

September 16, 2018
24th 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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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.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS the family and friends of +Edward Shook who was laid to rest last week. Welcoming God receive from our hands the loved one we return to You.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 is Catechetical Sunday. At this time we would to recognize and commission those who have volunteered their time and talent to teach the children of the Parish our Catholic Faith – *Georgetta LaBuda, Dawn Svirsko, Alex Svirsko, Elyse Anderson, Susan Paonessa, Brian Britton, Chris Britton, Becky Deskevich, Denise Courter, Greg Solomon, Barb Bimeal, Bill Stibich and Lou Deskevich.* May God Bless you as you share your Faith with our children.

FEAST DAY DINNER scheduled for Sunday, September 30 has been **CANCELLED** due to a conflict with the Family Marian Celebration at St. Benedict.

CEMETERY CLEAN UP – Please remove all decorations, etc. from St. Francis Cemetery no later than Monday, October 1. Thank you for your cooperation.

LIVING ROSARY presented by the children of the Parish will take place on Sunday, October 7 immediately following the 9:30AM Mass in honor of the Month of the Rosary. **WE NEED YOUR ASSISTANCE** – in order to complete the 5 decades of the Rosary everyone is encouraged to participate and represent a bead of the Rosary. We will gather in the parking lot beside the former Convent and form the Rosary. In case of inclement weather the Rosary will be held in the Church. Please help us to teach our children the importance of praying the Rosary in these difficult times.

GABRIEL PROJECT UPDATE: is currently serving 36 babies and their families. Urgently needed are diapers sizes 1-4, baby wipes and cash in order to provide car seats or Pack & Plays for a safe place for baby to sleep. Please call 539-0155 for information. We will be selling sub cards and candy bars in the vestibule the weekend of September 22 & 23.

CANDLE BY THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS will burn this week for + Kylie Ann Gindlesperger by Raymond & Jeanne Holtz Toth.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Loose - \$372.00; Adults - \$2,431.27; Children - \$17.00; Monthly - \$95.00; Candles - \$107.80; St. Vincent de Paul - \$10.00; Missalettes - \$15.00; Catholic University - \$118.02; Misc. - \$100.00; Donation - \$10.00. Total Collection - \$3,276.09. 140 out of 314 families used envelopes. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

2018 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE – Thank you to all parishioners who have responded to the 2018 Catholic Ministries Drive. All contributions received beyond our parish target of \$20,332 will be returned to the Parish. To date - \$6,292 has been received from 62 families which is 19% participation.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES began on Sunday, September 9, 2018 for students in pre-school through 10th grade. Classes are held on Sunday mornings from 10:45AM – 12Noon at Resurrection Parish Center on Chestnut Street. *Parents are reminded of their obligation to see that their children are instructed in the Catholic Faith. Students in Grade 2 that attend Catholic School are required to attend classes to prepare for reception of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion in this Parish Family.* **11th GRADE CONFIRMATION CLASSES** held the second Sunday of each month from 6:00PM – 8:00PM at the Parish Office. The next class will take place on Sunday, October 14. **Catholic H.S. & public H.S. students are expected to attend.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, September 16, 23, 30 – Religious Education – 10:45AM – 12Noon

Sunday, October 7 – Living Rosary presented by the Religious Education Program and Parishioners – immediately following the 9:30AM Mass.

ARISE – is coming to St. Francis of Assisi in October. All parishes in our Diocese will be implementing this program this fall. Our focus is to enrich and strengthen your Faith, by learning about Jesus Christ our Lord and learning how His teachings reflect on our daily life and most important is the potential to grow and enrich your Faith. Our first session will be on **Encountering Jesus Today**- Learning more about Jesus.

We are happy to announce that we have a 3-man team (Deacon Bruce Becker, Barbara Bimeal, & Cecilia Neiderer) to coordinate the ARISE Program for our Parish. We welcome Mary Lieb, Michele Rivetti as team leaders. *If you have any questions or want to be involved please call Barb Bimeal at 322-2810.*

KEY REASONS FOR SIGNING UP FOR ARISE TOGETHER IN CHRIST: *To know God better; To grow spiritually; to meet new people; To talk about God; To improve ourselves; To put Faith into action; To change the way we see the world; To improve relationships; To experience different prayer styles; To be rejuvenated.*

VOCATION CRUCIFIX- A special Crucifix that travels from family to family ordinarily for 1 week to inspire prayer for vocations is available here at St. Francis of Assisi. The purpose of the Traveling Vocations Crucifix is to intercede for vocations and encourage children to consider a Priestly or Religious vocation themselves. The Crucifix represents the sacrifice Jesus made for us by dying on the Cross. Enthroned it in a highly visible place in your home and pray together once each day for vocations. You may use the prayers



included with the Crucifix, or substitute them with the Rosary or another simple prayer (such as the Our Father, Hail Mary, or the Glory Be). Each week the Crucifix travels to a new family.

The Traveling Vocations Crucifix is a wonderful way to unite Parishes in perpetual prayer for more Priestly and Religious vocations. If you or your family is interested in taking part in the Traveling Vocations Crucifix program, please contact the Parish Office at 539-1632.

FAMILY MARIAN CELEBRATION – Mass and Rosary will be held Sunday, September 30 at 3:00PM at St. Benedict’s Church, Bedford Street. The theme for this year’s celebration is “Mary, Mother of the Church.” Bishop Mark will be the principal celebrant and will give the homily. Please join Bishop Mark, along with Clergy, children and Religious organizations honoring our Blessed Mother. This Mass fulfills your Sunday obligation.

THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOUP KITCHEN is looking for Church groups, community organizations or individuals who would be willing to assist with the Friends-day Wednesday Project. The project will be held on the second Wednesday of each month September through May from 4:00PM – 7:00PM at the Family Kitchen, 231 Bedford St. The group would be responsible for purchasing the necessary items to make two (2) varieties of soup, serve it and clean up. All proceeds from the event stay local to support the kitchen. By sponsoring a Friend-day event, you will see first-hand our facility and experience what we do on a daily basis. You will also have the opportunity to have community individuals purchase and taste the soups you choose and get recognition for your group. The vision of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is “to embrace the world in a network of charity.” For more information or if you are interested in taking part please contact Georgia Lehman at 814-242-2083.

Liturgical Reflection... Although cremation is now permitted by the Church, it does not enjoy the same value as burial of the body. The Church clearly prefers and urges that the body of the deceased be present for the Funeral Mass, even when cremation follows. The presence of the human body better expresses the values which the Church affirms in the funerary rites. The Body of Jesus was laid in the tomb and, on the third day, the Lord’s Body rose from the dead. When the Lord Jesus comes again in all His Glory, our bodies will be reunited with our souls. Order of Christian Funerals, Cremation, 1998, Numbers 413 and 414. Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams, Kathy Barczak; Rose Blaschak, Galynn Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czyrnik, Joan Delusa, LeAnn Golby, Alicia Junghans, Kathryn Legat, Dennis Mochan, Tyler McKinley, Rick McKinley, Rowen Ream, Alexandra Rice, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, James Schuster, Mary Slezak, Fr. John Slovickovski, Betty Spisak, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobecky, Leona Sutt, Agnes Swarney, Jeanne Toth, Elizabeth Virus, Irene Virus, and Sheila Weppner.

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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**, Fallon, NV; **Lt. Col. Joshua P. Higgins**, US Army; **Petty Officer 1st Class Paul Rambish**, US Navy, Coronado Naval Base, San Diego; **Major Melinda Rovon Corallo**, Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas, NV; **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, deployed to Dongducheon, Korea; **Petty Officer 1st Class Heather L. Dovala**, Great Lakes, IL.; **Sgt. Jarod Pisarchik**, Army National Guard; **Ens. Kara Yingling**, Pentagon; **Lt. JG Shannon Yingling**; **Master Sgt. 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 Drum, NY; **Sgt. Lucas Tomak**, US Army, Fort Hood, TX; **Lt. Kenneth Yacynych**, US Army, Fort Lewis, WA; **Cpl Elliott Mulvehill**, USMC, New River, NC.; **A1C Jeremy Williams**, Sheppard AFB, Texas; **Casey Meredith**, VMI, Virginia..

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.

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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.

BLOOD SCREENING – Resurrection Church in conjunction with Chan Soon-Shiong Medical Center at Windber is holding a Community Lab Blood Screening on Saturday, September 29 from 7:00AM – 9:00AM at Resurrection Church Hall, 324 Chestnut St. The cost is \$30.00. Additional tests offered: PSA, \$20.00; Hemoglobin A1C, \$20.00 and Vitamin D level, \$35.00. Please call 814-

467-3739 to schedule an appointment. A 12 to 14 hour fast is recommended. You do not need to be a patient of a Windber Physician to participate; patients of any physicians are welcome. No Physician order is needed. Walk-ins welcome!

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. It is important that each ½ hour or hour have two adorers to adore and protect the Blessed Sacrament. PLEASE SIGN UP on the schedule of times provided in the Main Vestibule. The needs of our World, our Nation, our City, our Parish and the Dioceses of the Commonwealth of PA are many. Bring them to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.