

November 25, 2018
Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
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 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.

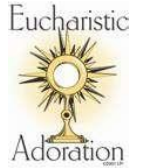
Rosary Society – First Monday of the month at 6:00PM. Recitation of the Rosary, Reflection, Benediction.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: Confession on Tuesday will remain at 5:45 and Mass will continue to be celebrated at 6:15PM. **Beginning Monday, December 3** and continuing until Ash Wednesday, daily Mass (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday will be celebrated at **9:00AM**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Classes will NOT be held on Sunday, November 25. Once again, parents are reminded of their promise made at Baptism to instruct their children in the Faith. Attendance at Religious Education classes are part of that promise.

ADVENT GET-TOGETHER with Deacon Bruce will take place on Wednesday evenings (December 5, 12, 19) from 6:00PM – 7:15PM (Location to be determined). The theme is The Birth of the Messiah. Please use the signup sheet that can be found in the vestibule and 2 side entrances.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7 is the First Friday of the month. Adoration will begin after the 9:00AM Mass and continue until 5:30PM. New 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).



CHRISTMAS PARTY for the children of the Parish will be held on Sunday, December 9 from 1:00PM – 3:00PM. Please use the signup sheet located in the vestibule. Deadline for signup is Sunday, December 2.

THANK YOU for your generosity to the Joe Bartko Memorial Food Drive for the St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen and to Frank Bazyk for spearheading this effort. A total of 60 bags were filled with items for those less fortunate than us as well as monetary donations totaling \$375.00. Thanks also to the Men's Club for purchasing the bags used for the collection. May God Bless you!

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI T-SHIRT orders are due Sunday, November 25 for delivery in time for Christmas. Order forms can be found in the vestibule. Checks should be made payable to St. Francis of Assisi Church.

GABRIEL PROJECT UPDATE: The Christmas Tree for the Gabriel Project has been set up. In addition, we hope to give an educational toy to each baby. Anyone interested can purchase a toy from us, wrap it with the tag attached and return it to our counter in the vestibule. Toys available: Laugh & Learn Puppy - \$16; Laugh & Learn Puppy Piano - \$12.75; Little People Train - \$10.60; Soothe & Glow Seahorse - \$16.75; Carrier Toy Bar - \$10.60. Contact Gale if interested. Also, we are beginning a 50/50 to provide a Christmas party for our babies and families. Tickets will be one for \$1.00, three for \$2.00, or ten tickets for \$5.00. Drawing will be Sunday, December 9. Questions? Call Gale at 539-0155.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Loose - \$332.00; Adults - \$2,166.38; Children - \$14.00; Monthly - \$112.00; Candles - \$112.75; All Souls - \$10.00; Holy Day - \$5.00.00; Missalettes - \$15.00; Thanksgiving - \$57.00; Catholic Charities - \$20.00; Missalettes - \$5.00; Donation - \$20.00; Misc. - \$300.00. Total Collection - \$3,154.13. 161 out of 314 families used envelopes. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, December 2, 9, 16 – Religious Education – 10:45AM – 12Noon
Wednesday, December 5, 12, 19 – 6:00PM – 7:15PM – “The Birth of the Messiah” presented by Deacon Bruce
Friday, December 7 – First Friday – Adoration 8:30AM – 5:30PM
Sunday, December 9 – Children’s Christmas Party – 1:00PM – 3:00PM
Sunday, December 9 – Confirmation Class – 6:00PM – 8:00PM
January 15-22, 2019 – Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

ARISE – The next Season: Change Our Hearts will begin the week of March 3. If you did not participate in Season One, please consider taking part in the next season either as a participant or group leader. Dates & times of group meetings will be announced at a later date.

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.*



MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER is ready for pick up in the vestibule. Please consider volunteering for any open positions (Immaculate Conception, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day) by contacting the Parish Office.

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2019 are now available for pick up at the rear of the Church. Any questions or concerns please contact the Parish Office Monday thru Thursday, 9:00AM – 3:00PM.

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 - \$8,307 has been received from 80 families which is 25% participation.

VOCATION CRUCIFIX- A special Crucifix that travels from family to family or household to household 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 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 or household.

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... Today’s second reading reminds us that the sacrifice of Christ frees us from sin and makes us a royal nation of priests in the service of God. How am I using my gifts to serve God and others? Am I helping to make the true Kingdom of God visible by my actions?



Christ our King! Most of us have no experience of being subjects of a king, yet we freely identify Jesus as our King and Lord. Unlike earthly kings who simply maintain order, Christ’s Kingship involves the restoration of all persons and things to the original order intended by God. To offer one’s life to Christ as Lord allows Him to eliminate the disorder in our relationships caused by sin and restore the relationships desired by God from the beginning of creation. Celebrating Christ’s Kingship gives us the opportunity to proclaim the Good News that Christ’s coming brings joy rather than fear, hope rather than despair, life rather than death. We are cleansed and renewed and brought closer to God. How appropriate it is to sing hymns and carry banners on this Feast Day of our King! In Advent, we will begin the new Church year by focusing on the final restoration of all creation to its original glory. In preparation, on the last Sunday of the Church year, we proclaim the expected advent of the “Lord of lords” and “King of kings.”

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams, Kathy Barczak; Rose Blaschak, Galynn Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czynnik, 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 Slovikovski, Betty Spisak, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobacky, Leona Sutt, Agnes Swarney, Jeanne Toth, Elizabeth Virus, Irene Virus, and Sheila Wepner.

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**, 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**; **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, Kuwait; **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.

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 – Spaghetti Drive-By, Sunday November 25 from 10:30AM until 1:30PM. Meal includes: Spaghetti & Meatballs, Tossed Salad, Dinner Roll and Dessert. Cost: \$7.00

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.

