

**FEBRUARY 7, 2016**  
**5th 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@atlanticbbs.net](mailto:sfassisich@atlanticbbs.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**

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 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.

**THANK YOU** to all those who helped and supported in any way the Mardi Gras celebration last weekend, especially the members of the Planning Committee. Your hard work and dedication is greatly appreciated.



**DEACON BRUCE BECKER** will lead a *Bible Study Group* for 6 consecutive Tuesdays from 3:30PM – 4:30PM continuing February 9 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 **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.



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

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

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND:** Loose - \$621.01; Adults - \$3,218.01; Children - \$33.02; Monthly - \$41.00; Candles - \$92.50; First Offering - \$25.00;; St. Vincent de Paul - \$477.00; Holy Day - \$27.00; Missalettes - \$15.00; Easter - \$6.00; Catholic Register -\$10.00; Disaster Relief - \$189.81; Misc. - \$390.88. Total Collection - \$5,146.23. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, February 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

**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...* In all three readings, each individual is called by God. Isaiah is sent by God as His prophet. Saint Paul is claimed as an Apostle, giving witness to the Lord's Resurrection. Saint Peter, admitting his own sinfulness, is called to follow the Christ. Each person experienced the personal call from God to follow. By God's mercy we, too, have been called by Baptism to follow the Lord. Unworthy as we are, we too rely on God's mercy and follow. Our common vocation is to live the call of Jesus Christ and announce His mercy, compassion, reconciliation, and love to all we meet. 2016, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.

*Families and the Gospel...* February 7 – Lk 5:1-11 – We can learn how to handle stress from today's Gospel. When pressured by the crowd, Jesus got into a boat and "went a short distance and taught." Juggling parenting, scheduling and work can be stressful. Parents need space also. A "short distance" is a good parenting tool.

*Liturgical Reflection...* This Wednesday, February 10 is Ash Wednesday when the Church begins the forty day journey toward the Triduum (The Three Days) with the annual discipline of fasting, praying and giving alms. Ash Wednesday (February 10) and Good Friday (March 25) are days of fast and abstinence. All Fridays in Lent (February 12, 19, 26; March 4, 11, 18) are days of abstinence. **FASTING** refers to only one full meal, with two small meals and no eating otherwise for the day. **ABSTINENCE** refers to not eating meat at all during the day. All those who have reached their 14<sup>th</sup> year are obliged to ABSTAIN. The Church directs the holy FAST to all those in their 18<sup>th</sup> year until their 60<sup>th</sup> year (Canon 1252). The ancient practice of fasting and abstaining can occur throughout other days in Lent. This is not obligatory and can take a variety forms distinct from food. 2016, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.

*Stewardship Reflection...* Perhaps feelings of reluctance, inadequacy, and unworthiness have prevented us from fulfilling our portion of God's Divine Plan. May we meet Jesus' challenge of "Do not be afraid" with "Here I am, send me!"

**CONFESSIONS TO BE OFFERED** throughout the Diocese – Observing the Jubilee the beginning of the Lenten Season, the Local Church will make the Sacrament of encounter with the compassionate mercy of God, available throughout our eight counties Wednesday on Thursday, February 11. Holy Father Francis states that God’s mercy Lord’s mercy gives hope and renews one’s love for God and for our sisters and brothers. Name of God is Mercy, published in January 2016, Pope Francis explains, “The Church has to tell the truth: this is a sin. But at the same time, it embraces the sinner who is.” He also explains how sin is “more than a stain” that can be removed by a trip to “the wound that “needs to be treated, and healed.” The place for the treatment and healing of Reconciliation. In his new book Pope Francis expresses his own need for the Sacrament. am a sinner; a man who is in need of God’s mercy.” Pope Francis urges us to pray, 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.



of Mercy and welcoming Reconciliation, on the day following Ash knows no limits. The In a new book, The condemns sin, because it acknowledges what he dry cleaner” – but a sin is the Sacrament of He says very plainly, “I “Lord, I am a sinner.

*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.

**CRS RICE BOWL** – Included with the bulletin this week are 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.

**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.

**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, WY; **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.

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE** – Christians throughout Pittsburgh are invited to take part in the national **40 Days for Life Campaign**. The mission of 40 Days for Life is to unite the Body of Christ in the spiritual battle to end abortion. Join us for 40 days of prayer & fasting, a peaceful vigil held every day from 7AM – 7PM in front of Planned Parenthood at 933 Liberty Avenue, and community outreach. *To find out more, and to sign up to receive the daily devotional prayers via email, go to [www.40daysforlife.com/pittsburgh](http://www.40daysforlife.com/pittsburgh), or [www.40daysforlifepittsburgh.com](http://www.40daysforlifepittsburgh.com), or contact Nikki Bruni, 412-926-9413, [nbrun@40daysforlifepgh.com](mailto:nbrun@40daysforlifepgh.com). Join us for our Kick-off event, Tuesday, February 9 from 7:00-8:30PM, in St. Paul Cathedral’s Synod Hall corner of 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. and Dithridge. (Parking available in lots). Speakers include Rev. Dr. John Guest and Fr. Edwin Wichman. If you are suffering from the choice of abortion, please contact Rachel’s Vineyard (24-hr) (877) 467-3463 or [www.SilentNOMoreAwareness.org](http://www.SilentNOMoreAwareness.org) and [www.healinghearts.org](http://www.healinghearts.org). Men contact [www.mandandabortion.info](http://www.mandandabortion.info).*

**ULTREYA GROUP REUNION** – Attention Johnstown West Ultreya Group – Our next group reunion will take place on Thursday, February 11 from 6:30PM – 7:30PM at the Oratory, Eighth and Chestnut Streets in Cambria City. Please call Deacon Scott or Diane Little with questions – 341-6228.

**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.