

**SEPTEMBER 11, 2016**  
**24<sup>th</sup> 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, 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., Wed.; Thurs., Fri. – 8:00AM; 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  
**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.

**First Friday** – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 8:30AM – 5:30PM.

**ST. FRANCIS CHOIR** practice has begun. Practice takes place on Wednesdays at 6:30PM in the Chapel area (use Barron Avenue door). New members are always welcome. Call Gale at 539-0155 for more information.



**AN OUTSIDE ROSARY** for our nation and Respect for Life will be held on Thursday, September 15 from 6PM – 7PM along D Street (Church parking lot). All are welcome to join in this prayer.

**THANK YOU** to those who helped in any way with the Fish Fry last week. Your continued support is greatly appreciated. Next Fish Fry will take place on Friday, October 14.

**WINNERS OF THE MEN'S CLUB Labor Day Ticket:** #245 – Sherri Craig, #244 – Camille Ansell, #246 – Joann Cieslo. Thank you to all who supported this endeavor.

**SANCTUARY CANDLE** will burn this week for Good Health & God's Blessings for Michelle Maggs by Parents, Ray & Jeanne Toth. **CANDLES BY THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS AND OUR LADY QUEEN OF HEAVEN** will burn this week for +John Neiderer by wife, Cecilia Neiderer.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND:** Loose - \$517.36; Adults - \$1900.01; Children - \$22.00; Monthly - \$591.01; Candles - \$105.05; St. Vincent de Paul - \$114.01; Holy Day - \$5.00; Mission Appeal - \$683.42; Catholic Register - \$5.00; Misc. - \$651.43. Total Collection - \$4,714.29. 158 out of 328 families used envelopes. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish. All registered parishioners should be using parish envelopes

**THANK YOU** to all who have participated in the Annual Catholic Appeal. As of August 30, \$9,238.44 was pledged toward our goal of \$23,864.00 with 81 of 328 families contributing (24% 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](http://www.dioceseaj.org). If the remaining 247 families contributed \$59.21 our goal would be reached.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Thursday, September 15** – Rosary for our nation and Respect for Life – 6PM – 7PM (Church parking lot)

**Sunday, September 18** – Religious Education Classes begin at 10:45AM until Noon. Grades K-10, Grade 11 from 6-8PM in the Rectory Office.

Saturday, October 1 – Blessing of Animals – 10:00AM

Sunday, October 2 – Feast Day Dinner – 11AM – 2PM

Monday, October 3 – Transitus – 7:00PM (The passing of St. Francis from this life to Eternal Life)

**STUDENTS** from Bishop McCort will be at all Masses on September 17 & 18 to sell raffle tickets as part of the Annual McCort Auction event. Proceeds from the auction benefit all student activities, fine arts organizations. The cost of each raffle ticket is \$10. The raffle winner need not be present at the auction on October 10 to win the prize. If you would like more information about the Annual McCort Auction or more raffle tickets, please call the Bishop McCort Development Office at 536-8991.

*Liturgical Reflection...* The younger son came home and told his father of his sins and his sorrow. His father showed him mercy. The older son stood outside and judged both his brother and father. His father showed him mercy. Do we celebrate God's mercy in our lives? Or are our hearts so full of resentment and judgment that we cannot experience forgiveness? The father shows compassion and love to both sons. A heart full of mercy has no other option than to rejoice and celebrate when a sinner has come home. Has your heart led you to celebrate with someone who has hurt you? Have you forgiven the trespasses of another? Today is the anniversary when trespassers took many innocent lives on American soil. Is there any forgiveness in our hearts? *Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.*

*Liturgical Reflection...* Today marks the fifteenth anniversary of the terrorist attacks on American soil. Many lives were lost, many were injured, and still many continue to mourn that painful day. May the innocent victims know the peace that only Christ can give. May those who survived be consoled with the knowledge of God's love. May nations work together for an end to terrorism and a birth of peace among the nations and among all religions. Bishop Bartchak will gather in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament on Saturday, September 17 at 5:00PM for the Blue and White Mass to honor the military, firefighters, police officers, doctors, nurses, and emergency medical technicians who serve our communities. All are welcome. *Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.*

*Stewardship Reflection...* In today's parable, we hear of a father who showers his once-lost child with abundant love – even before the son asks for forgiveness. The older, faithful son believed that he, and not his wasteful brother, was entitled to a great banquet. Do we relate to the son who displayed a sense of entitlement or do we try to imitate our Father by reaching out with forgiveness and reconciliation?

*Families and the Gospel...* September 11 – Luke 15:1-32 – Parents are like that shepherd in today's Gospel for they don't give up and can't rest if one of their children has wandered away. A parent's persistent love provides a glimpse of the unconditional love for each of us by God, Our Father. A parent is window to the Divine.



**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI MEMORIAL BRICK PAVER PROJECT – LIVING AND DECEASED PROJECT IS A GO.** Even though we have met the initial goal, you still have an opportunity to place an order for a brick(s). Forms are available in the back of the church, at the Parish Office or on the Parish website. **THOSE WHO HAVE MADE A COMMITMENT** will be receiving a form on which to indicate your memorial (s). Please return this form to the Parish Office **with payment NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 11** so that we can move forward with this project. Thank you for your cooperation. A sample brick paver is able to be viewed in the Main Vestibule.

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI YOUTH FAITH FORMATION PROGRAMS**– Our Faith Formation Goals are simple: We aim to grow in love of God and ourselves and to spread that love to those around us. We aim to have our young people find community with each other and feel part of our parish family. Faith formation is life-long and ongoing. It is an important part of your child’s life. She/he should be attending classes whether or not it is a sacramental year. All classes meet in Resurrection Parish Center on Chestnut St. \*\*\*\*\**Classes for our youth are held from September 18 until the beginning of May*\*\*\*\*\*

**Pre-K through 10th grade classes meet Sunday after the 9:30AM Mass until Noon.**

**Take Note: 11<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation class will meet the second Sunday of each month from 6:00PM – 8:00PM beginning Sunday, September 18. Classes are held in the Rectory Office. A parent/guardian/sponsor is asked to be present at the first class.**

*Sacramental Programs* – The following is recommended for all youth who will be preparing to receive any of the Sacraments listed below: They should be involved in the liturgical life of the church, receiving the Sacraments and attend Mass regularly. He/she should be enrolled in the parish Religious Education Program. We feel that sacramental preparation is a very special time. Parents are requested to take an active role as primary educators of their children in their Faith formation.



***ALL LIVES MATTER – INSIDE THE WOMB AND OUTSIDE THE WOMB***

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

Rose Blaschak, 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 Guarino, 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; 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; 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, Captain 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; Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Anthony Rosage, USAF, The Presidio, Monterey, CA.; Tech Sgt. Daniel Bracken, USAF, deployed to Kobal Afghanistan.**

*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. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD FOR FAMILIES** Duck Race and Chicken BBQ will be held Sunday, Sept. 11 at our Johnstown Thrift Store, 301 Central Ave. BBQ begins at 11:00AM and duck race at 2:00PM. BBQ Dinner is \$10 and Ducks are \$5 or 5 for \$20. Cash prizes awarded. For more info or to purchase tickets call Greg at 539-7811.

**CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION** – Basket Party, Sunday, Sept. 18. Doors open at 1:00PM, drawing at 2:00PM. Cost: \$5/25 chances and luncheon.

**ST. THERESE CHURCH** will be holding their Annual Novena in honor of St. Therese of the Little Flower of Jesus starting Friday, Sept. 23 and will continue for 9 nine days. Masses will be held at 9AM and 7PM except on Saturday at 9AM, 4PM & 7PM. On Sunday at 7:30AM and 7PM. Sunday, September 25 will be the Anointing of the Sick Mass at 2PM. Closing will be Saturday, October 1 with refreshments served after the 9AM, 4PM and 7PM Mass in the Church Hall.

**THE LEARNING LAMP**, a nonprofit organization that partners with schools, is looking for a few good folks to work in the after school program at the Divine Mercy Catholic Academy – West Campus. Previous experience working with children preferred. Part-time hours with flexible schedule. Daily start time of 2:30PM. Position is ideal for college students or those looking to work a few hours a week. To apply, please contact Brittany Darr at [bdarr@thelearninglamp.org](mailto:bdarr@thelearninglamp.org), or 814-262-0732, ext. 243.

**St. FRANCIS OF ASSISI:** Every 1<sup>st</sup> Friday there is Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 8:30AM – 5:30PM. Our nation needs our prayers. Come before Jesus in the Eucharist with our hopes and concerns.