principal of St. Andrew School and +Theresa Froehlich 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.

**MEN'S CLUB** meeting will be held on Thursday, March 3 at 7:00PM in the Activity Center. New members are always welcome.

**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 3 consecutive Tuesdays from 3:30PM – 4:30PM continuing March 1 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.

**OUR NEXT FISH FRY** will take place on **Friday, March 4** and will continue on Friday, March 11. A great deal of help will be needed to keep up the pace for Lent. **THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE TAKEN THE TIME TO VOLUNTEER!**

**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.

**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.

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE** – There is a signup sheet in the vestibule for altar servers, lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for Holy Week and Easter. Please volunteer to take part in these liturgies. Assignments will be made if slots are not filled by Sunday, March 13.

**CHILDREN'S EASTER EGG HUNT** will be held Palm Sunday, March 20 at 2:00PM in the Activity Center for children 10 & under. Please use the signup sheet in the vestibule. **DEADLINE FOR SIGNUP: SUNDAY, MARCH 13. ALL CHILDREN MUST BE REGISTERED** to determine the number attending.

**PASKA BREAD** will be sold on a "First come, first serve" basis after the 4:00PM Mass on Sat., Mar. 19 and the 7:30AM & 9:30AM Masses Sun., Mar. 20 until 1:00PM. Plain - \$5.00, raisin - \$5.25. *Limit of 2 loaves per family.* Takeout Turkey Dinners - \$6.00 (Sun. only) will also be sold along with Gobs - \$1.25.

**SEDER MEAL** – Annual Commemoration of the Seder Meal will take place on Holy Thursday, March 24 at 5:00PM in the Activity Center. This will be a covered dish event with the Parish providing the meat. Bring your favorite dish to share and join other parishioners in this celebration of the Passover Meal. Signup sheets are in the vestibule. **Deadline for signup: Sunday, March 20.**

**SANCTUARY CANDLE** will burn this week for +Margaret "Peggy" Dadey by Jim & Sue Ellen Dadey.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND:** Loose - \$315.00; Adults - \$2,358.01; Children - \$35.00; Monthly - \$59.00.00; Candles - \$94.66; Mandeville - \$29.00; Black & Indian Mission - \$45.00; Ash Wednesday - \$38.00; Catholic Register - \$30.00; First Offering - \$15.00; Holy Day - \$7.00; Misc. - \$400.00. Total Collection: \$3,425.67. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

**LAST SUNDAY WAS COMMITMENT SUNDAY** for the Annual Catholic Appeal. Many Diocesan ministries from vocations to social justice, youth ministries and more are counting on our prayers and Lenten sacrifices. If you do not have a pledge card, you may place your gift (made payable to "Annual Catholic Appeal") in the collection basket, or you may make an online gift at [www.dioceseaj.org](http://www.dioceseaj.org). Thank you for your Lenten offering.

**YEAR OF MERCY BULLETIN BOARD:** In the vestibule of the Church you will find a bulletin board with the Saints of Mercy. Please take a heart, write your name on it and place it on the bulletin board as an extension of the Holy Door created by the Religious Education students.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, Mar. 8, March. 15 – Bible Study – 3:30PM – 4:30PM  
Lent Fish Fries will continue on Friday, March 4, March 11.  
Stations of the Cross – Fridays of Lent at 7:00PM  
Lenten Lamentations – Sundays of Lent with the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00PM  
Saturday, March 19, Sunday, March 20 – Paska Bread Sale (first come, first serve)  
Sunday, March 20 – Easter Egg Hunt – 2:00PM  
Holy Thursday, March 24 - Seder Meal – 5:00PM  
Holy Thursday, March 24 – Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper – 7:00PM, adoration until 10:00PM  
Good Friday, March 25 – Tenebrae – 9:00AM  
Good Friday, March 25 – Commemoration of the Lord’s Passion – 3:00PM, Stations of the Cross – 7:00PM  
Holy Saturday, March 26 – Tenebrae – 9:00AM, Blessing of Baskets – 1:00PM & 2:00PM  
Holy Saturday, March 26 – Great Vigil of Easter – 8:30PM

### LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES:

Monday, March 7 – West End Penance Service, Resurrection – 5:30PM  
Thursday, March 10 – Transfiguration, Conemaugh – 6:30PM  
Monday, March 14 - Our Mother of Sorrows — 6:30PM  
Tuesday, March 15 – Visitation – 5:30PM  
Thursday, March 17 – St. Elizabeth Ann Seton – 6:00PM  
Thursday, March 17 – St. John Gualbert Cathedral – 5:30PM  
Monday, March 21 – St. Benedict – 5:00PM

### SYMBOLS OF THE PASSION OF JESUS



During the Third Week of Lent, NAILS are fastened to “that Old Rugged Cross” on which Our Lord and Savior was nailed to remind us that it was for our sins that He was nailed to the Cross. Can you imagine what a crucifixion is? Jesus’ thoughts: “My executioners stretch My arms; they hold My hand and wrist against the wood and press the nail until it stabs My flesh. Then with one heavy hammer smash, they drive it through and pain bursts like a bomb of fire in My brain. They seize the other arm and agony again explodes. Then raising My knees so that My feet are flat against the wood, they hammer them fast too.”

My God, I look at You and think – is my soul worth this much? What can I give You in return? I here and now accept for all my life whatever comes my way. To every Cross, I touch my lips and kiss Your nailed hands and feet. To CRUCIFY, according to Webster’s Seventh Collegiate Dictionary, means, “To put to death by NAILING or binding the hands and feet to a cross.” The four Gospels do not specifically say that Jesus was nailed to a cross, but each Gospel says that they led Him out to crucify Him. Gospel references: **Matthew 27:33-36; Mark 15:22-26; Luke 23:33-34 and John 19:16-18.** WHY A SKULL AT THE BASE OF THE CROSS? **Matthew 27:33-34; Mark 15:22; Luke 23:33 and John 19:17-18.**



### 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 Sobecky, 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, 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, Wy; **Sgt. Bryan Maxwell Porath**, 1<sup>st</sup><sup>d</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.*

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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.

**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, 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Adults - \$6.00, children 12 & under – free.

**ST. JOSEPH TRIDUUM**- a Triduum in honor of St. Joseph will be held March 17-19 at St. John Gualbert Cathedral. Mass & devotions will be held at 5:00PM each day. On Saturday, everyone is invited following the final liturgy to the St. Joseph Table at the Parish Activity Center.

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY**- Resurrection Parish Hall, Saturday, March 19. Doors open at 6:00PM. Music provided by Tree from 7:00PM – 10:00PM. Limited seating – to make a \$5.00 admission registration, please call Greg Babik at 322-6884 or the Parish Office at 539-5788, ext. 3. Plenty of Irish food, soda and beer will be available for purchase.

**ST. ANDREW SCHOOL** will be hosting its 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Basket Party on Sunday, April 3. Doors open at Noon and drawings begin at 2:00PM. Admission is \$10 and includes lunch, dessert, beverage, and 25 chances. All admission tickets are sold in advance and are available at the school office (Mon-Fri, 288-2811). You **MUST** have a ticket to attend – no tickets will be sold at the door. There are only 400 seats available so purchase yours today.