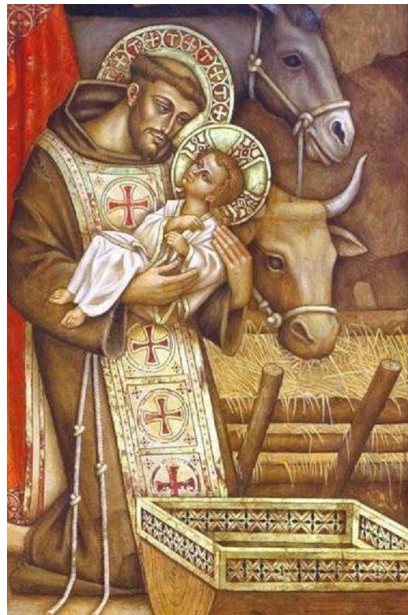


December 29, 2019
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
THE FAITH COMMUNITY OF
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

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@atlanticbhn.net

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

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

Daily Mass Schedule at St. Francis of Assisi

Schedule – 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 5:00PM

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 – Gary Woodruff – 248-1776

Finance Council President – Brian Mayko

Cemetery Council President - William Heim – 254- 2942

Director of Religious Education – Carol Pisula 539-1632

ALL ARE REMINDED TO DRESS WITH REVERENCE AND RESPECT AS THEY COME TO LITURGY ALL YEAR LONG

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 5:45 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 9:30AM – 5:30PM.

Rosary Society – First Monday of the Month – 6:00PM in the Church

Men’s Club – First Thursday of the Month – 7:00PM in the Activity Center

Mass for Mary, The Mother of God will be celebrated at 5:30PM on Tuesday, December 31 and at 9:00AM on Wednesday, January 1 – Holy Day of Obligation

THANK YOU: to Heather Kmetz for coordinating the Children’s Christmas Party, to all who helped in any way with decorating of the Church for the Christmas Season and to all those who contributed Gift Cards and gifts for the Cambria City Mission, Gabriel Project and Laurel View Village and to the Gob crew for all their hard work. Your generosity to those in need and to the Parish is overwhelming! May God Bless you!

PARISH OFFICE will be CLOSED Tuesday, December 31 through Wednesday, January 1.



FRIDAY, JANUARY 3 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).

ROSARY SOCIETY will meet on Monday, January 5 at 6:00PM. Please join us for Rosary, Reflection and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

AWESOME JOB – St. Francis Parish – another year and again you’ve given more than 2,000 pounds (a ton) of food (not counting Thanksgiving) to the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry. You truly make Jesus smile with your generosity. God Bless you!

HAPPY 46TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY to Joe & Dolores Fatula. May God continue to Bless you with many more years!

FISH FRY will take place on Friday, January 10. Please consider sharing some of your time and talent to make this event a success.

THE MARDI GRAS COMMITTEE is asking for your help to defray expenses. Please consider donations of alcoholic beverages and donations of baskets. Call Alice at 536-0948 for more information. Mardi Gras will take place on Saturday, February 15 and tickets will be available in January.



SANCTUARY CANDLE will burn this week for +Albert Dadey, Sr by Jim & Sue Ellen Dadey.

THANK YOU to the Men’s Club for their generous donation to the Parish and for helping to offset the expenses for the Children’s Christmas Party. May God Bless you!

WINNERS of the Men’s Club Christmas Special Ticket: #486 – Judy Weinzierl, #487 – Barb Bimeal, #485 – Donna Smith. Thank you to all who took part in this fundraiser.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND will be published next week. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, January 5, 12, 19, 26 - Religious Education – 10:45AM – Noon
Friday, January 10 – Fish Fry – 11:00AM - 6:00PM
Sunday, January 12 – Confirmation Class – 6:00PM – 8:00PM – Rectory Office
Saturday, February 15 – Mardi Gras

ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT THE LACK OF VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD? THEN READ ON! VOCATION CRUCIFIX-

A special Crucifix that travels from family to family or household to household ordinarily for 1 week or longer 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 at least 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 or longer the Crucifix travels to a new family or household to help assist our awareness of a need for vocations.

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 are interested in taking part in the Traveling Vocations Crucifix program, please take care with the Vocations Crucifix which is now located in the main vestibule for the taking. Please sign the signup sheet, not only with your name, but also the date you are taking the Vocations Crucifix and the date you plan to return it, so that we are aware of where the Vocations Crucifix is located.

Families and the Gospel... Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23 – Today’s Gospel says Joseph “made his home in Nazareth.” A “home” is built on the foundation of love, commitment and a shared history and is decorated with forgiveness, acceptance, rituals, discipline and mutual support. The Holy Family challenges us today: Don’t live ‘anyplace’, live at HOME.

PRAYER FOR FAMILIES

O Dear Jesus, I humbly implore You to grant Your special Graces to our family. May our home be the shrine of peace, purity, love, labor and Faith. I beg You, dear Jesus, to protect and bless all of us, absent and present, living and dead.

O Mary, loving mother of Jesus, and our Mother, pray to Jesus for our family, for all the families of the world, to guard the cradle of the newborn, the schools of the young and their vocations.

Blessed St. Joseph, holy guardian of Jesus and Mary, assist us by your prayers in all the necessities of life. Ask of Jesus that special Grace which He granted to You, to watch over our home to be present at the pillow of the sick and dying, so that with Mary and you, Heaven may find our family unbroken in the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Amen.



HELP US ENTER THE NEW YEAR

God of all time, help us enter the New Year quietly, thoughtful of who we are to ourselves and to others, mindful that our steps make an impact and our words carry power. May we walk gently. May we speak only after we have listened well.

Creator of all life, help us enter the New Year reverently, aware that You have endowed every creature and plant, every person and habitat with beauty and purpose. May we regard the world with tenderness. May we honor rather than destroy. Lover of all souls, help us enter the New Year joyfully, willing to laugh and dance and dream, remembering our many gifts with thanks and looking forward to blessings yet to come. May we welcome Your lavish love. In the New Year, may the Grace and peace of Christ bless us now and in the days ahead. Amen.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams; Rose Blaschak, Odessa Bobak, Galynn Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czynnik, Agnes Filo, LeAnn Golby, Caleb Herdman, Alicia Junghans, Kathryn Legat, Tyler McKinley, Rick McKinley, Margaret Murray, Carl Pavlosky, Rowen Ream, Alexandra Rice, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, Rose Rice, James Schuster, Gary Singel, Betty Spisak, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobbecky, Leona Sutt, Agnes Swarney, Jeanne Toth, and Sheila Weppner, Dorothy Youchak.

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, Fort Stewart, GA; Petty Officer 1st Class Heather L. Dovala, Great Lakes, IL.; Sgt. Jarod Pisarchik, Army National Guard; Ens. Kara Yingling, Pentagon; Lt. JG Shannon Yingling; S/SSgt 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; Spc. 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.; Senior Airman Jeremy Williams, Kandahar Air Base, Afghanistan; Kasey Meredith, O.C.S., USMC, Quantico, VA.; Pvt. Harrison Barham, US Army, Fort Leonard Wood, MO.; Cpl. Aunna Yingling, US Army Medic.

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.

ALL SAINTS PARISH in Boswell will be hosting a sing along/concert of beloved Polish Christmas carols (Koledy) as well as Expositions and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament on Sunday, December 29 at 3:00PM on the church located at 325 Quemahoning St. in Boswell. Following the event refreshments will be provided.

DON'T FORGET to come to Downtown Johnstown on New Year's Eve for Celebration Johnstown from 6:00PM – 10:00PM. The West End Improvement Group has been one of the organizing volunteer groups of this event since 2009. See entertainment and events on the Celebration Facebook page.

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.