

November 19, 2017
33rd 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

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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

Civil Holiday Mass – 9:00AM

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

Acting Finance Council President – Brian Mayko

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.

Rosary Society – First Monday of the month at 6:00PM. Recitation of the Rosary, Reflection, Benediction.

MASS ON THANKSGIVING DAY, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23 will be celebrated at 9:00AM. The children of the Parish are invited to participate in the distribution of the "Fruits of the Mass." **PLEASE NOTE: Mass on Friday, November 24 will also be celebrated at 9:00AM.**

THANK YOU to all who helped in any way with the success of the Men's Club Turkey Raffle. A special thank you to the parishioners and businesses who contributed door prizes. May God Bless you for your kindness.

A DEBT OF GRATITUDE to all who assisted with the success of the Fish Fries and Gob Sales. Your continued dedication is commendable. Thank you also to the Legat Family for donating the table coverings for the Fish Fry. May God bless all for your help! Profit from the Lottery Basket - \$241.00.



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1 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.)

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY will take place on Sunday, December 3 from 1:00PM until 3:00PM at the Activity Center. Please use the signup sheet located in the vestibule.

ROSARY SOCIETY will meet on **Monday, December 4** at 6:00PM in the Church with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary and a reflection. Come & join us.

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2018 are now available at the rear of the Church. If you are able to deliver envelopes to those unable to pick them up please feel free to do so.

THE CHRISTMAS GIVING TREES are located at the rear of the Church. We encourage each of you to consider taking an ornament from one (or all) of the trees. The first tree contains names of children submitted by the Cambria City Mission. Gifts should be wrapped with the ornament attached and returned to the Church or Parish Office no later than **Sunday, December 10, 2017**. The ornaments on the second tree are for Giant Eagle Cards that will be given to those who need to purchase food items for the holiday season. The gift cards can be placed in the collection basket (please do not place them under the tree) or brought to the Parish Office. The *Gabriel Project Tree* has tags with suggestions for gifts for the babies and families being served by the Gabriel Project. There will also be the Angel Baby Tree in the vestibule by the bassinet. Gifts for the Gabriel Project should be returned **No Later than Sunday, December 3, 2017**.



WINTER SPECIAL tickets for the month of January 2018 will be available for purchase this weekend. Chance to win \$500 on New Year's Day, \$100 on Saturdays and Sundays and \$50 each weekday, \$200 – Martin Luther King. Cost: \$5.00.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Loose - \$415.92; Adults - \$2,633.07; Children - \$29.00; Monthly - \$197.00; Candles - \$155.25; All Souls - \$45.00; Holy Day - \$20.00; St. Vincent de Paul - \$90.00; Donation - \$10.00; Catholic Charities - \$10.00; Misc. - \$16.69; Thanksgiving - \$22.00. Total Collection - \$3,683.93. 174 out of 314 families used envelopes. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

SECOND COLLECTION – next weekend, Nov. 25 & 26 -for 77 years, Catholic Charities has helped our neighbors throughout Central Pennsylvania regardless of Faith or background. 100% of contributions received through next weekend's second collection will directly help your neighbors in need. Please return your Catholic Charities envelope or make your gift online at www.catholiccharitiesaj.org. Thank you for helping Catholic Charities of Altoona-Johnstown reduce poverty in communities throughout our Diocese.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE (formerly known as the Annual Catholic Appeal) is now continuing. *The target amount for St. Francis of Assisi is \$18,608.00 which breaks down to \$59.26 per family.* Contributions exceeding the target will be refunded to the parish. Total received as of September 30: 75 of 314 families contributed \$9,867.00 which is 53% of our goal. Let's keep working to meet the Parish goal. Thanks to all who have contributed to help meet the goal.

ST. VINCENT DEPAUL FOOD DRIVE – As of Monday, November 13, over 500 pounds of food has been donated by the generous parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi! Your concern for those in need is heartwarming.

Liturgical Reflection... This year the liturgical inserts have reviewed the 2016 rite of the *Order of Celebrating Matrimony*. The new ritual possesses an expanded introduction. And there is an expanded set of Scripture readings. The introductory rites state there is no Penitential Rite and the Glory to God is always used for a Ritual Mass. There are expanded and retranslated orations. All in the assembly are invited to stand as the couple exchanges vows. An acclamation is to follow the consent of the bride and groom. The local customs in the Diocese include the bride taking a flower to the image of the Blessed Virgin Mary, flowers given to the mothers of the bride and groom, and introducing the newly married couple at the end of the rite. The Church rejoices with this man and woman in the Name of Jesus Christ. *2017, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.*

Stewardship Reflection... It is through the faithful use of our God-given gifts that will lead to our full participation in the Kingdom of God. As our blessings increase, so too does our responsibility to use them as God intended.

Families and the Gospel... November 19 – Mt 25:14-30 – As the man in the Gospel entrusted his servants with his money, so God has entrusted our family to us. Like the good servants we are expected, not to play it safe, but to selflessly and totally invest ourselves in each other.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, November 19; Dec. 3, 10, 17 – Religious Education – 10:45AM – 12Noon
Sunday, November 19 – Confirmation Class – 6:00PM – 8:00PM
Sunday, December 3 – Children’s Christmas Party – 1:00PM – 3:00PM
Sunday, December 10 – Confirmation Class – 6:00PM – 8:00PM
Saturday, December 16 – Christmas Gob Sale – 9:00AM – 12:00PM
Sunday, December 17 – Lessons & Carols – 3:00PM
Monday, December 18 – West End Penance Service – 6:30PM – St. Francis of Assisi

Christmas Season

Sunday, December 24 – Vigil of the Nativity – 4:00PM Mass, 12Midnight Mass
Monday, December 25 – The Nativity of the Lord – 9:00AM Mass
Sunday, December 31 – **NO VIGIL MASS** for Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God
Monday, January 1 – 9:00AM Mass – **Not** a Holy Day of Obligation

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams, Kathy Barchak; Rose Blaschak, Galynn Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czyrnik, Mary Davis, Joan Delusa, LeAnn Golby, Alicia Junghans, Kathryn Legat, Tyler McKinley, Rick McKinley, Larry Olek, Ed Popovich, Sandy Ream, Alexandra Rice, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, James Schuster, Mary Slezak, Bernadette Solomon, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobecky, Leona Sutt, Agnes Swarney, Jeanne Toth, Irene Virus, and Sheila Weppner, Helen Yursky.

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; **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 Stewart, GA; **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; **Senior Airman Devon Gilbert**, Deployed to Middle East; **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; **Senior Airman Anthony Rosage**, USAF; Fort Gordon, GA; **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; **Lt. Kenneth Yacynych**, US Army, Afghanistan; **Cpl Elliott Mulvehill**, USMC, New River, NC.; **A1C Jeremy Williams**, Sheppard AFB, Texas.

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.

A PRAYER FOR DEPLOYED SOLDIERS: Heavenly Father, inspire those who are overseas for the cause of peace. Send Your Son, Jesus Christ, as the Prince of Peace. Bless the men and women of our military who respond to the needs of peacekeeping. Keep them safe from harm. Let them be models of discipline and courage, and bring them home safely to their loved ones. We ask this in Your Name. Amen.

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 will be having a Spaghetti Drive-By Sunday, November 26 from 10:30AM to 1:30PM at the Church Hall, 201 Third St., Conemaugh, PA. Stop by for a hot meal! Orders can be called in ahead of time at the Church Hall – 535-2698.

CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION – Meatloaf or Lasagna Dinner Sunday, December 3 from 11:00AM until 2:00PM at the Church Hall, 201 Third St., Conemaugh, PA. Take outs are available by calling the Church Hall at 535-2698.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI: Every 1st Friday there is Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 8:30AM – 5:30PM. Our nation and the world needs our prayers. Come before Jesus in the Eucharist with our hopes and concerns.

