

MARCH 5, 2017
1st Sunday of Lent
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

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Web Site: <http://www.stfrancisofassisijohnstown.com>

Daily Mass Schedule at St. Francis of Assisi

SEE LENTEN SCHEDULE BEGINNING THURSDAY, MARCH 2

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 +Josephine Rovano who was laid to rest last week. Welcoming God, receive from our hands the loved one we return to You.



LENTEN FISH FRIES will 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.*

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.

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 - \$370.90; Adults - \$2,641.02; Children - \$37.00; Monthly - \$239.00; Candles - \$109.86; Flowers - \$10.00; Catholic Register - \$27.00; Ash Wednesday - \$23.00; Mandeville - \$25.00; Donation - \$50.00. Total Collection - \$3,532.78. 179 out of 314 families used envelopes. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish. All registered parishioners should be using parish envelopes.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY signup sheets for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday are located in the vestibule. Please consider participating in these Solemn Liturgies.

*Liturgical Reflection....*The Church has revised the **Order of Celebrating Matrimony** (2016). This is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the beauty and meaning of the Sacrament of Marriage. Lent is our time to turn from sin and return to God. In the Catechism of the Catholic Church (Number 1609), it is stated that marriage helps to overcome self-absorption, egoism, pursuit on one's own pleasures, and to open oneself to the other, to mutual aid and to self-giving. Husbands and wives model Christian living in the Church. The love of man and woman models the love of Christ for His Church. *2017, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.*

*Stewardship Reflection...*In a society that frequently tempts us to focus on ourselves and our pleasures, many find it hard to accept the challenge to live as Christian disciples and stewards. May I make a genuine effort to discover the true meaning of Christian stewardship and live accordingly.

Families and the Gospel – March 5 – Mt 4:1-11 – In today's Gospel Jesus cautions it is not enough to provide food for our children; "one does not live on bread alone..." Let Lent be a time when you are "led by the Spirit" to explore new ways to be a moral guide to your children. Remember that there are 2 bins in the main vestibule for your Lenten donation of foodstuff.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Lenten Fish Fries Friday, March 10, March 17, March 24, March 31. The final Lenten Fish Fry will be held on Friday, April 7.
Lenten Course – Wednesday, March 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5 – 6:30PM – 7:30PM
Saturday, March 18, Sunday, March 19 – Anointing of the Sick at all Masses

LENT SCHEDULE

During Lent, daily Mass (Mon. thru Fri.) will take place at 12Noon (Tues. – Mass with the Novena to St. Anthony will also be celebrated at 6:30PM).

Stations of the Cross will be prayed on all Fridays of Lent at 7:00PM.

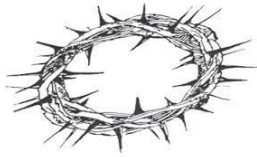
Divine Mercy Chaplet and Lenten Lamentations will be held on Sundays at 3:00PM, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

DEACON BRUCE will be conducting a Lenten Course on the Resurrection Experience to be held Wednesday, March 8, 15, 22, 29 and April 5 from 6:30PM – 7:30PM. This presentation takes up the starting point for engaging Jesus then and now, namely the distinctive Christian understanding of the Resurrection. *Please use the signup sheet in the vestibule.*

MARCH 19TH IS JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH DAY at Bishop Carroll High School. The day is for all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. Please plan to join us for a day of fun, faith and friendship. Please contact the DRE for more information.

DIOCESAN SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES – Registrations for our Diocesan summer camps, Camp Timothy (Grades 10-12 and newly graduated seniors) and Camp Zacchaeus (Grades 4-9) are now being accepted. Camp "Z" and Camp "T" offer our young people an opportunity to supercharge their Faith in a wonderful outdoor setting of Faith, fun and friendship! Due to the generosity of many of the faithful in our diocese there are Angel Fund scholarships available to help offset the cost of camp for any family who is eligible. Scholarship forms are available through the Youth Ministry Office. DATES: Camp Timothy – June 18-22, Camp Zacchaeus – Week 1 – July 16-21, Week 2 – July 23-28. For more information or an application, contact Francine Swope in the Youth Ministry Office (814) 317-2646.

SYMBOLS OF THE PASSION OF JESUS



During the First Week of Lent, a CROWN OF THORNS is placed on the cross to remind us that Jesus was crucified. He was crowned with of crown of thorns as a King “of a Kingdom that is not of this world” (John 18:36). The thorns were embedded in the head of Jesus causing excruciating pain. He allowed this to happen for you and me. My heart hears the stanza of the hymn WHEN I BEHOLD THE WONDROUS CROSS “Did e’er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown.”

Matthew 27:30 – Weaving a CROWN out of THORNS they fixed it on His head, and stuck a reed in His right hand. Then they began to mock Him by dropping to their knees before Him saying, “All hail the King of the Jews.”

Mark 15:17-18 – They dressed Him in royal purple, then wove a CROWN OF THORNS and put it on Him and began to salute Him, “All hail, King of the Jews.”

John 19:2-3 – The soldiers then wove a CROWN OF THORNS and fixed it on His head, throwing around His shoulders a cloak of royal purple. Repeatedly they came up to Him and said, “All hail, King of the Jews, slapping His face as they did so.

THERE is a large black bag in the main vestibule for used palms.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams, Rose Blaschak, Galynn Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czrynik, Mary Davis, Joan Delusa, Stephen Fabina, LeAnn Golby, Alicia Junghans, Susan Keselyak, Scott Lanz (Godson of fr. Anthony Francis), Kathryn Legat, Larry Olek, Sophie Regula, Alexandra Rice, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, James Schuster, Mary Slezak, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobecky, Mary Subich, Leona Sutt, Agnes Swarney, Jeanne Toth, 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 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**, 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.

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.

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.

ST. THERESE LENTEN PIROGHI SALE – Hand-made/Home-made potato and cheese piroghi made fresh each week during Lent. Call in orders every Monday until April 3 from 9:00AM – 11:00AM. Cost is \$6.50 dozen (with or without onions). Pick up your order on Fridays from 9:00AM – 2:00PM at our Social Hall, Upper Decker Avenue. **No orders will be taken during Holy Week.**

ST. ANDREW CHURCH ANNUAL NOVENA to the Infant of Prague will begin on Sunday, March 19, 2017 at 7:00PM and will continue every evening until Monday, March 27, 2017 at 7:00PM. We will have additional Priests to hear Confessions after every Mass.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI: Every 1st Friday there is Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during Lent from 12:30pm – 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***