

MARCH 12, 2017  
2<sup>nd</sup> 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 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.

**WE REJOICE IN THE BAPTISM** of Brody Lawrence Bradley and Skylar Rae Joan Bradley and congratulate their parents and Godparents as they begin their new life in Christ.



**LENTEN FISH FRIES** will continue on Friday, 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.*

Thank you to the “new” helpers who have joined us. **REMINDER:** This is an excellent opportunity for students in need of service hours to fulfill that obligation after school on Friday. Profit for the Fish Fry will be published at the conclusion of the Lenten Season.

**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.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND:** Loose - \$330.00; Adults - \$2,829.29; Children - \$36.00; Monthly - \$794.02; Candles - \$116.25; Flowers - \$15.00; Catholic Register - \$6.00; Ash Wednesday - \$220.50; Mandeville - \$107.00; Black & Indian Mission - \$222.02; Donation - \$50.00. Total Collection - \$4,746.08. 183 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...*Every person experiences evil around and within himself. This experience of sin makes itself felt in the relationship between man and woman (husband and wife). Their union has always been threatened by discord, a spirit of domination, infidelity, jealousy, and conflicts that can escalate into hatred and separation (Catechism of the Catholic Church Number 1606). To heal these wounds of sin, man and woman need the help of the grace that God provides in the Sacrament of Marriage. God’s infinite mercy is always available and readily given to the spouses. *2017, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.*

*Stewardship Reflection...*As St. Paul reminds us, each of us has been called to a holy life according to God’s own design. How can you use your giftedness to make Jesus Christ present to others?

*Families and the Gospel* –March 12 – Mt 17:1-9 – Transfiguration is a common occurrence in families. When we commit to another, such as a spouse in marriage or a child in parenting, we are not committing to them only as they are today, but to the person they are becoming

#### 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, 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. The Course will take place at the Activity Center.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

Lenten Fish Fries Friday, 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

**SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK** – will take place at the 4:00PM Mass on Saturday, March 18 and at the 7:30AM & 9:30AM Masses on Sunday, March 19. According to Church guidelines this

Sacrament is available to all Catholics who have reached the age of reason and begin to fall in danger of death as a result of illness or old age; who are undergoing surgery whenever a serious illness is the reason for the surgery; who are elderly if they have been noticeably weakened even though there is no serious illness present; sick children if they have sufficient use of reason to be strengthened by this Sacrament. We will celebrate this Sacrament of the Sick during Mass so that the gathered community can pray for our sisters and brothers who are being anointed.

**A RETREAT FOR WOMEN, ages 25 & older** – March 24 (6:00PM) – March 26 (12:30PM) – Sponsored by the Sister Servants of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus at Sacred Heart Novitiate, 1872 Munster Rd., Portage, PA. Theme: The Hearts of Jesus and Mary. Starts at 6:00PM on March 24 with dinner and concludes on March 26 with Mass at 11:00AM. Suggested donation - \$50. Overnight accommodations are available but limited. For reservations please call Mother Jacinta at 814-505-2290 or email at [sisterjacinta@gmail.com](mailto:sisterjacinta@gmail.com) by March 21.

**THE SHROUD OF TURIN TALK** will be held at St. Benedict Parish, Sunday, March 26 at 3:00PM. In 2013 Bill Wingard established “Shroud Talks” to present the history and science of the Shroud of Turin and tackle the biggest mystery...Is the Shroud the actual burial cloth? Personal research coupled with knowledge and help of the original photographer, Barrie Schwartz, for scientific evaluation in 1978 make for a powerful and comprehensive presentation that will not disappoint. You are invited to hear the talk and see the full size replica of the Shroud of Turin. Attendees are encouraged to bring their cameras. No tickets are required; a love offering will be collected. For more information, contact Deacon Michael Russo at 814-288-3036 or email: [michael.russo@atlanticbb.net](mailto:michael.russo@atlanticbb.net). All are welcome!



### **SYMBOLS OF THE PASSION OF JESUS**

During the Second Week of Lent, a WHIP is placed at the Cross to remind us that before Jesus was crucified, He underwent a brutal scourging. Whips were used which tore into His flesh causing wounds to bleed. He allowed this to happen for you and me. With Our Sorrowful Mother we pray: BRUISED, DERIDED, CURSED, DEFILED, SHE BEHELD HER TENDER CHILD, ALL WITH BLOODY SCOURGES RENT.

**Matthew 27:26** - At that he (Pilate) released Barabbas to them. Jesus, however, he first SCOURGED, then he handed Him over to be crucified.

**Mark 15:15** – So Pilate, who wished to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas to them and after he had Jesus SCOURGED, he handed Him over to be crucified.

**Luke 23:22** – He said to them a third time, “What is this man guilty of? I have not discovered anything about Him that calls for the death penalty. I will therefore chastise Him and release Him.”

**John 19** – Pilate’s next move was to take Jesus and have Him SCOURGED.

**STAINLESS STEEL** containers marked for soiled diapers only are now in each lavatory of the Barron Avenue vestibule and 1 has been placed by the baby changing table in the main vestibule.

### **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.

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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 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Izeke W. Pinkas**, Okinawa, Japan; **Lt. Col. Joshua P. Higgins**, US Army; **Petty Officer 1<sup>st</sup> 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**, Great Lakes, IL.; **Spec Jarod Pisarchik**, Army National Guard; **Ens. Kara Yingling**, Pentagon; **Lt. JG Shannon Yingling**; **Pvt Daniel Maslo**, Camp Geiger, NC; **Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class 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; **Adken Torchia**, US Army, Fort Benning, GA; **PVT. 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

**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.

**PRAYER AND LUNCHEON FOR WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS** – Remember your loved ones on Monday, March 20 with Mass at 11:00AM. Theme of the day: “No Winter Lasts Forever...Spring Offers a New Beginning.” All spouses will be mentioned and remembered at Mass. Luncheon to follow. Widows and widowers throughout the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese are invited to attend. Sponsored by the Diocesan Family Life Office and hosted by the Immaculate Conception Church, 1640 New Germany Road,

Summerhill. Reservations required by March 14. A \$5 donation is suggested. Contact the Family Life Office at 814-886-5551 or [familylife@diocese.org](mailto:familylife@diocese.org).

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI:** Every 1<sup>st</sup> 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***