

**March 31, 2019**  
**Fourth 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@atlanticbbn.net](mailto:sfassisich@atlanticbbn.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 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 5** is the First Friday of the month. Adoration will begin after the 12Noon 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).

**OUR FISH FRIES** will take place on Fridays of Lent: 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.

**MEN'S CLUB** will meet on Thursday, April 4 at 7:00PM at the Activity Center. New members are always welcome.

**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.

**SEDER MEAL** – Annual Commemoration of the Seder Meal will take place on Holy Thursday, April 18 at 5:00PM in the Activity Center. This will be a covered dish event with the Parish providing the meat. Bring your favorite dish to share and join other parishioners in this celebration of the Passover Meal. Signup sheets are in the vestibule. Deadline for signup: Sunday, April 14. What a beautiful experience that begins the Sacred Triduum. The Seder was Jesus' Last Supper.

**MARDI GRAS** – Thanks to all who contributed in any way to the success of the Mardi Gras – workers as well as those who attended. Profit: \$5,324.07!

**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.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND:** Loose - \$345.75; Adults - \$2,295.27; Children - \$11.00; Candles - \$114.00; Monthly - \$45.00; Ash Wednesday - \$11.00; Mandeville - \$5.00; Flowers - \$412.2; St. Vincent de Paul - \$80.00; Donation - \$10.00. Total Collection - \$3,329.04. 193 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)** –Thank you to all parishioners who have responded to the 2019 Catholic Ministries Drive. Please join them in supporting our parish and a select group of ministries that provide outreach to the poor, family life, youth and seminarians. On behalf of these vital ministries thank you for your sacrificial gifts of prayer and treasure. 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, April 2, 9- 6:00PM–7:30PM; Wednesday, April 3, 10- 6:00PM - 7:30PM; Thursday, April 4, 11 - 9:30 AM - 11:00AM.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

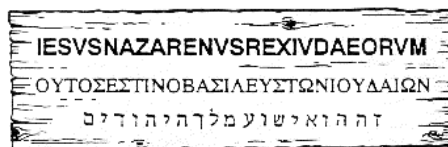
Sunday, March 31, April 7, 14, 28 – Religious Education – 10:45AM – 12Noon  
 Friday, April 5, 12, 19 – Stations of the Cross – 7:00PM  
 Sunday, March 31, April 7, 14 – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Lenten Lamentations, Benediction – 3:00PM  
 Friday, April 5, 12 – Fish 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:

\*Monday, April 1 – West End Penance Service – St. Francis of Assisi – 6:30PM  
 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 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. Light refreshments will be provided.*

During the Fourth Week of Lent, our focus is on the SIGN that was placed above the head of Jesus. First thought to be a SIGN OF CONDEMNATION, but now thought to be a SIGN OF VICTORY. The SIGN stands as a continued testimony of God’s love for us. I.N.R.I. – Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews. The first letters of the Latin inscription which, by Pilate’s order was placed on the Cross of Christ’s Crucifixion (John 19:19). The words JESUS NAZARENUS REX IUDAEORUM were taken from Pilate’s sentence. It was written in Latin, the language of the administration in Judea and also in Hebrew/Aramaic, the common language of the Jews of the days and Greek, the language of the intellectual community. Because of the irrevocability of a Roman sentence, this inscription stood as written against the protest of the Jews who wished to disclaim Christ’s Kingship (John 19:21). Thus, the inscription has become a lasting testimony of the Kingship of Jesus (Matthew 27:37). Above His Head they had put the charge against Him in writing: THIS IS JESUS, KING OF THE JEWS (Mark 15:26). The inscription proclaiming His offense read: THE KING OF THE JEWS (Luke 23:28).



There was an inscription over His Head: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS (John 19:19-22). Pilate had an inscription place on the Cross which read: JESUS THE NAZOREAN, THE KING OF THE JEWS. This inscription in Hebrew, Latin and Greek was read by many of the Jews, since the place was near the city. The Chief Priests of the Jews tried to tell Pilate, “You should not have written the King of the Jews.” Write instead, “This Man claimed to be King of the Jews.” Pilate answered, “What I have written, I have written.”

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams; Rose Blaschak, Galynn Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czymnik, Joan Delusa, LeAnn Golby, Alicia Junghans, Kathryn Legat, Dennis Mochan, Tyler McKinley, Rick McKinley, Ron Petak, Rowen Ream, Alexandra Rice, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, Rose Rice, James Schuster, Mary Slezak, Betty Spisak, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobacky, Leona Sutt, Agnes Swarney, Jeanne Toth, Raymond Toth, Jr.; 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> Class Maxwell Schutte**, F. E. Warren, Wy; **Sgt. Bryan Maxwell Porath**, **Captain Aaron Donahey**, US Army, deployed to Dongducheon, Korea; **Petty Officer 1<sup>st</sup> 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, 193<sup>rd</sup> Special Operations Wing; **Lt. Col Steven Thomas**, USAF, deploying to the Middle East; **2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Colin Harrington**, US Army, Bethesda, MD; **2<sup>nd</sup> 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.; **Senior Airman Jeremy Williams**, Kandahar Air Base, Afghanistan; **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.*

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**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.

**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.