

MARCH 20, 2016
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
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 – stfrancis@atlanticbbs.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 NOTE: *Mass on Monday, March 21 will be celebrated at 8:00AM* due to the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona at 11:00AM. **There WILL BE NO 12 NOON MASS.** Beginning on Monday, March 28 daily Mass will return to 8:00 am Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Tuesday at 6:30 pm

WE REJOICE in the Baptism of Sadie Anne Weaver and congratulate her parents, Godparents and family as they celebrate the beginning of her new life with Christ.

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

HOLY THURSDAY – All Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Altar Servers are asked to be present for the Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday, March 24 at 7:00 PM.

ATTENTION: DIVINE MERCY NOVENA will begin on Good Friday, March 25 and be prayed 15 MINUTES BEFORE MASS AND ANY OTHER LITURGICAL EVENTS until the Feast of Divine Mercy on Sunday, April 3.

CONGRATULATIONS to the children of the Parish who received God’s mercy for the first time in the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday, March 19. Members of the class include: *Jordan Burns, Makaila Burns, Eliot Deskevich, Haley Eckenrod, Sara Maggs, Kaley Migut and Cassidy Newman.* May God watch over them as they continue their preparation to receive Our Lord for the first time on Sunday, May 1.

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.**

DECORATING OF THE CHURCH for the Easter Season will take place on Good Friday, March 25th after the 7:00 Stations of the Cross. Volunteers are always appreciated.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PARTY will take place on Sunday, April 17 beginning with a Holy Hour in the Church at 3:00 PM followed by dinner at 4:00 PM. All who volunteered their time in any way during the past year (Fish Fries, Gobs, Religious Education, Altar Servers, Lectors, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Oremus Ministry, Choir, Pastoral & Finance Council, Money Counters, Ushers, Bible Study Teachers/Helpers, etc.) are invited to attend and spend time relaxing with fellow co-workers. Please use the sign-up sheet in the vestibule.

PARISH OFFICE will close at Noon on Wednesday, March 23 and reopen on Tuesday, March 29.

OUR NEXT FISH FRY will take place on Friday, April 8. **THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE TAKEN THE TIME TO VOLUNTEER FOR THE LENTEN FISH FRIES! A SPECIAL THANKS TO THE NEW VOLUNTEERS AND THANK YOU TO ALL WHO BAKED FOR THE BAKE SALE – IT WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!! WE COULD NOT HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU! HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL IN APRIL!!!**

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

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Loose - \$280.01; Adults - \$2,367.00; Children - \$26.00; Monthly -- \$70.00; Candles - \$117.79; Catholic Relief - \$26.00; Miscellaneous - \$134.83; Total Collection: \$3,021.63. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

THANK YOU to all who have participated in the Annual Catholic Appeal. As of March 14, \$6,357.00 was pledged toward our goal of \$23,864.00 with 55 of 327 families contributing (17% participation). 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. Thank you for your Lenten offering.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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 SERVICE - Monday, March 21 – St. Benedict – 5:00PM

RICE BOWLS –Please remember to return your Catholic Relief Services’ Rice Bowls as soon as possible.

CARMELITE COMMUNITY OF THE WORD 14th Annual Paschal Festival to be held on Sunday, April 17 at Our Lady of Loretto Hall. Doors open at 1:45; Dinner served at 2:30; Program to begin 3:30. Adults - \$30; Children 13 and under - \$15. Contact the CCW Incarnation Center at 814-886-4098. Ticket deadline is April 8, 2016.

Liturgical Reflection... This final week of Lent the Diocese cites the Corporal Work of Mercy to **bury the dead**. As the Crucified Lord died and is buried, we remember the burial of our brothers and sisters. Do you know someone who has recently lost a parent, a spouse, a family member or friend? Take time to comfort them with both your presence and your words. Grief is a painful human experience. Survivors adjust to life with the loss of someone they loved. We are there to walk with them throughout the mourning process. Kind words and serious prayers are wonderful gifts to those who bury their dead. This Holy Week we remember that the dead and buried Christ rose on the third day. May we show God’s mercy by bringing hope to those who grieve the loss of a loved one. *Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.*



PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

Bill Babik, Rose Blaschak, Jean Chase, Sister Carol Jean Czyrnik, 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.

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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.

ST. JOHN GUALBERT CATHEDRAL, 117 Clinton Street, will be performing *Tenebrae: A Service of Darkness* on Friday, March 25 at 7:30 PM. The Greater Johnstown Diocesan Festival Choir and Vivace Strings will perform this service portraying the solemn drama of the final hours of Christ’s life on earth. A free-will offering will be taken.

GNOCCHI DINNER: at St. Anthony of Padua Church, Windber on Sunday, April 3 from 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM in the Church Hall. Adults - \$10, Children - \$5.00. Take-outs available!

ST. ANDREW SCHOOL will be hosting its 14th 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.

WINE FEST: St. Benedict Third Annual Grapes of Spring Wine Fest is on Saturday, April 2 from 7-10PM at the St. Benedict Gym. Wines by B&L Winery, Germantown Winery, Happy Valley Winery, and Starr Hill Winery. There are also vendors such as Kim's Sassy Sweets, Rieks, and more. Tickets are \$20 per person which includes a complimentary wine glass, light appetizers and music. For tickets please call 266-3837 or email toniclark@hotmail.com. You must be 21 to attend.