

FEBRUARY 24, 2019
7th 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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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. – 9:00AM; Tues. 6:15PM;
Sat - 9:00AM

First Friday 9:00AM and 5:30 PM

Confession – Tues., 5:45PM, Sat. 3:15 – 3:45PM

First Friday 5:30PM

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

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.

FRIDAY, MARCH 1 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).



GOBS – Icing will be made beginning at 7:00AM on Tuesday, February 26 and will be filled on Wednesday, February 27 from 8:00AM until 10:00AM and at 6:00PM. Once again, your help is greatly appreciated.



OUR NEXT FISH FRY will take place on **Ash Wednesday, March 6** and continue on Fridays of Lent: March 15, 22, 29, April 5 and April 12 (no Fish Fry Good Friday). Help is always needed and the more the merrier! *The Fish Fries are an excellent opportunity for students needing service hours!* Thank you for your consideration. **Donations of baked goods for a bake sale in conjunction with the Fish Fries are welcome!** Profit from the Fish Fry held in February - \$4,766.80

SCHEDULE FOR LENT: ASH WEDNESDAY – Mass will be celebrated at 9:00AM, 12Noon and 6:30PM. Beginning Thursday, March 7 daily Mass (Monday through Friday) will be celebrated at 12Noon. Mass on Tuesday will be celebrated at 12Noon as well as at 6:30PM with the Novena to St. Anthony. **STATIONS OF THE CROSS** – each Friday of Lent at 7:00PM. **LENTEN LAMENTATIONS** –with sung Divine Mercy Chaplet, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction - Sundays at 3:00PM.



CRS RICE BOWL is a Catholic Relief Services' Lenten faith in action program. It offers opportunities for your family to engage daily in the spiritual pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. And, it's an opportunity for us as a parish to come together as a community and reflect on what it means to live out our Gospel call to go out and help those most in need. Rice Bowls are included with the bulletin and should be returned Holy Week (no later than Good Friday, April 19).

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Loose - \$400.47; Adults - \$2,231.52; Children - \$10.00; Candles - \$131.85; First Offering - \$10.00; Monthly - \$150.00; Catholic Register - \$23.00; Donation - \$30.00; Missalettes - \$5.00. Total Collection - \$2,991.84. 155 out of 286 families used envelopes. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish (especially because of the severe winter weather which made driving and walking difficult).

BRICK PROJECT UPDATE: The majority of the bricks are now in place. If you have purchased a brick and it is not yet installed or if there is a spelling error that needs corrected please contact the Parish Office as soon as possible. Thank you for your patience.

FLU SEASON – Because of the seriousness of this flu season, Bishop Bartchak has asked that the Precious Blood of the Lord not be offered at Mass temporarily. It is the belief of the Catholic Church that the whole Body of Christ is present under either form of consecrated bread and wine. Also, the exchange of the Sign of Peace should avoid bodily contact. A reverent nod with eye contact and a smile will be the temporary practice. Reception of Holy Communion on the hand is encouraged; however, reception on the tongue may not be denied. These norms are in effect throughout the winter months or until the flu season is over.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, February 24 – Religious Education – 10:45AM – 12Noon
Wednesday, February 27– Book study – 6:00PM
Thursday, February 28 – Book Study – 9:30AM

DONATIONS of snack items (potato chips, pretzels, etc.) along with cookies are being requested for a Teen Dance, sponsored by Bishop McCort Catholic High School that will take place at St. Francis of Assisi Activity Center on Saturday, March 2, 2019. Snack donations may be brought to the Parish Office Monday thru Thursday from 9:00AM until 3:00PM no later than Sunday, February 24. Thanks in advance for your generosity. Any questions – please see Deacon Bruce Becker.

ARISE – is returning to St. Francis of Assisi. Our second session is Change Our Hearts and will begin the week of March 3. We invite you to join us on a Lenten Journey with Christ to Change Our Hearts. Please use the signup sheets that are located in the main vestibule of the Church. *If you have any questions or want to be involved please call Barb Bimeal at 322-2810.*

Session Schedule

Tuesday, March 5, 12, 19, 26, April 2- 6:00PM–7:30PM
Wednesday, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 9 - 6:00PM - 7:30PM
Thursday, March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 10 - 9:30 AM - 11:00AM





WE ARE CONSIDERING A TRIP TO OBERAMMERGAU (GERMANY) TO THE PASSION PLAY 2020, HELD EVERY TEN YEARS. A centuries old promise – drawing crowds from all over the world, the Passion Play of Oberammergau is a musical drama of epic dimensions and regarded as the longest running play in history. It’s staged every ten years from May to October in the small, picturesque village of Oberammergau nestled in a valley amidst Germany’s Bavarian Alps. According to the story passed down through generations, as the Black Plague swept through Europe in 1633 a villager inadvertently exposed Oberammergau to the dreaded disease. After 84 people died, the survivors gathered and made a solemn oath: if God spared them, every ten years they would present a day-long play depicting the last week in the life of Christ. The villagers’ prayers were answered; there were no more deaths. In 1634, the townspeople performed their Passion Play for the first time on a stage erected over the graves of plague victims. Eventually their children and their descendants took up the vow, holding themselves responsible for the promise made by their forefathers. To this day, the villagers of Oberammergau have kept their promise virtually unbroken. The first public performance of the Passion Play 2020 will be on May 17. The modern play takes place on an open-air stage with a covered auditorium seating 4,700, against a beautiful backdrop of towering Alpine mountains. With a total cast of 1,000, the play boasts 130 speaking parts and hundreds of smaller parts. To be eligible for a role, the person must have either been born in Oberammergau or lived there 20 years. Watching the last days of Jesus unfold before you will leave you with renewed Faith and an affirmation of the importance of His Life and Resurrection! *If you are interested in taking part in a trip – please contact the Parish Office as soon as possible. Details will be available soon!*

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams; Rose Blaschak, Galynn Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czrynik, Joan Delusa, LeAnn Golby, Alicia Junghans, Kathryn Legat, Dennis Mochan, Tyler McKinley, Rick McKinley, Ron Petak, Rowen Ream, Alexandra Rice, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, James Schuster, Mary Slezak, Betty Spisak, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobacky, 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 Guarino, 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, Wv; 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, Afghanistan; 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.

ST. THERESE LENTEN PIROGHI SALE – Home-made potato and cheese piroghi made fresh each week during Lent. Call in orders every Monday starting March 4 until April 8 from 9AM – 11AM. Cost is \$7.00/dozen (with or without onions). Pick up your order on Fridays from 9AM – 2PM at our social hall, Upper Decker Avenue. No orders will be taken during Holy Week.

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 9:30AM 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.