

FEBRUARY 5, 2017
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
Permanent 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@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 - TBA

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.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS the family and friends of +Phyllis Fraska and +Viola Lieb who were laid to rest last week. Welcoming God, receive from our hands the loved ones we return to You.

FISH FRY will take place on Friday, February 10 from 11:00AM – 6:00PM. Lent Fish Fries will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 1 and continue on Friday, March 10, March 17, March 24, March 31. The final Lenten Fish Fry will be held on Friday, April 7. There will NOT be a Fish Fry on Good Friday. All help is greatly appreciated, especially during Lent. *Donations of baked goods for a Bake Sale will be accepted as well as donations of soda and water.*



MADRI GRAS MADNESS will take place on Saturday, February 18, 2017. Doors will open at 5:15PM and festivities begin at 6:00PM until 11:00PM. Admission includes: appetizers, soda, a turkey dinner with all the fixings, jambalaya rice, and eligibility for Grand Prizes. A cash bar will be available. Music by Flood City Brass. Tickets are \$20 and are now available. Tables may be reserved for groups of 8 at an additional cost of \$10.00. There will be a \$5 cover charge for beer, cash bar for wine and mixed drinks. ***No outside beverages allowed.*** To reduce expenses if anyone would like to donate a bottle of wine or whiskey for the Mardi Gras please call Cindy at 539-3128 or Fran at 241-3666 or drop off to Mardi Gras ticket seller in the vestibule at Masses on Saturday or Sunday.

HOLY WEEK SPECIAL TICKETS are now available. For a donation of \$3.00 – chance to win \$250.00 on Palm Sunday, April 9 and Easter Sunday, April 16; \$50.00 on April 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15. Winning number determined by the first 7:00PM PICK 3 Daily Lottery Number.

SANCTUARY CANDLE will burn this week for God’s Blessings and Good Health for Katy Henry by cousin, Jeanne & Ray Toth. **CANDLE BY THE SACRED HEART** will burn for St. Jude Thaddeus to relieve pain for Jeanne Toth by husband, Ray Toth.

BRICK PAVER project continues! Please be aware that all engraved bricks may not be installed at this time due to the weather. Thank you for your patience. The deadline to purchase bricks at the initial cost of \$40.00 has passed. If you would still like to participate in this project you may do so at the increased price of \$75.00 per brick.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Loose - \$278.00; Adults - \$3,052.47; Children - \$39.00; Monthly - \$142.00; Candles - \$118.75; Holy Day - \$7.00; Missalettes - \$7.00; First Offering - \$12.00; Catholic Register - \$10.00; St. Vincent de Paul - \$474.02; Donations - \$130.00. Total Collection - \$4,270.24. 184 out of 314 families used envelopes. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish. All registered parishioners should be using parish envelopes.

Liturgical Reflection... Jesus Christ has restored Marriage to its primordial form and holiness in such a way that what God has joined together, no one may put asunder. As Matthew’s Gospel witnesses, “Thus they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore, let no one separate what God has joined” Mt. 19:6. Jesus, Lord and Savior, has given us the high dignity of Marriage. Man and woman enter into an indissoluble union which is preordained by God. This divine union is a model for the faithful who seek unity with God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and oneness with each other in the community of the Church. 2017, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.

Stewardship Reflection... Who are the *hungry*, the *oppressed*, the *homeless* and the *naked* in your midst? How can you uncover your gifts so you can become a “light of the world” for them?

CANDLE DONATIONS – in the very near future, all envelopes containing donations for candles are to be placed in the locked box located on the wall at the rear of the Church. Thank you for your cooperation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fish Fry – Friday, February 10 – 11AM – 6PM
Confirmation Class – Sunday, February 12 – 6PM – 8PM
Mardi Gras – Saturday, February 18
Believe it or not – Ash Wednesday is March 1, 2017.

DEAR FRIENDS IN CHRIST – we are going to start a new mission here at St. Francis of Assisi and we ask you to pray about helping us. If you remember the story from the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus said that when He comes in His glory, He will “say to those at His right hand, “Come, O blessed of My Father inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave Me food...Then the righteous will answer Him, “Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You?...And the King will answer them, “Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me. Mt. 25-34-35, 40. Starting the weekend of February 11-12, 2017 you’ll be able to help feed the hungry. There will be plastic bins located in the Main Vestibule of the Church. We will gather what you bring and feed the hungry, just as Jesus feeds us at each Mass. A can or box of food, whatever you can spare, will do more than you think, because “with God all things are possible.” Mt. 19:26. After all – think of what Jesus did with two fish and five loaves of bread. Thank you for opening your hearts. Thank you to the volunteers who are initiating this ministry!



THROAT BLESSINGS - The candles used in the blessing of throats may be those blessed on Candlemas, Feb. 2, or when blessed during the St. Blaise Memorial, this beautiful prayer from the Roman Ritual is provided: “God, Almighty and all-mild, by Your Word alone You created the manifold things in the world, and willed that the same Word by Whom all things were made take flesh in order to redeem mankind; You are great and immeasurable, awesome and praiseworthy, a wonder of marvels. Hence in professing his Faith in You the glorious Martyr and Bishop, Blaise, did not fear any manner of torment but gladly accepted the palm of martyrdom. In virtue of which You bestowed on him, among other gifts, the power to heal all ailments of the throat. And now we implore Your majesty that, overlooking our guilt and considering only his merits and intercession, it may please You to bless and sanctify and impart Your Grace to these candles. Let all men of Faith whose necks are touched with them be healed of every malady of the throat, and being restored in health and good spirits let them return thanks to You in Your holy Church, and praise Your glorious Name which is blessed forever; through Christ our Lord.” Most often as part of the Mass, all parishioners desiring a blessing of their throats typically proceed to the front of the Church where the Priest with the two blessed candles, tied with a red ribbon, holds them in the form of an X. He touches the candles to each side of the person’s neck and says: “Through the intercession of St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr, may God deliver you free from every disease of the throat, and from every other disease. In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” The red ribbon represents the blood of martyrs and the candles held in the shape of an “X” represents the martyrdom of another Saint, Saint Andrew, who according to tradition was crucified on an X-shaped cross. Not only are we freed from disease but from everything keeping us from God.

DEFUND PLANNED PARENTHOOD RALLY – on February 11, pro-lifers across the country will hold rallies at Planned Parenthood facilities, calling for an immediate end to the organization’s federal funding. Planned Parenthood is the nation’s largest abortion chain and received over \$500 million from taxpayers every year. But pro-life leaders in Washington are now moving to end that government subsidy. Come out on the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, Saturday, February 11 and raise your voice with tens of thousands of pro-lifers across the country demanding that our government defund Planned Parenthood from 9:30AM – 11:00AM, Planned Parenthood, 817 Franklin St. For more information call Patrick Roy at 814-270-4191.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams, Rose Blaschak, Sister Carol Jean Czynnik, Mary Davis, Joan Delusa, Stephen Fabina, LeAnn Golby, Alicia Junghans, Susan Keselyak, Scott Lanz (Godson of fr. Anthony Francis), Kathryn Legat, Helen Malysko, Sophie Regula, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, James Schuster, Mary Slezak, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobecky, Mary Subich, 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 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**, Pentagon; **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; **Adken Torchia**, US Army, Fort Benning, GA; **PVT. 1st Class Lucas Tomak**, US Army, Fort Hood, TX.

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.

JOURNEY THROUGH LOSS SUPPORT GROUP – Our Mother of Sorrows Parish is offering a six-week program to discuss positive ideas for coping with loss through death – recent or some time ago. The programs on Tuesday, February 28 from 1:30PM – 3:30PM, Our Mother of Sorrows Rectory. If you are interested in attending, call Carroll Green – 255-5478.

JOIN IN THE FUN at the Resurrection Roman Catholic Church St. Patrick’s Day Party, Saturday, March 11 featuring the Michael O’Brian Band. Doors open at 6:00 PM. The entrance fee is \$5.00. Irish Food, Soda and Beer available for purchase. For reservations please call Greg Babik at 322-6884 or Mary Beth at the Resurrection Parish Office at 539-5788 Ext. 4. Please call early as seating is limited.

ULTREYA GATHERING - The Johnstown West Ultreya Group will meet on Thursday, February 9th from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at The Oratory located at Eighth Ave and Chestnut Street in Cambria City. Everyone is welcomed as we share our walk with Christ. Call Deacon Scott or Diane with questions - 341-6228.

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.

***ALL LIVES MATTER – INSIDE THE WOMB AND OUTSIDE THE WOMB
IT'S NOT ABOUT A WOMAN'S RIGHT TO KILL HER BABY...
IT'S ABOUT HER BABY'S RIGHT TO BE BORN***