

SEPTEMBER 18, 2016
25th 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

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 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.

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.

GOB ICING is scheduled to be made on Tuesday, September 20 beginning at 7:00AM. Gobs will be filled on **THURSDAY**, September 22 at 6:00PM. All help is greatly appreciated.

THIS YEAR the Church will celebrate Catechetical Sunday on September 18, and will focus on the theme “Prayer: The Faith Prayed.” Those who the community has designated to serve a catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the Faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of Faith. Thank you to our Religious Education Teachers for their dedication instructing the children of the Parish in the Faith: *Marlys Harrington, Danielle Newman, Allison Koch, Elyse Anderson, Christine Britton, Brian Britton, Becky Deskevich, Denise Courter, Bill Stibich, Lou Deskevich, Greg Solomon, Kegan Solomon, and Cecilia Neiderer.*

BLESSING OF ANIMALS will take place on Saturday, October 1 at 10:00AM under the front canopy of the Church.

CEMETERY CLEAN UP – All decorations should be removed from St. Francis Cemetery between October 1 and October 15. Items remaining after October 15 will be discarded. Thank you for your cooperation.

SANCTUARY CANDLE will burn this week for +Mary Agnes Dugan by sister, Jeanne & Ray Toth. **CANDLE BY OUR LADY QUEEN OF HEAVEN** will burn this week for Birthday Blessings for Dorothy Wisz by Maggie Breu.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Loose - \$476.25; Adults - \$2,311.01; Children - \$30.00; Monthly - \$68.00; Candles - \$104.75; St. Vincent de Paul - \$5.00; Missalettes - \$40.00; Catholic University - \$153.00; Misc. - \$97.94. Total Collection - \$3,285.95. 186 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 September 13, \$9,518.44 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. If the remaining 247 families contributed \$59.21 our goal would be reached.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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 benefits 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... “No servant can serve two masters.” If we claim Christ as Lord and Savior, then, He, and He alone, is the center of our lives. Everyone has been given particular gifts and talents. Do I use the talents and gifts that God gave me to do good? In my dealings with money and possessions, does mercy guide my decisions? Do I share what I have with others? Am I a trustworthy steward of what I have been given? There is no room for a selfish heart for one who professes Christ as Redeemer of all. I can only serve God alone; all I have and all I am come from God. We are challenged to share our gifts with those in need. May mercy guide our decisions to share our gifts with our sisters and brothers. *Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.*

Stewardship Reflection... Each of us – regardless of our level of wealth – has the ability to be a prudent (sensible) steward. May the full account of our stewardship at the end of our earthly journeys by our merciful Master proclaim the prudent management of our time, our abilities, and our finances.

Families and the Gospel... September 18 – Luke 16:1-13 – Despite all our time saving gadgets, we still have less leisure and family time. To solve this we created the Myth of Quality Time. Don’t be fooled: Quality Time is Quantity Time. Jesus counsels us today, we “cannot serve two masters: and expect to be happy. Dedicate time to your family. No one in their final hours regretted not spending more time at work.



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI MEMORIAL BRICK PAVER PROJECT – LIVING AND DECEASED PROJECT CONTINUES. 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 ASAP** 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: 11th 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.

Praying of the Rosary will take place each Thursday at 7:00PM on the corner of D Street and Barron Avenue

ALL LIVES MATTER – INSIDE THE WOMB AND OUTSIDE THE WOMB

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

Rose Blaschak, 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.

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 Guarno, 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; 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; 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, Captain Aaron Donahey, US Army, Fort Bliss, El Paso, Texas; Petty Officer 1st Class Heather L. Dovala, Great Lakes, IL.; 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; Airman 1st 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.

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.

NATIONAL LIFE CHAIN – Respect Life Sunday, October 2 along Broad Street in Cambria City. Signs distributed in front of the former St. Columba next to Sheetz. Please feel free to bring a lawn chair if you are unable to stand. Everyone young and old are encouraged to attend. Won't YOU be a voice for innocent babies? For questions or additional information please call Heide at 536-7335.

HOLY FAMILY PARISH, 509 Caldwell Ave, Portage, PA will hold a Basket Party on Sunday, October 2. Doors open at 1:00PM. Tickets will be sold until 2:15PM. Drawing starts at 2:30PM. Cost of ticket is \$5 which includes 25 chances, door prize, dessert & beverage. Tickets are available in advance at the Parish Office – 814-736-4279.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI: Every 1st 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.