

NOVEMBER 20, 2016
Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
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
Deacon Bruce Becker

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@atlanticbnn.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.

MASS ON THANKSGIVING DAY, NOVEMBER 24 will be celebrated at 9:00AM. The children of the Parish are invited to take part in the distribution of the “Fruits of the Mass.”

PARISH OFFICE will be CLOSED on Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

YOUR GENEROSITY to the St. Vincent de Paul Food drive was overwhelming. Over 75 bags were filled with items that will be distributed to those less fortunate. May God continue to Bless for you “feeding the hungry” in this Jubilee Year of Mercy.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2 is the First Friday of the month. Adoration will begin after the 8:00AM Mass and continue until 5:30PM. Signup sheets are in the vestibule of the Church. There should be at least two adorers present for each time slot. (This is also a matter of safety for the Blessed Sacrament – adorers adore and protect.)

CHRISTMAS GOB TRAYS!! St. Francis Church “Famous” Gobs will be sold in tray form. Bakers Dozen (13) on each tray decorated beautifully for special Christmas Gifts! Chocolate Gobs will be available with red, green and white icing. Placed on decorated tray, cellophane wrapped and tied with a beautiful bow. *Deadline for orders: Sunday, December 4. Pick up for orders is Saturday, December 17 from 9:00AM - 12Noon.* Order forms may be found in the vestibule. Orders can also be placed by calling Betty Spisak at 536-4934 or Alice Havers at 536-0948. Our Gobs are “world famous.”

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PARTY has been scheduled for Sunday, December 4 from 1:00PM until 3:00PM in the Activity Center. Signup sheets will be available in the near future. Donations of cookies are welcome and may be brought to the Activity Center on Saturday, December 3 between 9AM – Noon or after the Masses.



FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS will be presented on Sunday, December 11 at 3:00PM followed by a light social. Plan to be present as we prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas.

BRICK PAVER project has begun! Please be aware that all engraved bricks may not be installed at this time due to a delay at the engravers. Thank you for your patience.

SANCTUARY CANDLE will burn this week for the Health of Bea & Larry Haggerty by Sue Ellen, Jim, & Tom Dadey. **CANDLE BY OUR LADY QUEEN OF HEAVEN** will burn for Improved Health of Family Members by Ray & Jeanne Toth.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Loose - \$508.00; Adults - \$3,007.52; Children - \$32.00; Monthly - \$91.00; Candles - \$90.75; St. Vincent de Paul - \$100.00; All Souls - \$10.00; Holy Day - \$11.00; Missalettes - \$23.00; Misc. - \$17.05. Total Collection - \$3,900.32. 195 out of 328 families used envelopes. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish. All registered parishioners should be using parish envelopes.

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2017 are now ready for pick up. If you know someone who is unable to pick up their envelopes, please notify the Parish Office or if you are able, kindly deliver them. Calendars will be distributed as soon as they are available.

THANK YOU to all who have participated in the Annual Catholic Appeal. As of November 15, \$9,881.04 was pledged toward our goal of \$23,864.00 with 86 of 328 families contributing (25% participation). If you do not have a pledge card, you may place your gift (made payable to “Annual Catholic Appeal”) in the collection basket. If the remaining 243 families contributed \$58.21 our goal would be reached.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - if you have or are a student attending Bishop McCort Catholic School or Second Grade at Divine Mercy Academy– please contact the Parish Office in order to ensure that your child is receiving the needed classes to prepare for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation since Sacramental Preparation is Parish based. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. *Please note: the next 11th grade Confirmation class will take place on Sunday, November 20 from 5:00PM – 7:00PM in the Rectory.* All Children of the Parish in grades K – 8 are asked to participate in the 4:00PM Liturgy on Saturday, December 24. More information will be forthcoming.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Confirmation Class – Sunday, November 20 – 5:00PM – 7:00PM

Children’s Christmas Party – Sunday, December 4 – 1:00PM – 3:00PM

Festival of Lessons & Carols – Sunday, December 11 – 3:00PM

Gob Tray Order Pick up – Saturday, December 17 – 9:00AM - Noon

DISCIPLES ON A JOURNEY – Thank you to all parishioners who have completed and submitted their Commitment Card to the Parish Office. As a reminder, all commitment cards need to be submitted no later than December 11 in order to be accounted for the final Summary Report. Please complete and submit your card to the Office even if you are unable to make a change to your current level of giving. For those registered parishioners not currently supporting the Church with regular offertory gifts, please consider a monthly gift to support the needs of our Parish.

ONLINE GIVING, a web-based electronic application is now being offered to our parishioners. We are providing this service so that you have the option to manage your contributions online or with your envelopes. This service is safe and secure. Sign up for Online Giving by visiting our website: <http://www.stfrancisofassisijohntown.com> and selecting the Online Giving link.

Liturgical Reflection.... Throughout this liturgical year the Diocese has focused on the Jubilee Year of Mercy in the weekly Sunday insert. Today we voice the request of one of the criminals crucified with the Lord, “Jesus, remember me when You come into Your Kingdom.” We rely on the absolute mercy of God for our redemption. This year has been an invitation to go out and share God’s mercy with others. The mercy we so desperately need from God is the gift we share with others. Vengeance, resentment, judgment, and anger make mercy impossible. We are called to compassion, forgiveness, love, understanding, and kindness in the name of the Lord. May we show others the face of God in our acts of mercy. *Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.*

Stewardship Reflection – “Even though discipleship and stewardship set the necessary terms of Christian life in this world, they have their ultimate reward in another life.” (*Stewardship: A Disciple’s Response, USCCB*)

Families and the Gospel... November 20 – Luke 23:35-43 – Today’s Gospel reminds us the Kingdom of Heaven is not like Disney’s Magic Kingdom. Admission to Christ’s Kingdom is paid with the currency of acceptance, forgiveness, compassion, service to others, love of enemies and care for the poor and defenseless.

BABY BOTTLE COLLETION: The J.P.II Youth Group is collecting monetary donations that will benefit Pro-Life organizations in Johnstown. Please take a baby bottle from the vestibule to put your donation in and return it by the weekend of Dec. 3 and 4.

GIVING TREE Please help us by taking an ornament from the tree, writing your name and phone number on the list found beside the tree (this is used only to make sure all tags have been returned,) and purchasing a gift and returning no later the December 11.

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, Sophie Regula, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, James Schuster, Mary Slezak, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobacky, Mary Subich, 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 Rován 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 1st Class 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.

THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD FOR FAMILIES is seeking donations of turkeys to be distributed to food pantries throughout Cambria County for Thanksgiving. Turkey and or cash donations can be dropped off at our FFF Warehouse at 945 Franklin St., Johnstown, Monday thru Friday from 8:30AM until 2:30PM.

COMMUNITY BLOOD SCREENING: The Resurrection Ladies Auxiliary in cooperation with the Chan Soon-Shiong Medical Center at Windber (formerly Windber Hospital) will sponsor a Community Blood Screening on **Saturday, December 10, 2016**. The blood screening will be held in Resurrection Hall from **7:00 AM until 9:00 AM**. Testing is available to all interested parishioners and the community. The cost for the screening is \$30.00. Additional tests and prices are as follows: PSA (men only) \$20.00, Hemoglobin A1C \$20.00 or Vitamin D Level \$35.00. A 12-14 hour fast is recommended prior to taking the screening. Testing results will be forwarded to your primary care physician. You do not need to be a patient of a Windber physician to participate, patients of any physician are welcome. No physician order is needed. Refreshments will be served following your blood screening process. Please call (814) 467-3961 to schedule an appointment. Walk-ins are welcome.

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.