

November 5, 2017
31st 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

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.

DEACON BRUCE is offering a course entitled “Days of the Martyrs.” *Classes will be held Wednesday, Nov. 8, & 15 from 6:00PM – 7:00PM in the Parish Office.*



MEN’S CLUB TURKEY RAFFLE will take place on Sunday, November 5. Doors open at 1:00PM and raffle will take place from 2:00PM – 4:00PM. There are also envelopes in the vestibule containing raffle tickets for each family. Thank you for your continued support of the Men’s Club. Donations of door prizes are now being accepted. Donations may be brought to the Parish Office or contact Dolores Kasper at 255-4159.

PLEASE NOTE: If you did not indicate the name of your loved one on the picture provided, there will not be a name card placed beside it. Please notify the Parish Office of the name and the situation will be rectified.

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

FISH FRY is scheduled for Friday, November 10 from 11:00AM until 6:00PM. All help is greatly appreciated. Donations for a bake sale will be accepted. This is a great opportunity for students to earn service hours. Thank you for your continued support!



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

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. Tickets will also be available at the Fish Fry.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Loose - \$347.15; Adults - \$2,570.50; Children - \$30.00; Monthly - \$47.00; Candles - \$154.25; All Souls - \$297.00; Holy Day - \$82.00; Mission Sunday - \$48.00; Cemetery - \$13.00; St. Vincent de Paul - \$574.05; Donation - \$50.00; Total Collection \$4,212.95. 164 out of 314 families used envelopes. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, Nov. 5, 12, 19 – Religious Education – 10:45AM – 12Noon
Sunday, Nov. 5 – Men’s Club Turkey Raffle – 2:00PM – 4:00PM
Monday, Nov. 6 – Rosary Society – 6:00PM
Wednesday, Nov. 8 – “Days of the Martyrs” – 6:00PM – Parish Office
Friday, Nov. 10 – Fish Fry – 11:00AM – 6:00PM
Sunday, November 12 – Confirmation Class – 6:00PM – 8:00PM
Sunday, December 3 – Children’s Christmas Party – 1:00PM – 3:00PM
Saturday, December 16 – Christmas Gob Sale – 9:00AM – 12:00PM
Saturday, February 3 – Mardi Gras – Details forthcoming

Our annual non-perishable food and household items collection drive for our Joe Bartko Memorial St. Vincent de Paul Food Kitchen has begun. The collection will end on Sunday, November 12. Monetary donations will also be accepted and may be placed in the envelope provided in the vestibule and dropped in the collection basket. Parishioners are asked during this season of Thanksgiving to share their bounty from God with those less fortunate. Donations may be brought to the vestibule at all Masses. They may also be brought to the Parish Office during regular office hours. Last year’s drive was a huge success. Let’s build on our past achievements! **Donations should be non-perishable**

and NO glass containers. Suggested items include: canned vegetables, pasta, cereal, tuna, soup, stuffing mix, cake mix, salt, pepper, paper products (paper towels, toilet paper, napkins, etc.). Use your best judgment. *Please use the bag provided for your donations!*

*Liturgical Reflection...*In the 2016 ritual *Order of Celebrating Matrimony*, the Church offers the Order of Blessing of an Engaged Couple. The honorable betrothal of Christians is a special occasion for two families to observe with some ceremony and with common prayer the joyful beginning of the couples' engagement. A selection of Scripture readings are provided along with appropriate prayers. A Priest or Deacon would preside when possible. Otherwise, one of the parents may appropriately preside at this blessing. A betrothal or a special blessing of an engaged couple is never to be combined with the celebration of Mass. *Order of Celebrating Matrimony*, Numbers 218, 219, and 221. 2017, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.

Stewardship Reflection... "The greatest among you must be your servant," speaks Jesus in today's Gospel. What wonderful news this is to those who give their gifts in service to others!

*Families and the Gospel...*November 5 – Mt 23:1-12 – In today's Gospel Jesus describes the vocation of parents: "The greatest among you must be your servant." Children take our blood, genes, strength, name, patience and resources. A parent's servitude begins at the moment of conception. The Lord is present in each of our acts of selfless service.

On Generosity – *Franciscan Virtues Through the Year*, p. 49 – "Generosity is more than giving. It means giving from your want, from your need, not just giving what you have left over. Can you remember a time when someone showed you generosity?...Additionally, generosity can be shown with gifts of time or a listening ear. We can be generous in sharing our talents or our knowledge. Generosity is giving an undeserved gift without expecting gratitude or repayment...The reflection concludes, "Is it possible to be generous to a fault? St. Francis would not think so. He would consider how generous God is with us. He gives us His very best. He gives us Himself in His Son...We can never out give God. St. Francis thanked God profusely and constantly for His generosity. "Have you thanked God lately for His outpouring of undeserved generosity in your life?"



Prayer for All Souls: O Lord, Who are ever merciful and bounteous with Your gifts, look down upon the suffering souls in Purgatory. Remember not their offenses and negligences, but be mindful of Your loving mercy, which is from all eternity. Cleanse them of their sins and fulfill their ardent desires that they may be made worthy to behold Your Face in Your glory. May they soon be united with You and hear those blessed words which will call them to their Heavenly home: "Come, Blessed of My Father, take possession of the Kingdom prepared for You from the foundation of the world."

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams, Kathy Barchak; Rose Blaschak, Galynn Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czynnik, 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.

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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; **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 Donahay**, 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**, 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; **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.

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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.

DIVINE MERCY 1ST ANNUAL TURKEY RAFFLE – Please join us at St. Benedict Cafeteria benefiting the DMCA Athletic Association. The event will be held on Friday, November 10 with doors opening at 6:00PM. The event is FREE admission which includes draft beer, soda, and water. We will have lots of food for sale as well as a Basket Raffle, Qualifier, Money & Turkeys. Lots and lots of Turkeys!! We are selling a raffle ticket for \$20 which will enter the buyer into a drawing for cash and Super Turkeys. Please contact the Divine Mercy East Campus at 814-266-3837, ext. 201 or Divine Mercy West Campus at 814-539-5315 for tickets.

ST. THERESE PIROGHI SALE – Hand-made/Home-made potato and cheese piroghi. Call in orders Monday, November 13 from 9:00AM – 11:00AM at 539-633. Cost is \$6.50 dozen (with or without onions). Pick up your order on Friday, November 17 from 9:00AM – 2:00PM at our Social Hall, Upper Decker Avenue.

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.