

January 21, 2018
3rd 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.



MARDI GRAS – Saturday, February 3, 2018 featuring “Flood City Brass” from 6:00PM until 11:00PM. Delicious Turkey Dinner, great door prizes, chances to win all evening with qualifiers, baskets, 50/50 tickets, etc. Tickets: Adults - \$20, children 6-17 - \$10, under 5 – free. “All You Can Drink” Beer bracelet for \$5.00. Cash bar available – no outside beverages. Doors open at 5:00PM. Tickets are now on sale in the vestibule.

MARDI GRAS COMMITTEE is asking for donations of baskets valued at a minimum of \$25 or donations of items for baskets. Please call Alice at 536-0948 for more information. Baskets should be brought to the Parish Office or Activity Center by Sunday, January 21st.

10th ANNUAL GOB DAY – Saturday, January 27 beginning at 10:00AM at the Galleria. Come and vote for St. Francis of Assisi!

FISH FRY – The next Fish Fry has been scheduled for Ash Wednesday, February 14 from 11:00AM until 6:00PM. **MUCH HELP IS NEEDED** in order for the Fish Fry to take place. We are asking that you sign up to assist (*even you are a regular!*) by using the sign-up sheet located in the main vestibule. Please indicate the time(s) you are available and the area (please choose two) you would like to help. If there is not enough help, the fate of the Fish Fry will have to be evaluated. Thank you for your consideration.

THE GABRIEL PROJECT would like to express sincere appreciation to those who so generously donated presents for this year's Christmas Tree project. All the babies in our care received warm clothes, diapers and other necessities. Thank you so much!

MEN'S CLUB Valentine Day Tickets are available in the vestibule after all Masses.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Loose - \$291.00; Adults - \$2,377.27; Children - \$6.00; Monthly - \$126.00; Candles - \$79.50; St. Vincent de Paul - \$39.00; Christmas - \$50.00; First Offering - \$88.25; Missalettes - \$57.00; Holy Day - \$64.00; Misc. - \$100.00. Total Collection - \$3,278.02. 136 out of 314 families used envelopes. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

PLEASE NOTE: Winners of the Winter Special Ticket will be paid on a WEEKLY basis. Thank you for your patience. Winners to date: January 8 - #492 – fr. Anthony Francis; January 9 - #346 – Elaine Herman; January 10 – #183 – Matt Fabry; January 11 - #962 – St. Francis of Assisi; January 12 - #991 – St. Francis of Assisi; January 13 - #550 – Joe Seback; January 14 - #166 – Janet Hay; January 15 - #759 – Bonnie Madison.

BISHOP MARK has directed parishes in the Diocese not to distribute the Precious Blood in any form effective January 13-14. It is the belief of the Catholic Church that the whole Body of Christ is present under either form of consecrated bread and wine. The Bishop has also directed that the faithful should avoid bodily contact, such as shaking hands, during the Sign of Peace. A genuine nod of the head with eye contact with others at Mass will be the temporary practice. Bishop Bartchak's directives are the result of an advisory from public health officials that cases of the flu and similar contagious viruses remain a serious health concern at this time. During this flu season, reception of Holy Communion on the hand is encouraged; however, reception on the tongue may not be denied. The Bishop's directive will be followed throughout the winter months or until the flu season ends. The Diocese will announce when parishes may return to their regular practices.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, January 21, 28 – Religious Education – 10:45AM – 12Noon
Sunday, January 21 – Confirmation Class – 6:00PM – 8:00PM
Saturday, February 3 – Mardi Gras – 6:00PM – 11:00PM
Wednesday, February 14 – Ash Wednesday – Fish Fry

ON SUNDAY, January 28, Bishop Gregory of Nysa of the Orthodox tradition will host an ecumenical service at Christ the Saviour Cathedral, 300 Garfield St. The service begins at 2:00PM. Bishop Mark Bartchak will be in attendance. All are invited to participate in this prayer.

Liturgical Reflection... In today's Gospel the fishermen abandoned their nets and followed the Lord. Faithful Christians follow Christ by having total love for God and neighbor. In every celebration for the dead, the Church attaches great importance to the reading of the Word of God. The readings proclaim the Paschal Mystery, convey hope of being gathered together again in God's Kingdom, and encourage witness to the Christian life on the part of the living. As we continue on our pilgrimage of life, we seek God's mercy and love. May our dead know peace in Christ, and may we be comforted in that same peace. **Order of Christian Funerals**, 1998-1989, Number 22. 2018, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.

Stewardship Reflection... All three readings today speak of repenting; the act of changing our hearts and minds for the better. If we find ourselves “giving-in” to the dominant secular culture that often contradicts values of the Judaeo-Christian tradition, we can “repent” by making a conscious decision to live as a Disciple of Jesus Christ, no matter what the cost.

Families and the Gospel...January 21 – Mark 1:14-20 – It must have been difficult for Zebedee to watch his sons walk away and follow Jesus. It was the end of ‘Zebedee & Sons Fishing, Inc.’ Our children are never ours. They are only on loan to us. We raise them to let them go.



ARISE – ALL parishes throughout the Diocese are working with ARISE to acknowledge and bring to the forefront the gifts that already exist among the People of God in this 8 county area. This is a two and a half year process that involves 5 six week sessions. (Think “Disciples in Mission”). Sessions can be designed for different groups: men, women, married couples, divorced/separated, religious education families, etc. Each group will need leaders and the parish will need one or two parishioners willing to coordinate the program. Please note: it was stressed that this is NOT to be run by the pastor of the parish! The People of God have been given the same Spirit with many gifts. What is needed is that these gifts are now brought forth and used for the benefit of each parish and the Diocese at large! Please pray the following for the success of this program:

Holy Mary, Mother of God and Mother of the Church, you have given the world its true light, Jesus, your son – the Son of God. You abandoned yourself completely to God’s call and thus became a wellspring of the goodness which flows forth from Him. Show us Jesus. Lead us to Him. Teach us to know Jesus and to love Him. Help us to open the door of Christ’s love by sharing our Faith and living our Faith with each other and with all who are searching for the way, the truth and the hope and promise of Eternal Life. As patroness of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown be with us on our journey to ARISE Together in Christ. Pray for us, Mother of the Church, Pray for us!

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams, Kathy Barczak; 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, Rowen Ream, Alexandra Rice, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, James Schuster, Mary Slezak, Bernadette Solomon, Fr. John Slovikovski, 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**, Fallon, NV; **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 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 OUR DEPLOYED MILITARY: 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 Swiss Steak Dinner on Sunday, January 21 from 11:00AM to 2:00PM at the Church Hall, 201 Third St., Conemaugh. Cost: \$9.00. Take outs are available by calling 535-2698.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI: Connect with your Creator, Redeemer, and Spiritual Guide in a stress free environment at the Eucharistic Adoration every First Friday of the month from 8:30AM until 5:30PM at St. Francis of Assisi Church. Signup sheet is available in the main vestibule.