

January 12, 2020
The Baptism of the Lord
**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@atlanticbn.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

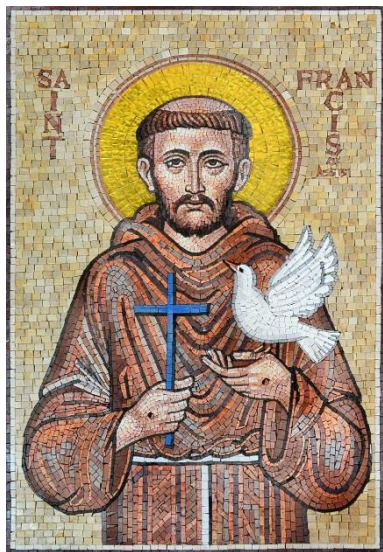
Office Hours – 9:00AM to 3:00PM – Mon. thru Thurs

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

THANK YOU to all who helped in any way with the Fish Fry last week. Your dedication to this event is greatly appreciated. The next Fish Fry will take place on **ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26.**



MARDI GRAS will be held on Saturday, February 15. Tickets are now available in the vestibule before and after all Masses. Tickets are \$20.00 and include Turkey Dinner and music by Flood City Brass. You may also reserve a table for 8 at a cost of \$10.00. For more information please contact Fran King at 536-3667. Tickets are **NOT** available at the Parish Office.

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.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 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).

SANCTUARY CANDLE will burn this week for Special Intention by Mary Lieb. **CANDLE BY THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS** will burn for Improved Health of Jim Dadey by Bea Haggerty & Family. **CANDLE BY OUR LADY QUEEN OF HEAVEN** will burn for Special Intention by Joseph & Paulette Torchia.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAT WEEK: Adults - \$2,702.27; Children - \$10.00; Loose - \$315.00; Monthly - \$523.02; Candles - \$144.40; Holy Day - \$1,118.52; Missalettes - \$155.02; First Offering - \$594.02; Misc. - \$271.00; Donations - \$30.00. Total Collection - \$5,863.25. 163 out of 283 used envelopes last week.

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 the case with the Vocations Crucifix which is now located in the main vestibule. Please sign the sign-up 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

FROM BISHOP MARK: Due to 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 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.



TODAY THE CHURCH celebrates the Solemnity of the Baptism of Our Lord. This brings to an end the season of Christmas. The Church recalls Our Lord’s second manifestation or epiphany which occurred on the occasion of His Baptism in the Jordan. Jesus descended into the River to sanctify its waters and to give them the power to beget sons of God. The event takes on the importance of a second creation in which the entire Trinity intervenes.

In the Eastern Church this Feast is called Theophany because at the Baptism of Christ in the River Jordan God appeared in Three Persons. The Baptism of John was a sort of sacramental preparatory for the Baptism of Christ. It moved men to sentiments of repentance and induced them to confess their sins. Christ did not need the Baptism of John. Although He appeared in the “substance of our flesh” and was recognized “outwardly like unto ourselves”, He was absolutely sinless and impeccable. He conferred upon the water the power of the true Baptism which would remove all the sins of the world: “Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him Who takes away the sin of the world.”

Many incidents which accompanied Christ’s Baptism are symbolical of what happened at our Baptism. At Christ’s Baptism the Holy Spirit descended upon Him; at our Baptism the Trinity took its abode in our soul. At His Baptism Christ was proclaimed the “Beloved Son” of the Father; at our Baptism we become the adopted sons and daughters of God. At Christ’s Baptism the Heavens were opened; at our Baptism Heaven was opened to us. At His Baptism Jesus prayed; after our Baptism we must pray to avoid actual sin.

MOVIE NIGHT – Watch the bulletin for information about our next movie night that will take place in March.

MARCH FOR LIFE will be held on Friday, January 24. A bus will leave the upper parking lot of St. Benedict Church at 7:15AM. There will be a Mass at 6:30AM. The cost is \$10 for students and \$15 for adults. To sign up, please contact Joe at 266-1554. The deadline is Friday, January 10. Checks may be made out to St. Benedict and mailed or delivered to St. Benedict Parish Office, 2310 Bedford St., Johnstown, PA 15904

A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar...January 12, 2020: Baptism of the Lord (Mt 3:13-17) – The words in today’s Gospel, “This is My beloved, with Him I am pleased,” are words every child needs to hear often. Affirmation is important to raise happy and confident children.

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 Sobecky, Leona Sutt, Agnes Swarney, Jeanne Toth, Sheila Weppner, Dorothy Youchak.

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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, 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, Afghanistan.

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. ANTHONY OF PADUA, Windber is having a Super Bowl Porkette Sale. Advanced orders only for pick up on Saturday, February 1, 9:00AM – Noon in the Church hall. Sandwiches are \$4.00. To order call 814-467-7292 by January 22.

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.

