

March 24, 2019
Third Sunday of Lent
**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@atlantichbn.net

Oremus Ministry (Prayer Chain) – 814-539-1632

Web Site: <http://www.stfrancisofassisijohnstown.com>

Daily Mass Schedule at St. Francis of Assisi

Lent Schedule – Mon thru Fri. -12Noon; 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

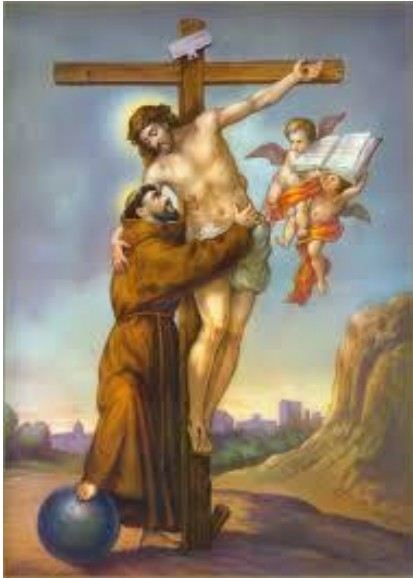
Office Hours – 9:00AM to 3:00PM – Mon. thru Thurs

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.

Men’s Club – First Thursday of the month at 7:00PM.

WE REJOICE in the Baptism of Molly Caroline Woodruff and congratulate her parents and Godparents as she begins her new life in Christ. May God Bless you!

OUR FISH FRIES will take place on Fridays of Lent: March 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 as well as donations of soda and water!* A full report from the Fish Fries will be published after Lent.

SCHEDULE FOR LENT: daily Mass (Monday through Friday) will be celebrated at 12Noon. Mass on Tuesday will be celebrated at 12Noon as well as at **6:15PM** with the Novena to St. Anthony. **STATIONS OF THE CROSS** – each Friday of Lent at 7:00PM. **LENTEN LAMENTATIONS** –with Divine Mercy Chaplet, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction - Sundays at 3:00PM.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS the children of our parish who received God’s saving Grace for the first time in Reconciliation on Saturday, March 23: *Jayse Anderson, Gianna Glennon, Caleb Luther, Jade Murray, Johnny Paonessa, Savannah Spaugy and John Sweeney.* May God Bless them as they continue to prepare to receive Our Lord for the first time in Holy Communion.

CHILDREN’S EASTER EGG HUNT will be held on Sunday, April 14 from 1:00PM – 3:00PM at the Activity Center. If you would like to help or donate cookies please contact Heather Kmetz at 814-243-0715. Signup sheets are located in the main vestibule. Deadline: Sunday, April 7.

WANTED: Altar Servers! Anyone (children who have received First Communion) or adults are welcome to take part in this very important ministry. If interested please contact: Cecilia Neiderer at 814-534-0602.

***CEMETERY CLEAN UP** - All items must be removed from the cemetery no later than Sunday, March 31. Thank you for your cooperation.

SACNTUARY CANDLE will burn this week for Health of Larry Haggerty by wife and children.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Loose - \$375.00; Adults - \$2,251.27; Children - \$9.00; Candles - \$118.50; Monthly - \$85.00; Easter - \$6.00; Ash Wednesday - \$11.00; Good Friday - \$2.00; Holy Day - \$2.00; Holy Thursday - \$2.00; Flowers - \$5.00; Donation - \$20.00; Misc. - \$14.84. Total Collection - \$2,901.61. 153 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).

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE (CMD) – Today is Commitment Sunday for the Catholic Ministries Drive – Be a Good Shepherd. Give Help. Build Hope. Change Lives. Through it, your sacrificial gifts of prayer and treasure will make an immediate impact on ministries that care for the poor, strengthen family life, nurture our youth, and provide leadership development for clergy and laity. 100% of your gift goes to these ministries. If you didn’t bring your Commitment Card to Mass this weekend, please bring it next weekend or you may make an online gift at www.dioceseaj.org. All gifts received beyond our parish target amount of \$19,977.00 will be returned to the parish. *Please note again: 100% of your gift goes to these ministries!*

ARISE – has returned to St. Francis of Assisi. Our second session Change Our Hearts has begun. 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. Sessions take place in the former convent.*

Session Schedule

Tuesday, March 26, April 2- 6:00PM–7:30PM; Wednesday, March 27, April 9 - 6:00PM - 7:30PM
Thursday, March 28, April 10 - 9:30 AM - 11:00AM

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, March 24, 31 – Religious Education – 10:45AM – 12Noon
Friday, March, 29 – Stations of the Cross – 7:00PM
Sunday, March 24, 31–Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Lenten Lamentations, Benediction – 3:00PM
Friday, March 29; April 5, 12 – Fish Fry – 11:00AM – 6:00PM
Sunday, April 14 – Children’s Easter Egg Hunt – 1:00PM – 3:00PM
Sunday, April 14 – Confirmation Class – **begins at 5:30PM**
Sunday, April 14 – Showing of “The Passion of Christ” – 6:30PM

COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICES:

Wednesday, April 3 – Church of the Transfiguration, Conemaugh – 6:30PM
Thursday, April 4 – St. Anthony of Padua, Windber – 6:00PM
Thursday, April 4 – St. Patrick – 7:00PM
*Monday, April 1 – West End Penance Service – St. Francis of Assisi – 6:30PM
Monday, April 8 – Our Mother of Sorrows – 6:00PM
Wednesday, April 10 – Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary – 5:30PM

Thursday, April 11 – St. Elizabeth Ann Seton – 6:00PM
Thursday, April 11 – St. John Gualbert Cathedral – 6:30PM
Monday, April 15 – St. Benedict – 5:00PM
Wednesday, April 17 – St. Andrew – 7:00PM

DID YOU MISS seeing the movie “The Passion of Christ”? Or would you like to see it again even though it is not in theaters? Come join us at the Activity Center on Sunday, April 14 (Palm Sunday) at 6:30PM for a showing of the movie. There is no charge to see this movie. Hesitant? Pray about whether you should commit to seeing this powerful film. *Signup sheet can be found in the vestibule.*

STAY INFORMED AND ENGAGED IN DIOCESAN NEWS – The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown has launched an on-line newspaper *Proclaim! : The Good News of Altoona-Johnstown* featuring Diocesan news, information, and commentary- including happenings at parishes and schools. Visit the site at proclaim.dioceseaj.org and sign up for regular e-mail updates delivered to your inbox. Beginning soon, monthly editions of *The Catholic Register* will be available here at the parish.

SYMBOLS OF THE PASSION OF JESUS

During the Third Week of Lent, NAILS are fastened to “that Old Rugged and Savior was nailed to remind us that it was for our sins that He was nailed imagine what a crucifixion is? Jesus’ thoughts: “My executioners stretch My and wrist against the wood and press the nail until it stabs My flesh. Then smash, they drive it through and pain bursts like a bomb of fire in My brain. and agony again explodes. Then raising My knees so that My feet are flat hammer them fast too.”



Cross” on which Our Lord to the Cross. Can you arms; they hold My hand with one heavy hammer They seize the other arm against the wood, they

My God, I look at You and think – is my soul worth this much? What can I give You in return? I here and now accept for all my life whatever comes my way. To every Cross, I touch my lips and kiss Your nailed hands and feet.

To CRUCIFY, according to Webster’s Seventh Collegiate Dictionary, means, “To put to death by NAILING or binding the hands and feet to a cross.” The four Gospels do not specifically say that Jesus was nailed to a cross, but each Gospel says that they led Him out to crucify Him.

Gospel references: **Matthew 27:33-36; Mark 15:22-26; Luke 23:33-34 and John 19:16-18.**

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams; Rose Blaschak, Galynn Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czynnik, 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 Sobecky, Leona Sutt, Agnes Swarney, Jeanne Toth, Raymond Toth, Jr.; Elizabeth Virus, Irene Virus, and Sheila Weppner.

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 Rovann 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, 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.

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.

EASTER MEAT RAFFLE – St. Therese Social Hall on Saturday, April 6 from 4:30PM – 8:00PM. Cost of admission is only \$5 and includes a picnic style dinner and dessert. Soda, water, beer and wine coolers will be available for purchase. Ham, kielbasa, turkeys and bacon will be some of the items on the raffle. Take a chance on Instant Bingo, themed baskets, and 50/50. For more information call 539-7633, Mon-Fri from 9:00AM – 3:00PM. Only 200 tickets will be sold, so get your tickets early.

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.