

September 9, 2018
23rd 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 – stfrancisich@atlanticbnn.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

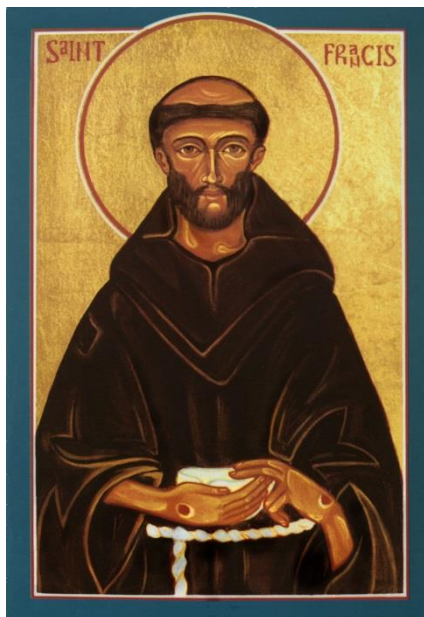
Office Hours – 9:00AM to 3:00PM – Mon. thru Thurs

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 539-1632



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.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHOIR have begun practices on Wednesday evenings at 6:30PM in the Chapel area (use Barron Avenue entrance). New members are always welcome. The choir sings at 9:30AM Sunday Mass. For information, call Gale at 539-0155.

ROSARY SOCIETY - due to the Labor Day Holiday, recitation of the Rosary will be moved to **Monday, September 10 at 6:00PM**. September is the month celebrating special events of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Mary’s Birthday (Sept. 8), The Most Holy Name of Mary (Sept. 12), and Our Lady of Sorrows (Sept. 15). All are welcome to join us for an hour of prayer, reflection, adoration, and Benediction.

FISH FRY is scheduled for Friday, September 14 from 11:00AM until 6:00PM. Help is needed in all areas, no experience necessary! Come and join us – many hands make light work! Donations of baked goods will be accepted for sale at the Fish Fry. Please refer to the Fish Fry Prep schedule included with the bulletin a few weekends ago.

WINNERS OF THE MEN’S CLUB LABOR DAY TICKET - #025 – Lois Dibert - \$300.00; #024 – Larry Blackner - \$100.00; #026 – Bill & Bonnie Oleksak - \$100.00. Thank you to all who participated in this fundraiser.

SANCTUARY CANDLE will burn this week for +Frank A. Arcurio by Jim & Sue Ellen Dadey. **CANDLE BY OUR LADY QUEEN OF HEAVEN** will burn for Betty Spisak by Friends. **CANDLE BY THE SACRED HEART** will burn for Margie by Friends. **CANDLE BY ST. THERESE** will burn for +John (Jack) Maggs by Ray & Jeanne Toth, John, Michelle & Sara.

GABRIEL PROJECT UPDATE: we are currently serving 35 babies and their families. Urgently needed, are baby wipes, wash, bottles and diapers. Any help given is greatly appreciated. *Visit our table at the Fish Fry on September 14.* We will be selling sub cards and candy bars in the vestibule the weekend of September 22 & 23. Thank you – Gale Bala, Volunteer Coordinator.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Loose - \$411.25; Adults - \$2,269.57; Children - \$11.00; Monthly - \$890.02; Candles - \$109.00; Holy Day - \$5.00; St. Vincent de Paul - \$5.00; Mandeville - \$7.00; Missalettes - \$128.02; First Offering - \$7.00; Catholic University - \$5.00; Misc. - \$130.10; Donation - \$30.00. Total Collection - \$4,007.96. 146 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 will begin 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.* Registration forms are in the 3 vestibules of the Church and may be returned via the collection basket. Registration forms are also available on the website. Please return forms as soon as possible so that supplies may be ordered. *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 Rectory. The first class will take place on Sunday, September 9. **Catholic H.S. & public H.S. students are expected to attend.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, September 9 – Religious Education – 10:45AM – 12Noon, Confirmation Class 6:00PM – 8:00PM
Friday, September 14 – Fish Fry – 11:00AM – 6:00PM
Sunday, September 30 – Feast Day Dinner – 4:00PM

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.* **SEE THE BULLETIN INSERT CONCERNING DAYS AND TIMES OF SESSIONS.**

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.

*Stewardship Reflection...*Just as the deaf mute in today's Gospel received a new life from Jesus, so too, have we received new lives through Baptism. May we boldly proclaim all that God has given to us in our lives!

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.

ST. THERESE CHURCH will be holding their Annual Novena in honor of St. Therese of the Little Flower of Jesus starting Sunday, September 23 and will continue for nine (9) days. Masses will be held at 9:00AM and 7:00PM except on Saturday and Sunday, which be Saturday at 9:00AM, 4:00PM and 7:00PM and Sunday at 7:30AM, 10:30AM and 7:00PM. Sunday, September 30 will the Anointing of the Sick Mass at 2:00PM. The closing of the Novena will be Monday, October 1 with refreshments served after the 7:50AM, 9:00AM, and 7:00PM Mass in the Church Hall. To have your intentions placed on the Altar during the Novena, send them to the St. Therese Church Rectory.

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.

Prayer for Grandparents

Lord God Almighty, bless our Grandparents with long life, happiness, and health. May they remain constant in Your love and be living signs of Your presence to their children and grandchildren. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

